

St. Peter's Church, Hershams

8th December The Second Sunday of Advent

A very warm welcome
to
St. Peter's Church



Designed by Oliver age 8

Today's readings:

Old Testament: Malachi 3:1-4

New Testament: Philippians 1:3-11

Gospel Luke 3:1-6

8 am Holy Communion

9 am Breakfast Praise in church. A short, fun and interactive service, for young families. Followed by refreshments.

10.15 am Our term-time, God and Friends (GAF) (see page 3)

10:30 am Parish Communion


4 pm Christingle: A joyful celebration that brings families and communities together to share the light of Jesus and spread a message of hope. Each person takes a Christingle and the candles are lit to create a warm, magical glow symbolising the light of Christ.

5 pm Final TAG of the year in the Church Hall: Festive fun, food and fellowship. A Christmas quiz and festive games have been planned.



GLUTEN FREE WAFERS: If you require a gluten free wafer for communion please let the sides people know when you arrive and inform the priest when you get to the altar rail.

THIS WEEK:

Mon 9		
Tues 10		
Wed 11	10 am 1 pm 7.15 pm	Walton and Hersham Foodbank in church Bell Farm Christmas Services Life Groups celebration bring and share supper in The Vicarage
Thurs 12	10 am  7.30 pm 8 pm	Pre-School Praise: Come and join us in the Church Hall for action worship songs, a bible story and prayers, followed by refreshments and a chance for the adults to chat while the children play. All children of preschool age welcome – from newborns to 4 year olds! (see notices) Christmas Choir rehearsal Our Men’s Group are meeting up in The Bricklayer’s Arms, Queens Road, Hersham for their monthly chat and get together. Drop in any time from 8pm
Fri 13	• • 5.30 pm	Vicar’s Day off Parish Office closed Children’s Christmas Choir rehearsal
Sat 14	9 am	Women’s Breakfast (see notice on page 4)

Week 2: LOVE

During Advent instead of a question for Breakfast Praise and to go in the newssheet, we're giving you our advent challenges. Here is this week's challenge and some suggestions of how you might like to fulfil it. Do come up with your own ideas and then chat over coffee about what you did.

How can you show Love to someone less fortunate than yourself?

- Christingle – Children's Society
- Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day 12 Dec – PRE School Praise are joining in
- Donate unwanted goods to charity shop
- Help tackle climate change by wearing another layer before switching on the heating?



NEXT SUNDAY: 15th DECEMBER: THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8 am Holy Communion

9 am Breakfast Praise (see page one)

10.15 am Our term-time, God and Friends (GAF) group for primary school aged children meet in the Church Hall to get to know God and each other while having fun! Games, craft, time to reflect on how our Christian faith affects our lives.

10:30 am Parish Communion

6.30 pm Our traditional candle-lit service of nine lessons and carols followed by mulled wine and mince pies



CAROLS
BY
CANDLELIGHT

We're taking part in



Save the Children

**Christmas
Jumper
Day**



St Peter's Church Pre-School Praise is taking part in Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Day on Thursday 12 December (the last Pre-School Praise of this term). By adding a bit of sparkle to our outfits / pulling on our Christmassy knits and donating, we'll be supporting children in

the UK and around the world to keep safe, healthy, and learning. If you'd like to support them here is the QR code to Pre-School Praise's fundraising page.



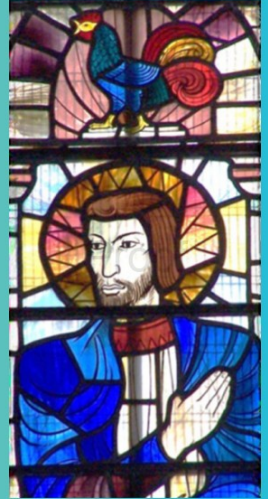
WOMEN'S BREAKFAST: We shall be meeting between 9am and 11am (ish) in St Peter's Church Hall on Saturday 14 December. The Women's Breakfasts offer an opportunity for women to meet for a couple of hours of coffee, conversation and a croissant or two (or other, perhaps healthier, food options). They are a time for sharing our news, asking questions (big and small), making friends or just sitting quietly, away from the bustle of a usual Saturday morning. Feel free to bring a friend.



