

A very warm welcome to St Peter's Church!
Thank you for joining us this morning.

MINISTRY TEAMS – for this Sunday (10th March)

Music & Tech Team

- Pianist: Richard Lawn
- Singers: Ann Larkin
- Guitars: Alan Gray
- Drums: Ed Bradley
- Mixer Desk: Amos Watts
- Projection: Peter Nwosu

Post-Service Refreshments Team

- Set-up (from 9:30am): Matt Wallace
- Kitchen: Simona Cerkauskiene & Dan Watts
- Servers: Marketa Kneblova, Matt Van Den Broek, Tom Van Den Broek, Isabel Watts

St Peter's Kids (SPK) Team

- Bible Tots: Tash Froude, with Chris Gray
- Diggers: Lizzie Wallace, with Julia Howard
- Spark: Andrew Lawn, with Maureen Hartwell

Sunday Housekeeping Team

- 9:00am Service Warden: Wendy Whitfield
- 10:30am Service Warden: John Hartwell
- Unlocking Church & Hall: Mark Wallace
- Congregation Count: Andrew Lawn
- Tidy-Up: Geraldine Joslin & Diane King
- Count & Verify Collection: Richard Lawn & Derek Drew
- Locking Church & Hall: Mark Wallace

The 10:30 Service Team

- Leader & Preacher: Mark Wallace
- Bible Reading: Margaret Holden
- Leading Intercessions: Trevor Froude

MINISTRY TEAMS – for next Sunday (17th March)

Music & Tech Team

- Pianist: Richard Lawn
- Singers: Ann Larkin
- Guitars: Alan Gray
- Drums: Ed Bradley
- Mixer Desk: Josh Wallace
- Projection: Peter Nwosu

Post-Service Refreshments Team

- Set-up (from 9:30am): Matt Wallace
- Kitchen: Matt Van Den Broek, Tom Van Den Broek
- Servers: Simona Cerkauskiene, Gabi Froude, Chris Gray, Maureen Hartwell

St Peter's Kids (SPK) Team

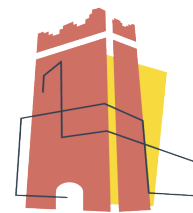
- Bible Tots: Lizzie Wallace, with Caroline Sheldrick
- Diggers: Care Reid, with Bernice Watts
- Spark: Karen Van Den Broek, with John Hartwell

Sunday Housekeeping Team

- 10:30am Service Warden: Trevor Froude
- Unlocking Church & Hall: Mark Wallace
- Congregation Count: Andrew Lawn
- Tidy-Up: Geraldine Joslin & Mick Kavanagh
- Count & Verify Collection: Richard Lawn & Diane King
- Locking Church & Hall: tbc

The 10:30 Service Team

- Leader & Preacher: Mark Wallace
- Bible Reading: Iain MacArthur
- Leading Intercessions: Anne Kavanagh
- Communion Steward: Duncan Breckels
- Communion Assistants: Chris Gray, Wendy Whitfield



St Peter's
COLCHESTER

Morning Service

inc. the Baptism of Anniebella MacArthur

10:30am, Sunday 10th March 2024
The Fourth Sunday of Lent & Mothering Sunday

THE COLLECT

for Mothering Sunday

God of compassion,
whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary,
shared the life of a home in Nazareth,
and on the cross drew the whole human family
to himself:
strengthen us in our daily living
that in joy and in sorrow
we may know the power of your presence
to bind together and to heal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

ST PETER'S KIDS (S.P.K.) & YOUTH GROUPS

We are delighted to welcome children and families to St Peter's on Sunday mornings. Please be reassured that all our SPK leaders have completed the relevant Safeguarding 'Safer Recruitment' process.

Our **IGNITE** group (school years 9-13) remain in church throughout the service. You will usually find most of them in one of the back pews. Details of other IGNITE activities are available on request.

The **SPARK** group (school years 5-8) start in church, but will head off early in the service to their own meeting in the Vestry, at the front-left of church. They will join us again before the end of the service.

The **BIBLE TOTS** and **DIGGERS** groups (for those aged 2 up to school year 4) meet in the Church Hall. The leaders collect them at the back door of church and walk them across to the Hall, before bringing them back to church before the end of the service.

The **FAMILY ROOM** in the Church Hall is for all babies up to the age of 2, where parents will be able to watch the livestream of the service.

If you have any questions about either SPK or IGNITE, please do not hesitate to contact any of the people listed on the back of the weekly 'Update'.

WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

Mark Wallace, Vicar of St Peter's

"TELL OUT, MY SOUL"

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord:
unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice;
tender to me the promise of his word;
in God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his Name:
make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
his mercy sure, from age to age the same;
his holy Name, the Lord, the Mighty One.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might:
powers and dominions lay their glory by;
proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

[SPK leave for their groups in the Vestry & Hall]

Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word:
firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
to children's children and for evermore!

Timothy Dudley-Smith, © 1961, Oxford University Press

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.**

**We are truly sorry
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name.
Amen.**

May the God of love and power
forgive us and free us from our sins,
heal and strengthen us by his Spirit,
and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord.
Amen.

BIBLE READING: Matthew 27.32-44

page 834; read by Margaret Holden

At the end of the reading...

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

"MAY THE MIND OF CHRIST, MY SAVIOUR"

May the mind of Christ, my Saviour,
live in me from day to day,
by His love and power controlling
all I do and say – all I do and say.

May the Word of God dwell richly
in my heart from hour to hour,
so that all may see I triumph
only through His power – only through His power.

May the peace of God my Father
rule my life in everything,
that I may be calm to comfort
sick and sorrowing – sick and sorrowing.

May the love of Jesus fill me,
as the waters fill the sea;
Him exalting, self abasing,
this is victory – this is victory.

May I run the race before me,
strong and brave to face the foe,
looking only unto Jesus
as I onward go – as I onward go.

May His beauty rest upon me
as I seek the lost to win,
and may they forget the channel,
seeing only Him – seeing only Him.

Writers: K Barclay Wilkinson, M Peterson; Music: EMU

THE SERMON

"O TO SEE THE DAWN"

O, to see the dawn of the darkest day:
Christ on the road to Calvary.
Tried by sinful men, torn and beaten, then
nailed to a cross of wood.

*This, the power of the cross:
Christ became sin for us,
took the blame, bore the wrath:
we stand forgiven at the cross.*

Oh, to see the pain written on Your face
bearing the awesome weight of sin;
every bitter thought, every evil deed
crowning Your bloodstained brow.

This, the power of the cross...

Now, the daylight flees; now the ground beneath
quakes as its Maker bows His head.
Curtain torn in two, dead are raised to life,
'Finished!' the victory cry.

This, the power of the cross...

Oh, to see my name written in the wounds,
for through Your suffering I am free.
Death is crushed to death, life is mine to live,
won through Your selfless love.

*This, the power of the cross:
Son of God, slain for us!
What a life, what a cost:
we stand forgiven at the cross.*

Stuart Townend & Keith Getty, © 2005, Thankyou Music

THE PRAYERS

led by Trevor Froude

to finish with the Lord's Prayer...

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**

"BY FAITH WE SEE"

By faith we see the hand of God,
in the light of creation's grand design;
in the lives of those who prove His faithfulness,
who walk by faith and not by sight.

By faith our fathers roamed the earth,
with the power of His promise in their hearts;
of a holy city built by God's own hand,
a place where peace and justice reign.

*We will stand as children of the promise,
we will fix our eyes on Him our soul's reward,
till the race is finished and the work is done,
we'll walk by faith and not by sight.*

By faith the prophets saw a day
when the longed-for Messiah would appear;
with the power to break the chains of sin and death,
and rise triumphant from the grave.

By faith the church was called to go
in the power of the Spirit to the lost;
to deliver captives and to preach good news
in every corner of the earth.

We will stand as children of the promise...

By faith this mountain shall be moved,
and the power of the gospel shall prevail;
for we know in Christ all things are possible
for all who call upon His name.

We will stand as children of the promise...

Keith & Kristyn Getty & Stuart Townend, © 2009, Thankyou Music

THE BAPTISM OF ANNIEBELLA MACARTHUR

The Presentation

Faith is the gift of God to his people.
In baptism the Lord is adding to our number
those whom he is calling.

People of God, will you welcome Annie
and uphold her in her new life in Christ?

With the help of God, we will.

Parents and godparents,
the Church receives this child with joy.
Today we are trusting God for her growth in faith.
Will you pray for her,
draw her by your example into the community of faith
and walk with her in the way of Christ?

With the help of God, we will.

In baptism, Annie begins her journey in faith.
You speak for her today.
Will you care for her,
and help her to take her place
within the life and worship of Christ's Church?
With the help of God, we will.

The Decision

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness
into his marvellous light.
To follow Christ means dying to sin
and rising to new life with him.
Therefore I ask:

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?
I reject them.

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?
I renounce them.

Do you repent of the sins that separate us
from God and neighbour?
I repent of them.

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?
I turn to Christ.

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?
I submit to Christ.

Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth
and the life?
I come to Christ.

