

**Bible Readings and Weekly Notices for the  
Parish of St. Peter's, Great Totham.  
The Fourth Sunday of Advent  
Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2025**



**Diary for Week Commencing Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2025**

Wed	24	15:00	Christingles
Wed	24	17:00	Christingles
Wed	24	22:00	Midnight Mass
Thu	25	10:00	Christmas Day Service
Sun	28	10:00	Morning Service of the Word and Sunday Club
Sun	28	18:00	Evensong via 'Zoom' Contact Sue Godsmark

**Forthcoming events:**

Sat	24 Jan'26	10:00	Coffee Morning at The Honywood
Tue	24 Feb'26	19:00	Almshouse meeting @ The Honywood

Nine Lessons and Carols – At St. Peter's - today 18:00



**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/](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/6657/)



**Collect.**

God our redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son: grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour; o we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

**First Reading** *Isaiah 7. 10-16*

*Isaiah Gives Ahaz the Sign of Immanuel*

<sup>10</sup> Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, <sup>11</sup> Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. <sup>12</sup> But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. <sup>13</sup> Then Isaiah said: 'Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? <sup>14</sup> Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. <sup>15</sup> He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows ow to refuse the evil and choose the good. <sup>16</sup> For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

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

*New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised (NRSVA)*



## **Second Reading** *Romans 1. 1-7*

<sup>1</sup> Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, <sup>2</sup> which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, <sup>3</sup> the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh <sup>4</sup> and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, <sup>5</sup> through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, <sup>6</sup> including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, <sup>7</sup> To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:

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

*New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised (NRSVA)*

## **Gospel** *Matthew 1. 18-end*

*Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to N*

*The Birth of Jesus the Messiah*

<sup>18</sup> Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. <sup>20</sup> But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup> She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' <sup>22</sup> All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: <sup>23</sup> 'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel', which means, 'God is with us.' <sup>24</sup> When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, <sup>25</sup> but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

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

*New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised (NRSVA)*



### **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.