

# Five Alive!



**A Monthly Magazine**

for the parishes of Michelmersh, Awbridge,  
Braishfield, Timsbury and Farley Chamberlayne

**NOVEMBER 2022**

## **THE UNITED BENEFICE OF BRAISHFIELD**

including the parishes of Michelmersh, Awbridge, Braishfield,  
Timsbury and Farley Chamberlayne

**Rector:** Revd Tom Benson 01794 368335

tbenson09@aol.com

**Associate Priest:** Revd Jane Thompson 01794 502035

Jane.Thompson@me.com

**Hon. Assistant Priest:** The Very Revd. Trevor Beeson

### **Church Wardens**

Awbridge	Mr Fred Tucker	01794 340709
	Mrs. Mary Savage	01794 367908
Braishfield	Mr. Andrew Brooks	01794 523928
	Miss Sarah Boothman	01794 368143
Farley Chamberlayne	Mr. Iain Chisholm	01794 368250
	Miss Hannah Boothman	01794 368143
Michelmersh	Mrs. Clare Harvey	01794 368789
	Mr. Peter Hill	01794 523364
Timsbury	Mrs. Catherine Baker	01794 368364
	Dr. John Glasspool	01794 368017

Benefice Office Tel: 01794 878020

Email: braishfieldbenefice@gmail.com

Address:

Braishfield Benefice Office

Elm Grove Farm

Dummers Road

Braishfield

Romsey

SO51 0QG

Benefice Administrator: Sarah Boothman

### **Items for 5 Alive**

may be sent to Sarah at the  
Benefice Office by post or  
email.

**Deadline for  
next edition**

**Mon 21<sup>st</sup> November**

next edition  
of Five Alive  
will be available by  
Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November

## From the Rector: Revd Tom Benson

Dear all,

As I write this the leaves are starting to turn golden brown and will soon have fallen, leaving us with the memory of Summer sunshine to keep us going until Spring comes around again. This time of year can be a sad time for some as we enter a season of cold and dark nights. It can be a time to remember and then to draw strength from those memories, to give thanks for the things that we have done and seen, for the people that we have travelled through life alongside and perhaps see no longer.

On the 13<sup>th</sup> of November we have our Remembrance Day services around the parishes where we remember the sacrifices made by the men and women of our communities on our behalf. The sacrifices that were made many years ago and those that continue to be made today.

But it would be a disservice to concentrate solely on the sacrifice of those that we have lost. We must also remember their achievements, the joys of knowing them and then give thanks for the lives that we are able to live today due to their efforts. So let's not squander the freedoms that their sacrifices have earned for us. Our real tribute to them should be in the laughter and joy of lives lived well, lives lived fully. Surely the best tribute to those that we see no longer is for us to live, to be the best that we can in tribute to them.

Last year we were still under a level of covid restrictions and were perhaps wondering if life would ever be normal again. This year has seen open conflict return to Europe, a cost of living crisis that affects everyone to some extent, and of course covid is still around. In the face of such uncertainty we can become like a rabbit in the headlights. And we can end up doing nothing. Or running around with our hair on fire. Which is a shame.

So instead of doing either of those, let's think about what we can do based on the issues that we do know about - think particularly about our food banks. The details for Romsey Foodbank are:

[info@romsey.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:info@romsey.foodbank.org.uk)

07761 405 870

Romsey Foodbank

Freedom Centre

Unit 6, Greatbridge Business Park

Budds Lane

Romsey SO51 0HA

God bless,

Tom.

## Bishop's Commission for Mission and other Lay Ministries

Bishop David writes in the recent Diocesan Mailer : “Last Saturday’s Lay Licensing and Commissioning Service at the Cathedral was a huge encouragement to us as a Church. Two Church Army Evangelists were welcomed into ministry in this Diocese, eight Lay Ministers and Lay Workers either admitted to office or welcomed into this Diocese, 13 commissioned as preachers (after a year's training) and 69 received the Bishop's Commission for a variety of ministries in the Church and the world.”

