

**Bible Readings and Weekly Notices for the
Parish of St. Peter's, Great Totham.
The Second Sunday of Advent
Sunday 7th December 2025**



Diary for Week Commencing Monday 8th December 2025

Mon	08	09:30	Private Function in the Church Extension
Mon	08	10:30	Mothers Union Diocesan A.G.M. Chelmsford
Mon	08	17:30	'Rainbows' in the Church Extension
Tue	09	09:30	Private Function in the Church Extension
Wed	10	10:00	Baby Signage Group in the Church Extension
Wed	10	10:30	Bible Studies Group at the Honywood
Wed	10	19:30	Gt. Totham Community Choir in the Church Extension
Thu	11	10:30	Edward Bear Group in the Honywood
Thu	11	12:00	Private Function in the Church Extension
Fri	12	10:00	'Knit and Natter' Group in the Honywood
Fri	12	10:00	Baby Signage Group in the Church Extension
Fri	12	19:45	Great Totham Bell Ringing Practice
Sun	14	10:00	Morning Service of the word and Nativity Play
Sun	14	18:00	Evensong via 'Zoom' Contact Sue Godsmark

Forthcoming events:

Sun	21	Dec	18:00	Nine Lessons and Carols
Wed	24	Dec	15:00	Christingles
Wed	24	Dec	17:00	Christingles
Wed	24	Dec	22:00	Midnight Mass
Thu	25	Dec	10:00	Christmas Day Service
Sat	24	Jan'26	10:00	Coffee Morning at The Honywood
Tue	24	Feb'26	19:00	Almshouse meeting @ The Honywood

DONATIONS



To donate to St Peter's Church: Scan the QR code;
make a BACS payment to St Peter's Church Great Totham
(sort code 20-54-30, account number 20882739);
send a cheque (payable to 'St Peter's Church, Great
Totham') to 25 Eaton Way, CM9 8EE or use the link on
our website: www.achurchnearyou.com/church/6657/

Collect.

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First Reading Psalm 72. 1-7, 18-19

Prayer for Guidance and Support for the King - Of Solomon.

¹ Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to a king's son.
² May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice.
³ May the mountains yield prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness. ⁴ May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the needy, and crush the oppressor. ⁵ May he live while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations. ⁶ May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth.
⁷ In his days may righteousness flourish and peace abound, until the moon is no more. ¹⁸ Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things. ¹⁹ Blessed be his glorious name for ever; may his glory fill the whole earth. Amen and Amen.

This is the word of the Lord. - Thanks be to God.

New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised (NRSVA)

Second Reading Romans. 15. 4-13

⁴ For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. ⁵ May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, ⁶ so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Gospel for Jews and Gentiles Alike

⁷ Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸ For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, ⁹ and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, 'Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name';



➡ ¹⁰ and again he says, 'Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people'; ¹¹ and again, 'Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him'; ¹² and again Isaiah says, 'The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope.' ¹³ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

*This is the word of the Lord. - **Thanks be to God.***

New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised (NRSVA)

Gospel Matthew. 3. 1-12

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to N

Glory to you, Oh Lord.

The Proclamation of John the Baptist

¹ In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ² 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' ³ This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."' ⁴ Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵ Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, ⁶ and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁷ But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸ Bear fruit worthy of repentance. ⁹ Do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰ Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ¹¹ 'I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹² His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

*This is the Gospel of the Lord - **Praise to you, O Christ.***

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The November 100+ Club winners are: 1st Prize: Karin Mann,
2nd Prize: Vanessa Ellams, 3rd Prize: David Kemsley.

The Prayer for Peace in the World

Almighty God, from whom all thoughts of truth and peace proceed; kindle in the hearts of all people the true love of peace; and guide with your pure and peaceful wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth; that in tranquillity your kingdom may go forward, till the earth is filled with the knowledge of thy love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Leading your church into growth - a prayer.

God of mission, who alone brings growth to your church, send your Holy Spirit to give vision to our planning, wisdom to our actions, joy to our worship, and power to our witness. Help our church to grow in numbers, in spiritual commitment to you, and in service to our local community, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

In your prayer's this week please include:

Our 'Friendship Church' - Bragernes Kirke, Drammen, Norway.
John Gladdish, Nina Pearce, Peter Roast.

We're looking for a volunteer to act as our Parish Safeguarding Officer.
If you are interested:

Please contact Karen ☎01621-892122 or Helen ☎01621-891067.

PARISH CONTACTS

Benefice Administrator:	☎07908 776750
Rosie Pollock:	✉office.blackwaterbenefice@gmail.com
Diocesan Safeguarding Team:	☎01245 294444
Parish Safeguarding Representative:	Vacancy
Churchwarden:	Vacancy

Notices: If you wish to include any item on the weekly 'Notices' please contact Chris Munton E-Mail ✉cmmunton@ukmm.com ☎01621 891817 who also maintains the consolidated diary for the Church, Church Extension and The Honywood.

Please inform ALL bookings to avoid the possibility of any conflicts.