

# THE CHURCH @ THE PINES WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

## ORDER OF SERVICE 12<sup>th</sup> January

**LEADER: Rev'd Gareth Morley**

Welcome and notices

Quiet time

Call to worship

Hymn: Crown him with many crowns

Young people leave for Sunday School

Hymn of the Angels – Peruvian Gloria

Collect

Reading – Acts 8: 14-17

Hymn: We have a Gospel to proclaim

Gospel Reading: Luke 3: 15-17;21-22

Sermon

Hymn: O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness

Thanksgiving for Holy Baptism

Young people return and share

The Peace

Communion

Hymn: Praise, my soul, the King of heaven

Dismissal

Grace

Coffee

The YouTube link to view the live stream on Sunday is:

<https://youtube.com/live/D4bQmE3zcYI?feature=share>



## PRAYERS THIS WEEK:

Prayer is a cry in the dark, a child's longing for home, and a hollowed soul's seeking of fulfilment. Prayer is a two-fingered salute to the hopeless cynicism of endless false promises and a bunting-waving celebration of love in action. Prayer is a sacred space, found in the midst of the unholy of battlegrounds and in the desolation of loss. Prayer is a memory of long lost conversations with wise elders and an exuberance of youthful anticipation. Prayer is a shared longing, a whispered dream and an open conversation. Prayer is a revolutionary act. It is hope in despair. And a grace-filled weaving of love's intent. May God bless us with the desire to pray, that we might better act, for the sake of all. Amen.

We pray for everyone affected by the fires in California. For those who have lost their lives, the injured, people who have lost their homes and for those working to battle them and the people providing refuge and care.

We pray especially at this time for Fred, Jeannie and Beth's Mum. Embrace them with your love, hope and care Lord.

We pray for all those living in Guerdon Place and Pakenham Road.

## NOTICES

### Church Finances

We do not take a collection during the service but a Response Box (for cash) and a contactless machine (for cards) is on the Information Table, should you wish to make a donation to the work of our Church.

Alternatively, you could sign a Standing Order form committing to regular monthly giving, which allows our Treasurer (Ben) to monitor the church finances more closely. Please do speak with Ben if you wish to make arrangements for this.

### House Group

Linda and Reg run a house group on Wednesday evenings, starting at 7.45pm. All are welcome to join them for this mid-week time of fellowship. Please do speak to Linda or Reg if you'd like more details and for their address.

### Dates for your diary

- Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January – Covenant Service, all are welcome to join in this special service, whether it's your first time or you 50<sup>th</sup>!
- Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> February – Church AGM – we invite everyone to stay after the service to join in our Church AGM



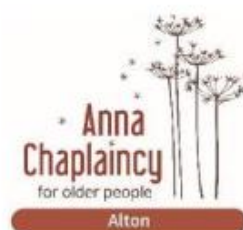
# NOTICES FROM ST MICHAEL'S

## School Admissions

Those wishing to apply to Ranelagh church school on church attendance criteria will be required to have up to two stamps each month in their child's passport, when they attend a regular service during Years 4 & 5 (even if they have a sibling at the school). To make sure that all new signees understand the admissions criteria we ask that you email the parish office to make an appointment.

Please go to the school website for their latest admissions policy.

# NOTICES FROM THE CIRCUIT



## Anna Chaplain to Older People

An ecumenical post promoting the spiritual and emotional welfare of older people, including those living in residential care homes, sheltered housing and the wider community of Alton, Hampshire.

An ability to develop teams of volunteers, lead care home worship and offer pastoral care to people of all faiths and none.

20hrs/week

Salary range £14-£17 per hour

It is an occupational requirement for the person appointed to be a practising Christian, lay or ordained, in a church affiliated to the Council of Churches in England & Wales.

Closing Date: Weds 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2025 5.30pm

Application Pack from Mrs Liz George

[altonmethodist@hotmail.com](mailto:altonmethodist@hotmail.com) Or Phone: 07703 648935



# READINGS

## Acts 8: 14-17

14 When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to Samaria. 15 When they arrived, they prayed for the new believers there that they might receive the Holy Spirit, 16 because the Holy Spirit had not yet come on any of them; they had simply been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. 17 Then Peter and John placed their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

## Luke 3: 15-17;21-22

15 The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Messiah. 16 John answered them all, 'I baptise you with[a] water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptise you with[b] the Holy Spirit and fire. 17 His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.'

The baptism and genealogy of Jesus

21 When all the people were being baptised, Jesus was baptised too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened 22 and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: 'You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.'

