

Services, Events, News, Information

Thursday 11th December
9.30 am - Said Communion

Friday 12th December
6 pm – Braintree District Council Carol Service

Sunday 14th December – 3rd Sunday of Advent
8 am - Holy Communion – *Book of Common Prayer, said service*
10 am – Sung Communion *led by Fr. Richard*
6 pm – Prayer and Praise at our partner church, St. Paul's

Monday 15th December
1.30-3.30 pm – 'Christmas Countdown' *in the church*
Come along and sing the Top Twenty Christmas Carols and Songs as voted for by members of the Braintree and Dunmow Singing Clubs. *What will be No. 1?* All welcome.
£5, including refreshments, no need to book. Proceeds for church funds. *See David Wood*

Tuesday 16th December
5-7 pm - Having a Blue Christmas?
Church open for personal prayer and reflection
Prayers will be said from 6.45 pm. All welcome

Sunday 21st December – 4th Sunday of Advent
8 am - Holy Communion – *Book of Common Prayer, said service*
10 am – Sung Communion *led by Revd. Rob Cadman*
6 pm – Service of Nine Lessons and Carols by candlelight

Christmas Eve – Wednesday 24th December
4.30 pm - Crib Service, Nativity and Decoration of the Christmas Tree
11 pm - Midnight Mass

Christmas Day – Thursday 25th December
8 am - Holy Communion (*Book of Common Prayer*)
9.30 am - Family Communion for Christmas

■ Children's Society

I am doing another box opening for those who were unable to give me their box to open earlier on this year. I can take your box from now until January next year. Many thanks.
Diane Beck (Children's Society Parish Co-ordinator)

Items for next week's **Parish News** should be with the editor, David Wood,
by 9.00 pm on Wednesday please.
Contact: 01376 327606, davidwoodsings@gmail.com



St. Peter's Parish Church Bocking

www.stpeters-bocking.net

Vicar: The Revd. Richard Chand. Phone: 01376 322279

e-mail: fr.richard@stpeters-bocking.net

Parish News **Sunday 7th December 2025**

Second Sunday of Advent

8 am Holy Communion *Said service led by Fr Richard*
10 am Morning Worship *led by St. Peter's Team Ministry*
Followed by the Raffle and Mini Fayre

Welcome to our new look St. Peter's parish newsletter! In it you will find details of our upcoming services, events and things that are happening within our church community.

10 am Morning Worship (*Fr Richard is at our partner church, St Paul's, this morning*)
Please follow the service in the blue Morning Worship leaflet. The hymns are in the blue hymn book. LARGE PRINT copies of both are available.
We observe a few moments' silence at the beginning of our service today, as we prepare ourselves for worship.

Opening Hymn: 575 On Jordan's bank

Reading: - Psalm 72.1-7, 18-19 *with refrain said by all. See overleaf*

2nd Hymn: 891 Longing for light (Christ be our light)

Reading: - Romans 15.4-13 *See overleaf*

Gospel Reading: - Matthew 3.1-12 *See overleaf*

Benedictus: sung by all, words in Morning Worship leaflet, p.2

The Collect: - *See overleaf*

Closing Hymn: 133 Come, thou long expected Jesus

■ Church Morning Service Times are Changing ■

To enable Fr Richard to be at both St. Paul's and St. Peter's Morning Services every Sunday, our PCC's have agreed that from the **11th January 2026**, St. Peter's Morning Service will start at 9.30am, while the St. Paul's Morning Service will commence at 11am. The time of the 8am Service at St. Peter's will remain unchanged. St. Paul's will also be changing the time for their refreshments, which will be served before the new service time, from 10.30am, rather than after the service.

A Reading from Psalm 72

Reader: In his time shall the righteous flourish.

All: In his time shall the righteous flourish.

Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the king's son.

That he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice.

That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people,
and the little hills bring righteousness. **R**

He shall defend the needy among the people, he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor. He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure,
from one generation to another. **R**

He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, like showers that water the earth.

In his time shall the righteous flourish, there shall be abundance of peace
till the moon shall be no more. **R**

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wonderful deeds.

And blessed be his glorious name for ever.

And may all the earth be filled with his glory. Amen. Amen. **R**

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen

Reader: The Lord is king; let the earth rejoice. May your kingdom come, O God, with deliverance for the needy, with peace for the righteous, with overflowing blessing for all nations, with glory, honour and praise for Christ, the only Saviour. **Amen**

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, 'Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name'; and again he says, 'Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people'; and again, 'Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him'; and again Isaiah says, 'The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope.' May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."' Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan,

confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 'I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

The Collect

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever. **Amen**

**We are very grateful to all who support St. Peter's financially
as we continue to serve our community – THANKYOU!**



If you would like to make an online donation you can do so by using the adjacent **QR code** or the following link -
<https://givealittle.co/campaigns/336ef168-8791-4572-8244-59305959e3dc>
Alternatively, you can make a one off payment or set up a standing order by using these account details:

Sort Code: 30-91-14

A/C No. 00991224

A/C Name: St Peter's Church Bocking

Or, you can donate in the traditional way by putting cash into our collection plate at the back of the church. If you put your donation into a yellow donation envelope, tax payers will be able to Gift Aid their donation.

NEW*: we are now using our card reader at the 10am service, so if you want to make a donation to the church by credit/debit card, you are now able to do so.

Whichever way you choose, your gift is very much appreciated

PROMOTING A SAFER CHURCH AT ST PETER'S – SAFEGUARDING IN YOUR PARISH

Your Parish Safeguarding Representative: Mrs Anne Tee, 01376 341076

IF YOU HAVE A SAFEGUARDING CONCERN RELATING TO THE CHURCH PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH SAFEGUARDING REP. at psr@stpeters-bocking.net The Diocesan Safeguarding Team can also be contacted, and their email/phone contact details are:

safeguarding@chelmsford.anglican.org 01245 29 44 44.



ST PETER'S CHURCH PHOTOGRAPHY / FILMING / LIVE STREAMING POLICY:

Only designated persons authorised by the PCC are allowed to take photographs or film/ stream on behalf of the parish during our services and events. Rebecca Chand, Rachel Hope and Paula Stone are the designated photographers for the parish. Photographs/footage containing children will only be taken with written permission from parents/legal guardians (see Appendix 1 Consent Form with our full Electronic /Media /Photography and Safer Working policies on our website at <https://stpeters-bocking.net/html/wordpress/> on our Safeguarding tab). Other photographs taken of adults in services and events will have an expressed announcement that will be taken only with their permission by the Parish authorised person/s. The full PCC approved policies are on our Church website and on the noticeboards in the church and the church hall.