Alan and Sue Manners from Braishfield received the Bishop's Commission for Mission (BCM) Pastoral, Mary Savage from Awbridge the BCM-Creation Care and Trevor Clewer from Awbridge the BCM-Worship, while Lady Joan Appleyard from King's Somborne was one of those to be commissioned with the Bishop's Permission to Preach (BPP). Our congratulations to them all for undertaking those courses enabling their further involvement in the ministry of our parishes. If you look closely you may pick out familiar faces in the photo!

The Deanery Synod Report on p13 contains more information about lay training opportunities.





**Next Men's Breakfast is on  
Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December  
at Chambers, Stirling Walk in Romsey  
- full English breakfast.  
To book/more details phone Trevor Clewer on  
07434593953**



**Book now to avoid disappointment!**



**Ladies - you can enjoy a breakfast too!**

**Ladies' Breakfast: Saturday 12th November  
from 8.30am**

**at 36, Five Elms Drive, Romsey, SO51 5RN.  
ALL very welcome - please do just turn up  
or if you'd prefer to let me know, that'd be great too!  
(jane.thompson@me.com /01794 502035)**

**Do bring friends/family/neighbours... anyone you think would  
enjoy! No set price - donations to cover the cost!  
Look forward to seeing you!**

## **Confirmation**

**Have you been baptised - either as an infant or maybe more  
recently? Have you wondered if you could make those promises  
for yourself?**

**Do you feel ready to take another step on your faith journey?  
If you would like to find out more do speak to Tom or Jane.  
No commitment - just have a chat!**

**There will be a Diocesan Service of Confirmation on Sunday 20th  
November at 3.30pm in the Cathedral and a local confirmation  
service in Romsey Abbey in 2023,  
both led by Bishop Debbie.**

## Celebrating 50 years since Ordination

There was a joyful service at All Saints Braishfield a few weeks ago to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Canon Bruce Kington's ordination. All who were there appreciated hearing how Bruce grew from a teenager working in agriculture without much self confidence or many academic qualifications to be aware of a call to ordained ministry - a route that was not always easy but during which he knew he was supported by God at every turn - and to reflect with him on his subsequent long and fulfilling parish ministry.

*Bruce writes: "A very special thank you to all who came to the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of my ordination last Saturday. It was such a joy to both Lucy and myself to see so many, and to have the day made even more special by the wonderful singing of the Choir, and the presence of friends from many stages of my life.*

*I have a special request: Someone very kindly gave me a beautifully wrapped copy of the Message version of the New Testament, but I cannot remember who it was. If that person could contact me, I can thank he or she properly!*

*May the Lord bless you all, Bruce Kington."*

## Harvest at St John's, Farley Chamberlayne

We were able to move back to the church for our Harvest Supper this year. Fifty four sat down to an excellent meal and a very happy evening. Special thanks to Hazel and Paul Watters, Wendy Graham and all their helpers for organising the supper and providing food. Hazel's crumbles were as good as ever! Thanks also to Emma Weston and her team who decorated the church. We had a joyful Harvest Service two days later with many donations for the Foodbank. Thanks to Katharine Edmonds for playing the hymns and for her music before and afterwards. A lovely celebration of Harvest!



**All Saints' Church Braishfield  
CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL**

**SATURDAY 19<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER ---SATURDAY 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER**



We are pleased that the above will again be held this Christmas, which is a special time not only for children but for all who celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Children of all ages are invited to enter a tree and previous festivals have shown how imaginative children (and Mums and Dads !) can be. Trees can be of any medium but not taller than 4ft and any lights must only be battery operated. Trees should be brought and placed in the church on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> December between 10am and 12noon.

There is no charge to enter a tree and we can accept up to 10 entries this year, due to other activities taking place at the same time. Any donations raised from viewing will, as in previous years, go to the benefit of Sparks Club at Braishfield School and Messy Church.

For further information and to obtain an entry form please contact Carole Renvoize on email [stevecarole.renvoize@btinternet.com](mailto:stevecarole.renvoize@btinternet.com) **not later than 30<sup>th</sup> November.**

Organisers: Stephen Treglown (01794 502150) and Carole on (01794 368766)

**A call for assistance - no special qualifications required!**

There's a keen group of people who are committed to supporting children's work in our benefice. They help with Messy Church, Open the Book, the Sparks Club in Braishfield School. They enjoy what they do, and often say it's great fun - but they could really do with more helpers. They do like to take a holiday or a day away occasionally!

