

DIARY DETAILS

Sunday 7th May (The Fourth Sunday of Easter)

9:45am Morning Prayer at St Botolph's
11:00am Communion Service at St Peter's
6:30pm Joint Evening Service at Castle

Monday 8th May

4:00pm Playball in the Church Hall
8:00pm Visitation Service at St Margaret's (CO2 8RA)

Tuesday 9th May

12 noon Community Group in the Church Hall
no JRM Community Group this week

Wednesday 10th May

10:30am Communion Service at St Peter's

Thursday 11th May

8:00pm Community Group (4 Bryanstone Mews)

Sunday 14th May (The Fifth Sunday of Easter)

9:45am Communion Service at St Botolph's
11:00am Morning Service at St Peter's
6:30pm Joint Evening Service at Castle

The focus of each Community Group is as follows:

- * FFM: Faithful Friends Ministries (Tuesday lunchtimes)
- * JRM: Jericho Road Ministries (Tuesday evenings)
- * CFM: Children & Family Ministries (Thursday evenings)

CONTACT DETAILS

The Town Centre Parish Office

01206 572529 & towncentrep parishoffice@gmail.com

Associate Minister: **Aella Gage** (07796 475130)

Churchwarden: **Dan Watts** (01206 561522)

Churchwarden: **Wendy Whitfield** (01206 842632)

PCC Secretary: **Julie Gallacher** (07894 064095)

PCC Treasurer: **Richard Lawn** (01206 540510)

Safeguarding Rep: **Jessie Ho** (07938 160601)

Vicar: **Mark Wallace** (01206 572641 or 07772 615378)

Vicar's PA: **Bernice Watts** (01206 572529)

CHURCH NOTICES

Redevelopment work: West Door and Gates.

Please bear with us as the redevelopment work begins. Until the completion of the works, access to the church will only be possible through the south-west porch and the south 'disabled' entrance.

Archdeacon's Visitation Service. Please pray for our Churchwardens, Dr Dan Watts and Mrs Wendy Whitfield, as they are sworn in as Wardens for the year ahead at the service tomorrow, 7pm for 8pm at St Margaret's, Berechurch.

The Tuesday Lunchtime Community Group. This Community Group will meet in the Hall on 9th and 23rd May at 12noon, starting with a light lunch.

Christian Aid Week (14th–20th May). Envelopes are available in church for those wishing to support the work of Christian Aid.

Parochial Church Council. The next PCC meeting will be on Saturday 20th May, from 9:00am.

Taizé Service. Cantus Firms Trust and the Salvation Army are holding a Taizé Service on Sunday 21st May, 5:30pm, at the Salvation Army on Butt Road. For more details, see noticeboard. Everyone welcome.

Colchester Church Hustings. Organised by local churches, these hustings for the Colchester constituency in advance of the General Election are planned for Tuesday 23rd May, 7:30pm, at St Botolph's Church.

Saving money for church. You may be able to save the church money on its energy bill if you shop online using a Firefox or Chrome browser on a PC. Please ask Richard Lawn (540510) for more details.

Wednesday Morning Communion. As we come to the end of the trial period, with the service being held in the central part of the church rather than under the north gallery, please feed back any comments to either Mark or Wendy, before the PCC meeting on 20th May.

Any notices for inclusion should be emailed or posted to the Vicar's PA (see over for contact details) by 9:15am on Thursday. Thank you.

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A very warm welcome to St Peter's Church!

Our service this morning is led by Rev Mark Wallace. If you have any questions, please ask a member of the Welcoming Team or contact any of the people in the "Contact details" section at the back of this leaflet.

If you have younger children with you today, then please feel free to bring them to SPK (St Peter's Kids, for all those up to and including Year 6) in the Church Hall during the first hymn. If it's your first visit, we will ask you to complete a short Registration Form, but you are then welcome to leave your children in their groups and return to join us in the service. The children will be returned to church for the All-Age Zone towards the end of the service.

Thank you for joining us today.

Communion Service

Sunday 7th May 2017

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

HYMN: Come, people of the risen King

Come, people of the risen king,
who delight to bring Him praise.
Come, all and tune your hearts to sing
to the Morning Star of grace.
From the shifting shadows of the earth
we will lift our eyes to Him,
where steady arms of mercy reach
to gather children in.

Rejoice! Rejoice!

Let every tongue rejoice!

One heart, one voice,

O Church of Christ, rejoice!

[SPK & Creche leave for their groups]

Come, those whose joy is morning sun
and those weeping through the night.
Come, those who tell of battles won,
and those struggling in the fight.
For His perfect love will never change,
and His mercies never cease,
but follow us through all our days
with the certain hope of peace.

Rejoice! Rejoice...

Come, young and old from every land,
men and women of the faith.
Come, those with full or empty hands,
find the riches of His grace.
Over all the world, His people sing,
shore to shore we hear them call
the Truth that cries through every age;
'Our God is all in all!'

