

NOTICES:

MESSAGE FROM JONATHAN AND JACKIE ANDREW: Thank you to all the St Peter's family for our amazing send-off. We know how much effort so many of you put into making the party on Saturday and the services on Sunday truly memorable. Your many generous presents and words of appreciation were quite overwhelming. It feels that all that needs to be said has been said and, as Jonathan stressed in last week's Newsheet, 'retirement really does mean retirement', but we do hope that you will want to keep in touch on a personal level. Our contact details are:

Address: "Orchard", 6 Westacres, Esher, Surrey, KT10 9JE

Phone: 01372 479776, Mobile: 07968 765188

jandrewesher@hotmail.com

God bless you all.

SUE BURKE WOULD LIKE TO THANK EVERYONE who provided food for Jonathan's leaving party which looked and tasted wonderful. Thanks to those who set up the hall, cleared away at the end of the evening and those who helped on the bar and in the kitchen. It was a great team effort that contributed towards a very special evening that I know Jonathan appreciated very much.

The next ladies **COFFEE MORNING** will tomorrow Monday 5 August at Squires Garden Centre at 10.30am. If you would like a lift or any further information please phone Heather on 01932 220530. Please make a note in your diary for every first Monday of the month as this event will be happening and all ages are welcome.

Our men's group **SPAM** (St Peter's Active Men) helps us to get to know one another, as well as supporting church life in practical ways. Our main focus is social, held together by our regular monthly gathering at the Bricklayers Arms on the first Tuesday of the month (. We notionally start at 8pm, but people drop in when they can and leave when they must.

BRING YOUR OWN PICNIC and a blanket or deck chairs and join us for our **PARISH PICNIC** on Sunday 15 September from 11:30 to 2:30pm after the 10am communion service. We'll be getting together in The Vicarage Garden (if wet we'll be in the church hall). Bouncy Castle and games for children (young and old!)

Attracting, Engaging, Involving

WELCOME TO THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER, HERSHAM

Sunday 4th August 2019

The Seventh Sunday after Trinity

Our bond with animals goes far deeper than food and companionship. Our pets are a huge part of our lives and can make our day-to-day lives richer than it would be without them.

Travel almost anywhere in the world and you will see something so common that it may not even catch your attention. Wherever there are people, there are animals: animals being walked, herded, fed, watered, bathed, brushed or cuddled. Many, such as dogs, cats and sheep, are domesticated but you will also find people living alongside wild and exotic creatures such as monkeys, wolves, snakes and binturongs (I didn't even know this was an animal!)

Close contact with animals is not confined to one particular culture, geographic region or ethnic group. It is a universal human trait, which suggests that our desire to be with animals is deeply embedded and very ancient.

James Lys from Mercure Stratford-upon-Avon, commissioned a survey recently which highlighted that more than half of pet owners admit they enjoy the company of their animals more than that of their best friends. Questioned on the strength of their relationship with their pet, 53 per cent of the 2,000 people polled said they preferred spending time with their pet than with a human companion. Most saw their animal as a positive influence on their well-being. Three in five said their pet helped them de-stress after a tough day, 57 per cent felt less lonely when their pet is beside them and seven in 10 found their pet was a calming presence in their home.

Let's pray today for our pets, not only because we love them, but also because they are one of God's beloved creatures. God made everything on earth, including the animals we hold so dear to our hearts.

Lord God, when You created the universe you blessed us with all living creatures. We especially thank you for giving us our pets who are our friends and who bring us so much joy in life. Their presence very often helps us get through trying times. May our pets continue giving joy and remind us of Your power. May we realize that as our pets trust us to take care of them, so we should trust You to take care of us, and in taking care of them we share in Your love for all creatures. Amen.

COLLECT

Generous God, you give us gifts and make them grow: though our faith is small as mustard seed, make it grow to your glory and the flourishing of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Lord God, whose Son is the true vine and the source of life, ever giving himself that the world may live: may we so receive within ourselves the power of his death and passion that, in his saving cup, we may share his glory and be made perfect in his love; for he is alive and reigns, now and forever. Amen.

8.00 am Holy Communion: Please use Parish Communion service sheet

Old Testament Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14 & 2: 18-23 (Bible page 626)

New Testament Colossians 3:1-11 (Bible page 198)

Gospel Luke 12:13-21 (Bible page 71)

10.00 am Pet Service

Followed by refreshments

Service and hymns on screen.



Vicar Revd. Jackie Richardson (01932) 227445

Associate Priest Revd. Sue Gray (01932) 242838

Lay Minister Deborah Lock (01932) 703175

Parish Office Sarah Tourell theoffice@stpetershersham.com
and Church Hall (01932) 253452

Parish Website www.stpetershersham.com

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THIS WEEK AT ST. PETER'S: JACKIE OFF-DUTY

Tues - Fri 9.00 am Morning Prayer

Mon 5th • Sue off-duty / Parish Office closed

10.00 am Ladies coffee morning (see notices)

3.00 pm "Foodbank" from 3pm to 5pm, church open for private prayer.

Tue 6th 2.00 pm "Foodbank" from 2pm to 4pm, church open for private prayer.

7.45 pm Bell ringers' practice

8.00 pm SPAM (Men's Group) meeting in The Bricklayer's Arms - see notices



Wed 7th 10.00 am Holy Communion / The Transfiguration

Thu 8th 7.30 pm Summer music workshop

Fri 9th Parish Office closed

NEXT SUNDAY - The Seventh Sunday after Trinity (11th Aug)

8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)

10.00 am Parish Communion

Children's Activity during the sermon

AMERICAN TROUBADOUR SONGS AND STORIES: A concert performed by Alistair Sherwood on Saturday 28 September in church. Pre-concert drinks served from 7pm. Performance 7.30pm. Tickets £10 with £3 going to St. Peter's church roof fund. Look above the middle stained-glass window on the right-hand side of church to see the damage the leak has caused. Help us make this concert a sell-out by inviting your friends. Tickets on sale after the Sunday 10am service today (4 Aug) from John Cramp.

To book your tickets online go to www.ticketsource.co.uk/hersham-pcc

WILL YOU HELP? We have a great opportunity to make some much needed funds at this event. Would you be prepared to coordinate and manage the raffle? We need someone to gather prizes, set-up the raffle and organise a team to sell tickets on the night. Please speak to Sarah in the Parish Office if you are willing. If anyone has a raffle prize (a voucher, alcohol, chocolates, or a new item you'd be pleased to win) then please pass it to Sarah in the Parish Office in the meantime.