We are calling for more help from across the parishes. If you could give a hand, even on an occasional basis, it would be so appreciated. What needs to be done? For Messy Church: helping in the kitchen, helping children with craft work and general activities, clearing up: Open the Book: if you enjoy a bit of drama, you could put on a costume and read from a script (nothing to learn) to be part of a group presenting a short Bible Story.

Please volunteer to Jane Thompson or to Sarah at the Benefice Office.

## St John's Church, Farley Chamberlayne

### Operation Christmas Child 2022

Come and help fill/cover shoeboxes for disadvantaged Children in Ukraine and other countries at Oakfield, Farley Chamberlayne over a cup of tea and cake.



**2pm - 6pm Wednesday 2nd November 2022**

Help us celebrate Christmas - Bring Shoeboxes, donations of toys for boys and girls, aged 2-14 ie cars, boats, farm or wild animals , sets, dolls, soft toys, skipping ropes, kites, balls, felt tips, crayons, pencil cases, note books, hats and scarves, especially teenage presents, torch, simple jewellery, hair brushes, combs, wrapped soaps, toothbrushes and face cloths. A donation of £5 per box helps to cover transporting the shoeboxes.

*If you are unable to come please consider filling a shoebox at home and delivering it to Choice Plants or to me by 14<sup>th</sup> November.*

*Here in the UK we are very fortunate and I hope we can still support these vulnerable children who have so little especially this year in war torn Ukraine. Alternatively you can go online and send one directly by going to [shoebonline.org.uk](http://shoebonline.org.uk)*

Chris Chisholm

RSVP to [cookchrisr@aol.com](mailto:cookchrisr@aol.com) 01794 368250

**Please let me know in advance if you can help this year in any way.**

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> November - 11.00am at All Saints' Braishfield**  
**A Service of Celebration for the life and work of our church**  
**followed by coffee in the Church Room.**

**Everyone is very welcome!**

We want to thank and celebrate with all the helpers who give so much to our church - their time, talents and skills - the Mower Men and the Flower Arrangers, the Cleaners and the Unlockers, the people who organise events and lead our groups..... And indeed everyone!



## Remembering Services

We have sent an invitation to a Remembering Service to every family for whom we have undertaken a funeral or burial over the last five years, and let them know that we will be remembering their family member by name.

Everyone is very welcome to attend a service, and to have the name of a relative or friend included in the list that is read out, whether they have had a local church service or not - please speak to the person leading the service beforehand. There will be an opportunity to light a candle in memory, and to stay for refreshments after the service. Do please come if you would like to. Dates and times are on the back cover.

## **Activities in November in Awbridge**

**Coffee Hub** Every Tuesday from 9 15-11 30 am in church. All welcome

### **Prayer Meeting**

Meets before coffee hub on 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays at 8 45 am in church.

### **Craft & Chat**

10 30-12 30 Fridays Village Hall on **4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> November**, in the committee room.

### **Church Lunch Club**

**Wednesdays 10<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> November at 12 noon**, Church Rooms, contact Sarah Keith 01794 340707

### **Awbridge Housegroup**

**Thursdays 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> November** 7 30pm at Chanwel, Romsey Road  
Contact: Fred Tucker 01794 340709

### **“The Ark”**

The All Saints Church Baby & Toddler group meets in Awbridge Village Hall, on Fridays in term-time, from 9 30 am – 11 00 am.

All toddlers and their parents and carers welcome.

Refreshments, craft, singing and other activities provided.

## **Braishfield Village Voices**

Monday November 28th from 2pm to 4pm in the Church Room.

Not a choir, just a group of people who get together to sing for fun on the 4th Monday of the month 2-4pm. All welcome. Just come along!

## Bonfire Night at St Andrew's Church Timsbury

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November 6pm - 7.30

Come and enjoy the bonfire and a firework display to mark the Autumn season



We are mindful that our grounds are mostly cemetery and would like to assure you that this event will not take place on any grave sites. Graves will be cordoned off for protection. We also appreciate that fireworks aren't everyone's favourite thing and will endeavour to keep the display no longer than 15 minutes and to avoid fireworks with loud bangs.



