

**Bible Readings and Weekly Notices for the
Parish of St. Peter's, Great Totham.
Twentieth Sunday after Trinity
18th October 2026**



Diary for Week Commencing Monday 19th October 2026

Mon 19 09:30 Private Function in the Church Extension
 Mon 19 17:30 'Rainbows' in the Church Extension
 Tue 20 09:30 Private Function in the Church Extension
 Wed 21 10:00 Baby Signage in the Church Extension
 Wed 21 10:30 Bible Studies Group at the Honywood
 Wed 21 19:30 Gt. Totham Community Choir in the Church Extension
 Thu 22 10:30 Edward Bear in the Church Extension
 Fri 23 10:00 'Knit and Natter' in the Honywood
 Fri 23 10:00 Baby Signage in the Church Extension
 Fri 23 19:45 Great Totham Bell Ringing Practice
 Sat 24 10:00 Coffee Morning in The Honywood
 Sun 25 10:00 Family Communion and Sunday Club

Forthcoming events:

Tue 04 Nov Fire alarm service
 Sat 28 Nov 10:00 Coffee Morning in The Honywood
 Sat 05 Dec Christmas Fayre
 Fri 18 Dec 11:00 Ramblers Carol Service
 Sun 20 Dec 10:00 Nativity Play
 Sun 20 Dec 18:00 Nine Lessons and Carols
 Thu 24 Dec 15:00 & 17:00 Christingles

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.

God, the giver of life, whose Holy Spirit wells up within your Church: by the Spirit's gifts equip us to live the gospel of Christ and make us eager to do your will, that we may share with the whole creation the joys of eternal life; 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 45. 1-7*

Cyrus, God's Instrument

¹ Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations before him and strip kings of their robes, to open doors before him— and the gates shall not be closed: ² I will go before you and level the mountains, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron, ³ I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places, so that you may know that it is I, the Lord, the God of Israel, who call you by your name. ⁴ For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I surname you, though you do not know me. ⁵ I am the Lord, and there is no other; besides me there is no god. I arm you, though you do not know me, ⁶ so that they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one besides me; I am the Lord, and there is no other. ⁷ I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe; I the Lord do all these things.

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

New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised (NRSVA)

Second Reading *1 Thessalonians 1. 1-10*

¹ Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace.

The Thessalonians' Faith and Example

² We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³ remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labour of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵ because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of people we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶ And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, ⁷ so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸ For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place where your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹ For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, ¹⁰ and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

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

New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised (NRSVA)

Gospel Matthew 22. 15-22

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

Glory to you, Oh Lord

The Question about Paying Taxes

¹⁵ Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. ¹⁶ So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, 'Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷ Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?' ¹⁸ But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, 'Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹ Show me the coin used for the tax.' And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰ Then he said to them, 'Whose head is this, and whose title?' ²¹ They answered, 'The emperor's.' Then he said to them, 'Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's.' ²² When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

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

New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised (NRSVA)



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

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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 Honynwood.

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