

St Peter's Church Magazine



September 2025 issue * 75p (£7 subscription for one year)
St Peter's Church, Newlands Avenue, Didcot * www.stpeters-didcot.org.uk
Follow us on Twitter @StPetersDidcot

What we believe as Christians

By Rev'd Hannah Reynolds

2025 sees the 1700th anniversary of the Nicene Creed. We use it at Communion services, but how much notice do we take of the words? Canon Paul Hardingham, of Lostock, has summarised what it is we say we believe about God when we recite the Creed. The second part of this will be in the December/January Magazine.

The Nicene Creed: Who is God?

'We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.'

We believe: In Greek, the Creed begins 'we believe' (in Latin, 'I believe.'). It was formulated at the time of Arius, who declared that Jesus was the first and greatest of God's creatures, but not the same as God the Father. His teaching proved so damaging that the Emperor Constantine called an ecumenical council in Nicaea (AD 325) to clarify the core beliefs for all Christians.

in one God: We believe in a God who is both one and Trinity: 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one' (Deuteronomy 6:4). He is the Old Testament God, who we know through the life and work of Jesus and the Holy Spirit. We are to worship Him alone and not people or things.

the Father, the Almighty: God is both the almighty Creator and loving Father: 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name' (Matt 6:9). Although the Father of all that exists, He is specifically Father to those who His children through their faith in Jesus.

maker of heaven and earth: God comes before anything that was created, and Creation is His alone: 'In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty' (Genesis 1:1,2). The implication is that He created 'ex nihilo' ie out of nothing. He is one God who is unchangeable, lacking in nothing and the source of all that exists.

of all that is, seen and unseen: God did not just create the physical universe, but also the spiritual powers: 'For in Him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through Him and for Him.' (Colossians 1:16). Reality is more than what we can see, smell, taste, touch or measure.

The Nicene Creed: Who is Jesus?

'We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God': Jesus is presented as the unique Son of God. This reflects the big debate at the time, which was to counter the teachings of Arius, who taught that Jesus was the first and greatest of God's creatures, but not the same as God the Father.

Inside this month

Page 2 Quiz 'n' Chips

Page 3
What we believe as
Christians—
(continued)

Pages 4 & 5 Prayer Diary for September

Page 6 U3A Parish Register Year's Mind

Page 7 Sept Sudoku Prayer for September Answers to July Crossword International Café Celebration Invite

Page 8
Calendar of Events for
September
Contact Information

St Peter's Church Quiz & Chips Dates for 2025-26

2025
20th September
18th October
15th November
2026
17th January
21st February
18th April
16th May
20th June

Contact <u>quiz@stpeters-didcot.org.uk</u>, or Hugh on 01235 811465.

Alan and I visited Ronald McDonald House to hand over the cheque for £536 from the June Quiz. Kelly gave us a tour of the new House which has wonderful facilities and it was a real pleasure for us to see the support they provide for families of children in hospital. What an amazing facility and so glad that we were able to support it through the Quiz.

We were thrilled to see their wooden spoon from the quiz proudly on display in the foyer!



Quiz & Chips – 2024-25 Season Review

'providing an opportunity to drink beer for a good cause'

Another successful quiz season has come and gone, our twenty-first! Numbers have been very unpredictable this year. After a very strong Autumn, with some of our busiest quizzes for many years and a bumper quiz in January, numbers have tailed off since. We hope that they will pick up again next season. The money we raised for the church is about the same as we raised last year.

The charities we have supported this year have been TRAIN, Be Free Young Carers, HomeStart, Sobell House, Oxfordshire Mind, SOFEA, First Steps Baby Bank and Ronald McDonald House. In total this season we raised £3670.26 for local charities, which is slightly up on last year and therefore a new record!

The team *Gangreen* retained the trophy for the best team of the season, with what was a very dominant performance. Congratulations to them and we look forward to them defending their trophy next season.

As always we are very grateful to the many people who help make the quizzes such a success: Frances, and Caroline the scorers, Anita, Fran and Hannah who help on the day, and *The Didcot Fish Bar* who do a wonderful job supplying the chips. Most important are the people who provide the quiz questions and this year we are grateful to Richard, Andy, Tim, Jack, Geoff, Margaret, Martin, Jon and Alison.

We also say a special thank you to Margaret and Maurice who have been running the bar since the early days of the Quiz. This was their final season, as bar-people and we are very grateful for all their hard work and dedication.

The Quiz Nights are our most significant fundraiser and are crucial to our finances. We would very much like to grow another team from among members of the congregation (at the moment it is only really 'The Choir' which is a home team). *If anyone is interested in being* part of a new team please do tell either Alan or Hugh. We really do need you! It is an enjoyable event and by far the best way to spend a Saturday evening in Didcot.

