

**Bible Readings and Weekly Notices for the
Parish of St. Peter's, Great Totham.
Twelfth Sunday after Trinity
23rd August 2026**



Diary for Week Commencing Monday 24th August 2026

Mon	24 09:30	Private Function in the Church Extension	
Mon	24 17:30	'Rainbows' in the Church Extension	SUMMER BREAK
Tue	25 09:30	Private Function in the Church Extension	
Wed	26 10:00	Baby Signage in the Church Extension	SUMMER BREAK
Wed	26 10:30	Bible Studies Group at the Honywood	SUMMER BREAK
Wed	26 19:30	Gt.Totham Community Choir in the Church Extension	
Thu	27 10:30	Edward Bear in the Church Extension	SUMMER BREAK
Fri	28 10:00	'Knit and Natter' in the Honywood	SUMMER BREAK
Fri	28 10:00	Baby Signage in the Church Extension	SUMMER BREAK
Fri	28 19:45	Great Totham Bell Ringing Practice	
Sat	29 10:00	Coffee Morning at The Honywood	
Sun	30 10:00	United Benefice Service at Tolleshunt Major	
		No Service at St. Peter's, Great Totham	
Sun	30 13:00	Baptism at St. Peter's	
Sun	30 18:00	Evensong via 'Zoom' Contact Sue Godsmark	

Forthcoming events:

Sun	13 Sep	10:00	Pet's Service at St. Peter's
Sat	26 Sep	10:00	Coffee Morning in The Honywood
Sun	TBA	10:00	Harvest Festival



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

Collect.

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray and to give more than either we desire or deserve: pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask but through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First Reading *Isaiah 51. 1-6*

Blessings in Store for God's People

¹ Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness, you that seek the Lord. Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug. ² Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you; for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many. ³ For the Lord will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places, and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song. ⁴ Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation; for a teaching will go out from me, and my justice for a light to the peoples. ⁵ I will bring near my deliverance swiftly, my salvation has gone out and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope. ⁶ Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats; but my salvation will be for ever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

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

New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised (NRSVA)

Second Reading *Romans 12. 1-8*

The New Life in Christ

¹ I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ² Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. ³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgement, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴ For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, ⁵ so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶ We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸ the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

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

New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised (NRSVA)

Gospel Matthew 16. 13-20

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

Glory to you, Oh Lord

Peter's Declaration about Jesus

¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' ¹⁴ And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' ¹⁵ He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven.' ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.' ²⁰ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

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

New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised (NRSVA)



**FANCY JOINING ME
FOR COFFEE
MORNING?**



**You are invited to come and join us for yummy
tea/coffee and cake at our**

Knit & Natter Coffee Morning

At The Honywood Hall, Great Totham

Friday 25th September at 10:30am – 12:30pm

Contact No. Sandra ☎01621 893153

In aid of Macmillan Cancer Support

Let's do whatever it takes to support people living with cancer.

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

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.