
THE CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday 12th October

9:00am BCP Communion (*church*)
10:00am Team Prayer Meeting (*church*)
10:15am SPK Registration (*hall*)
10:30am Morning Service (*church*)

Tuesday 14th October

11:00am Memorial Service for Denise (*church*)
7:45pm Drury Road Group

Wednesday 15th October

7:30pm Standing Committee Meeting

Thursday 16th October

10:00am Tiny Tots (*hall*)
7:30pm Christianity Explored (*vicarage*)

Sunday 19th October

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*)

The full church calendar is available on the website via
<https://stpeterscolchester.org/whats-on/>

NAMES & CONTACT DETAILS

Mark Wallace - Vicar of St Peter's

[day off this week: Saturday]

07772 615378 | mark.wallace@stpeterscolchester.org

Lizzie Wallace - Church Administrator

[Monday-Thursday, 8:30am-4:30pm; Friday, 8:30am-12:30pm]

07947 136 048 | lizzie.wallace@stpeterscolchester.org

Trevor Froude - Churchwarden

07496 413 993 | t.froude@gmail.com

John Hartwell - Churchwarden

07740 634 227 | hartwell491@icloud.com

Ed Bradley - PCC Treasurer

07828 414 450 | stpeterscol.treasurer@yahoo.co.uk

Clare Reid - Parish Safeguarding Officer

07946 071 246 | safeguarding@stpeterscolchester.org

Amanda Knight - Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser

01245 294 457 | aknight@chelmsford.anglican.org



St Peter's Update

Sunday 12th October 2025

A NOTE FROM THE VICAR

Dear Friends,

As a church family, we're so thankful for the generosity of those who give regularly to support the life and ministry of our church. Your giving makes a real difference – helping us serve our community, care for one another, and share the good news of Jesus.

We are sharing in this week's *Update* more details about our finances and how you can get involved. If you're a member of our church family, please take some time to think and pray about your own planned giving. Might this be a moment to step up and help out?

Meanwhile, we do again want to thank all those who already give so faithfully and so sacrificially – your generosity sustains our shared ministry.

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

AN UPDATE ON CHURCH FINANCES FOR 2026

The PCC will be reviewing the proposed budget for 2026 at its meeting on Monday 10th November. As things stand, we are expecting that:

- our 2026 **budgeted income will be around £112,000**. Just over half of this comes from planned, regular giving (usually by standing order), and a little over a quarter comes from other donations and Gift Aid recovery. A smaller amount is also expected to come in from hiring out the hall and the church building.
- our 2026 **budgeted expenditure will be around £121,000**. Most of this goes towards our parish share contribution to the diocese, our staff costs, children's work, utilities and insurance, and repairs and maintenance. This total is slightly lower than our projected 2025 spending, but still represents an increase of about 20% since 2024.
- our **expected deficit for 2026 will be around £9,000**. This is, of course, a cause for prayerful concern. While the PCC can always look at reducing costs, our approach in recent years has been to trust that God will provide what is needed for the ministry to continue.

At St Peter's, we don't take up a collection during the service (though there is both a card reader and a collection box available at the back of church for those who'd like to make a donation on Sundays). We do, however, want to encourage everyone who considers themselves part of our church family to **think and pray about how you might give regularly** to support the ongoing mission and ministry of the church.

If you haven't yet established a pattern of regular giving, there are three simple ways to do so:

- set up a Standing Order online, directed to "St Peters PCC", Santander, sort code 09-01-54, account 36051087;
- complete a paper Standing Order form, available at the back of church or [online](#), and submit it to your bank;
- give via *MyChurchsuite* by going to the *MyGiving* section, clicking "add a donation", and entering the details.

Wherever possible, **please consider using Gift Aid**, which increases the value of your gift at no extra cost to you. For further information on this, or anything to do with the church finances, please contact the Office or the Treasurer (contact details overleaf).

Regular giving in any of these ways helps the church plan and steward resources wisely, and allows all of us to join together in the work that God is doing through St Peter's.

NEWS, NOTICES & REMINDERS...

- *Christianity Explored* continues this Thursday (16th Oct), at 7:30pm. For further details, please contact 07947 136 048.
- Our Church Prayer Meetings continue on Monday 20th October: the 'in-person' meeting at 12 noon will be in church, while the evening 'online' meeting is via Zoom at 8pm (the log-in will be advertised on the Church WhatsApp group).
- Small Groups are a wonderful way to get to know others, grow in faith, and make our large church feel like family. Everyone is welcome! If you'd like to find out more or join a Small Group, please get in touch with the Vicar or our Church Administrator (see back page for contact details).
- The Church Library is open at the back of church (north side). Do please take a look, and see if you would like to borrow something – all free of charge...
- If English is not your first language, the free Microsoft Translator app can provide live translation of the sermon and the spoken parts of the service. It is simple, uses little data, and works best if you sit near the front to hear the speaker clearly.
- Drinking water is available at the back of church, from the machine beside the font.
- We aim to livestream our Morning Service via YouTube: please connect via the link in the Church WhatsApp group, that will be posted just before the beginning of the service.
- The next 'Coffee and Chat' will be on Wednesday 5th November, at 10:15am, at the Mercury Theatre Café.

THE 2025 SHOEBOX APPEAL

This year we are once again supporting the Shoebox Appeal, bringing joy to children around the world who might otherwise receive nothing at Christmas. By filling a shoebox with simple gifts – such as toys, school supplies, toiletries and sweets – you can help show God's love in a practical and personal way. Each box is a small act of kindness that makes a big difference. Empty shoeboxes and leaflets with packing instructions will soon be available at the back of church. Please return your completed boxes by Sunday 9th November so we can send them on in good time. Thank you for taking part!