
Your monthly update from Earley St Peter's church: July 2025

1 message

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1 July 2025 at 08:09



Your Monthly Update from Earley St Peter's – July 2025



Welcome Kajsa!

We warmly welcome our new curate, Kajsa, and her family. We look forward to getting to know them. We've asked her some questions so that we can learn a little about her:

Tell us a bit about yourself

My name is Kajsa (pronounced Kaiser without the 'r'), and I'm married to Matthieu, and mother to Alice (8), Edwin (5) and Clover (cat). Before starting training for ministry, we lived in Leighton Buzzard in Bedfordshire, and I was Operations Manager for the UK Energy Research Centre. I am a former academic who thought that theology was going to be easy - Ha! But it is very interesting, and I find that sensing God's calling is one of the best things that has ever happened to me.

What hobbies do you have?

I love kayaking, mountain biking, running, skiing, hiking, adrenaline kicks, reading books and painting. I write icons, and I do hope to share some of them with you.



Where is your favourite place to visit? Or your favourite place that you have been? And why?

I don't know if I actually have a favourite place, but my family has a cottage in Lapland (Finland) that is very special to me. We scattered my mother's ashes there two years ago, and the place is full of childhood memories and nature is all around. It lies within Sapmi - home to the indigenous Sami population of Northern Europe.

If you could choose to visit anywhere, that you haven't been before, where would it be and why?

I would go to the Holy Land - though perhaps not right now! My friend Joel is being ordained in the Diocese of Jerusalem next year, so I hope to go then. It would be really interesting to see the places mentioned in the Bible!

What are you most looking forward to about starting your curacy?

Experience and being there for you all! I can't wait to see what exactly God is calling me to, and you have been so welcoming and lovely that I'm loving His plan so far.

What gift or skill are you most excited about bringing into your ministry?

My creativity, inclusion-focus, and big heart.

What is your favourite hymn and why?

In Christ Alone was on repeat early on in my faith journey, and I know it by heart - but I can't sing, so please manage your expectations accordingly! I'm also very fond of *Beautiful Saviour* (often sung at

funerals in Sweden), *Great is thy Faithfulness* (so beautiful!) and *Servant King* (catchy tune) - oh and the Peruvian Gloria! And there's so many more that I can't really say that I have one favourite.

Services and Events in July

(the information below is also available via My ChurchSuite and our web site)

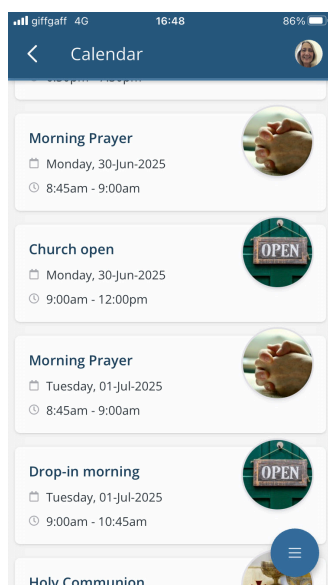
We meet every weekday morning at 8.45am (Fridays at 8.30am) in the church for Morning Prayer. All welcome.

Tuesday 1 July	9am	Church open
	11am	Holy Communion
Wednesday 2 July	9am	Church open
	10.15am	Tots & Teddies
Sunday 6 July	8am	Holy Communion <i>Readings: Luke 10.1-11, 16.20; Galatians 6.7-16</i>
	10am	Bread & Wine: Welcome service for Kajsa, followed by bring and share lunch – all invited <i>Reading: Luke 10.1-11, 16-20</i>
	6.30pm	Evening Worship <i>Readings: Genesis 29.1-20; Mark 6.7-29</i>
		Questions and Cake
Monday 7 July	9am	Church open
Tuesday 8 July	9am	Church open
	9am-12pm	My ChurchSuite drop-in advice session (see below)

