

Next week – 25th January 2026

<u>Cleaning</u>	Sandie & Brenda
<u>JAM</u>	Ruth & Kim
<u>Coffee</u>	Caroline & Mark
<u>Music</u>	Justin

Services Sunday 25th January 2026

10.00am	Morning Prayer
Leading:	Ross Terranova
Reading:	Caroline Gibbons
	<i>1 John 3: 11 to 4: 6</i>
Praying:	Mei Chong
Preaching:	Ross Terranova
6.30pm	Evening Prayer
Leading:	Ross Terranova
Reading:	Simon Webley
	<i>Ecclesiastes 5: 1-7</i>
Praying:	Ross Terranova
Preaching:	Chris Williams

Church Office: Carolyn McMahon
Usually open Tuesday & Wednesday 9am – 3pm
Tel: 07927 163859

Email: dittonchurch@btconnect.com
Christian Resource Library open during school term time.
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Rector: Ross Terranova
Tel: 01732 842027
Email: ross.terranova@hotmail.co.uk
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Safeguarding Officer: Ruth Campbell
safeguard.stpetes@gmail.com
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Website: dittonchurch.org.uk

Facebook: St Peter's Church, Ditton

Prayer Themes for the Week

We pray for the people of Iran who have been subjected to a tyrannical government for almost half a century.
Pray for an end to the violence and for freedom of religious expression in that country.

Pray for Sheila Ward, the new Headteacher at Ditton Junior School. Pray that her leadership of the school will result in enriched pupils and staff renewed in their work. Pray for the relationship between school and church to grow stronger.

Pray for those working in our country in the challenging area of internet safety and security. Pray especially for young people and all the issues surrounding the use of social media.

Mission

Church Pastoral Aid Society (CPAS)

Please pray for CPAS as it works with churches across Ireland and the United Kingdom to "enable churches to help every person hear and discover the good news of Jesus". Pray for the success of its activities which include the *Growing Leaders* suite of resources, the Arrow Leadership Programme, weekends, and a range of events and resources for youth and children's leaders.

Collect

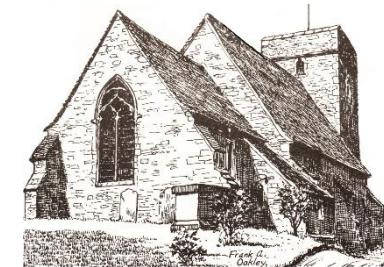
Eternal Lord,
our beginning and our end:
bring us with the whole creation
to your glory, hidden through past ages
and made known
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Thought for the Week

How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!

1 John 3 v 1

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 18th January 2026

The 2nd Sunday of Epiphany

10.00 am Holy Communion

Leading: Giles Williams
Reading: Alan Warner
1 John 2:18 to 3:10, p.1226
Praying: Carolyn McMahon
Preaching: Ross Terranova

6.30pm Evening Prayer

Leading: John Paul
Reading: Steve Campbell
Ecclesiastes 3: 1-14, p.671
Praying: Carol Wellbelove
Preaching: Giles Williams

Welcome to Our Services Today

This morning we continue our studies in 1 John and our theme is "Discerning the Truth". The Apostle, John states very clearly why he has written his letter "*I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have life in his name*".

He sets out three broad tests to indicate to these believers - and to us - where we are in our faith and trust in Christ. They are the tests of obedience - do we want to follow Christ's commands in response to his love shown to us? Do we love our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ? And then the doctrinal test - who do we believe Jesus Christ was? It is that test - the doctrinal test that he focuses on here. Why does this matter? Why does it matter that I have a right view of who Jesus is? It matters because if Jesus is not God in the flesh - if he is not the God-man then he cannot be our Saviour and the testimony of the Apostles, those first eyewitnesses of the risen Christ is false. It is not enough to say Jesus was a great teacher, a healer, a peacemaker. Is he really Lord and God - the one who has dealt with our sin through dying for us on cross - is he really the Saviour - and the only Saviour?

This evening we continue with our studies in the wonderfully enigmatic book Ecclesiastes and our theme is from chapter 3 where we consider the question of time under the heading "Doing Time"

Education Sunday

For the first time in 3 years we will be celebrating Education Sunday with Ditton Junior School on 8th February at our 10.00am service. We hope you will make a special effort to be there as it will be our first opportunity to welcome the new Headteacher Mrs Sheila Ward to her work in the school. Our link with the Junior School is a very important one in our work in the parish. Please pray for all the preparation and planning that is going into the service.

Dates for the Diary

Our Church AGM will be after the morning service on April 18th.

Our Church Away Day will be on Saturday 9th May at St Benedict's West Malling. We are delighted this year that Tim Yearsley, who grew up in Ditton Church and now works for LICC (London Institute for Contemporary Christianity) will be our speaker.

Diary for w/c 18th January at St Peter's Church

Mon

7pm – **Prayer @ 7** – The Golding Room

Tues

7.30pm – 9pm – **Life Explored** – Church Centre

Mon-Thurs

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

Wed

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

2.40pm - **Junior School Assembly** – School

Thurs

7.30pm – Small Group – Whiffen Walk Group – (meeting in Acorn Grove)

Ditton Church Pre-School

Our Pre-School celebrated its *25th birthday* last Friday and we thank God for the wonderful education and nurture it has provided for generations of children in our community. We thank God for the initial vision of a group of young women in our Church to set up a Pre-School and for all that has flowed from that decision.

PCC Secretary

Ruth Campbell is our Parochial Church Council secretary at present, but she has announced that she is standing down at next year's AGM, which will be held in May. Is this a post that you could consider? If it is, please have a word with Ross who would be delighted to hear from you!

Food Bank

There have been a number of requests for food assistance from the Ditton area. Members at St Peter's make regular food donations to the Pilsden Community, which is not so local, doesn't appear to advertise their foodbank and are not listed as offering a foodbank by Kent County Council. As there are other listed foodbanks more local to us, it was agreed at the PCC meeting this week that St Peter's will in future support the Larkfield foodbank run by Larkfield Methodist Church. ***The next date for collection is Sunday 25th January 2026.***

Church Directory Review

Last call for anyone who would like any changes made to the Church Directory. There will be a reprint at the end of this month. Please email the Church Office by 25th January with any changes.

Giving at St Peter's

We encourage everyone who considers St Peter's 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 Debit payment, please contact your bank to arrange this. Gift Aid forms are available in the church. The Church Bank Account name is: *St Peter's Ditton PCC*, Account Number: 00021526, Sort Code: 40 52 40