

Services, Events, News, Information

Sunday 8th March – The Third Sunday of Lent

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

Wednesday 11th March

7 pm – PCC Meeting, at the Vicarage

Thursday 12th March

9.30 am – Holy Communion *Short said service*

Sunday 15th March – The Fourth Sunday of Lent (Mothering Sunday)

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

Wednesday 18th March

7 pm – Lent Course, at the Vicarage

Thursday 19th March

9.30 am – Holy Communion *Short said service*

Sunday 22nd March – The Fifth Sunday of Lent (Passiontide Begins)

8 am - Holy Communion – *Book of Common Prayer, said service*
9.30 am – Sung Communion
6.00 pm – Sung Evensong

Generosity Review Questionnaire

Three members of the PCC are attending an event by the Parish Giving Advisors called Cornerstone on 11th March. As part of this process, we have been asked to invite as many of the congregation as possible to take part in a Generosity Review Questionnaire. There is an online link - please e mail lesleycl78@outlook.com so I can forward the link to you. If you cannot access online, we have printed copies available and can submit the form online for you. Individual responses online will remain anonymous, and you don't have to enter your name when filling in the printed form –

Please take part if you can - closing date is 8th March. Many Thanks

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.

Raffle

The Events Committee are holding a Raffle for New Homemade Quilt which has been donated to us by the Quilting Group who meet in the Church Hall.

Tickets will be £1.00 each and the Raffle will be drawn on

Sunday 12th April after the service.

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 8th March 2026

The Third Sunday of Lent

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

9.30 am Sung Communion 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: *(Blue hymn book/Yellow service book)*

Opening Hymn: 498 My God, I love thee

The Collect: *See below*

First Bible Reading: Exodus 17.1-7 *See below*

Second Bible Reading: Romans 5.1-11 *See overleaf*

Hymn before the Gospel: 125 Come down, O love divine

Gospel Reading: John 4.5-42 *See overleaf*

Offertory Hymn: 548 O praise our great and gracious Lord

Preface to the Eucharistic Prayer for Lent: *See overleaf*

Choir Anthem: Lord, I trust thee (G.F. Handel)

Post Communion Prayer: *See overleaf*

Closing Hymn: 605 Praise the Lord, ye heavens adore him

The Collect

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; 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 Exodus

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarrelled with Moses, and said, 'Give us water to drink.' Moses said to them, 'Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?' But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?' So Moses cried out to the Lord, 'What shall I do with this people? They are

almost ready to stone me.’ The Lord said to Moses, ‘Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.’ Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarrelled and tested the Lord, saying, ‘Is the Lord among us or not?’

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, ‘Give me a drink’. (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, ‘How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?’ (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, ‘If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, “Give me a drink”, you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.’ The woman said to him, ‘Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?’ Jesus said to her, ‘Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.’ The woman said to him, ‘Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.’ Jesus said to her, ‘Go, call your husband, and come back.’ The woman answered him, ‘I have no husband.’ Jesus said to her, ‘You are right in saying, “I have no husband”; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!’ The woman said to him, ‘Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.’ Jesus said to her, ‘Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.’ The woman said to him, ‘I know that Messiah is coming’ (who is called Christ). ‘When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.’ Jesus said to her, ‘I am he, the one who is speaking to you.’ Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, ‘What do you want?’ or, ‘Why are you speaking with her?’ Then the woman left her water-jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, ‘Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?’ They left the city and were on

their way to him. Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, ‘Rabbi, eat something.’ But he said to them, ‘I have food to eat that you do not know about.’ So the disciples said to one another, ‘Surely no one has brought him something to eat?’ Jesus said to them, ‘My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, “Four months more, then comes the harvest”? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, “One sows and another reaps.” I sent you to reap that for which you did not labour. Others have laboured, and you have entered into their labour.’ Many Samaritans from that city believed in Jesus because of the woman’s testimony, ‘He told me everything I have ever done.’ So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there for two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, ‘It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world.’

Preface to the Eucharistic Prayer

It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise, almighty God and everlasting Father, through Jesus Christ your Son. For in these forty days you lead us into the desert of repentance that through a pilgrimage of prayer and discipline we may grow in grace and learn to be your people once again. Through fasting, prayer and acts of service you bring us back to your generous heart. Through study of your holy word you open our eyes to your presence in the world and free our hands to welcome others into the radiant splendour of your love. As we prepare to celebrate the Easter feast with joyful hearts and minds we bless you for your mercy and join with saints and angels for ever praising you and *singing: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord....*

Post Communion Prayer

Merciful Lord, grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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.

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

Whichever way you choose to give to St. Peter’s, your gift is 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.