Soup, hotdogs & warm drinks will be available to purchase.

**Cash Only**

Everyone is welcome to come along. There will be a collection at the gate to support the costs of running our church for the village.

**Please arrive on foot as parking will be limited**



Harvest was celebrated at All Saints' Braishfield with a relaxed supper in the Church Room on Saturday evening, followed by a joyful thanksgiving service on the Sunday morning, with good support for the Foodbank. The Harvest Supper had a new look, with a hot meal of cottage pie being served, followed by a choice of puddings. Everyone enjoyed the chance to meet up and chat after a gap of two years. It was especially good to welcome friends from the URC who joined us as they had no Harvest Supper of their own this year.



# Next Messy Church

## A Soldier's Faith

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October (Half Term)**

**11 00 am-1 00pm**

**Braishfield Church Room, Braishfield SO51 0QR**

## All Welcome

Messy Church welcomes families from our local area for fun, food and worship based on a new theme each session. Children need to be accompanied by a parent/carer. For information please contact:

Revd Jane Thompson email: [jane.thompson@me.com](mailto:jane.thompson@me.com)  
or 01794 502035

### Michelmersh Prize Draw

#### OCTOBER 2022 Winners

<b>1st Prize</b>	Norton Welch	£71.40
<b>2nd Prize</b>	Bruce Chapman	£35.70
<b>3rd Prize</b>	[Name withheld]	£20.40

Contact Mr Peter Hill 01794 523364 or the Benefice Office if you would like to join in the monthly draw which raises funds for St Mary's PCC.

### St. Andrew's Timsbury in November .... Do join us for

Our regular **Coffee and Cake** on **Tuesday 8th from 10.30** in the church.

**Celtic Prayer** at **11am on Tuesday 22nd**

**Play reading group**, led by Olivia Murphy. Tuesday afternoons 2-3.30pm in the church. No need to book. Just come!

## ROMSEY DEANERY SYNOD

The last meeting this year was held on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October at All Saints church in North Baddesley and some 29 representatives of the 28 parishes within the Deanery attended. A warm welcome was given to everyone from the Rev James Pitkin who then asked the Laity Chairman, Sarah Boothman, to open the meeting with prayers and seek approval of the minutes from the last meeting in June at Longstock...unanimously agreed. Sarah reported that the Common Mission Fund had reached 72% of its target with all parishes, excepting 2 who were struggling, confident of achieving target. The Overseas Partnership Group reported that Victoria Ashdown had resigned her position due to other commitments and the future in continuing ongoing support for South Rwenzori was becoming more difficult to maintain. The planned visit next year has been cancelled.

Jane Thompson gave details of the Youth Weekend Away at Avon Tyrell, the first in 3 years after the disruption of Covid etc and 17 young people under 18 plus 4 young leaders 18-20, and 5 senior leaders attended. Jamie Swinhead spoke on a variety of issues centred around the church and its purpose and the weekend also included many outdoor activities and sitting around the camp fire!

The first half of the meeting ended with James Pitkin relating news from the villages and highlighting the House for Duty vacancy at Kings Somborne and also the latest position in the proposal to merge Wellow and Sherfield with Thorngate .....an interval of 15 minutes was afforded to everyone to partake of tea and coffee and especially the excellent home made cakes and buns !!!

The second half of the meeting focused on the subject “Being Part of the Church “ and James introduced Greg Eland who is a Senior Mission and Ministry Trainer for Winchester diocese with special attention given to creating opportunities and using resources for Lay Ministry through the BISHOP’S COMMISSION FOR MISSION and the BISHOP’S PERMISSION TO PREACH. Although Greg was born in Newcastle, his parents moved to South Africa when he was young and he returned to England some 3 years ago with his wife and children and now lives in Bournemouth. He is a strong believer in creating groundswell with all people moving towards the good of the church and what it can offer. He sees his success in seeing other people succeeding because of the help and encouragement that can be offered. He also believes that a change of approach is needed to reach out to all people and speaking to Greg afterwards, I remarked that I have often felt that we should sometimes adopt a “ LOOKING FROM THE OUTSIDE IN “ approach to understand the many who have never been to or attended church. He outlined the many streams available including PASTORAL, WORSHIP,