NOTICES

ST. PETER'S CHURCH 2025 CALENDARS:

These lovely calendars would make a useful Christmas gift, or you might like one for yourself to keep a note of all your important dates. Maureen Hamlin has one left and she'll be in church on Sunday at 10:30am and Sara Grivil at Alan Greenwood Funeral Directors has five and will be selling them Monday to Friday. £5



St. Peter's Church, Hersham
www.stpetershersham.com Parish Office: 01832 733452

Carols for Choir & Audience
A Christmas Concert
of Music and Readings by

The Ian Engelmann Singers
Musical Director: John Tudhope
Organist: Duncan Faulkner

Friday 20 December 2024
at 7:45 pm in
St Peter's Church, Burwood Road
Hersham, Surrey, KT12 4AA

Admission free
A collection will be taken, and a contribution
made to the Sam Beare Hospice Charity.

Mulled wine and mince pies
will be served after the concert.

YOU ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US FOR OUR CHRISTMAS SERVICES:

CHRISTMAS EVE:

Our Nativity at 12 noon on Vauxmead Field (opposite St Peter's Church) with live donkey and sheep. We will go ahead outside come rain, or shine, so please bring appropriate warm clothing.



The Crib Service at 5pm in church: A lovely start to Christmas for young and old. As we sing Christmas carols, the children will help us tell the story of the first Christmas, using our beautiful Crib figures. Children (or adults) may come dressed in a nativity costume if they wish.

Midnight Mass join us at 11.15pm to share the first Holy Communion of Christmas



CHRISTMAS DAY:

Family Communion at 10.30am: An intergenerational Christmas Communion Service

Our Christmas charity collection this year will go to **THE SHOOTING STAR CHILDREN'S HOSPICES**. Their community fundraiser has said "We believe every life-limited or dying child and their family should have the opportunity to make every moment count and get the support they need. We help families make every moment count by supporting them from diagnosis to end of life with a range of nursing, practical, emotional, and medical care. Our support is free of charge to families and includes a range of therapies and support groups for the whole family, specialist nursing care and respite, symptom management, end of life care and bereavement support. (All donations collected on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day will go to this charity).



PLANNED GIVING: If you are not already in our planned giving scheme and you would like to join please scan this QR code. If each person who doesn't currently give regularly could commit to give just £20 per month (which is about the cost of a coffee a week), it would make a huge difference. Obviously the more you can give, the more difference it will make, but the most important thing is to give by standing order, or via the parish giving scheme, (details from the QR code) so we can plan for the future. If you are able to gift aid your donations, they are worth 25% more to us at no additional cost to you. Thank you

Pray with us

God of mission, fill us with your Holy Spirit to show and share our faith and love in our community, and help us to grow as a church family. Amen



Bell-ringing

Recently St Peters bells have not been rung anything like as much as they used to be for Sunday services and when there is ringing it may only be four of the eight bells. This is because for one reason or another there are very few ringers left. We really need some new ringers or the bells may fall silent. Most people can learn to ring bells in the traditional way practiced at St Peter's and about 5,000 other Churches in the UK. Children from age 12 can easily be taught; there are as many female as male ringers.

Anyone interested in learning to ring could come up the tower on a Sunday morning or telephone David Mealor on 07484 225951

What's involved? The first stage is learning to handle a bell (think of it as a bit like learning to stay on a bike safely). These initial lessons are hands-on, with your tutor closely supervising.

When you can handle the bell safely, you need further exercises to learn how to control it, to make it ring faster or slower (think of it as like learning to cycle in a straight line, and turn corners when required).

Thus far, you have been ringing a bell on its own. The next step is learning to synchronise the timing of your bell with others (think of it as cycling in formation, six abreast). This is what it is all about, and when you can do it reasonably well you will be a full member of the band and can visit other towers to ring.

From now on, most of your training will be in general practices with the rest of the band. They, as well as you, will have things they want to achieve, so the time in practices is shared out, with each piece of ringing (a 'touch') intended to benefit different people. A lot of a ringer's time is spent ringing things to help a fellow ringer. At first, you are mainly a beneficiary, but as you progress, you can increasingly ring things that help other people.