

## Services, Events, News, Information

### Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February

9.30 am – Holy Communion *Short said service*

### Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> February – The Sunday next before Lent

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

9.30 am – Sung Communion

### Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February – Ash Wednesday

7.30 pm – Sung Communion

### Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> February

9.30 am – Holy Communion *Short said service*

### Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> February – The First Sunday of Lent

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

9.30 am – Sung Communion

6 pm – Choral Evensong

### Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February

1.30 pm – Braintree Singing Club *in the church hall*

‘Love Songs – 1940-1980’ – come along and sing a selection of well-known love songs. £5, including homemade refreshments. All welcome.

*Proceeds for church funds. Details from David Wood*

### Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February

7 pm – Lent Course, at the Vicarage, *see below*

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### Lent Course 2026

This year's Lent Course "On the Third Day" will begin on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February at 7p.m. at the Vicarage. *Details from Anne Tee*

### Bible Study

Bible Study for 2026 will resume after Easter on **Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> April** at 377 Cressing Road, at 7pm, followed by **23<sup>rd</sup> April** at the Vicarage, also at 7pm. It will then continue twice monthly at 7pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday (at 377 Cressing Road) and the 4<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:davidwoodsings@gmail.com)

## St. Peter's Parish Church Bocking

[www.stpeters-bocking.net](http://www.stpeters-bocking.net)

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

e-mail: [fr.richard@stpeters-bocking.net](mailto:fr.richard@stpeters-bocking.net)

## Parish News

### **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

#### The Second Sunday Before Lent

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

9.30 am Sung Communion *Common Worship, led by Fr Richard*

*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.*

### 9.30 am Sung Communion

*Please follow the service in the yellow Service Books. The hymns are in the green 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: 263** All creatures of our God and King (omit v.5 & 6)

**The Collect:** *See below*

**First Bible Reading:** Genesis 1.1-2.3 *See below*

**Second Bible Reading:** Romans 8.18-25 *See overleaf*

**Hymn before the Gospel: 377** Immortal, invisible, God only wise

**Gospel Reading:** Matthew 6.25-34 *See overleaf*

**Offertory Hymn: 397** Let us with a gladsome mind

**Preface to the Eucharistic Prayer:** *See page 10 of the yellow service book*

**Choir Anthem** (during Communion): O Praise God in his holiness (Psalm 150, C.V. Stanford)

**Post Communion Prayer:** *See overleaf*

**Closing Hymn: 265** Lord of beauty, thine the splendour

### **The Collect**

Almighty God, you have created the heavens and the earth and made us in your own image: teach us to discern your hand in all your works and your likeness in all your children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme over all things, now and for ever. **Amen**

### **A Reading from the Book of Genesis**

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God

separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. And God said, 'Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.' So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day. And God said, 'Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.' And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, 'Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.' And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day. And God said, 'Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.' And it was so. God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day. And God said, 'Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.' So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, 'Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.' And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day. And God said, 'Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.' And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, 'Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.' So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.' God said, 'See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.' And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

#### **A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans**

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For

in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

#### **The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew**

Jesus taught his disciples, saying: 'Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, "What will we eat?" or "What will we drink?" or "What will we wear?" For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. 'So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.'

#### **Post Communion Prayer**

God our creator, by your gift the tree of life was set at the heart of the earthly paradise, and the bread of life at the heart of your Church: may we who have been nourished at your table on earth be transformed by the glory of the Saviour's cross and enjoy the delights of eternity; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

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#### **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. **We are now also using our card reader at the 9.30am service.**

**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](mailto:psr@stpeters-bocking.net) The Diocesan Safeguarding Team can also be contacted, and their email/phone contact details are:

[safeguarding@chelmsford.anglican.org](mailto: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.