

Next week – 10th May 2026

<u>Cleaning</u>	Liz
<u>JAM</u>	Ruth & Kim
<u>Coffee</u>	Ian & Brenda
<u>Music</u>	Karen

Services Sunday 10th May 2026

10.00am Morning Prayer

Leading: Ross Terranova
Reading: Jenny Stout
Praying: Mei Chong
Preaching: Rob Foley (MADM)

6.30pm Evening Prayer

Leading: Ross Terranova
Reading: Giles Williams *Mark 2: 1-12*
Praying: Ross Terranova
Preaching: Chris Williams

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*

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*

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Facebook: St Peter's Church, Ditton

Prayer Themes for the Week

Please pray for an end to the violence between Lebanon and Israel - and for a breakthrough in the conflict in Iran.

Pray for those who will be elected as local government councillors this week. Pray that they will show wisdom and courage in decisions they make.

Pray for the aftermath of the failure of the assisted dying bill. Pray for a renewed focus on palliative care as Hospices feel the increasing pressure of gaps in funding. Pray for our own Heart of Kent Hospice.

Mission Prayer (Crosslinks)

Please pray that there will be a good response to Crosslinks' invitation to their partner churches to attend their Summer Gathering and AGM in London next month.

Pray that those who attend will be encouraged to hear what God has been doing through Crosslinks in the last year, to see the shape of the year ahead and be able to enjoy fellowship with other members, mission partners and staff.

Pray for the success of live-streaming this event so that those unable to attend in person can still participate.

Collect

Risen Christ,
your wounds declare your love for the world
and the wonder of your risen life:
give us compassion and courage
to risk ourselves for those we serve,
to the glory of God the Father.

Thought for the Week

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life"

John 3 v 16

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 3rd May 2026
The Fifth Sunday of Easter

10.00am Morning Prayer

Leading: Carol Wellbelove
Reading: Carolyn McMahon John 3: 1-17, p.1065
Praying: John Paul
Preaching: Ross Terranova

6.30pm Holy Communion

Leading: Ross Terranova
Reading: Julien Myles Mark 1: 40-45, p.1003
Praying: Liz Nicolaides
Preaching: Ross Terranova

Welcome to Our Services Today

This morning, we conclude our short series from John 3 - and our theme is "The Shadow of the Cross". The passage we are looking at this morning contains one of the most famous verses in the whole of the Bible - John chapter 3 v 16 -

which speaks about the love of God. But where and how do we know that God so loved the world - as this great verse tells us? We see it supremely demonstrated at the Cross where the Son of God laid down his life, dying for sinful men and women. The new birth, being born again, the terms that Jesus used when talking with Nicodemus, is linked intimately to the sacrificial death for us by Jesus - it is the basis and the foundation for the work of the Holy Spirit on the human heart and mind. *Being a Christian, becoming a Christian is a miracle of divine love and grace!*

This evening, we continue our series on **Mark's Gospel** - our theme is "Made Clean" from the end of Mark 1.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting (AGM)

Thanks to everyone that attended this year's AGM. It was an incredibly positive and encouraging meeting. Especially a **huge thank you to Ruth** for all her hard work as PCC secretary – this was Ruth's final AGM as Secretary and we really appreciate everything she has done for us in this role.

We are delighted that *Carol Wellbelove* will be taking on the role of PCC Secretary.

John Paul and *Alan Warner* were both willing to continue as *Church Wardens* so it was unanimously agreed to suspend the six-year rule for the office of Churchwarden for a further one-year term. They were both proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed.

After the last APCM, the PCC agreed that members would be elected rather than co-opted. *Kathy Mitchell*, *Carol Wellbelove*, *David Grimes* were willing to stand as a *PCC member*, were proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed. *Chris Williams* and *Steve Campbell* agreed to stand for the next three years as *Deanery Synod representatives*, were proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed.

Ruth Campbell was unanimously affirmed to continue in her role as *Parish Safeguarding Officer* and 15 people who offered their services as Sides People as needed in 2025 were affirmed for the coming year.

Diary for w/c 3rd May at St Peter's Church

Mon

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

Mon-Thurs

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

Wed

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

Thurs

7.30pm – **Acorn Grove Small Group**

Visit by MADM – 10th May

We are looking forward to welcoming *Rob Foley* to our morning service next Sunday, when he will be talking to us about the charity, ***Making a Difference in Maidstone*** and their ministry.

Church Away Day - Saturday 9th May

This is your final call for a place at our popular and inspirational Away Day next Saturday at the beautiful St Benedicts in West Malling.

We are looking forward to welcoming as our speaker, Tim Yearsley, who grew up in Ditton. Tim is now Head of Innovation at the London Institute for Contemporary Christianity (LICC) and he will be speaking about ***"God's Call in the Everyday"***.

Tea and coffee will be available from 9.30am and the day will start at 10am. The cost is £25 per person and this will include a buffet lunch and tea/coffee/squash throughout the day. The day will finish at 3.30pm

Please let Carolyn know by tomorrow, Monday 4th May if you would like one of the last remaining places!!

Ditton Film Society - May 16th 7pm Church Centre

Our next film evening is ***Nicholas's Gift*** – a fact-based drama about an American couple on vacation in Italy in 1994 who make the decision to donate their son's organs after a tragic accident, saving the lives of seven critically ill Italian patients. It is a great opportunity to invite friends and neighbours to a good

night out. Please contact Carolyn in the church office to book.

The evening costs **£5** per person - refreshments served from **6.45pm**

Orchard Mill Visiting

We plan to visit Orchard Mill (the new housing estate) on **Monday June 1st** as part of our ongoing outreach to the new homes and families there. Our plan is to leaflet homes with an invitation to our Open Air Service which is on **June 28th at 11.00am.**

We will meet at **Orchard Mill at 7pm** that evening. The more people we have, the more houses we can cover! Please put the date in your diary.

Singing Group for Open Air Service June 28th at 11am

Singing in the open air is great fun but volume tends to get lost! We are looking to form a singing group to lead the singing at our Open Air Service - could you be involved?

If you are interested, please contact Carolyn in the Church Office.

The Bereavement Course (Churches Together in Malling)

There will be a new day time course running on Friday afternoons, ***starting 5th June*** at Abbey View House, West Malling Baptist Church Go to: www.wmbc.org.uk or call: 01732 843117 There are films and discussion for anyone bereaved, anytime. To find out more visit: thebereavementjourney.org

Attendees need to register by 29th May

Change of Church Office Email Address

To enhance our security, we have changed the email address, so please update our contact to **dittonparish1@outlook.com**