We are looking forward to the 22nd Season which begins on **September 20th** and hope to see you there.

If you want to know anything further about the quiz do speak to either Alan or Hugh who are always happy to tell you more.

Alan Wilson & Hugh Collins Rice

Continued from Page 1:

Today we can be more concerned about Jesus' authority as a moral teacher, neglecting that Jesus the man is also truly God. 'We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father' (John 1:14).

'eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father': These words affirm the divinity of Jesus. The phrase 'begotten not made' is crucial in understanding Jesus as the unique Son of the Father, who existed eternally of the same divine nature as the Father.

'In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning' (John 1:1,2). It is a powerful reminder that our belief revolves around trusting a person, not simply in a set of beliefs and moral teaching.

'through Him all things were made': The Creed affirms that Jesus the Son cannot be made, because through Him all things were made and only God can create from nothing.

'Through Him all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made.' (John 1:3). This implies that our world was made good, with a purpose in which we can share. Also, Jesus has the last word in promising to bring everything in heaven and on earth together at the end of time under His Lordship (Ephesians 1:10). This makes a real difference to how we see and treat God's Creation and those created in God's image.

The Nicene Creed: The Ministry of Jesus on Earth

'For us men and for our salvation He came down from heaven': Jesus came down to earth to save us all. Salvation involves healing and rescuing us from the wrong things in our lives, which result in death itself. The Creed demonstrates the importance of having a proper understanding of Christ that safeguards the gospel of salvation. 'For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.' (Luke 19:10).

'by the power of the Holy Spirit He became incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and was made man': Although the word 'incarnate' doesn't appear in the New Testament, it expresses the meaning of Jesus' birth. Heresies of the time included Adoptionism (i.e. Jesus became God's Son only at His baptism) and Docetism (i.e. Jesus appeared to be human, as a fully divine being).

The incarnation affirms that the divine son, was conceived in Mary's womb by the power of the Spirit and born in time as a human being: 'The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy One to be born will be called the Son of God.' (Luke 1:35). If Jesus was not conceived both fully divine and human, the Christian understanding of salvation is lost.

'For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered death and was buried':

In the Creed we move straight from Jesus' birth to His death, which is the climax of His ministry. Jesus dying for our sins on the cross lies at the heart of God's plan of salvation. The mention of Pontius Pilate roots our faith in history and reminds us of the important part people played in God's plan. 'He himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by His wounds you have been healed.' (1 Peter 2:24).

The Nicene Creed: The Present and Future Ministry of Jesus

'On the third day He rose again in accordance with the scriptures': Jesus' resurrection is central to the Christian Faith, for as Paul says, without it 'our preaching is useless and so is your faith.' (1 Cor 15.14). The Resurrection demonstrates the triumph of Jesus over sin and death, as well as recognising the breaking in of the new creation and Jesus as Lord over creation. The Creed affirms that it also fulfils the promises of Scripture, as Jesus explains on the Road to Emmaus: 'And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, Jesus explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning Himself.' (Luke 24:27).

'He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the father': In the Creed, the Ascension is given equal weight to the Cross and Resurrection, as Jesus is restored to the place of honour alongside His Father. With Christ seated on the throne, there is now a man on the throne who is also God the Son. In His absence on earth, Jesus sends His Spirit to live in believers, 'Exalted to the right hand of God, He has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear.' (Acts 2:33). He remembers His people, 'because He always lives to intercede for them' (Hebrews 7.25).

'He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end': Jesus will return in judgement as 'the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead.' (Acts 10:42). God will put all things right, punishing all evil and establishing His full reign over everything. In contrast to human judgment, which is always partial and subject to error, this final judgment will be utterly true and right, because God knows our hearts completely.

