



# The Whitewater Benefice

The Churches of Heckfield, Hook, Mattingley & Rotherwick



**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2026 – first Sunday of Lent**

**8.30am Holy Communion BCP, St Michael's, Heckfield**

**10am Holy Communion & Junior Church, St John's Church, Hook**

**11am Morning Worship, Rotherwick Church**

**6pm Taizé, St John's Church, Hook**

**Readings: Romans 5:12-19. Matthew 4:1-11**

Heavenly Father, your Son battled with the powers of darkness, and grew closer to you in the desert: help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer that we may witness to your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

## Recruiting our New Rector

As announced on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup>, the Diocese has decided to advertise a 3-year interim post for the Rector of the Whitewater Benefice. There is a joint meeting of both PCCs this week to approve all the required paperwork and the role will be advertised during March. If you have any questions, please do ask one of the Wardens.

## For Young People

- ❖ **Next Messy Church** is on 20<sup>th</sup> March, 3:15 to 5pm – preschool and primary aged children with adult carers welcome.
- ❖ **Youth Group** is on 1<sup>st</sup> March, 4:30 to 6pm – for those at Secondary School/College.
- ❖ **Bumps & Babes** Every term time Wednesday 9am-11am at St John's for parents with smaller babies and those about to become parents.

## Souper Organ



The next Souper Organ recital is this Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February, when we welcome David Oldfield from Gosport to play for us. Soup from 12.15pm and organ music from 1pm. There's no charge but donations are welcome.

## World Day of Prayer

**World Day of Prayer**  
**'I will give you rest'**

**2pm on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March  
at Rotherwick Church**

This year's service has been prepared  
by the Christian women of Nigeria



World Day of Prayer will take place at 2pm on Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> March 2026 in Rotherwick Church. This year's service has been prepared by the Christian women of Nigeria who have chosen as their theme '*I will give you rest, come*'. All are welcome. There will be refreshments after the service.

## Lent 2026



This year we are following The Church of England's theme for Lent, Draw Near: Life-giving habits for Lent. The resources have at their heart the theme of a 'rhythm of life' – habits and patterns which help us grow as disciples of Christ day by day, especially as we prepare to celebrate the great mystery of God's saving love at Easter. You can follow daily readings on the Everyday Faith App, or purchase a booklet: £2.50 from Jonathan [jonathanbushman@whitewaterchurches.co.uk](mailto:jonathanbushman@whitewaterchurches.co.uk).

## Bluebell Café

The Bluebell Café is open every Friday, 2pm - 4pm at Holdshott Farm RG27 0JZ. For people living with memory loss and their carers and for those who perhaps feel lonely. Come along and enjoy musical entertainment, quizzes, painting, jigsaws, plus delicious refreshments and good company. For further information please contact Ron on 07831 612744 or David on 01256 211508. **We also need more volunteers to help** in the Bluebell Café kitchen, and to take tea, coffee and cakes to our seated guests – it doesn't have to be every week. Please speak to Ron O'Keeffe, Shirley Clancy or David Nodder. Thank you!

## Hart Foodbank

Current shortage list, and further information about donating, can be found at: <https://www.facebook.com/hartfoodbank/> or <https://hart.foodbank.org.uk/>. The following items are needed this week: **Tinned Vegetables, Vegetarian Meals, Jelly & Packet Desserts, Tissues, Toilet Rolls, Kitchen Rolls**. They specifically do NOT require Water, Sugar, Flour, or Cereals. Items can be placed in the crate in the Narthex in Hook or delivered to their collection bin outside the Life Church in Elms Road, Hook.

## Diocesan Vocations Morning

Saturday 21 March, 9.30am – 12.30pm, St Mark's Church, Kempshott RG22 5LQ. Do you think God might be calling you to use your gifts to serve Jesus Christ, but you're unsure of what your next step might be? Join Bishop Kelly and Rev'd Dr Amy Roche, along with members of the Mission & Ministry Team, to find out more about the pathways available for both lay and ordained ministries. There will be a particular focus on opportunities for lay ministry including Exploring Theology, Bishops Commission for Mission and Bishops Permission to Preach. For more information and to book, please contact Tracey Nicholls [tracey.nicholls@winchesterdiocese.org](mailto:tracey.nicholls@winchesterdiocese.org) / 01962 710983.

## Caritas – Easter Egg collection

Caritas is a Catholic charity working locally to support struggling families and homeless people. As last year, they are collecting donations of Easter Eggs to offer these to children who might otherwise not receive one. There is a box in the Narthex at St John's until Mothering Sunday 15 March if you would like to donate eggs and Sue Steele will pass these to Caritas.

