
THE CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday 7th September

9:30am Musicians' Rehearsal (*church*)
10:00am Team Prayer Meeting (*church*)
10:15am SPK Registration (*hall*)
10:30am Communion Service (*church*)
7:00pm Ignite (*hall*)

Monday 8th September

7:30pm PCC meeting (*hall*)

Tuesday 9th September

7:45pm Drury Road Group
8:00pm Jericho Road Group

Wednesday 10th September

10:15am Coffee & Chat (*mercury theatre café*)
11:00am Communion Service (*freda gunton lodge*)
1:45pm Cranmere Court Group

Thursday 11th September

10:00am Tiny Tots (*hall*)

Friday 12th September

10am-4pm church open for Heritage Open Days

Saturday 13th September

10am-4pm church open for Heritage Open Days
12:30pm 'Ride & Stride' groups meet (*details inside*)

Sunday 14th September

9:00am Team Prayer Meeting (*church*)
9:15am SPK Registration (*hall*)
9:30am Communion Service (*church*)
11am-4pm church open for Heritage Open Days

NAMES & CONTACT DETAILS

Mark Wallace – Vicar of St Peter's

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Trevor Froude – Churchwarden

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John Hartwell – Churchwarden

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Lizzie Wallace – Church Administrator

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Ed Bradley – PCC Treasurer

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Clare Reid – Parish Safeguarding Officer

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St Peter's Update

Sunday 7th September 2025

A NOTE FROM THE VICAR

Dear Friends,

Each of us is on a journey of faith.

For some, it's a time to explore – to ask questions and discover more about Jesus. For others, they're wanting to engage more deeply in their relationship with Jesus and with the life of the church. And some may now feel the need to be equipped for new ways of serving and helping others.

Exploring. Engaging. Equipping.

Which of those best describes you at the moment?

As we start a new term, there will be opportunities for people at every stage. For those wanting to explore, look out for *Christianity Explored* on Thursday evenings. For those wanting to engage, do ask about our various Small Groups starting up again. And for those wanting to be equipped for whatever God might have in store for them next, do come and talk to me about the new training options we will soon be offering...

With best wishes,

Mark

'RIDE & STRIDE' - Saturday 13th September, 12:30pm

This annual fundraising event raises money for grants to places of worship across the country. Half of the money raised comes directly to St Peter's; half goes into the fund from which grants are made (so we could benefit twice!). Sponsorship forms are available at the back of church, or via www.friendsofsexchurches.org.uk/ride-stride.

- The **'riding' (ie. cycling) group** are meeting at Myland Parish Church on Mile End Road, at 12:30pm
- The **'striding' (ie. walking) group** are meeting at the Band Stand in Upper Castle Park, at 12:30pm
- The **'ride & stride' group for those with limited mobility** starts at 12:30pm, by arrangement with Lizzie (07947 136 048)

All three groups will finish in St Peter's church at around 3pm, with tea and cake!

ARRANGEMENTS FOR SUNDAY 14th SEPTEMBER - visit of Bishop Rob Munro

Please remember that on Sunday 14th September, our Morning Service will start at **the earlier time of 9:30am**. This is to enable us to avoid most of the disruption being caused later in the day by the Soapbox Rally on North Hill...

We look forward to welcoming Bishop Rob Munro, the Bishop of Ebbsfleet, at this service. Bishop Rob will be preaching from Psalm 1, and commissioning Anne Kavanagh as our new volunteer Pastoral Assistant. We also hope, after the service, to be able to engage with the crowds gathering outside on North Hill - so do please stick around to help us offer coffees etc!

We understand that most bus services will be disrupted on the morning of 14th September. If anyone is unable to get to St Peter's for 9:30am by bus that morning, please let the Office know (07947 136 048); we will try to arrange lifts for you. Meanwhile, parking will (we believe) be available in the following locations:

- **St Mary's** multi-storey car park on Balmerne Hill, a 5-7 minute walk on the flat (postcode: CO3 3AA)
- the cheapest option is probably the **Britannia** car park, at £1.60 for the day, a 10-12 minute walk (postcode: CO2 7EF)
- **St John's** multi-storey car park on St John's Street is a 5-7 minute walk with a slight incline (postcode: CO2 7AL)

Please note: We expect the parking in Balmerne Close, including at the Vicarage, to be inaccessible all day on 14th September.

BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY - Sunday 21st September, 10:30am

Back to Church Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to extend a simple invitation: "Would you like to come to church with me?" Many people are just waiting for someone to ask, and a personal welcome can make all the difference. Why not take a moment to think of a neighbour, friend, or family member you could invite? You might be surprised how grateful they are to be asked.

NEWS, NOTICES & REMINDERS...

- The sheet of Prayer Pointers for September is now available at the back of church, with suggestions for how to pray.
 - Ignite, our youth group for those in School Year 10 and above, restarts on Sunday 7th September, at 7pm, in the Hall.
 - The early morning 9:00am BCP Communion Services will restart on Sunday 21st September.
 - On Sunday 28th September, our Harvest Festival collection will again support Beacon House, a local Christian charity offering vital care and support to people experiencing homelessness in Colchester. Please give generously! This year, Beacon House have particular need of: tinned tomatoes, tinned vegetables, cooking sauces, gravy, sugar, tinned tuna, crisps, squash, mayonnaise, brown sauce, coffee, herbs & spices, salt, pepper, cooking oil, and washing-up liquid.
 - Please note that we do not take up a collection during the service. If you would like to make a donation to support the work of the church, you can do so via the card reader (or, for cash, the wooden box) at the back of church.
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HERITAGE OPEN DAYS AT ST PETER'S - on 12th, 13th, 14th September & 19th, 20th, 21st September

This national initiative is an opportunity to welcome visitors to St Peter's who are interested in the heritage and history of the building. **Might you be able to help as a Volunteer Steward** at any stage over either weekend? [NB. You won't need to know anything about the history or heritage of the building; booklets are available!] Please complete the online form via the QR code (or contact Lizzie directly on 07947 136 048).