Prayer Intentions: September 2025

1st: Giles Readings: Psalms 80, 82; Proverbs 8: 1-21; Mark 5: 1-20. Originally from Athens, Giles lived as a hermit in the forest close to Nimes (France). He eventually led a monastery under the rule of St Benedict. Prayer intentions: Church Street, East Street. All those returning to, or starting, school.	2nd: Martyrs of Papua New Guinea Readings: Psalm 87, 89; Proverbs 8: 22-end; Mark 5: 21-34. Prayer intentions: High Street, Bourne Street. Eucharistic Ministers and those who receive Home Communion.	3rd: Gregory the Great Rdgs: Pss 119: 105-128; Proverbs 9; Mark 5: 35-end. Pope Gregory sent Augustine to Kent to evangelise the Saxons there and to negotiate with the Celtic Christians in the north of England Prayer intentions: Northbourne Court, Pease Place. People with learning disabilities and their carers. Our friends at Wednesday	4th: Birinus Readings: Psalms 90, 92; Proverbs 10: 1-12; Mark 6: 1-13. Birinus was the first Bishop of Dorchester and 'Apostle to the West Saxons.' He laid the foundations for many churches in this area. Prayer intentions: Ridgeway Road, Beech Lane. St Birinus School, Bishop Gavin and his team.
5th: Readings: Psalm 88 Proverbs 11: 1-12; Mark 6: 14-29. Prayer intentions: Sinodun Road, Bridge Close. Our Director of Music and choir.	6th: Readings: Pss 96, 97, 100; Proverbs 12: 10-end; Mark 6: 30-44. Prayer intentions: Kynaston Road, Ransoms Crescent. The work of the Mothers' Union worldwide.	Church. 7th: Trinity XII Readings: Psalm 1; Jeremiah 18: 1-11; Revelation 8: 1-5. Prayer intentions: Broadway, Vicarage Road. Those who prepare and read their intercessions in church.	8th: Birth of BVM Readings: Pss 98, 99. 101; Proverbs 14:31 - 15:17; Mark 6: 45-end. Prayer intentions: St Andrew's Road, St Peter's Road. Pebbles, church for babies and toddlers.
9th: Readings: Psalm 106; Proverbs 15: 18-end; Mark 7: 1-13. Prayer intentions:	10th: Rdgs: Pss 110, 111, 112; Proverbs 18: 10-end; Mark 7: 14-23. Prayer intentions:	11th: Readings: Pss 113, 115; Proverbs 20: 1-22; Mark 7: 24-30. Prayer intentions:	12th: Readings: Psalm 139; Proverbs 22: 1-16; Mark 7: 31-end. Prayer intentions:
Wessex Road, Samor Way Those who keep the church linens clean.	Lower Broadway, Roebuck Court. For an end to conflict in the Middle East and Ukraine.	Hagbourne Road, Edmund's Court. Churches Together in Didcot and District.	Ernest Road. Fairacres Road, Marlborough Court. Didcot Police Station, our PCSOs.
13th: John Chrysostom Readings: Psalms 120- 122; Proverbs 24: 23-end; Mark 8: 1-10. 4th Century Archbishop of Constantinople, he was so well respected for his preaching and teaching he earned the nickname 'Golden mouthed.' Prayer intentions: Clover Fields, Reed Street, Aster Close. Those who keep the church clean and tidy.	14th: Holy Cross Day Readings: Pss 2, 8, 146; Genesis 3:1-15; John 12:27-36a. The Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem, was dedicated on this day in 335AD, with the True Cross presented for all to venerate. Prayer intentions: Oatland Road, Bradbery Gardens. The Ministry Team.	15th: Cyprian Readings: Psalms 123- 126; Proverbs 25: 1-14 Mark 8: 11-21. A 3rd Century convert to Christianity. He was swiftly made Bishop and faced Roman persecution. He was executed in 258. Prayer intentions: Mereland Road, Laburnum Grove. Persecuted Christians worldwide. ge 4 sDidcot; Like us on Facebook.	16th: Ninian Readings: Pss 132, 133; Proverbs 25: 15-end Mark 8: 22-26. Ninian is known as the 'Apostle to the Southern Picts' in the Scottish Lowlands. He lived and ministered 360-432 AD. Prayer intentions: Abbott Road, Abbott Close. Those engaged in missions in England and further afield.