## Fellowship Study Groups

- ❖ **Wednesday Morning Worship**, 10am. 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month in the Lady Chapel, other Wednesdays via Zoom:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85679489991?pwd=aE8Qmdb2mdeQL8euNQXalTyWnVdjgb.1>
- ❖ **Wednesdays Ecumenical Group**, 11am - 12:15pm via Zoom. Everyone is welcome to join us. Please contact Jennifer Martin on 07803 505265 for the Zoom code.
- ❖ **Wednesday Coffee & Study Group**, 11:30am - 1pm in the Narthex. Contact Denise White: [office@whitewaterchurches.co.uk](mailto:office@whitewaterchurches.co.uk)
- ❖ **Wednesday Living Flame**, 8pm, in the Narthex on 11 Feb. Contact Nikki Wild.
- ❖ **Thursday Fellowship Group**, 7:30pm - 9pm, via Zoom studying the Lent Course "Draw Near". Contact Jonathan Bushman [jonathanbushman@whitewaterchurches.co.uk](mailto:jonathanbushman@whitewaterchurches.co.uk)
- ❖ **Thursday Eve Beta Group**, 7:30pm. Contact Russell Phillips - [hookchurchwarden2@whitewaterchurches.co.uk](mailto:hookchurchwarden2@whitewaterchurches.co.uk)
- ❖ **Sunday Fellowship Group, tbc March**. Contact Caroline Bushman – 07734 667888

## Groups meeting at St John's Church, Hook

**Garden Club St John's:** Wednesday mornings. Contact Amanda [mail@amanda.org.uk](mailto:mail@amanda.org.uk)

**Knit & Knatter:** First & third Monday, 2pm - 4pm. Gill Morley.

**St John's Lunch Club:** Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February, £6 per person. Book via office.

**Friendship Café:** Every Thursday, 10am. Friends new & old, in the Narthex.

**St John's Church Choir:** Every Friday, 7:15pm for Juniors (aged 8+) and 7:45pm for Seniors (14+ and adults). Caroline Bushman - 07734 667888.

## Next week's services

### Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March

- 8.30am Holy Communion BCP, St John's, Hook**
- 10am All Age Worship, St John's Church, Hook**
- 11am Family Communion, Rotherwick Church**
- 6pm Evening Worship, St John's Church, Hook**

Please see <https://whitewaterchurches.co.uk/calendar/> for upcoming services and events.

## Prayers for today and the coming weeks

**On Zoom:** Mondays and Fridays at 8:30am (not Bank Hols); Website calendar has the link.

Please pray for all those involved in the recruitment of our new Rector – including anyone who may find themselves called to come to our Benefice. For the joint PCC meeting on Thursday 26 February.

**Those in need of prayer:** Nicky, Ivor & Kathy Williams, Lorna Nodder, Trevor Owen, Daphne Randall, Liz Summersgill, Peter Allen, Bob, John Sills

**Year's mind:** Charles Giles, Douglas Affleck

## Contact Us

Associate Priest	Helen Sherlock <a href="mailto:vicar@hmrchurches.co.uk">vicar@hmrchurches.co.uk</a> Work mobile - 07513 818498 (working on Weds, Thurs, Sunday)
Benefice Office	Karen Brown, <a href="mailto:office@whitewaterchurches.co.uk">office@whitewaterchurches.co.uk</a> 01256 760169 (Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, 9am to midday)
HMR Parish Office	Claire Darling <a href="mailto:office@hmrchurches.co.uk">office@hmrchurches.co.uk</a> 07752 967947 (mornings)
Pastoral Care	Jonathan Bushman <a href="mailto:jonathanbushman@whitewaterchurches.co.uk">jonathanbushman@whitewaterchurches.co.uk</a>
Hook PCC Secretary	C/o Caroline Bushman <a href="mailto:hooktreasurer@whitewaterchurches.co.uk">hooktreasurer@whitewaterchurches.co.uk</a>
Hook Stewardship	Vacancy
Hook Gift Aid	Richard Davis - 07596 844056
HMR PA to Rev'd Helen Sherlock	Nicky Martin <a href="mailto:PA@hmrchurches.co.uk">PA@hmrchurches.co.uk</a>
HMR PCC Secretary	Claire Darling <a href="mailto:office@hmrchurches.co.uk">office@hmrchurches.co.uk</a>
HMR Gift Aid	Carolyn Hazell <a href="mailto:carolynhazell@gmail.com">carolynhazell@gmail.com</a>
HMR Stewardship	Vacancy
Hook Safeguarding Officers	Caroline Frolander & Janine Dunbar <a href="mailto:Safeguarding@whitewaterchurches.co.uk">Safeguarding@whitewaterchurches.co.uk</a> 07391 639947
HMR Safeguarding Officer	Claire Darling <a href="mailto:safeguarding@hmrchurches.co.uk">safeguarding@hmrchurches.co.uk</a> 07521 547585
Churchwardens	Hook: Samantha Frolich - <a href="mailto:hookchurchwarden1@whitewaterchurches.co.uk">hookchurchwarden1@whitewaterchurches.co.uk</a> Hook: Russell Phillips - <a href="mailto:hookchurchwarden2@whitewaterchurches.co.uk">hookchurchwarden2@whitewaterchurches.co.uk</a> Heckfield: Vacancy Rotherwick: Jason Drury - 07985 700055 Rotherwick: Ian Kenny - 07785 707114 Mattingley: Vacancy

## Notice Sheet by Email

To join our subscribers list and receive this news sheet each Friday, and help us save paper, visit: <https://www.whitewaterchurches.co.uk/aboutus/emailnotices/>

The PCC of Heckfield with Mattingley and Rotherwick, Registered Charity Number 1132735.

The PCC of Hook Parish, Registered Charity Number 1183688.

Find us on  [@StJohnHook](https://www.facebook.com/StJohnHook) [@HMRchurches](https://www.hmrchurches.co.uk)

