

Next week
29th December 2024

<u>Cleaning</u>	Brenda & Sandie
<u>JAM</u>	No JAM
<u>Coffee</u>	No refreshments after service
<u>Musician</u>	Justin

Services Sunday 5th January 2025

10.00am Morning Prayer

Leading: Ross Terranova
Reading: Ian Cropper
Praying: Ruth Campbell
Preaching: Ross Terranova

6.30pm Holy Communion

Leading: Ross Terranova
Reading: John Paul
Praying: Julien Myles
Preaching: Ross Terranova

Prayer Themes for the Week

Please pray for the people of Syria. For a just peace and a stable Government. Pray for those emerging from prisons and for those who will care for them.

Pray for all our services over this coming week. Pray for God the Holy Spirit to bring to faith many people who come through our doors and meet on the Green this Christmas.

Pray that we may receive God's grace and peace as we celebrate the birth of his Son this Christmas whatever our circumstances may be.

Mission Prayer

Please continue to pray this Christmas for the missions we support here at St Peter's. These include CMJ (Church's Ministry Among Jewish People), CPAS (Church Pastoral Aid Society), Crosslinks, Tearfund and MADM (Making a Difference in Maidstone)

The Collect

God our redeemer,
who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary
to be the mother of your Son:
grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour,
so we may be ready to greet him
when he comes again as our judge;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Thought for the Week

"Who being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing"

Phil 2 v 6-7a

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 22nd December 2024
Fourth Sunday of Advent

10.00 am Morning Prayer

Leading: Ross Terranova
Reading: Carolyn McMahon
Philippians 2: 1-11, p.1179
Praying: Julien Myles
Preaching: Ross Terranova

6.30pm Carols by Candlelight

Leading: Ross Terranova

Services 29th December
First Sunday of Christmas

10.00 am Morning Prayer

Leading: Chris Williams
Reading: Pauline Grimes
John 1: 1-14, p1063
Praying: Chris Williams
Preaching: Giles Williams

Church Office: Carolyn McMahon
Mon-Wed from 9am – 1pm
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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*

Safeguarding Officer: Ruth Campbell
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*

Website: dittonchurch.org.uk
Facebook: St Peter's Church, Ditton

Welcome to Our Services Today

This morning our theme is “*Empty He Came*” a wonderful and moving theme with which to begin our meditations over this Christmas Festival. The phrase “empty he came” is also translated “*but made himself nothing*” and is used by St Paul in his astonishing hymn of praise to Christ the incarnate Son of God from chapter 2 of his letter to the Philippians. All of eternity will be too short for us to consider all that it means to God the eternal son to unite himself to our flesh and become Man for our sake. That is the heart of the Christmas message - that God reached down to us - He came to us. A Christmas hymn puts it like this “*Our God contracted to a span - incomprehensibly made man*”. That is the mystery and wonder of Christmas! Wonder must lead to worship so let us over these coming days -Worship Christ the Lord.

This evening - Carols by Candlelight at 6pm.

There will be a handbells practice at 5.25 pm in church on 22nd December for those involved.

Sunday December 29th

Giles and Chris will be leading the morning service - please join them!

There will not be an evening service on Sunday 29th December.

Thank you

A huge thank you to all who have contributed and decorated the Church making it look so beautiful for the great festival of Christmas!

Monday Prayer @7

Monday 16th was the last meeting for this year. Monday Prayer@7 will re-commence Monday 6th January 2025.

Crafty Coffee

Wednesday 18th December was the last meeting of the year on Wednesday 18th December. Crafty Coffee will return on Wednesday 8th January 2025.

Diary for w/c 22nd & 29th December at St Peter's

Tues – Christmas Eve

4.30pm Carols on the Green

11.00pm Christmas Eve Holy Communion

Wed – Christmas Day

10.00am Christmas Praise Service

Sun 29th

10.00am Morning prayer (*there will not be refreshments after this service*)

Church Christmas Card Project and Carols on the Green Bucket Collection

The Church Christmas Card Project is operating again this year, with donations going to the Heart of Kent Hospice. The display boards for cards and charity donation envelopes is now available. The bucket collection at Carols on the Green will also go to the Hospice.

Ladies' Luncheon

The next Ladies' Luncheon will be at the Wealden Hall on Monday 13 January 2025 from 12.30pm. Please let Ruth Campbell know if you wish to come.

If possible, the Wealden Hall are asking for menu choices in advance, so check out the online menus or make your choice from the printed menus on the noticeboard by the kitchen hatch in the Church Centre.

Food Bank

Thank you for your food bank donations. These will be delivered to the Pilsden Community. The next date for collection will be on 26th January. Baby food, nappies, toiletries are welcome as well as food products.

Church Office

The Church Office will be closed after Wednesday 18th December and re-opening on Tuesday 7th January 2025.

Giving at St Peters

We encourage everyone who considers St Peters to be their Church to give regularly if 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 John Paul or Carolyn in the office if you have any questions.

Christmas Services

22nd December

Carol Service 6pm

Christmas Eve

Carols on the Green at 4.30pm
“Midnight” Communion 11.00pm

Christmas Day

10am Christmas Praise