	11am	Holy Communion
	7pm	Who's Who in the Old Testament? Session 3: POSTPONED
Wednesday 9 July	9am	Church open
	10.15am	Tots & Teddies
Thursday 10 July	10am	Thursday@10: coffee and chat
	12.30pm	Who's Who in the Old Testament? Session 3: POSTPONED
Friday 11 July	9.30am	Church cleaning
Sunday 13 July	10am	Parish Communion <i>Readings: Deuteronomy 30.9-14; Colossians 1.1-14; Luke 10.25-37</i>
		Children's Church
		Inspiration Group
	6.30pm	Choral Evensong with Song School <i>Readings: Genesis 32.9-30; Mark 7.1-23</i>
Monday 14 July	9am	Church open
	7.30pm	PCC
Tuesday 15 July	9am	Church open
	11am	Holy Communion
Wednesday 16 July	9am	Church open
	9am- 12pm	My ChurchSuite drop-in advice session (see below)
	10.15am	Tots & Teddies

Saturday 19 July	6pm	Disco (see below)
Sunday 20 July	10am	Parish Communion with Song School <i>Readings: Genesis 18.1-10a; Colossians 1.15-28; Luke 10.38-end</i>
		Children's Church
	12pm	Baptism of Bodhi Barltrop
	3pm	Wedding of Irene Mjata and Chris Vivian Wright
	6.30pm	Choral Evensong <i>Readings: Genesis 41.1-16, 25-37; 1 Corinthians 4.8-13</i>
		Questions and Cake
Monday 21 July	9am	Church open
Tuesday 22 July	9am	Church open
	11am	Holy Communion
	2pm	School leavers' service: please pray for children moving from Earley St Peter's School to secondary school
Wednesday 23 July	9am	Church open
	10.15am	Tots & Teddies
Thursday 24 July	9am-12pm	My ChurchSuite drop-in advice session (see below)
	10am	Thursday@10: Sheila Hicks – 'Evacuee experiences in WW2'
Sunday 27 July	10am	Parish Communion <i>Readings: Genesis 18.20-32; Colossians 2.6-15 (16-19); Luke 11.1-13</i>

		Children's Church
		Inspiration Group
	6.30pm	Reflective Communion <i>Reading: Matthew 13.24-30</i>
Monday 28 July	9am	Church open
Tuesday 29 July	9am	Church open
	11am	Holy Communion
Wednesday 30 July	9am	Church open



My ChurchSuite drop-in advice sessions:

We now have a good number of regular users of My ChurchSuite, our one-stop app for church emails, calendar, contact details, rotas and event sign-ups. If you didn't sign up at the time of the launch in February, or want personalised guidance on how to use My ChurchSuite, we're running three drop-in advice sessions, on **8, 16 and 24 July between 9am and midday**. No need to book in advance: just come to the parish office.

If you're unable to attend a session, do get in touch for advice via

admin@earleystpeters.org.uk

19 July, 6-8pm: Disco in the church hall in aid of Parkinson's UK and Children's Church. Join us for a live DJ, games, dancing and refreshments. Tickets cost £6 for a family (two adults and two children), £3 for adults and £2 for children and are available from Sarah Godwin: sarah_e_godwin@hotmail.co.uk



Donation envelopes: If you use the weekly or monthly envelopes and wish to continue doing so next year, please confirm this to Ann Munday by 25 July - mundayann1946@gmail.com / text to 0789 999 2305 / let her know in church. If you would like to start using these envelopes, please let Ann know.

Bob Watson: Some parishioners may remember Bob Watson. We have heard the sad news that he died recently. His family wished his friends at Earley St Peter's to be informed.

Gerry White: We are also sad to announce the death of Gerry White. Please remember his family in your prayers.



Church clock: You may have noticed that our tower clock has not been working for the last few weeks. Although it is regularly serviced, some parts are beginning to wear out (it has been operating since 1897!). Repairs are taking place, and we hope to see it operating again shortly.

Records of burials in our churchyard: We have undertaken extensive work to update the records of burials in our churchyard. As part of this, we aimed to have the records in a format that can be accessed by the general public. We're pleased to report that these records are now available via our web site [here](#). We hope that this will be a great help to local historians and people researching their family history.



