

DIARY DETAILS

Sunday 28th January (4th Sunday of Epiphany)

9:45am Communion Service (St Botolph's)
11:00am Morning Service (St Peter's)
3:00pm Recital (St Botolph's)
4:30pm Joint Evening Service (Castle Methodist)

Tuesday 30th January

1:30pm Funeral: Sam Jones (St Botolph's)
7:45/8pm Life Explored at the Vicarage

Wednesday 31st January

10:30am Communion Service (St Peter's)

Thursday 1st February

8:00pm NGM* Community Group (4 Bry'ne Mews)

Saturday 3rd February

9:00am PCC Meeting (Church Hall)
7:30pm Mayor's Charity Concert (St Botolph's)

Sunday 4th February (2nd Sunday before Lent)

9:45am Morning Service (St Botolph's)
11:00am Family Communion Service (St Peter's)
3:00pm Charity Concert (St Botolph's)
4:30pm Joint Evening Service (Castle Methodist)

The focus of each Community Group is as follows:

- * FFM: Faithful Friends Ministries (Tuesday lunchtimes)
- * JRM: Jericho Road Ministries (Tuesday evenings)
- * NGM: Next Generation Ministries (Thursday evenings)

CONTACT DETAILS

The Town Centre Parish Office

01206 572529 & towncentreparrishoffice@gmail.com

Associate Minister: **Aella Gage** (on sick leave)

Churchwarden: **Dan Watts** (01206 866630)

Churchwarden: **Wendy Whitfield** (01206 790431)

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

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

Safeguarding Rep: **Morvern Cox** (07501 341000)

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

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



CHURCH NOTICES

The Prayer Card for February is now available.

Look out next week for our LENT BOOK...

The Funeral of Sam Jones will be at St Botolph's Church on Tuesday 30th January, at 1:30pm.

The next full PCC meeting is due to be on Saturday (3rd Feb), 9 for 9:15am.

On Sunday 11th February the Morning Service will be particularly appropriate for visitors. Could you invite a friend (Christian or non-Christian) to come and hear Aella speak that morning on the first of the Ten Commandments?

The Annual Church Meetings for 2018 will be held on Wednesday 21st March (7:45 for 8pm).

The Electoral Roll is due to be updated before the APCM in March. If you would like to apply to have your name added to the Electoral Roll of St Peter's, please speak to Clare Reid (the PCC's Electoral Roll Officer) before the end of February.

A letter from Jessie Ho, who was part of our church family for some time but has now moved to New Zealand, is available to pick up from church today.

'Nativity 2018' is a modern medieval mystery play by Rod Green, being presented by Christ Church & the Colchester Theatre Group on Thursday 1st and Friday 2nd February. For tickets and more information, please see noticeboard at the back of the church.

Concerts coming up at St Botolph's... On Saturday 3rd February at 7:30pm there will be a Mayor's Charity Concert with the Colchester Bach Choir. On Sunday 4th February at 3:00pm there will be another charity concert (Something to celebrate).

Cantus Firmus Choir Events. There will be a special service at Castle Methodist on Sunday 25th February at 4:30pm, led by the Colchester Choir, the Salvation Army Songsters and Chara Gospel Choir. See noticeboard for more information of this service and of another event coming up in May.

Notices for inclusion should be emailed or posted to the Town Centre Parish Office by 12 noon on Tuesday.

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A very warm welcome to St Peter's Church!

Our service this morning is led by Rev Aella Gage. 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. Please note that we do not take a collection during the service: if you would like to give, please use the box towards the back of church.

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.

Morning Service

Sunday 28th January 2018

The Fourth Sunday of Epiphany

WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

HYMN: Fill your hearts with joy and gladness

Fill your hearts with joy and gladness,
sing and praise your God and mine!
Great the Lord in love and wisdom,
might and majesty divine!
He who framed the starry heavens
knows and names them as they shine.