GROWING FAITH, CHILDREN YOUTH FAMILIES, PIONEERING, PRAYER CHAMPIONS AND CREATION CARE. Another necessity was improving marketing and communications, and alleviating administration. Over the last 4-5 years, 353 people within our diocese have attended these programmes and 20 in our Deanery are now licensed to lead a church service (apart from communion). Mary Savage from Awbridge gave a short insight into her gaining the Bishop's Commission award in "Creation Care" and how importantly it impacts on others. Two members from other parishes, Maddie Hedley and Joan Appleyard, gave a brief account of their own training programmes for BPP, Bishop's Permission to Preach, and whilst totally rewarding, stressed that it involved a lot of hard work and time. Other recent Commissions have been given to Trevor Clewer, also from Awbridge for BCM "Worship" and Alan and Sue Manners from Braishfield for BCM "Pastoral". Another stream is planned to commence in January 2023, entitled "Reaching People beyond Church Walls".

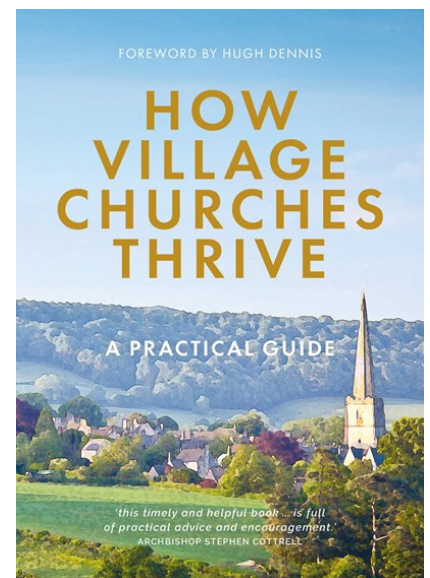
Another area that could be looked at is a facility to understand inner loneliness and how the church could develop ways of helping those affected. Loneliness often stems from widowhood, losing a lifetime partner and after the initial years of bereavement and adjustment, facing up to silence within four walls. There are many who do cope surprisingly well...and find other avenues to pursue...maybe start a new life. Unfortunately, for some and it matters not as to how often they go out socially or recreationally, they have to return to an empty home where no one says hello, and whilst only those who are in that position really know what it is like, maybe the church can give thought to how help and understanding can be given.

An interesting book entitled HOW VILLAGE CHURCHES THRIVE with a forward by the television personality Hugh Dennis is now available ( please contact your church warden as to borrowing or obtaining) and is well worth reading. It covers the many hundreds of aspects that a church has from Extending a warm welcome, Making the most of events, Using buildings creatively, Care for God's acre, Celebrating our heritage, Cultivating fruitful festivals, Welcoming more children. Etc, etc.

Available from  
[www.chpublishing.co.uk](http://www.chpublishing.co.uk)  
Or your local church

Highly recommended

Stephen Treglown - Synod Representative for All Saints Braishfield



## We continue to pray for peace in Ukraine

Holy and Gracious God

We pray for the people of Ukraine and the people of Russia; for their countries and their leaders.

We pray for all those who are afraid; that your everlasting arms hold them in this time of great fear.

We pray for all those who have the power over life and death; that they will choose for all people life, and life in all its fulness.

We pray for those who choose war; that they will remember that you direct your people to turn our swords into ploughshares and seek for peace.

We pray for leaders on the world stage; that they are inspired by the wisdom and courage of Christ.

Above all, Lord, today we pray for peace for Ukraine.

And we ask this in the name of your blessed Son.

Lord have mercy. Amen



Harvest decorations at Timsbury and at Awbridge



## Special day at St John's

On Remembrance Sunday Farley Chamberlayne will be commemorating the centenary of the Lime Avenue planted in 1922 as a War Memorial.