Prayer Intentions: September 2025

17th: Hildegard Rdgs: Ps 119: 153-end; Proverbs 26: 12-end; Mark 8: 27-9: 1. Visionary, Musician, Liturgist, Exorcist, Theologian and nun. Hildegard was tithed to God at the age of 8, as her parents' 10th child. Prayer intentions: Richmere Road, The Croft, Diamond Drive. All those who use and work at Didcot Library.	18th: Readings: Pss 143, 146; Proverbs 27: 1-22; Mark 9: 2-13. Prayer intentions: Marsh Cottages, Jubilee Way. Regent Gardens. Former members of St Peter's who are no longer able to join us in our worship on Sundays.	19th: Theodore of Tarsus Readings: Psalms 142, 144; Proverbs 30: 1-9, 24-31; Mark 9: 14-29. The 8th Archbishop of Canterbury, established a school attached to the Cathedral. He was a great reformer of the Church in England, calling several Synods. Prayer intentions: Saxon's Way, Viking Drive. The PCC.	20th: John Coleridge Patteson Readings: Psalm 147; Proverbs 31: 10-end; Mark 9: 30-37. Linguist and missionary to the South Seas (he spoke 23 of their 1000+ languages) and first Bishop of Melanesia. In 1871 he was martyred on the Solomon Islands Prayer intentions: Oriel Court, Lincoln Gardens. All those baptised this year.	
21st: Matthew Readings: Ps 49, 117; 1 Kings 19:15-end; 2 Timothy 3:14-end.	22nd: Readings: Pss 1, 2, 3; Wisdom 1; Mark 9: 38-end.	23rd: Readings: Psalms 5, 6; Wisdom 2; Mark 10: 1-16.	24th: Rdgs: Psalm 119: 1-32; Wisdom 3: 1-9; Mark 10: 17-31.	
Matthew has a Gospel written in his name. Prayer intentions: Beaufort Close, Worcester Drive. Those who lead Sunday School.	Prayer intentions: Exeter Court, Magdalene Court. All those who provide refreshments for services and events at the church.	Prayer intentions: Merton Close, Somerville. Those who look after the grounds.	Prayer intentions: Nuffield Close, Dirac Place Didcot Community Hospital.	
25th: Readings: Pss 14, 15, 16; Wisdom 4: 7-end; Mark 10: 32-34	26th: Wilson Carlile Readings: Psalm 17, 19; Wisdom 5: 1-16; Mark 10: 35-45. Founder of the Church	27th: Vincent de Paul Readings: Pss 20, 21, 23; Wisdom 5: 17 - 6: 11; Mark 10: 46-end. Founder of the Lazaristes	28th: Trinity XV Readings: Psalm 91; Jeremiah 32: 1-15; Luke 11: 37-end.	
Prayer intentions: Fleet Way, Kibble Close. Our families and our Church family.	Army Prayer intentions: St John's Close, Ruskin Close. Revd Josie Midwinter, and all Church Army Ministers.	Prayer intentions: Shannon Road, Severn Road. The work of Helen House and other hospices.	Prayer intentions: Kennet Place, Thames Court. Our servers and team of welcomers.	
29th: Michael and All A Readings: Psalms 34, 150 The Archangel Michael if fighting and defeating the Angels as a reminder that had its start in heaven. The long, to remind Christian spiritual struggles in the in Prayer intentions: Medway Grove, Tyne Sq Churches dedicated to Ss deliverance ministry. The	30th: Jerome Readings: Psalm 32, 36; Wisdom 7: 1-14; Mark 11: 12-26. Translated the Bible into Latin (from Greek) in the 4th Century. Prayer intentions: Western Avenue. ECHO, Didcot TRAIN and all youth work in Didcot			



Calling all recently retired or semi retired individuals in and around Didcot looking for new interests and making new friends?

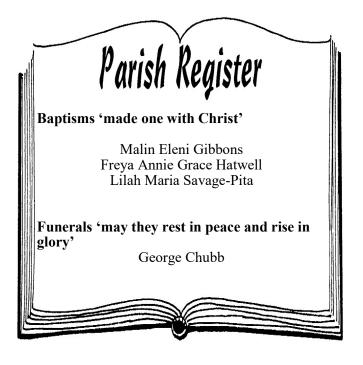
New members are always warmly welcomed to join (first visit is 'free to see') and chat over tea and biscuits at the monthly meetings held on the **third**Tuesday of every month for this nationwide self-help teaching and learning organisation in the Didcot Civic Hall starting at 2:30pm.

At the monthly meetings there will also be an interesting presentation by a **Guest Speaker**, and over the coming months we have the following Speakers and topics;

Future Meetings

September 16th - *Coleshill* - the Nerve Centre for British Resistance by Gillian Cane

For further information concerning matters u3a and wishing to 'Learn, Laugh, Live'.



Year's Mind for September

- 1 Roessa Yates
- 3 Doris Clare Sheila Burgess
- 4 Reginald Wilkes Doreen Ballard

5

2

- 6 George Herbert Percy Lane Christine Skirving Eva Cameron Evelyn Boldogh
- 7 Irene Bromhall
- 8 Ernest Butler Eleanor Butcher
- 9 Nancy Davies

10

- 11 Percy Jefferies
- 12 Walter Bush

13

- 14 Esther Hall Edith Crawford
- 15 Constance White Patricia Chapman
- 16 Ethel Cox John Mildenhall Frederick Bennett Charles Carter Marjorie Jean