[SPK & Creche leave for their groups]

Praise the Lord, his people, praise him!
wounded souls his comfort know;
those who fear him find his mercies,
peace for pain and joy for woe;
humble hearts are high exalted,
human pride and power laid low.

Praise the Lord for times and seasons,
cloud and sunshine, wind and rain;
spring to melt the snows of winter
till the waters flow again;
grass upon the mountain pastures,
golden valleys thick with grain.

Fill your hearts with joy and gladness,
peace and plenty crown your days;
love his laws, declare his judgments,
walk in all his words and ways;
he the Lord and we his children -
praise the Lord, all people, praise!

Timothy Dudley-Smith, © 1970, Oxford University Press

CONFESSION

Let us come to the Lord,
who is full of compassion,
and acknowledge our transgressions
in penitence and faith.

**Most merciful God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word, and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy, forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God.
Amen.**

May the God of love and power
forgive us and free us from our sins,
heal and strengthen us by his Spirit,
and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord.
Amen.

HYMN: The king of love my shepherd is

The King of love my shepherd is,
whose goodness fails me never;
I nothing lack if I am his
and he is mine for ever.

Where streams of living water flow
a ransomed soul, he leads me;
and where the fertile pastures grow,
with food from heaven feeds me.

Perverse and foolish I have strayed,
but in his love he sought me;
and on his shoulder gently laid,
and home, rejoicing, brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill
with you, dear Lord, beside me;
your rod and staff my comfort still,
your cross before to guide me.

You spread a banquet in my sight
of love beyond all knowing;
and O the gladness and delight
from your pure chalice flowing!

And so through all the length of days
your goodness fails me never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing your praise
within your house for ever!

H.W. Baker (1821-1877), © in this version Jubilate Hymns

BIBLE READING: Romans 7 v 7-25

page 943-944; read by Peter Sawyer

At the end of the reading...

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN: How deep the Father's love for us

How deep the Father's love for us,
how vast beyond all measure,
that he should give his only Son
to make a wretch His treasure;
how great the pain of searing loss,
the Father turns his face away,
as wounds which mar the Chosen One
bring many sons to glory.

Behold the man upon a cross,
my sin upon His shoulders;
ashamed I hear my mocking voice
call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there
until it was accomplished;
his dying breath has brought me life -
I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything:
no gifts, no power, no wisdom;
but I will boast in Jesus Christ,
his death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer,
but this I know with all my heart:
his wounds have paid my ransom.

Stuart Townend, © 1995, Thankyou Music

THE SERMON

preacher: Rev Mark Wallace

THE CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ,
his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living
and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

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.

J. Edmeston, © 2001, Thankyou Music

THE PRAYERS

* *The Collect for The Fourth Sunday of Epiphany*

God our creator, who in the beginning
commanded the light to shine out of darkness:
we pray that the light of the glorious gospel of Christ
may dispel the darkness of ignorance and unbelief,
shine into the hearts of all your people,
and reveal the knowledge of your glory
in the face of Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

Amen.

* *The Intercessions*
led by Aella Gage

* *The Lord's Prayer*

Gathering our prayers and praises into one,
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 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.**

THE ALL-AGE ZONE & THE NOTICES

HYMN: I heard the voice of Jesus say

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'Come unto me and rest;
lay down, thou weary one, lay down
thy head upon my breast.'
I came to Jesus as I was,
weary, and worn, and sad;
I found in him a resting-place,
and he has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'Behold, I freely give
the living water; thirsty one,
stoop down and drink, and live.'
I came to Jesus, and I drank
of that life-giving stream;
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
and now I live in him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'I am this dark world's light;
look unto me, thy morn shall rise,
and all thy day be bright.'
I looked to Jesus, and I found
in him my star, my sun;
and in that light of life I'll walk,
till travelling days are done.

H.Bonar (1808-89)

THE CONCLUSION

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all evermore.
Amen.**
