

Next week –26th November 2023

Flower Rota Pauline G

Cleaning Rota John

JAM Amanda and Karolyn

Coffee Caroline & Mark

Services Sunday 26th November 2023

10.00am Morning Prayer

Leading: Ross Terranova

Reading: Ian Smith
Acts 17:22-25 &
Psalm 8

Praying: Brenda Smith

Preaching: Ross Terranova

6.30pm Evening Prayer

Leading: Carol Wellbelove

Reading: Ross Terranova
Psalm 99

Praying: Steve Campbell

Preaching: Julian Myles

Church Office: Jane Beldham

Thursday from 9am – 3pm

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Christian Resource Library open during school term time.

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Facebook: St Peter's Church, Ditton

Prayer Themes for the Week

Please pray for all the preparation and planning for Christmas. Pray that there will be those who this Christmas will come to know Jesus Christ for themselves.

Give thanks for the work of our MP Tracey Crouch. Pray she may know God's wisdom dealing with the many challenges she faces each week.

Pray for Ditton Church of England Junior School and for the Headteacher Graham Ward as they have now joined the Alethea Trust.

Mission Prayer

Give thanks that Andrew had two good weeks of teaching in Bidi Bidi refugee camp last month. Pray that this will be repeated when he returns later this month.

Pray for a dentist as she comes to Goli from South Korea for November and pray that she will be able to help many people.

The Collect

O God, whose blessed Son was manifested that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: grant us that having this hope, we may purify ourselves, even as he is pure, that when he shall appear again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where with you O Father and you O Holy Spirit, he lives and reigns one God now and forever. Amen

Thought for the Week

For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription; TO AN UNKNOWN GOD. Now what you worship as something unknown I am going to proclaim to you.

Acts 17 v 23

St. Peter's Church



Welcome

'We are here to demonstrate God's love for all as shown in Jesus to people where we live and work.'

Services Today 19th November 2023

Second Sunday before Advent

10.00 am Holy Communion

Leading: Giles Williams

Reading: Alan Warner
Acts 17:16-23 *page 1113*

Praying: Jenny Stout

Preaching: Ross Terranova

6.30pm Evening Prayer

Leading: Ross Terranova

Reading: Kathy Mitchell
Psalm 63 *page 579*

Praying: Carol Wellbelove

Preaching: John Paul

Welcome to Our Services Today

This morning we begin a new series of sermons called 'The Path to Persuasion'. We will be looking at one of the great sermons given by the *Apostle Paul* and delivered in Athens. This is recorded by Luke (who wrote the Acts of the Apostles - and is the same Luke who wrote the third Gospel)

As Paul spent time in Athens, Luke tells us that he was greatly upset because although the city was teeming with religions (idols could be found everywhere) there was appalling ignorance. Paul even found an altar to 'An Unknown God!' This was there just in case they had missed one out! Starting with that altar Paul proclaimed the Gospel to them.

There is much we can learn from this magnificent sermon as we look at our culture and society today and the massive confusion and ignorance that exists about who or what God is. What God do we believe in? Who is He? What does he want from us? How can we find Him?

This evening we continue with our series in the Psalms - our theme is 'In Delight' from **Psalm 63**.

Remembrance Sunday

We have had a number of very positive comments following last Sunday's service in the Church. Thank you to everyone who was involved in the planning!

The Good God: Enjoying Father Son and Holy Spirit

The second of our three sessions exploring the Christian Doctrine of God is on **Tuesday November 21st 7.30pm at the Rectory**. If you didn't make the first session but want to come to this one, you are more than welcome.

The title for this evening is '*The Trinity and the Christian Life*'.

Explore Cards

We have some new prayer cards available at the back of church and will be adding to these over the following months and pray that these will be a helpful resource.

Church Family News

Please pray for Natalie and the whole family following the death of her father Jeff last Sunday evening. Natalie and her sister Mena were both him when he died. The family thank God for his life and for all the love that they shared with him.

Diary for w/c 19th November at St Peter's Church

Mon

7.00pm - **Prayer@7** - Golding Room

Mon-Thurs

9.00am-3.30pm – **Pre School** – Church Centre

Wed

9.30am -11.00am - **Crafty Coffee** - Golding Room

9.00am -**Junior School Assembly** - School

Link to Hope

A big thank you to everyone that knitted, filled a box, made a donation, shopped, helped with the packing day and transport! We collected £134.10 from the Junior School and had some wonderful gifts from Pre-school. We were able to pack 23 boxes last Saturday and we now have 50 boxes to send to Eastern Europe. So many lives will be blessed by your gifts. Thank you

Christmas Choir

Your rehearsal takes place after Church today!

Thank you to **Lisa Davis** for organising this - we look forward to hearing you in due course!

Carol Singing

We will be singing carols in the parish on **Tuesday December 12th meeting on the green at 7pm**. Please come and join us. If there is anyone who can offer refreshments afterwards, please let Jane know. Thank you.

Thankyou

Thank you to all who contributed to the lovely flowers and the meal voucher for the Kathmandu Palace (which was a great help in feeding the removals team: ourselves and Alf, our son). We hope before long to be able to welcome folks round to our new home.

Giles and Chris

Food Bank

Thank you for your donations to the Food Bank. These will be delivered to Pilsden in West Malling. The next collection will be 21st January. Baby food, nappies, toiletries are welcome as well as food products.

Church Of England Synod vote on Same -Sex Blessings

Ross writes:

General Synod passed a motion on November 15th to continue with the implementation of the bishop's proposals with regards to the blessing in parish churches of same sex marriages. These proposals depart from a biblical understanding of sex and marriage. The vote is more than just a departure from the biblical understanding of sex and marriage it also marks a very significant moment, in that it appears that the Church of England no longer looks to Scripture as its supreme authority. The Church of England Evangelical Council will in the coming days be announcing a series of provisions for orthodox evangelicals. The National Director of CEEC is Canon John Dunnett who was General Director of the Church Pastoral Aid Society (CPAS) - and who has preached here in Ditton. Our own PCC will in due course consider our response to these developments. Please pray.

Christmas Services

17th December

Carols by Candlelight 6pm

Christmas Eve

Carols on the Green at 4.30pm
Service of Holy Communion 11pm

Christmas Day

10am Christmas day Praise

New Year's Day

10am Morning Service



Church Office

The office will be closed for a week from 20th November.