

**Bible Readings and Weekly Notices for the  
Parish of St. Peter's, Great Totham.  
Eighth Sunday after Trinity  
26<sup>th</sup> July 2026**



**Diary for Week Commencing Monday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2026**

- Mon 27 09:30 Private Function in the Church Extension  
Mon 27 17:30 'Rainbows' in the Church Extension – **SUMMER BREAK**  
Tue 28 09:30 Private Function in the Church Extension  
Wed 29 10:00 Baby Signage in the Church Extension – **SUMMER BREAK**  
Wed 29 10:30 Bible Studies Group at the Honywood – **SUMMER BREAK**  
Wed 29 19:30 Gt. Totham Community Choir in the Church Extension  
Thu 30 10:30 Edward Bear in the Church Extension – **SUMMER BREAK**  
Fri 31 10:00 'Knit and Natter' in the Honywood – **SUMMER BREAK**  
Fri 31 10:00 Baby Signage in the Church Extension – **SUMMER BREAK**  
Fri 31 19:45 Great Totham Bell Ringing Practice  
Sat 01 09:30 Beacon Group of Churches Prayer Meeting – Little Totham  
Sun 02 10:00 Morning Service of the Word – **NO SUNDAY CLUB**  
Sun 02 18:00 Evensong via 'Zoom' Contact Sue Godsmark

**Forthcoming events:**

- Sat 22 Aug 10:00 Coffee Morning in The Honywood  
Sun 12 Sep 10:00 Pet's Service at St. Peter's



**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:

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



### **Collect.**

Almighty Lord and everlasting God, we beseech you to direct, sanctify and govern both our hearts and bodies in the ways of your laws and the works of your commandments; that through your most mighty protection, both here and ever, we may be preserved in body and soul; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

### **First Reading** *1 Kings 3. 5-12*

<sup>5</sup>At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, 'Ask what I should give you.' <sup>6</sup>And Solomon said, 'You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart towards you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. <sup>7</sup>And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. <sup>8</sup>And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. <sup>9</sup>Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?' <sup>10</sup>It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. <sup>11</sup>God said to him, 'Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, <sup>12</sup>I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you.

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

*New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised (NRSVA)*

### **Second Reading** *Romans 8. 26-end*

<sup>26</sup>Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. <sup>27</sup>And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. <sup>28</sup>We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. <sup>29</sup>For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. <sup>30</sup>And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

*God's Love in Christ Jesus*

<sup>31</sup>What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? <sup>32</sup>He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else?



➡ <sup>33</sup> Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. <sup>34</sup> Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. <sup>35</sup> Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? <sup>36</sup> As it is written, 'For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.' <sup>37</sup> No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup> For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, <sup>39</sup> nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

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### **Gospel Matthew 13 31-33, 44-52**

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

#### **Glory to you, Oh Lord**

##### *The Parable of the Mustard Seed*

<sup>31</sup> He put before them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; <sup>32</sup> it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.'

##### *The Parable of the Yeast*

<sup>33</sup> He told them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.'

##### *Three Parables*

<sup>44</sup> 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

<sup>45</sup> 'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; <sup>46</sup> on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

<sup>47</sup> 'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; <sup>48</sup> when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. <sup>49</sup> So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous <sup>50</sup> and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

##### *Treasures New and Old*

<sup>51</sup> 'Have you understood all this?' They answered, 'Yes.' <sup>52</sup> And he said to them, 'Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.' <sup>53</sup> When Jesus had finished these parables, he left that place.

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

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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.**



*In your prayer's 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, Kay Mehrtens.

### **PARISH CONTACTS**

Benefice Administrator:

07908 776750

Rosie Pollock:

✉office.blackwaterbenefice@gmail.com

Diocesan Safeguarding Team:

☎01245 294444

✉safeguarding@chelmsford.anglican.org

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.