- 20 Dorothy Bird Dennis Cartwright
- 21 Brian Collyer William

McGibbon

- Albert Faulkes
- 22 Mavis Bonner Ruth Griffiths
- 23 Harold Redding Frederick Wells Ruby Humphreys
- 24 Reginald Porter Lorraine Herbert

25

- 26 Grant Embling Hilda Knights
- 27 Margaret Henbest
- 28 George Tubb
- 29 Ellen East John Seymour Sarah Digweed Ivy May Bennett
- 30 Thomas Faulkner William Pratt Arthur Nicholas Beryl Peterson

Nicholls

17 Walter Davis

18

19

Have included a sudoku rather than a crossword this month, please let me know if you like the puzzles, and which you prefer

					1	3		
5			4	3		2		
	8	3				9		
	2		9					
	3						9	
					6		7	
		4				1	5	
		4 9 5		7	8			4
		5	2				2000 1/	

© 2008 KrazyDad.com

Heavenly Father, September is the month of new starts for so many. New starts can be exciting, but they can also be daunting. We don't always know what to expect and sometimes we feel as if we are on our own in a strange new place, or situation.

Help us to know that, as your people, we are never alone. You promised, through Jesus, to be with us always and You gave us Your Holy Spirit to empower us.

In some ways every day is a new start – a new gift from You. As we unwrap the gift of each new day, this September, en-courage us to receive it confidently and expectantly. Help us to know that we can do all things, through Christ Jesus, who strengthens us. We can! In Jesus' name, Amen.

By Daphne Kitching

Crossword Answers to July puzzle: ACROSS:

1, Riches. 4, Abner's. 7, Soul. 8, Damascus. 9, Statutes. 13, Add. 16, Craftsmanship. 17, Old. 19, Redeemer. 24, Walls are. 25, Wise. 26, Target. 27, Thieve.

DOWN:

1, Rest. 2, Courtyard. 3, Sadhu. 4, Arm he. 5, Nose. 6, Round. 10, Tutor. 11, Timid. 12, Sense. 13, Ashbelite. 14, Dips. 15, Echo. 18, Lhasa. 20, Exact. 21, Erect. 22, Flog. 23, Mede.

International Café Celebration Invite

"You're Welcome!" – special celebration evening

Organised by members of International Café Didcot, supported by CCOW **Tuesday 30th September, 6-9 pm**, at Didcot Baptist Church

Free – All welcome

For over two years now International Café Didcot, started by members of local churches, has been welcoming newcomers to Didcot from Ukraine, Hong Kong, Afghanistan and many other countries. It's a joy being part of this friendly, growing, multicultural community. If you haven't already experienced it now is your chance - come taste and see and celebrate together!

Shared international buffet, music, art, traditional costumes, handicrafts, recipes, presentations and more, from many nations. Everyone in the Didcot community is welcome – long term residents and those more recently arrived, adults and children (supervised by parents).

Come for all or part of the evening.

If you would like to write an occasional front page article for the St Peter's Magazine, please talk to Revd Hannah.

Next issue

Wednesday 24 September 2025 is the next magazine deadline. Please email the editor with any articles—Se.scane@ntlworld.com

Church Calendar for September 2025

SERVICES IN CHURCH THIS MONTH

Wednesday 3 10.00_{AM}-Wednesday Church

Thursday 4 *Birinus* 9.30_{AM}—Said Mass

Sunday 7 *Trinity XII* 10.00AM—Parish Mass

Monday 8 9:15AM- Pebbles Baby Church

Thursday 11 9.30AM—Said Mass

Sunday 14 Holy Cross Day 10.00AM—Parish Mass 12.00 - Baptism

Thursday 18 9.30AM—Said Mass

Saturday 20 7.30PM—Quiz 'n' Chips

Sunday 21 *Matthew the Apostle* 10.00AM—Parish Mass



Vicar The Revd. Hannah Reynolds The Vicarage, 47A Newlands Avenue, Didcot 01235 812114

Email: hclairereynolds@gmail.com

Associate Minister



The Revd. Fran Childs 01235 816166

Safeguarding Officers



Gail & Paul Hedley 07775 675401

Thursday 25 Lancelot Andrewes 9.30_{AM}—Said Mass

Sunday 28 Trinity XV 10.00AM—Parish Mass

Please support Rev'd Fran if you are able, as she undertakes the Ride and Stride again this year.



ONLINE SERVICES AND EVENTS THIS MONTH

Monday - Thursday & Saturday 9.00AM Morning Prayer (except Monday 9th at 8:30AM) Sunday 10.00AM - Parish Mass—live streamed

from church

Church Wardens



Alan Wilson 07817 061752



Tim Scane 07785 308160