Prayer over the Water

Profession of Faith

Sisters and brothers, I ask you to profess
together with Annie's parents and godparents
the faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?
**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?
**I believe in Jesus Christ,
his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic * Church, [* ie. 'universal' or 'whole']
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

Baptism

Anniebella Grace, I baptize you
in the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Signing with the Cross

The minister makes the sign of the cross, saying
Christ claims you for his own.
Receive the sign of his cross.

Do not be ashamed
to confess the faith of Christ crucified.
**Fight valiantly as a disciple of Christ
against sin, the world and the devil,
and remain faithful to Christ
to the end of your life.**

May almighty God
deliver you from the powers of darkness,
restore in you the image of his glory,
and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ.
Amen.

The Welcome

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism:
Annie, by one Spirit we are all baptized
into one body.
**We welcome you into the fellowship of faith;
we are children of the same heavenly Father;
we welcome you.**

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

"AMAZING GRACE"

Amazing grace - how sweet the sound -
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.

God's grace first taught my heart to fear,
his grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come;
his grace has brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me,
his word my hope secures;
my shield and stronghold he shall be
as long as life endures.

When we've been there ten thousand years
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we've first begun.

John Newton (1725-1807)

THE CONCLUSION

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all evermore.
Amen.**

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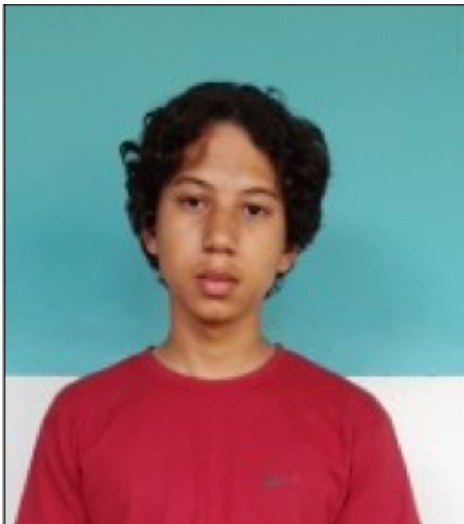
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MAKE A MOTHER'S DAY GIFT DAY APPEAL

The generous giving of people at St Peter's in the past has enabled us to continue the sponsorship of Mary and Richard. We have also been able to make a donation towards the *Child Survival Programme* run by Compassion UK.

To continue our sponsorship for the year ahead, **we are looking to raise a further £768 on 'Make A Mother's Day' in 2024.**

So please consider how you might be able to give generously, and "make a mother's day..."



Richard (15) in Brazil

In June 2016, the children from SPK chose Richard as our second child to sponsor. He lives with his father on the plains of Canhotinho in Brazil, and they speak Portuguese.

Richard is in school year 8. He loves playing football with his friends and also enjoys art, maths and science. His favourite subject is physical education and he tells us that he puts a lot of effort into this subject! (He found studying very difficult through the pandemic and is concerned that he now needs to work particularly hard to improve his other subjects.) Richard's dad has been vaccinated against Covid for which Richard gives great thanks to God. He used the birthday money we sent him recently to buy a pair of trainers - he was really delighted with them! Richard prays for us, and asks us to pray for his family too.

Our ongoing sponsorship has enabled the Project staff to provide Richard with food supplies, health and dental treatment, art and sport opportunities, health education and Christian teaching. They have continued to support Richard throughout the pandemic



Mary (16) in the Philippines

We started sponsoring Mary in 2015 when she was 7. She lives in Poblacion, a coastal community in the Philippines, with her Mum, Dad and two older sisters. Mary's father is a fisherman and her mother works in a variety of roles.

Mary is currently in school year 9, and her favourite subject is history. Her hobbies include drawing and group games.

Mary's letters to us are humbling to read; she is always overflowing with thankfulness to the Lord for all his blessings. Her handwriting is beautiful, and although English is not her first language she often includes a few English sentences often starting with the greeting "God is good all the time!" Mary and her family pray for us, and she asks us to keep them in our prayers too.

Since the outbreak of the pandemic, Mary's community has faced severe difficulties. Our sponsorship has enabled the Project staff to continue to provide help and support (including nutritious food, medication, education and Bible teaching) throughout the pandemic.

How can I give?

ONLINE. An online bank transfer is easiest for us to administer. Please transfer to the account of the St Peter's PCC at Santander Bank (sort code 09-01-54; account 36051087), using the reference *Compassion* so we can direct your gift appropriately.

CHEQUE. A cheque can be given in on the day of the Appeal, or handed to the Treasurer (today, or in the next few days), payable to *St Peter's PCC*. Please identify the cheque as for the *Compassion Gift Day Appeal* so that we can direct your gift appropriately.

CASH. Cash can be placed in the collection box today (or next Sunday) and will be included in the *Make a Mother's Day* collection.