

## DIARY DETAILS

### Sunday 4th February (2nd Sunday before Lent)

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

### Tuesday 6th February

7:45/8pm Life Explored at the Vicarage

### Wednesday 7th February

10:30am Communion Service at St Peter's

### Thursday 8th February

8:00pm Community Group at 4 Bryanstone Mews

### Sunday 11th February (Sunday next before Lent)

9:45am Communion Service at St Botolph's  
10:50am Morning Service at St Peter's  
3:00pm Recital at St Botolph's  
4:30pm 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)*
- \* *NGM: Next Generation 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 866630)

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

PCC Secretary: *position currently vacant*

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

**Our Lent Book for 2018 is "Spiritual Healthcheck"** and there is a copy for everybody after the service today. Please take your copy, and be ready to set aside a little time on a few days each week throughout Lent, as we read through "*Spiritual Healthcheck: 16 steps to a thriving Christian life*" together.

**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.

**Next Sunday (11th Feb) 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).

**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.

**The Diocesan Newsletter, The Month,** is no longer being published. News can still be found on the Diocesan website: [www.chelmsford.anglican.org](http://www.chelmsford.anglican.org)

**The next set of rotas (for March-June)** will be prepared soon. If you haven't already let Bernice know your 'unavailability', please do so as soon as possible. If you are not yet on any rotas but would like to help, please speak to Bernice. Thank you.

*Items for inclusion in the Notices or Diary should be emailed to the Town Centre Parish Office or posted to the Town Centre Vicarage to arrive by 12 noon on the preceding Tuesday.*

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**A very warm welcome to St Peter's Church!**

Our Family Service today 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.

**Thank you for joining us today.**

# **Family Service with Communion**

**Sunday 4th February 2018**

*The Second Sunday before Lent*



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.**

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### **HYMN: Jesus, lover of my soul**

Jesus, lover of my soul,  
let me to thy bosom fly,  
while the nearer waters roll,  
while the tempest still is high;  
hide me, O my Saviour, hide,  
till the storm of life is past;  
safe into the haven guide,  
O receive my soul at last!

Other refuge have I none;  
hangs my helpless soul on thee;  
leave, ah! leave me not alone,  
still support and comfort me.  
All my trust on thee is stayed,  
all my help from thee I bring;  
cover my defenceless head  
with the shadow of thy wing.

Plenteous grace with thee is found,  
grace to cover all my sin;  
let the healing streams abound;  
make and keep me pure within.  
Thou of life the fountain art;  
freely let me take of thee;  
spring thou up within my heart,  
rise to all eternity.

*Charles Wesley (1707-1788)*

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### **FIRST BIBLE READING: Romans 5 v 18-21**

page 942 of the pew Bibles  
read by Rosemary Milne

*At the end of the reading...*  
This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

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### **TALK: Part 1**

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## **WELCOME & INTRODUCTION**

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### **OPENING HYMN: Thine be the glory!**

Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,  
endless is the victory, thou o'er death hast won;  
angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,  
kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.

*Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,  
endless is the victory, thou o'er death hast won.*

Lo! Jesus meets us risen from the tomb;  
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom;  
let the Church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,  
for her Lord now liveth; death has lost its sting.

*Thine be the glory...*

No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of Life;  
Life is naught without thee; aid us in our strife;  
Make us more than conquerors, through thy  
deathless love:

bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above.

*Thine be the glory...*

*Edmond Budry (1854-1932)*

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## **THE CONFESSION**

**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.**

**SECOND BIBLE READING: Romans 8 v 1-4**

page 944 of the pew Bibles  
read by Amos Watts

*At the end of the reading...*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

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**TALK: Part 2**

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**HYMN: From the squalor of a borrowed stable**

From the squalor of a borrowed stable,  
by the spirit and a virgin's faith;  
to the anguish and the shame of scandal  
came the Saviour of the human race.  
But the skies were filled, with the praise of heaven,  
shepherds listen as the angels tell  
of the Gift of God, come down to man —  
at the dawning of Immanuel!

King of heaven now the Friend of sinners,  
humble servant in the Father's hands,  
filled with power and the Holy Spirit,  
filled with mercy for the broken man.  
Yes, he walked my road, and He felt my pain,  
joys and sorrows that I know so well;  
yet His righteous steps, give me hope again —  
I will follow my Immanuel!

