

Next week –31st March 2024

Flower Rota Easter

Cleaning Rota John

JAM Amanda & Parents

Coffee Gill & Ian

Services Sunday 31st March 2024

10.00am Easter Holy Communion

Leading: Ross Terranova

Reading: Ruth Campbell

1 Corinthians 15: 12-22

Alan Warner

Luke 24: 36-43

Praying: Steve Campbell

Preaching: Ross Terranova

6.30pm Easter Praise

Leading: Ross Terranova

Reading: Chris Williams

Matthew 28: 16-20 & Colossians 1:15-20

Praying: John Paul

Preaching: Giles Williams

Church Office: Jane Beldham

Thursday from 9am – 3pm

Tel: 01732 873798

Email: dittonchurch@btconnect.com

Christian Resource Library open during school term time.

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Rector: Ross Terranova

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Facebook: St Peter's Church, Ditton

Prayer Themes for the Week

As we remember the events that took place in Jerusalem over 2000 years ago, we pray for peace to return to that place. Pray for those who even now are seeking to build bridges of understanding amidst all the darkness and despair.

Pray for those who feel that God has deserted them. Pray for those struggling with trauma and despair. Pray in that darkness they may know the presence of the crucified Jesus.

Thank God for all those who will decorate the Church making it a lovely place to meet over this Easter Festival.

The Collect

Almighty and everlasting God,
who in your tender love towards the human race
sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ
to take upon him our flesh
and to suffer death upon the cross:
grant that we may follow the example of his patience
and humility,
and also be made partakers of his resurrection;
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

Thought for the Week

"Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will but yours be done."

Luke 22 v 42

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 24th March 2024

Palm Sunday

10.00 am Morning Prayer

Leading: Ross Terranova

Reading: Julien Miles

Matthew 6: 1-8 & 16-18 page 970

Praying: Giles Williams

Preaching: Chris Williams

6.30pm Evening Prayer

Leading: Carol Wellbelove

Reading: Kathy Mitchell

Luke 22: 39-46 page 1058

Praying: Pauline Grimes

Preaching: Ross Terranova

Welcome to Our Services Today

Palm Sunday

Today we remember that remarkable day when Jesus rode into Jerusalem on the back of a donkey to the great cries and acclamations of the crowds. Palm Sunday begins the week known as 'Holy Week' when we focus on the events of the last week of the life of Jesus.

It is a reminder to us that our faith is rooted in history - in a real place at an actual time.
The Gospel writers clearly saw this week as the most important one in the life of Jesus as they concentrate so much of their time on it. As we look back with wonder and thanksgiving, we pray that the we may encounter the living risen Christ for ourselves afresh as we celebrate Easter.

This morning our theme is '*The Secret Christian?*' as we begin our study of Matthew 6 part of the *Sermon on the Mount*. It is a chapter full of teaching on the nature and character of the Christian life and starts with Jesus teaching us on the priority of prayer.

This evening in our series on mountains of the Bible we are looking at Mount Olivet and Jesus in the garden of Gethsemane.
Our theme - '**Sweat like Blood**'.

Lent Course
It has been very encouraging to see good numbers each Monday in the Church Centre lounge. Each session from the course '**The Nail**' is a stand-alone one so it is not too late to join - you will be warmly welcomed.

Food Bank
Thank you for your food bank donations. These will be delivered to the Pilsden Community.
The next date for collection will be Sunday 28th April. Baby food, nappies, toiletries are welcome as well as food products.

Clock change!
A reminder to put your clocks forward by one hour next weekend.

Diary for w/c 24th March at St Peter's Church
Mon
7.30pm - **Lent Course** – Church Centre
Tue
9.30am & 11am - **Junior School Services** - Church
Mon-Thurs
9.00am-3.30pm - **Pre School** – Church Centre
Wed
11am - **Pre-School Service** - Church
9.30am -11.00am - **Crafty Coffee** - Golding Room
9.00am - **Junior School Assembly** – School

Giving at St Peters
We encourage everyone who considers St Peters to be their Church to give regularly as they are able to the work and ministry of the Church not just in our community but also so that we can fulfil our commitments to our Mission partners.
If you would like to set up a regular Direct payment, please contact your bank directly to arrange this. Gift Aid forms are available in church.
The Church Bank Account Name: St Peters Ditton PCC
Account Number 00021526 Sort Code:40 52 40
Please speak to Stephen Kemp or Jane in the office if you have any questions.

Church Away Day
The Church Away day will be on **Saturday 18th May** at St Benedict's Centre in West Malling. Nick Williams will be our guest speaker. Nick was our curate here in Ditton, so we look forward to being with him once again. The grounds of St Benedict's are very peaceful and there will be time for chatting, enjoying the surroundings and worship.
All welcome! Please keep a note of the date.

Church AGM
Our AGM will be on **Sunday May 12th from around 11.30 - after coffee!** This is a key meeting in the life of the Church, and we hope that you will be there as we reflect on the past year and look forward to the challenges ahead. It is a good opportunity to encourage each other - your presence is important!

Eco Church
The Diocese of Rochester is encouraging us to go on an environmental journey and become an Eco Church. Free supporting resources are available, equipping us to express care for God's world and work towards a gold, silver or bronze award. We are looking for someone to lead on this project. Could this be your calling? You can find out more at
<https://www.rochester.anglican.org/everyday-faith/ourfaithinaction/caringforgodscreation/eco-church>. Please speak to Ruth Campbell if you are interested.

Church Office
The Church Office will be closed for two weeks from Thursday 28th March.



Easter Services

Maundy Thursday Supper & Holy Communion
28th March
7pm in the Church Centre

Good Friday Meditation Service
29th March at 4pm

Easter Day
31st March
10am Service of Holy Communion
and
6.30pm Easter Praise