

DIARY DETAILS

Sunday 11th March [the fourth Sunday of Lent]

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

Tuesday 13th March

12 noon FFM* Fellowship Group, in the Hall
7:45/8pm Life Explored, at the Vicarage

Wednesday 14th March

10:30am Communion Service, at St Peter's

Thursday 15th March

8:00pm NGM* Community Group, at 4 Br. Mews

Saturday 17th March

7:30pm Colchester CS Concert, at St Botolph's

Sunday 18th March [the fifth Sunday of Lent]

9:45am Morning Prayer, at St Botolph's
11:00am Communion Service, at St Peter's
3:00pm Piano and Clarinet Recital, at St B'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)
- * NGM: Next Generation Ministries (Thursday evenings)

CONTACT DETAILS

The Town Centre Parish Office

01206 572529 & towncentreparrishoffice@gmail.com

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

Churchwarden: **Dan Watts** (866630)

Churchwarden: **Wendy Whitfield** (790431)

PCC Secretary: *position currently vacant*

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

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

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

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



For more information about St Peter's,
please refer to www.stpeterscolchester.org
or [www.twitter.com/StPeters_CO11DZ](https://twitter.com/StPeters_CO11DZ)
or www.facebook.com/stpeterscolchester

CHURCH NOTICES

Make a Mother's Day 2018. Today is Mothering Sunday, and we will be taking up a Gift Day Collection as we seek to continue our sponsorship of our two sponsored children for the year ahead. For more information, there are leaflets available in church today.

Our Lent Book for 2018 is "Spiritual Healthcheck" and if you don't already have a copy, please take one today (yes, they are free!) - and then join us in setting aside a little time through Lent, as we read through these "16 steps to a thriving Christian life".

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

Nomination Forms for PCC are available on the tables at the back of church.

The FFM* Community Group. The next meeting for the Tuesday community group will be on the 13th March, starting at 12 midday with a light lunch and finishing around 1.30pm. We will also meet on the 27th March.

CYO Celebration - "Your Kingdom Come". You are invited to an event on Sunday 25th March, 6:30pm-8:30pm, at Kingsland Church (CO3 4DW). The church is having a growing impact on the lives of children, young people and staff in many of the schools of our area. Find out more as we reflect on Jesus' prayer, "Your Kingdom Come", for the world of education and beyond. With special guest Brian Heasley, International Prayer Director for 24-7 Prayer.

Please note the new email address for the Vicar: towncentrevicar@gmail.com (the old email address which ended ...@btinternet.com will be checked occasionally, but was becoming too unreliable).

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 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. 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 11th March 2018

Mothering Sunday

"FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH"

For the beauty of the earth,
for the beauty of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies,

*Christ our God, to you we raise
this our sacrifice of praise.*

[SPK & Creche leave for their groups]

For the beauty of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower,
sun and moon and stars of light,
Christ our God, to you we raise...

For the joy of ear and eye,
for the heart and mind's delight,
for the mystic harmony
linking sense to sound and sight,
Christ our God, to you we raise...

For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth and friends above,
pleasures pure and undefiled,
Christ our God, to you we raise...

For each perfect gift divine
to our race so freely given,
joys bestowed by love's design,
flowers of earth and fruits of heaven,
Christ our God, to you we raise...

F.S. Pierpoint (1835-1917)

SPIRITUAL HEALTHCHECK

BIBLE READING: Exodus 20 v 1-17

page 61; read by James Wallace

At the end of the reading...

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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.

“MAY THE MIND OF CHRIST MY SAVIOUR”

May the mind of Christ my Saviour
live in me from day to day,
by his love and power controlling
all I do and say.

May the word of God enrich me
with his truth from hour to hour,
so that all may see I triumph
only through his power.

May the peace of God my Father
in my life for ever reign,
that I may be calm to comfort
those in grief and pain.

May the love of Jesus fill me
as the waters fill the sea,
him exalting, self abasing -
this is victory!

May his beauty rest upon me
as I seek to make him known;
so that all may look to Jesus,
seeing him alone.

Katie B. Wilkinson (1859-1928)

BIBLE READING: Ephesians 6 v 1-4

page 979; read by Margaret Sawyer

At the end of the reading...

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

“FROM THE BREAKING OF THE DAWN”

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.

When I’m faced with anguished choice,
I will listen for Your voice,
and I’ll stand on ev’ry promise of Your word.
Through this dark and troubled land
You will guide me with your hand
as I stand on ev’ry promise of Your word.
And you’ve promised to complete
every work begun in me,
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

THE SERMON

preacher: Rev Aella Gage

THE APOSTLES’ 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.**

“WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN JESUS”

What a friend we have in Jesus,
all our sins and griefs to bear!
what a privilege to carry
everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit,
O what needless pain we bear,
all because we do not carry
everything to God in prayer.

Have we trials and temptations?
is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged:
take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful
who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness -
take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy-laden,
burdened with a load of care?
Jesus is our mighty saviour:
he will listen to our prayer.
Do your friends despise, forsake you?
take it to the Lord in prayer;
in his arms he will enfold you
and his love will shield you there.

J.M. Screen (1819-1886)

THE PRAYERS

* **The Collect for Mothering Sunday**

God of compassion,
whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary,
shared the life of a home in Nazareth,
and on the cross
drew the whole human family to himself:
strengthen us in our daily living
that in joy and in sorrow
we may know the power of your presence
to bind together and to heal;
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 Intercessions**

led by Sheila Lloyd

* **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: “Make a Mother’s Day” & THE NOTICES

“LORD, FOR THE YEARS”

Lord, for the years your love has kept and guided,
urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way,
sought us and saved us, pardoned and provided:
Lord of the years, we bring our thanks today.

Lord, for that word, the word of life which fires us,
speaks to our hearts and sets our souls ablaze,
teaches and trains, rebukes us and inspires us:
Lord of the word, receive your people’s praise.

Lord, for our land in this our generation,
spirits oppressed by pleasure, wealth and care:
for young and old, for commonwealth and nation,
Lord of our land, be pleased to hear our prayer.

Lord, for our world, where men disown
and doubt you,
loveless in strength, and comfortless in pain,
hungry and helpless, lost indeed without you:
Lord of the world, we pray that Christ may reign.

Lord, for ourselves; in living power remake us -
self on the cross and Christ upon the throne,
past put behind us, for the future take us:
Lord of our lives, to live for Christ alone.

Timothy Dudley-Smith, © 1976, Oxford University Press

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.**