

DIARY DETAILS

Sunday 18th March [the fifth Sunday of Lent]

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

Tuesday 20th March

7:45/8pm Life Explored at the Vicarage

Wednesday 21st March

10:30am Communion Service at St Peter's
3:00pm Vicar's Vestry Hour at St Botolph's
7:30pm Annual Church Meetings in The Hall

Thursday 23rd March

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

Saturday 24th March

7:30pm Concert at St Botolph's

Sunday 25th March [Palm Sunday]

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)
- * 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
or www.facebook.com/stpeterscolchester

CHURCH NOTICES

THANK YOU... to everyone who gave so generously towards our Make a Mother's Day Gift Day. We have raised £751.21.

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".

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

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.

Good Friday Walk of Witness. Colchester churches are organising a Walk of Witness through the town centre. Please meet in Essex Street at 11:45am (off Headgate). There will also be an evening service at the Mercury Theatre on Good Friday, at 7:30pm. For more information, please see the noticeboard.

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).

The loop system in church is now working again. If you need any assistance, or if you experience any problems with volume levels, please let a member of the Welcome Team or a Churchwarden know as soon as possible.

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 shortly after the end of the service.

Thank you for joining us today.

Communion Service

Sunday 18th March 2018

The Fifth Sunday of Lent

"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

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

**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.**

SUMMARY OF THE LAW

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.

THE COLLECT FOR THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Most merciful God,
who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus
Christ delivered and saved the world;
grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross
we may triumph in the power of his victory;
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.

SPIRITUAL HEALTHCHECK

BIBLE READING: John 11 v 45-57

page 898; read by Peter Holden

At the end of the reading...

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

"MY SONG IS LOVE UNKNOWN"

My song is love unknown,
my Saviour's love to me,
love to the loveless shown,
that they might lovely be.
O, who am I,
that for my sake
my Lord should take
frail flesh, and die?

He came from his blest throne,
salvation to bestow:
but men made strange, and none
the longed-for Christ would know.
But O, my Friend,
my Friend indeed,
who at my need
his life did spend!

Why, what hath my Lord done?
What makes this rage and spite?
He made the lame to run,
he gave the blind their sight.
Sweet injuries!
Yet they at these
themselves displease,
and 'gainst him rise.

They rise, and needs will have
my dear Lord made away;
a murderer they save,
the Prince of Life they slay,
yet cheerful he
to suffering goes,
that he his foes
from thence might free.

Here might I stay and sing,
no story so divine;
never was love, dear King,
never was grief like thine!
This is my Friend,
in whose sweet praise
I all my days
could gladly spend.

Samuel Crossman (1624-83)

BIBLE READING: John 12 v 1-11

page 898; read by Wendy Whitfield

At the end of the reading...

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE SERMON

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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

led by Richard Lawn

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.**

“TIS, FINISHED! THE MESSIAH DIES”

‘Tis, finished! The Messiah dies,
cut off for sins, but not His own:
accomplished is the sacrifice,
the great redeeming work is done.
Yes, finished! all the debt is paid;
justice divine is satisfied;
the grand and full atonement made;
God for a guilty world has died.

The temple curtain is torn down,
the living way to Heaven is seen;
through Christ the middle wall has gone,
and all who will may enter in.
The ancient shadows are fulfilled;
the scripture prophecies prove true,
the sinless Lamb of God is killed,
the promised covenant made new!

The reign of sin and death is done,
and all may live from sin set free;
Satan and his pretended throne
are swallowed up in victory.
Saved from the curse of God I am,
my Saviour hangs upon a tree!
See there the meek and silent Lamb;
his final breath he breathes for me.

In Christ accepted and brought near
and clothed in righteousness divine,
I see the path to life made clear;
and all your merits, Lord, are mine.
Death, hell, and sin are now subdued;
all grace is now to sinners given;
and so I plead the atoning blood
and claim the title deeds of heaven.

Words by Christopher Idle; Music by John Kelly © Jubilate Hymns

PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Brothers and sisters in Christ,
as we gather at the Lord’s table
we must recall the promises and warnings
given to us in the Scriptures.

Let us therefore examine ourselves
and repent of our sins.

Let us give thanks to God for his redemption
of the world through his Son Jesus Christ,
and as we remember Christ’s death for us,
and receive this pledge of his love,
let us resolve to serve him
in holiness and righteousness
all the days of our life.

**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 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*

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.**

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.**

*Authorized words of distribution are used, after which
the communicant replies:*

Amen.

*While you wait to be ushered forward to receive the
bread and the wine, please join in with singing “Man of
sorrows” and “The King of love” (the words are at the
back of this service-sheet).*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.**

THE NOTICES

“GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS”

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
as thou hast been thou forever will be.

*Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

Great is thy faithfulness...

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Great is thy faithfulness...

Thomas Chisholm, © 1923, Hope Publishing

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.

Please be seated.

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

Man of sorrows! What a name

for the Son of God who came
ruined sinners to reclaim!
Alleluia! What a Saviour!

Bearing shame and scoffing rude,
in my place condemned he stood;
sealed my pardon with his blood;
Alleluia! What a Saviour!

Guilty, vile and helpless we;
spotless Lamb of God was he:
full atonement - can it be?
Alleluia! What a Saviour!

Lifted up was he to die:
'It is finished!' was his cry;
now in heav'n exalted high;
Alleluia! What a Saviour!

When he comes, our glorious King,
all his ransomed home to bring,
then anew this song we'll sing:
Alleluia! What a Saviour!

Philipp Bliss (1838-1876) alt.

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