Rejoice! Rejoice...

Keith & Kristyn Getty & Stuart Townend, © Thankyou Music

PRAYERS OF PREPARATION & CONFESSION

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Lord Jesus Christ said: The first commandment is this: "Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength." The second is this: "Love your neighbour as yourself." There is no other commandment greater than these. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

Amen. Lord, have mercy.

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ to save us from our sins, to be our advocate in heaven, and to bring us to eternal life. Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God's commandments and to live in love and peace with all.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon us, pardon and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and keep us in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE COLLECT FOR THIS SUNDAY

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life: raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness, that we may seek those things which are above, where he reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST BIBLE READING: Matthew 7 v 15-23

page 812 of the pew Bibles
read by Peter Wallace

At the end of the reading...

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

THE SECOND BIBLE READING: Jude

page 1027 of the pew Bibles
read by Duncan Breckels

At the end of the reading...

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN: Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us

Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us
through this world's tempestuous sea;
guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,
now and to eternity:
here possessing every blessing
if our God our Father be.

Saviour, by your grace restore us -
all our weaknesses are plain;
you have lived on earth before us,
you have felt our grief and pain:
tempted, taunted, yet undaunted,
from the depths you rose again.

Spirit of our God, descending,
fill our hearts with holy peace;
love with every passion blending,
pleasure that can never cease:
thus provided, pardoned, guided,
nothing can our peace destroy.

THE SERMON

preacher: Mark Wallace

THE NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit
and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified
under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic
and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism
for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.**

THE PRAYERS

led by Richard Lawn

These responses may be used during the prayers

Lord, in your mercy

hear our prayer.

At the conclusion of the prayers

Merciful Father,

accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you

and also with you.

HYMN: My heart is filled with thankfulness

My heart is filled with thankfulness
to Him who bore my pain;
who plumbed the depths of my disgrace
and gave me life again;
who crushed my curse of sinfulness
and clothed me in His light
and wrote His law of righteousness
with pow'r upon my heart.

My heart is filled with thankfulness
to Him who walks beside;
who floods my weaknesses with strength
and causes fears to fly;
whose ev'ry promise is enough
for ev'ry step I take,
sustaining me with arms of love
and crowning me with grace.

My heart is filled with thankfulness
to him who reigns above,
whose wisdom is my perfect peace,
whose ev'ry thought is love.
For ev'ry day I have on earth
is given by the King;
so I will give my life, my all,
to love and follow him.

Stuart Townend & Keith Getty, © 2003, Thankyou Music

COMMUNION

The Lord is here.

His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy, at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise, holy Father, heavenly King, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. For he is our great high priest, who has loosed us from our sins and has made us to be a royal priesthood to you, our God and Father.

Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and saying:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

All glory be to you, our heavenly Father, who, in your tender mercy, gave your only Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there by his one oblation of himself once offered a full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice, oblation and satisfaction for the sins of the whole world; he instituted, and in his holy gospel commanded us to continue, a perpetual memory of his precious death until he comes again.

Hear us, merciful Father, we humbly pray, and grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit, we receiving these gifts of your creation, this bread and this wine, according to your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed body and blood; who, on the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Christ is the bread of life:

When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus, until you come in glory.

Therefore, Lord and heavenly Father, in remembrance of the precious death and passion, the mighty resurrection and glorious ascension of your dear Son Jesus Christ, we offer you through him this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.

Grant that by his merits and death, and through faith in his blood, we and all your Church may receive forgiveness of our sins and all other benefits of his passion. Although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer you any sacrifice, yet we pray that you will accept this the duty and service that we owe. Do not weigh our merits, but pardon our offences, and fill us all who share in this holy communion with your grace and heavenly blessing; through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you. Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord whose nature is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

When ushered, please come forwards to receive communion at the front (or, if preferred, for a prayer of blessing).

Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

THE ALL-AGE ZONE & THE NOTICES

HYMN: And can it be

And can it be that I should gain
an interest in the Saviour's blood?
Died He for me, who caused His pain;
for me, who him to death pursued?
Amazing love! how can it be
that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

He left His Father's throne above -
so free, so infinite His grace -
emptied himself of all but love,
and bled for Adam's helpless race:
'Tis mercy all, immense and free;
for, O my God, it found out me.

Long my imprisoned spirit lay
fast bound in sin and nature's night;
thine eye diffused a quickening ray,
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light.
My chains fell off, my heart was free;
I rose, went forth, and followed thee.

No condemnation now I dread;
Jesus, and all in him, is mine!
Alive in him, my living head,
and clothed in righteousness divine,
bold I approach the eternal throne
and claim the crown, through Christ my own.

Charles Wesley (1707-88)

THE CONCLUSION

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.