Through the kisses of a friend's betrayal,  
He was lifted on a cruel cross;  
He was punished for a world's transgressions,  
He was suffering to save the lost.  
He fights for breath, He fights for me,  
loosing sinners from the claims of hell;  
and with a shout, our souls are free —  
Death defeated by Immanuel!

Now He's standing in the place of honour,  
crowned with glory on the highest throne,  
interceding for His own beloved  
till His Father calls us to bring them home!  
Then the skies will part, as the trumpet sounds:  
hope of heaven or the fear of hell;  
but the Bride will run, to her Lover's arms —  
Giving glory to Immanuel!

*Stuart Townsend © 1999 Thankyou Music*

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**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.**

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**THE COLLECT**

Almighty God,  
you have created the heavens and the earth  
and made us in your image:  
teach us to discern your hand in all your works  
and your likeness in all your children;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who with you and the Holy Spirit  
reigns supreme over all things,  
now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

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## THE PRAYERS

*led by Peter Holden*

*These responses may be used during the prayers*

Lord, in your mercy

**hear our prayer.**

Merciful Father,

**accept these prayers,**

**for the sake of your Son,**

**our Saviour Jesus Christ.**

**Amen.**

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## THE COMFORTABLE WORDS

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened,  
and I will give you rest. *Matthew 11:28*

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and  
only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not  
perish but have eternal life. *John 3:16*

Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full  
acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save  
sinners. *1 Timothy 1:15*

If anybody sins, we have an advocate with the  
Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; he is the  
propitiation for our sins. *1 John 2:1-2*

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## PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

**We do not presume  
to come to this your table, 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.**

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## COMMUNION PRAYERS

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
we thank you that in your tender mercy  
you gave your only Son Jesus Christ  
to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption;  
he made there a full atonement  
for the sins of the whole world,  
offering once for all his one sacrifice of himself;  
He instituted,  
and in his holy gospel commanded us to continue,  
a perpetual memory of his precious death  
until he comes again.

In the same night that he was betrayed,  
he 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." Amen.**

*The minister and the congregation receive communion.*

*Authorized words of distribution are used  
and the communicant replies*

**Amen.**

*During the distribution, please join in with the singing.*

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## NOTICES

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### FINAL 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?

'Tis mystery all: the Immortal dies!  
Who can explore his strange design?  
In vain the first-born seraph tries  
to sound the depths of love divine.  
'Tis mercy all! Let earth adore,  
let angel minds enquire no more.

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)*

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## 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.**

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*Please be seated.*

*Refreshments will be brought to you in the pews.  
Do please stay for a while.*

## DURING COMMUNION...

**Immortal honours rest on Jesus' head;**  
my God, my portion, and my Living Bread;  
in Him I live, upon Him cast my care;  
He saves from death, destruction, and despair.

He is my refuge in each deep distress;  
the Lord my strength and glorious righteousness;  
through floods and flames He leads me safely on,  
and daily makes His sovereign goodness known.

My every need He richly will supply;  
nor will His mercy ever let me die;  
in Him there dwells a treasure all divine,  
and matchless grace has made that treasure mine.

O that my soul could love and praise Him more,  
His beauties trace, His majesty adore;  
live near His heart, rest in His love each day;  
hear His dear voice and all His will obey.

*William Gadsby (1773 - 1844)*

## From the breaking of the dawn

to the setting of the sun,  
I will stand on ev'ry promise of Your word.  
Words of power, strong to save,  
that will never pass away,  
I will stand on ev'ry promise of Your word.  
For Your covenant is sure,  
and on this I am secure,  
I can stand on ev'ry promise of Your word.

When I stumble and I sin,  
condemnation pressing in,  
I will stand on ev'ry promise of Your word.  
You are faithful to forgive,  
that in freedom I might live,  
so I stand on ev'ry promise of Your word.  
Guilt to innocence restored:  
you remember sins no more!  
So I'll stand on ev'ry promise of Your word.

Hope that lifts me from despair,  
love that casts out every fear,  
as I stand on ev'ry promise of Your word.  
Not forsaken, not alone,  
for the Comforter has come,  
and I stand on ev'ry promise of Your word.  
Grace sufficient, grace for me,  
grace for all who will believe,  
we will stand on ev'ry promise of Your word.

*Keith Getty & Stuart Townend, © 2005 Thankyou Music*

