

# St Peter's and Blessed Mary Churches

## Sunday 1st March 2026

st.peter's  
bishop's waltham

blessed mary  
upham



Here are the services for this Sunday and the coming week:

### **At St Peter's**

8am BCP

9am Parish Communion

10.30am Sunday Central  
(10am Thursday)

### **At Blessed Mary**

11am Village Communion

With prayers for the week ahead.

### **Revd James**

Sam is now working from home so she is contactable as usual at [stpbm.office@gmail.com](mailto:stpbm.office@gmail.com), however on a different number: **07771 275604**.

Please leave a message and she will call you back as soon as she is able.

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### World Day of Prayer

Friday , 6th March 2pm at St Barnabas church , Swanmore.



**This year the service has been compiled by the women of Nigeria. This is a reflective yet enlightening service, please do come along if you are free.**

**Afternoon tea is served after the service.**

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### Upham Fete

Save the Date - Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2026 – The Recreation Ground



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### St Peter's - Church Changes and Development of Services

As many of you are I'm sure aware, various changes have gone on and are going on at the start of this year to help develop our church and grow each of our services, and other groups/activities. This note is to give you an update about the various different things:

**Stone Floor Area** – this has now been completed, with much thanks to all those involved, and has been well received and now provides more space for fellowship, circulation and general use e.g., groups and activities such as, among others, Garden Gang and Hand Bell Ringers. If you are not aware, the cost of the new floor was £12,000, paid for from some donated legacy money dedicated to church improvements.

**Coffee and Refreshments** – however, even with this extended open area, it is quite a squash between the 9am and 10:30 services (which is a good problem to have!) so we will be trying new ways to serve and have our Sunday coffee and conversation. There will be a separate notice about this soon.

**Joel Phelps** – we welcome Joel, a young talented musician, singer and 'sung worship leader', who has come to help us develop our 10:30 band and service to its next stage of development. He will be working with our existing musicians and singers for 3 Sundays a month. Until recently the service only had live worship for 2 Sundays, with recorded on the other 2, but which now means the 10:30 service has the same level of support as the 9am service.

**Band Position** – this has now been relocated to the dais, which requires 'set up' each Sunday, but means there is no need for the previous staging, making the chancel area clearer and looking much better. In due course, with some new equipment, it will be also be possible to remove the 'fold back' speakers on the dais.

**Band Instruments** – for a band and band led service, some basic instruments need to be provided by a church e.g., drum kit and keyboard, and others are brought by players e.g., guitars. We have purchased a drum kit (see further note below) and are to soon purchase a 'synthesiser keyboard' which is different from a 'piano' type. The drum kit cost £4,000, and a suitable keyboard will be a similar amount. There will also be a few other items needed for the band set up costing up to around £2000. These are also being paid for out of donated dedicated improvement funds **not** from regular giving or gift day funds. This might be seen as 'a lot of money', and it is, but it is much less than the core instruments needed for our valued traditional/classical services with a grand piano and organ which are in regular good use.

Overall, we need to provide for all service styles properly with the proper instruments for our dedicated musicians, and to support our worship well. Some may feel that this is 'not a wise use of money', but I can assure you that it is essential and a much needed investment that has been long overdue for the 10:30, and to ensure it is invested in alongside other parts of church life.

**Drum Kit Position** – concern has been raised about the location of the drum kit in the chancel. We are currently in discussion about the best place to store it and there are two options which are: either up in the chancel beyond the choir pews; or just below the pulpit by the lady chapel. The PCC will consider all the pros and cons and take a decision at its next meeting in March.

**Junior Choir for the 9am** – finally, I should mention alongside all of the above, that a proposal is being drafted to restart a ‘Junior Choir’ for the 9am service which is much needed for us and to encourage young people. This will involve some regular midweek practices and then for the young people to join in our Sunday services once or twice a month. We will let you know in due course how we hope this will all happen.

In summary, we hope this is helpful and brings you up to date with all that is happening, but as always, if you have any comment or questions, please do be in touch.

**Liz and Mandy - Wardens**  
**Revd James - Rector**

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## Prayers

**R.I.P. Pamela Springer**  
**R.I.P. Jennifer Harvey**

**Please pray for the family and friends of Pamela Springer, Geoffrey Nockolds, Beth Tillott, Geoff Wedeman, Shirley Lyon, and Jennifer Harvey.**

*Pamela Springer's funeral will be at Porchester Crematorium on Tuesday 10th March at 11.15am.*

**We pray for all those whose names are written in our Book of Requests for Prayer.**

**Please also pray for the names of those who have asked for public prayer: Phil Hutchinson, Jan Hayter, Sarah Pain, Fred and Sylvia Dickenson, Sheila Boyes, Jackie Suter, and for all those known to us who are currently in hospital.**



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**We pray for the families of those Anniversaries of Death fall around this time and whose names are listed in our Book of Remembrance:**

**01/03/1986 Mary Eleanor Williamson**  
**01/03/2004 Robert Arthur Stidworthy**  
**01/03/2012 Robert Cooper**  
**02/03/2009 Kevin Griffiths**  
**04/03/1976 Ellen Elizabeth Morris**

## Meon Valley Food Bank



Thank you for your continued support.  
We will be open next Monday between 10 and 12 to receive food donations.

Food can also be dropped off at the following places;

Bishops Waltham - Sainsbury's, Coop, St Peters Church and the Jubilee Hall in Little Shore Lane

Curdridge - St Peter's Church

Upham - Blessed Mary Church

Wickham - the Coop and the Community Centre.

Park Gate - Robinson Reade Estate Agents

The items we require for the coming week are:

**Tinned vegetables**

**Instant coffee**

**Stir in pasta sauces ( in plastic tubs)**

**Rice**

**Soap**

## The Week Ahead

### **What's on at Blessed Mary (All to be held in Church unless specified)**

Sunday 1st	10am Choir Practice 11am Village Communion
Monday 2nd	8am Morning Prayer (Zoom)
Tuesday 3rd	10am Table Talk (contact Kate Smyth for location)
Wednesday 4th	10am communion at the home of Anne Watson 7.30-9pm Bell ringing practice
Thursday 5th	10am Butterflies
Sunday 8th	10am Choir Practice 10am Sunday Funday

### **What's on at St Peter's (All to be held in Church unless specified)**

Sunday 1st 8am BCP Service  
9am Parish Communion  
9.30am-12pm Vitalize (Stables Centre)  
10.30am Sunday Central

Monday 2nd 8am Morning Prayer (Zoom)  
7-9pm Bell ringing practice

Tuesday 3rd 8am Prayer with 'bible thought and open prayer' (Zoom)

Wednesday 4th 8.45am Morning Prayer  
9.30-12pm Garden Gang  
2-4pm Cafe Church

Thursday 5th 8am Morning Prayer (Zoom)  
10am BCP Service  
7-9pm Alpha Course in the Stables

Friday 6th 8.45am Morning Prayer  
7-8.15pm Choir Practice

Saturday 7th Bell Ringing Training pm

Sunday 8th 8am BCP Service  
9am Parish Communion  
9.30am-12pm Vitalize (Stables Centre)  
10.30am Sunday Central

***This list only represents services and events linked to the Church***

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