

**Bible Readings and Weekly Notices for the
Parish of St. Peter's, Great Totham.
Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity
4th October 2026**



Diary for Week Commencing Monday 5th October 2026

Mon 05 09:30 Private Function in the Church Extension
Mon 05 17:30 'Rainbows' in the Church Extension
Tue 06 09:30 Private Function in the Church Extension
Wed 07 10:00 Baby Signage 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
Thu 08 10:30 Edward Bear in the Church Extension
Fri 09 10:00 'Knit and Natter' in the Honywood
Fri 09 10:00 Baby Signage in the Church Extension
Fri 09 19:45 Great Totham Bell Ringing Practice
Sat 10 09:00 Decorating the Church for Harvest Festival
Sun 11 10:00 Family Communion and Sunday Club
HARVEST THANKSGIVING

Forthcoming events:

Sat 24 Oct 10:00 Coffee Morning in The Honywood



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, increase in us your gift of faith that, forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to that which is before, we may run the way of your commandments and win the crown of everlasting joy; through 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 5. 1-7*

The Song of the Unfruitful Vineyard

¹ Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. ² He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watch-tower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. ³ And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. ⁴ What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? ⁵ And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. ⁶ I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting; he expected justice, but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard a cry!

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

New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised (NRSVA)

Second Reading *Philippians 3. 4-14*

⁴ even though I, too, have reason for confidence in the flesh. If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. ⁷ Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸ More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Pressing towards the Goal

¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³ Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on towards the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

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

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Gospel Matthew 21. 33-end

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

Glory to you, Oh Lord

The Parable of the Wicked Tenants

³³ 'Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watch-tower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. ³⁴ When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵ But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶ Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷ Finally he sent his son to them, saying, "They will respect my son." ³⁸ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, "This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance." ³⁹ So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰ Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" ⁴¹ They said to him, 'He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.' ⁴² Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the scriptures: "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes"?' ⁴³ Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. ⁴⁴ The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.' ⁴⁵ When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶ They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

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

New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised (NRSVA)



We will be decorating the church for Harvest Thanksgiving on Saturday 10th October commencing at 9am, If you would like to join us, please do you will be very welcome. Coffee provided. If anyone has any flowers and greenery it would be appreciated.
Contact Sue ☎01621 891220

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.**



The September 100+ Club draw winners are:

1st Prize: James Doubleday, 2nd Prize: June Eaton,
3rd Prize: Samuel Doubleday

In your prayer's this week please include:

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

John Gladdish, Andrew Marsden, Nina Pearce

PARISH CONTACTS

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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 Honywood.

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