Parking in the church car park during the week: If you attend events in the church or church hall during the week, you may have found that the entrance to the church car park is blocked with cones, especially in the early morning. This is to prevent people parking who are not visiting the church or church hall. If you are arriving for an event in the church or church hall during the week and find the car park entrance blocked,

please feel free to move cones in order to gain access. It is helpful if you replace them after you have parked. If you are unable to move cones yourself, please phone ahead to the parish office to ask for assistance.

Who's Who in the Old Testament?: The third sessions of this course have been postponed. Look out for a new date in the next newsletter.

Archdeacon's Visitation: At the end of April we welcomed the Revd Canon Mike Smith, Area Dean of Reading, and Roger Moore, Associate Lay Chair of the Reading Deanery, to carry out a Visitation on behalf of the Archdeacon. This involved checking our compliance on a wide range of matters (Health and Safety, building maintenance, keeping of registers and property records, insurance, accounts etc) and talking through our plans and challenges. The visitors felt 'very encouraged' by what they saw and heard, and the final report has now been agreed and sent to the Archdeacon. We have some work to do as a result of their comments, and you may see signs of this in the church (for example, some additional health and safety notices). Thank you to everybody who helped to prepare for the Visitation.

Erleigh Cantors Concert on 7 June: Thank you to all who supported this event by buying tickets and drinks, or making donations. It was our biggest audience ever and the net profit was £1,625, split 50:50 between St Peter's Church and Alexander Devine Children's Hospice. In addition, some £300 was raised for the hospice from the sale of Mama Nunn Preserves. Do look out for this event in St Peter's calendar again next year.

Friends of Amani Tanzania (FOAT) - Supporting children with disabilities in Tanzania.

Bridget and Leslie Green, Trustees of FOAT, will be visiting the Diocese of Shinyanga in early July. They would value our prayers and financial support.

Donations for general care ministry and/or bicycles to enable the

evangelists working in the rural areas to get around would be most welcome. (A bicycle costs £80 but any contribution welcome).

Donations to:



Name of Account: Friends of Amani Tanzania

Account Number: 00036740

Sort Code: 40-52-40. Please mark donation either 'Shinyanga' or 'Bike'.

Pastoral support: Our pastoral team will be happy to hear if you, or anybody you know, would welcome a phone call or visit. Please contact the parish of office (0118 966 8575) or Mary Brooke (0118 926 2153)

Food Bank donations: Thank you for all your support to our local food bank with donations of tins, cartons, dried goods with a long shelf life and also personal



hygiene items. Please donate if you are able in the box at the back of church. Our continued support is still very much needed.

More information here: www.woodleyfoodbank.org

Life in all its fullness

These are the most recent details of our upcoming study groups and training sessions. Check our notice boards, social media and website for more details and updates.

Life in all its fullness: developing as a community

6 September - being Mental Health aware

All sessions will be from 2-4pm in the church hall (Winch Room), unless specified otherwise. Please note, some of these courses will have a limited capacity. Sign up via My ChurchSuite or by contacting the parish office.

Eve in Art: *Led by Richard Miller*

Tuesday 9 September

The session will take place from 1-3pm and will be repeated from 7-9pm.





'Introduction to Matthew's Gospel'

In preparation for the new Church liturgical year (Year A).

Session 1: Saturday 15
November 2-4pm

Session 2: Saturday 22
November 2-4pm

Dates for your diary

1 August: Trip to Go Ape for young people going into Year 7 or older.

8 August: Trip to Thorpe Park for young people going into Year 7 or older.

Contact John Collins for details of these trips:

john@earleystpeters.org.uk

27 August, 11am: Concert by Reading Concert Band, followed by refreshments and sale of Mama Nunn Preserves in aid of Alexander Devine Children's Hospice. Admission by donation, £5 per head suggested, children free. All net profits to church funds.

13 September, 10am to 6pm: Ride and Stride.

This annual event raises funds for historic churches in Berkshire and for your nominated church through being sponsored to walk run, cycle, drive or ride to as many churches as you wish. More information here: <https://www.berkschurchestrust.org.uk/ride-and-stride-2/>



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