

Services, Events, News, Information

Wednesday 7th January

No Tea at Two today

Thursday 8th January

9.30 am – Holy Communion *Short said service*

Sunday 11th January – Baptism of Christ - 1st Sunday of Epiphany

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

9.30 am – Sung Communion

6 pm – *Prayer and Praise at St. Paul's, our partner church*

Wednesday 14th January

7.00 pm – *PCC Meeting at the Vicarage*

Thursday 15th January

9.30 am – Holy Communion *Short said service*

Sunday 18th January – 2nd Sunday of Epiphany

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

9.30 am – Sung Communion

Thursday 22nd January

9.30 am – Holy Communion *Short said service*

Sunday 25th January – 3rd Sunday of Epiphany

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

9.30 am – Sung Communion

6 pm – *Choral Evensong*

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

A Date For Your Diary!

*Don't forget, from next Sunday, 11th January,
our Sung Communion services will be starting at 9.30am*

Happy New Year To All At St. Peter's

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 4th January 2026

Christmas 2/Epiphany of The Lord

8 am Holy Communion Said service led by Fr Richard

10 am Morning Worship led by St. Peter's Team Ministry

We are observing The Epiphany (6th January) at this service

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.

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: 79 Bethlehem of noblest cities

Reading: - Psalm 72.1-7, 10-14 with *refrain said by all. See overleaf*

2nd Hymn: 788 We three kings of Orient are

Reading: - Ephesians 3.1-12 *See overleaf*

Gospel Reading: - Matthew 2.1-12 *See overleaf*

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

The Collect: - *See overleaf*

Closing Hymn: 55 As with gladness men of old

■ 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: Kings bow down before him; all the nations do him service

All: [R] Kings bow down before him; all the nations do him service

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]**

The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute;

the kings of Sheba and Seba offer gifts.

All kings shall bow down before him; and all the nations shall do him service. **[R]**

For he shall deliver the poor who cry out in distress,

And the oppressed who has no helper.

He shall have pity on the lowly and poor; he shall preserve the lives of the needy.

He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence,

and dear shall their blood be in his sight. **[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: 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 Ephesians

I, Paul, am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given to me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow-heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given to me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

The Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.' When King Herod heard

this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: "And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel." ' Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.' When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

The Collect

O God, who by the leading of a star manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: mercifully grant that we, who know you now by faith, may at last behold your glory face to face; 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**

**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.