## **Bible readings for NOVEMBER**

### **SUNDAY 6TH NOVEMBER- 3RD SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT**

**Old Testament** Job 19.23-27a  
**Epistle** 2 Thessalonians 2.1-5,13-end  
**Gospel** Luke 20.27-38  
**Psalm** 17.1-9

### **REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY - 13TH NOVEMBER**

**Epistle** Philippians 4.6-9  
**Gospel** Matthew 5.43-end

### **SUNDAY 20TH NOVEMBER - CHRIST THE KING**

**Old Testament** Jeremiah 23.1-6  
**Epistle** Colossians 1.11-20  
**Gospel** Luke 23.33-43  
**Psalm** 46

### **SUNDAY 27TH NOVEMBER – ADVENT SUNDAY (*Common Worship Yr A*)**

**Old Testament** Isaiah 2.1-5  
**Epistle** Romans 13.11-end  
**Gospel** Matthew 24.36 - 44  
**Psalm** 122

### **SUNDAY 4TH DECEMBER - 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**Old Testament** Isaiah 11.1-10  
**Epistle** Romans 15.4-13  
**Gospel** Matthew 3.1-12  
**Psalm** 72.1-7

Updates and more All Saints Braishfield information can be found at  
[www.asbchurch.org](http://www.asbchurch.org)



# **SERVICES FOR OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2022**

## **FRIDAY 28th OCTOBER**

11.00am Braishfield **MESSY CHURCH**  
7.00pm Awbridge **REMEMBERING SERVICE**  
7.00pm Timsbury **REMEMBERING SERVICE**

## **SATURDAY 29th OCTOBER**

3.00pm Michelmersh **REMEMBERING SERVICE**  
3.00pm Farley Chamberlayne **REMEMBERING SERVICE**

## **SUNDAY 30th OCTOBER - ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY *NB Clocks change!***

10.00am King's Somborne **UNITED BENEFICE HOLY COMMUNION**  
3.00pm Braishfield **REMEMBERING SERVICE**

## **SUNDAY 6TH NOVEMBER- 3RD SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT**

9.30am Awbridge **HOLY COMMUNION** J.Thompson  
**11.00am** Braishfield **CELEBRATION & THANKSGIVING** T.Benson  
11.00am Michelmersh (and Timsbury) **MORNING PRAYER BCP** J.Thompson  
2.30pm Farley Chamberlayne **BAPTISM** T.Benson  
6.00pm Farley Chamberlayne **EVENING PRAYER BCP** T.Benson  
7.00pm Awbridge **INFORMAL BENEFICE WORSHIP** J.Thompson

## **REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY - 13TH NOVEMBER**

10.15am Awbridge School **REMEMBRANCE SERVICE** J.Thompson  
10.45am Farley Chamberlayne **SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE** M.Ward  
10.45am Timsbury **FAMILY SERVICE & REMEMBRANCE** Lay led  
10.50am Braishfield War Memorial **UNITED SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE**  
M.Perrott  
6.00pm Michelmersh **REMEMBRANCE SERVICE**  
**with Michelmersh Silver Band** T.Benson

## **SUNDAY 20TH NOVEMBER - CHRIST THE KING**

9.30am Awbridge **HOLY COMMUNION & GIFT DAY** T.Benson  
10.00am Timsbury **HOLY COMMUNION BCP** J.Thompson  
11.15am Farley Chamberlayne **FAMILY SERVICE** T.Benson  
6.00pm Michelmersh **EVENING PRAYER BCP** J.Thompson  
6.00pm Braishfield **EVENING PRAYER BCP** T.Benson

## **SUNDAY 27TH NOVEMBER – ADVENT SUNDAY (*Common Worship Yr A*)**

8.00am Michelmersh **HOLY COMMUNION BCP** T.Benson  
9.30am Awbridge **FAMILY WORSHIP** Family Team  
9.30am Braishfield **HOLY COMMUNION** J.Thompson  
11.15am Farley Chamberlayne **MORNING PRAYER BCP** J.Thompson  
6.00pm Timsbury **EVENING PRAYER BCP** T.Benson/J.Thompson

## **SUNDAY 4TH DECEMBER - 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

9.30am Awbridge **HOLY COMMUNION**  
9.30am Braishfield **FAMILY WORSHIP**  
11.00am Timsbury (and Michelmersh) **MORNING WORSHIP**  
6.00pm Farley Chamberlayne **EVENING PRAYER BCP**  
7.00pm Awbridge **INFORMAL BENEFICE WORSHIP**