

Next week – 1st February 2026

<u>Cleaning</u>	Yvonne
<u>JAM</u>	Amanda & Kim
<u>Coffee</u>	Brenda & Ian
<u>Music</u>	Karen

Services Sunday 1st February 2026

10.00am Morning Prayer

Leading: Carol Wellbelove
Reading: Ian Smith *1 John 4: 7-21*
Praying: Brenda Smith
Preaching: Ross Terranova

6.30pm Holy Communion

Leading: Ross Terranova
Reading: Ruth Campbell *Ecclesiastes 5: 8 to 6:2*
Praying: Julien Myles
Preaching: Ross Terranova

Church Office: Carolyn McMahon
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Christian Resource Library open during school term time.
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*

Safeguarding Officer: Ruth Campbell
Safeguard.stpetes@gmail.com
*

Website: dittonchurch.org.uk

Facebook: St Peter's Church, Ditton

Thought for the Week

Prayer Themes for the Week

Please pray for the war in Ukraine to end - and for a real peace to come to the people of that country.

Pray that all the planning for our Education Sunday will come together smoothly. Pray for the pupils and staff taking part.

Pray for Sheila Ward the new Headteacher at Ditton Junior School.

Give thanks for the terrific longstanding commitment that our churchwardens John and Alan have given to the church. Thank God for the love and wisdom with which they serve us and the people of this parish.

Mission (CMJ)

The Church's Ministry among Jewish People

Give thanks that in spite of the rising anti-semitism, 1) membership has increased by 20%, 2) the conference in 2025 reached its highest attendance ever and 150 people have already booked for 2026, 3) new ministries like Asaph, supporting Jewish believers living and worshipping within the Church have been launched, 4) deputations in the south west and western Scotland opened doors to new communities and 5) two of the guest houses – Christchurch Jerusalem and Best Immanuel in Tel Aviv are now able to take guests again.

Collect

God of all mercy,
your Son proclaimed good news to the poor,
release to the captives,
and freedom to the oppressed:
anoint us with your Holy Spirit
and set all your people free
to praise you in Christ our Lord.

*Guard your steps when you go to the house of God.
Go near to listen rather than to offer the sacrifice of
fools, who do not know that they do wrong.*

Ecc 5 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 25th January 2026

The 3rd Sunday of Epiphany

10.00 am Morning Prayer

Leading: Ross Terranova
Reading: Caroline Gibbons
1 John 3:11 to 4:6, p.1227
Praying: Mei Chong
Preaching: Ross Terranova

6.30pm Evening Prayer

Leading: Ross Terranova
Reading: Simon Webley
Ecclesiastes 5: 1-7, p.673
Praying: Ross Terranova
Preaching: Chris Williams

Welcome to Our Services Today

This morning, we continue with our series on 1 John and our theme is "Love in Action". John is clear in his letter that one of the ways that we can know we are Christians - and that we have the gift of eternal life now is our attitude to our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. In fact, he

puts this in a very startling way as can see from chapter 3 v 16! There is nothing more destructive to the Christian faith and witness than to see a local church where its members are tearing themselves apart. "See how they love one another" was the comment made by the watching world on the early Christian church. How are we measuring up in our love for each other?

This evening, we are back in the book of Ecclesiastes and our theme from chapter 5 is "*Looking Up, Listening In*".

New PCC Secretary needed !

We are very grateful to Ruth Campbell for all the work she has done over the past 4 years as PCC secretary, but with her increasing workload and the course she has started at St Benedicts Centre she felt it was the right time to stand down. The PCC is really the engine room of the church and the role of the secretary is of key importance. With the **Church AGM less than three months** away we are keen to find Ruths replacement! Could that be you? If you are interested, please let Ross know - thank you.

Lent Course

Our Lent course this year is taken from *Pilgrim*, a suite of courses for the Christian journey. It explores the core Christian belief in greater depth through the Nicene and Apostles' Creeds. It will equip you with an understanding of these priceless resources for Christian living and for knowing God better. Join us for five sessions, starting on Thursday 26th February at 7.30pm in the Church Centre.

Education Sunday Service – 8th February at 10am

For the first time in 3 years we will be celebrating Education Sunday with Ditton Junior School. 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. 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.

Diary for w/c 25th 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

7.30pm – **Small Group** – Brampton Field

Church AGM – Sunday 19th April

This meeting will be after the morning service on *April 18th*. Please make sure this is in your diary so you can be there!

WhatsApp Group

The PCC have agreed the creation of a WhatsApp community for St Peter's Ditton.

Church WhatsApp groups make communication quick, easy and facilitate a growing sense of community amongst the congregation. As such, there can be a variety of groups linked to Church life, coming under the banner of the Ditton Church WhatsApp Community.

Our main group will be called "Church Matters". The purpose of this group is to:

- share information about forthcoming Church services, activities and fundraising events.
- share news about events that have taken place.
- share information about Christian events locally, online material that supports faith, etc.
- ask for help from the Church family.

Other groups including "Prayer Group" is for making prayer requests, sharing with others who would like to pray. "Devotional Helps" is a group where members can share Bible devotional readings and insights for mutual edification.

A guide for this new initiative will be made available to everyone. The groups are open to all members, so anyone who is interested in joining, or would like more information or assistance in joining, can contact Julien Myles via email jmyles911@hotmail.com or mobile 07870 886249)

Church Away Day - Saturday 9th May

At St Benedicts 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.

Church Directory Review

Last call for anyone who would like any changes made to the Church Directory. There will be a reprint this week, so please email the Church Office **by tomorrow latest, 26th January**, if you require any changes.

Food Bank

There have been a number of requests for food assistance from the Ditton area. It was agreed at the January PCC meeting that going forwards, St Peter's will support the Larkfield foodbank run by Larkfield Community Church. If anyone needs to access the food bank, the is foodbank@larkfieldcommunitychurch.co.uk Today's collection will be delivered to the Dorcas Centre in Martin Square.

Ladies Lunch – Friday 6th February - 12.30pm

The next Ladies Lunch will be at *Fredericks* in the Market Buildings, Maidstone. Please book your space with Jenny Stout (07952 648583) as soon as you are able.

DCPS

The pre-school are looking for an Assistant Treasurer to assist with Mike's workload, and possibly be someone for him to handover the role of Treasurer to in the future.

It is a voluntary role and would require attendance to meetings (usually 6 per year), plus a small amount of work outside of the meetings to assist Mike. Ideally, the person will have had some experience/interest in accountancy. Please contact the Pre-school for more information.