

DIARY DETAILS

Sunday 5th March (The First Sunday of Lent)

9:45am Morning Service at St Botolph's
11:00am Communion Service at St Peter's
followed by Church Lunch in the Hall
6:30pm Joint Evening Service at Castle

Monday 6th March

4:00pm Playball in the Church Hall

Tuesday 7th March

no FFM* Community Group this week
no JRM* Community Group this week

Wednesday 8th March

10:30am Communion Service at St Peter's

Thursday 9th March

8:00pm CFM* Community Group (4 Bryanstone Mews)

Sunday 12th March (The Second Sunday of Lent)

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

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 & towncentreparishoffice@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

Church Lunch. Everyone is welcome to join us for lunch today, in the Hall after the service.

March Prayer Card. This is available in church today.

Rotas for March to June. The next set of rotas are now available on ChurchApp. Please contact Bernice in the Parish Office if you have problems accessing or changing your details on ChurchApp. Alternatively, paper copies are available in church today.

Electoral Roll Revision. This year's revision of the Electoral Roll needs to be completed today. If you are not on the Roll, but would like to be included, please see Mark or Bernice in church today, or contact the Parish Office during the week (details overleaf).

Parochial Church Council. The next PCC meeting will be on Tuesday 14th March, at 7:30pm.

Celebration Evening for the Guest House Project. As well as the service on 12th March, there is a Celebration Evening being planned in the Hall for Tuesday 28th March, at 7pm.

The Annual Church Meetings. This year's Annual Meeting of Parishioners and Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be on Wednesday 29th March, in the Hall at 8pm. All welcome.

Thank you from Val Morris: for everyone's kindness, concern, and prayers after her recent operation. [Val is now home - but do keep praying!]

Thank you from the family of John Kelleher: John's sister, Becky, has written to say how much she valued seeing friends from St Peter's at John's recent funeral, and to thank everyone for the overwhelming expression of love and prayers.

Congratulations to Matthew and Morven Cox on the safe arrival of their son, Daniel James, on 24th February, weighing 7lb 12oz!

Stall sale. Geraldine and Ken will be having a stall sale around Easter time for the fabric fund. They need Bric a brac and toiletries (excluding clothing) and your unused Christmas presents, and will accept items at any time.

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. Please stay on for refreshments after the service, which will be brought to you in the pews. 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 5th March 2017

The First Sunday of Lent

HYMN: O Lord our God

O Lord our God, how majestic is Your name,
the earth is filled with Your glory.
O Lord our God, You are robed in majesty.
You've set Your glory above the heavens.

*We will magnify, we will magnify
the Lord enthroned in Zion.
We will magnify, we will magnify,
the Lord enthroned in Zion.*

[SPK & Creche leave for their groups]

O Lord our God, You have established a throne;
You reign in righteousness and splendour.
O Lord our God, the skies are ringing with Your praise,
soon those on earth will come to worship.
We will magnify...

O Lord our God, the world was made
at Your command;
in You all things now hold together.
Now to Him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb,
be praise and glory and power forever.
We will magnify...

Phil Lawson Johnston © 1982, 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 THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin: give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit; and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING: Romans 4 v 1-12

page 941 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: All I once held dear

All I once held dear, built my life upon,
all this world reveres, and wars to own,
all I once thought gain, I have counted loss -
spent and worthless now, compared to this:

*Knowing you, Jesus,
Knowing you, there is no greater thing -
You're my all, you're the best,
You're my joy, my righteousness
and I love you, Lord.*

Now my heart's desire is to know you more,
to be found in you and known as yours;
to possess by faith what I could not earn,
all-surpassing gift of righteousness.

Knowing you, Jesus...

O, to know the power of your risen life
and to know You in Your sufferings;
to become like you in your death, my Lord,
so with you to live and never die.

Knowing you, Jesus...

Graham Kendrick, © 1993, MakeWay Music

THE SECOND READING: Romans 4 v 13-25

page 941-2 of the pew Bibles
read by Anne Kavanagh

At the end of the reading...

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOOD NEWS IN TROUBLED TIMES - part 1

Romans 4

INTRODUCTION

who can we trust?

a crisis of confidence

cultural conclusions

you can't trust anyone!

you can't expect freebies!

GOOD NEWS IN TROUBLED TIMES

1. God's promises can be trusted

2. God's promises are gifts, not wages

CONCLUSION: will you live by faith alone?

THE LOGIC OF ROMANS 4

Abraham was justified by faith (1-8)

and not by circumcision (9-12)

and not by the law (13-17)

Abraham was justified by faith (18-21)

and so too will we (22-25)

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: Behold the Lamb

Behold the Lamb who bears our sins away,
slain for us - and we remember
the promise made that all who come in faith
find forgiveness at the cross.
So we share in this bread of life,
and we drink of His sacrifice
as a sign of our bonds of peace -
around the table of the King.

The body of our Saviour Jesus Christ,
torn for you - eat and remember
the wounds that heal, the death that brings us life
paid the price to make us one.
So we share in this bread of life,
and we drink of His sacrifice
as a sign of our bonds of love -
around the table of the King.

The blood that cleanses every stain of sin,
shed for you - drink and remember
he drained death's cup that all may enter in
to receive the life of God.
So we share in this bread of life,
and we drink of His sacrifice
as a sign of our bonds of grace -
around the table of the King.

And so with thankfulness and faith we rise
to respond - and to remember
our call to follow in the steps of Christ
as His body here on earth.
As we share in His suffering
we proclaim Christ will come again!
And we'll join in the feast of heaven -
around the table of the King.

Keith & Kristyn Getty & Stuart Townend, © 2007, 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).

Please come up to the front via the centre aisle, and return to your pew via the side aisles.

The words for the singing during the administration of the bread and wine can be found towards the back of this service-sheet. Feel free to join if you would like.

