

**Bible Readings and Weekly Notices for the
Parish of St. Peter's, Great Totham.
Seventh Sunday of Easter
Sunday 17th May 2026**



Diary for Week Commencing Monday 18th May 2026

- Mon 18 09:30 Private Function in the Church Extension
Mon 18 17:30 'Rainbows' in the Church Extension
Tue 19 09:30 Private Function in the Church Extension
Wed 20 10:00 Baby Signage Group in the Church Extension
Wed 20 10:30 Bible Studies Group at the Honywood
Wed 20 19:30 Gt.Totham Community Choir in the Church Extension
Thu 21 10:30 Edward Bear in the Church Extension
Fri 22 10:00 'Knit and Natter' in the Honywood
Fri 22 10:00 Baby Signage in the Church Extension
Fri 22 19:45 Great Totham Bell Ringing Practice
Sun 24 10:00 Family Communion and Sunday Club
Sun 24 18:00 Evensong via 'Zoom' Contact Sue Godsmark

Forthcoming events:

Sat 30th May 10:00 Coffee Morning in The Honywood

NOTE CHANGE OF DATE



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 17 Goat Lodge Road CM9 8BU or use the link on our website:



Collect.

O God the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: we beseech you, leave us not comfortless, but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First Reading Acts 1. 6-14

The Ascension of Jesus

⁶So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' ⁷He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority.' ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' ⁹When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.'

Matthias Chosen to Replace Judas

¹²Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. ¹³When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

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


New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised (NRSVA)

Second Reading 1 Peter 4. 12-14; 5. 6-11

Suffering as a Christian

¹²Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³But rejoice in so far as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you. ⁶Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. ⁷Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. ⁸Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. ⁹Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters throughout the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering.



 ¹⁰ And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹ To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

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

New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised (NRSVA)

**Gospel John 17. 1-11 Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to N.
Glory to you, Oh Lord**

Jesus Prays for His Disciples

¹ After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, 'Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, ² since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³ And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. ⁴ I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵ So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. ⁶ 'I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷ Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸ for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹ I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰ All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹ And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

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

New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised (NRSVA)

There are many people who undertake small tasks which help to run St Peter's. We now need some roles to be covered and would be very grateful you would consider doing this. Please speak to Karen ☎01621 892122 or Helen ☎01621 891067 for further details. Compiling and maintaining the church and extension cleaning rotas. Joining either (or both) cleaning rotas (training given and all equipment provided)! Serving refreshments after the 10am Sunday service (about once a month). Joining the rota of sides persons who 'meet and greet' people coming into church.

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 prayers this week please include:

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

John Gladdish, Andrew Marsden, Nina Pearce

Those who have recently died and their families:

Bob Herring, Terry Jenkins, Peter Roast

PARISH CONTACTS

Benefice Administrator:

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Rosie Pollock:

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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 Honeywood.

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