

**Bible Readings and Weekly Notices for the
Parish of St. Peter's, Great Totham.
The Second Sunday after Christmas
Sunday 4th January 2026**



Diary for Week Commencing Monday 5th January 2026

Mon 05 09:30 Private Function in the Church Extension
Mon 05 17:30 'Rainbows' in the Church Extension **WINTER BREAK**
Tue 06 09:30 Private Function in the Church Extension
Wed 07 10:00 Baby Signage Group in the Church Extension
Wed 07 10:30 Bible Studies Group at the Honywood
Wed 07 19:30 Gt.Totham Community Choir in the Church Extension
WINTER BREAK
Thu 08 10:30 Edward Bear Group in the Church Extension
Fri 09 10:00 'Knit and Natter' Group in the Honywood
Fri 09 10:00 Baby Signage Group in the Church Extension
Fri 09 19:45 Great Totham Bell Ringing Practice
Sun 11 10:00 Morning Service of the Word and Sunday Club
Sun 11 18:00 Evensong via 'Zoom' Contact Sue Godsmark

Forthcoming events:

Sat 17 Jan 10:30 Visiting Bell Ringers @ St. Peter's
Sun 18 Jan 10:00 Combined Service @ St. Peter's
Sat 24 Jan 10:00 Coffee Morning at The Honywood
Tue 24 Feb 19:00 Almshouse meeting @ The Honywood
Sat 28 Feb 12:00 Baptism @ St. Peter's
Sat 14 Mar 14:30 Mothers Union Posy making in the Church Extension



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.

Almighty God, in the birth of your Son you have poured on us the new light of your incarnate Word, and shown us the fullness of your love: help us to walk in his light and dwell in his love that we may know the fullness of his joy; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First Reading *Isaiah 60. 1-6*

The Ingathering of the Dispersed

I Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. ² For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. ³ Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. ⁴ Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. ⁵ Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. ⁶ A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord

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

Second Reading *Ephesians 3. 1-12*

Paul's Ministry to the Gentiles

¹This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles— ² for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given to me for you, ³ and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴ a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵ In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: ⁶ that is, the Gentiles have become fellow-heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. ⁷ Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given to me by the working of his power. ⁸ Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ,



➡ ⁹and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; ¹⁰so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

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

New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised (NRSVA)

Gospel Matthew 2. 1-12 Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to N Glory to you, Oh Lord.

The Visit of the Wise Men

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.' ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: ⁶"And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" ⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.' ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

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

New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised (NRSVA)



Our 'Friendship Church' - Bragernes Kirke, Drammen, Norway.
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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.

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 Honeywood.

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