

Services, Events, News, Information

Monday 26th January

1.30 pm – Braintree Singing Club in the church hall
'A Chain Reaction' – come along and sing songs about chains and freedom.
£5, including homemade refreshments. All welcome. *Proceeds for church funds.*
Details from David Wood

Thursday 29th January

9.30 am – Holy Communion Short said service

Sunday 1st February – The Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas)

8 am - Holy Communion – Book of Common Prayer, said service

9.30 am – Family Service

Wednesday 4th February

2.00 pm – Tea at Two in the Church Hall, all welcome

Thursday 5th February

9.30 am – Holy Communion Short said service

Sunday 8th February – The Second Sunday before Lent

8 am - Holy Communion – Book of Common Prayer, said service

9.30 am – Sung Communion

Church Roof Fund Update

As you are aware we had an expensive repair to the Roof in 2024 and started a Roof Fund. We raised £10,054.73 in 2024 leaving a minus balance of £12405.07 at the end of 2024. We managed to raise a further £9027.58 in 2025 including some grants negotiated by Paula Stone. The PCC agreed that the outstanding balance of £3,377.49 be transferred from the Fabric Fund to clear this Account at the end of 2025. The PCC wishes to give a heartfelt thank you to everyone for their generous donations and support for this Fund.

Evensong

The first Evensong of 2026 is on Sunday 25th (tonight) at 6pm.

There are handbills at the back of the church with the dates until June this year.

Bible Study

Bible Study for 2026 will resume on **Thursday 9th April** at 377 Cressing Road, at 7pm, followed by **23rd April** at the Vicarage, also at 7pm. It will then continue twice monthly at 7pm on the 2nd Thursday (at 377 Cressing Road) and the 4th Thursday (at the Vicarage) each month.

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 25th January 2026

3rd Sunday of Epiphany

8 am Holy Communion Book of Common Prayer, said service

9.30 am Sung Communion Common Worship, led by Fr Richard

6 pm Sung Evensong

Welcome to our 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.

9.30am Sung Communion

Please follow the service in the *yellow* Service Books. The hymns are in the *blue* book. **LARGE PRINT** copies of the Service Book and the hymns are available. Before the service, we observe a few moments' silence as we prepare ourselves for worship. The bell is then rung, and the service begins.

Opening Hymn: 557 O thou who camest from above

The Collect: See overleaf

First Bible Reading: Isaiah 9.1-4 See overleaf

Second Bible Reading: 1 Corinthians 1.10-18 See overleaf

Hymn before the Gospel: 343 King of glory, king of peace

Gospel Reading: Matthew 4.12-23 See overleaf

Offertory Hymn: 163 Father of heaven, whose love profound

Preface to the Eucharistic Prayer: See overleaf

Choir Anthem: Be still for the presence of the Lord (D. Evans arr. R. Shephard)

Post Communion Prayer: See overleaf

Closing Hymn: 43 And can it be

6pm Sung Evensong: (Green hymn book and Green Booklet)

Introit: From the rising of the sun (F. Ouseley)

Responses: Ferial ; **Psalm:** 33 (Chant: J. Randall)

Readings: Ecclesiastes 3.1-11; 1 Peter 1.3-12

Office Hymn: 499 Thy Kingdom come, O God

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis: Chants – Turle and Baker

Anthem: In the bleak mid-winter (Harold Darke)

Closing Hymn: 333 All my hope on God is founded

The Collect

Almighty God, whose Son revealed in signs and miracles the wonder of your saving presence: renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by your mighty power; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians

I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose. For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else. For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel—and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power. For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

The Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

When Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: "Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles—the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned." From that time Jesus began to proclaim, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the lake—for they were fishermen. And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fish for people." Immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him. Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

Preface to the Eucharistic Prayer

All honour and praise be yours always and everywhere, mighty Creator, ever living God, through Jesus Christ your only Son our Lord: for at this time we celebrate your glory made present in our midst. In the coming of the Magi the King of all the world was revealed to the nations. In the waters of baptism Jesus was revealed as the Christ, the Saviour sent to redeem us. In the water made wine the new creation was revealed at the wedding feast. Poverty was turned to riches, sorrow into joy. Therefore with all the angels of heaven we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name and sing our joyful hymn of praise: **Holy, Holy, Holy**

Post Communion Prayer

Almighty Father, whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ is the light of the world: may your people, illumined by your word and sacraments, shine with the radiance of his glory, that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; for he is alive and reigns, 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 9.30am 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.