

St Peter's Church is part of the Team Parish of Ipsley which consists of St Peter's Ipsley, St John's Greenlands and Christ Church Matchborough.

CONTACTS

- **Rector:** Canon Garth Nathaniel
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Rectory: 522847
- **Parish Wardens:** Andrea Mortimer 524179
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- **Church Wardens:** Judy Evans 404522
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- **Pastoral Care:** The Rector 522847; 07949490265
- **Children's Clubs:** Church Office
- **Home Visits:** Church Office
- **St Peter's Pantry:** Jacqui 404287
- **Bell Ringing:** Rosie Humphrey 526153

Notices for "The Catch" to the office

PASTORAL CARE IN ST PETER'S:

We have a very supportive Pastoral Care team. If you have any concerns, need prayer or someone to talk to or who can help you in a practical way please contact the Rector, Canon Garth Nathaniel, either by leaving a phone message on the office phone or directly via the Rectory.

HOUSE GROUPS

Tues pm: Linda Nicholas 451635
Tues eve: John Butler 520051
Wed eve: Judy Evans 404522
For further information please contact the group leader.



Children's Activities @ St Peter's

Godly play 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month at

St. Peters@9:45

Weekday Clubs:

Scramblers for 0-5 years on Mondays
in term time.

Cool Zone

for 7-11 years—6:30 pm

Christ Church Matchborough

Youth Club 7:30 -9:30 at Christ Church



The Catch

Weekly News sheet for St Peter's Church, in the Parish of Ipsley



Advent 1

WELCOME TO ST PETER'S

1st December 2019

Collect for the week

Almighty God,
give us grace to cast away the works of darkness
and to put on the armour of light,
now in the time of this mortal life,
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility;
that on the last day,
when he shall come in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead,
we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God,
now and for ever.

Amen

Today's Services

9:45 am Advent—Hope
11:15 am Holy Communion
4:00 pm Dougie Dug Dug @ Christ Church
6:30 pm Informal Meditation

Diary For The Week

9:00 am	Morning Prayers	Mon 2
9:45 am	Scramblers	
2:00 pm	Craft Group	
9:00 am	Morning Prayers	Tue 3
9:00 am	Midweek Communion	Wed 4
		Thurs 5
9:00 am	Morning Prayer	Fri 6
		Sat 7
9:45 am	Advent—Love	Sun 8
11:15 am	Morning Worship	
4:00 pm	Families@4 Christingle	
6:30 pm	Communion with Anointing	

PREACHING THEMES FOR TODAY

9:45 am Away in a Manger: Isaiah

11:15 am Advent means Hope

Isaiah 2:1-5;
Romans 13:11-14;
Matthew 24:36-44

6.30 pm Informal Meditation

Rector's Reflection

Today is Advent Sunday and it marks the beginning of the Season of Advent, the first season in the church's liturgical calendar. Advent is a time of preparation, thinking about the return of Jesus. But instead of this quiet period of preparation Advent has become a vast wheel of Christmas related frenzied activity. Nativity plays, shopping, festive food, Christmas meals and parties begin as early as November.

This year, can I invite you to make a deliberate decision to move away from the hustle-bustle consumerism that now marks this season, into the peaceful, joyful anticipation given to us in the traditional Advent when we listen to the Biblical story of the Coming King just as we will celebrate His birth among us on Christmas.

In the public space the world only thinks of Christmas, but let us reclaim the season of Advent in our homes with our children and our grandchildren. This year can I encourage us to observe the season of Advent with both celebration and meditation on the second coming of Jesus. Whatever you seek to do let it be unified by the underlying theme of celebrating the coming of Our Lord.

Celebrating Advent in the home does not need to be a large production but suitable to the home and family. Celebrate small! Let us give ourselves permission to move away from the "Christmas crazies," to celebrate in a fuller, richer, more meaningful, manner. I'd encourage you to make your Advent observation more purposeful while not becoming overwhelmed with a to-do list. Simply lighting an advent candle with a prayer, maybe a brief Bible reading, have an Advent Calendar that has the Christmas story not chocolates. Celebrate the hope we have that Jesus is coming soon. How can we prepare our families for Jesus return? By sharing and learning with them through the season of Advent the promise of God's Word.

Canon Garth Nathaniel

Christingle Service: This year's Christingle Service is on Sunday 8th December at the Families@4 "Follow the Star" service.

Churches Together Carols: 11am, Saturday 21st December in the Kingfisher Centre with a joint CTiR choir. If you want to join in as part of the choir, rehearsals are at Redditch AOG on Elm road on Tuesday 17th and/or Thursday 19th December, 7pm-8pm. Volunteers to play keyboard on the 21st are also needed. For either of these, contact Elaine Palmer-Taylor (AOG Minister) at elaine.redditchaog@gmail.com, or Heather Berry who will pass your details on.

Election Hustings: 7pm Tuesday 3rd December at Redditch Baptist Church.

Please wrap up warmly and join us carol singing and handing out invitations to Christmas services. Saturday 21st December, 10:30am in the Morrisons foyer and 5:30pm in Winyates Centre.



"ALWAYS KEEP ON PRAYING" for:

Juan Carlos and Penny Marces in Peru: For more men to join the church and for the various courses they plan to hold.

Those who are sick: Graham Twist, Betty Wood, Tia, Kate Bainbridge, Chris Tilley, Andrew Johnson, Alex Street, Peter Barcham, Joanne Heaselgrave, Erica Dilger, Michael Hawkins, Mark Brunner, Glynis Horton, Linda Grummet, Janet Tegg, Steve Thomas, Jane Gray and Kenny Morgan.

Those who have died: For Betty Wood on the death of her son Norman Wood.

Our Nation: Pray for our government at this critical time. For our local councillor Juliet Brunner, and for the general election taking place this month.

Parish Prayers: Jackfield Close, Matchborough; Nine Days Lane Close, Wirehill; Woodrow Centre; Stapleton Close, Winyates

CPAS: Pray for the Big Christmas Challenge 2019 as CPAS raise money for charities across the UK. Praise God for the generosity of those who have agreed to match donations and pray that there will be a great response to this year's appeal

World: Pray for all those who suffer. That we may seek God's guidance and discernment to the various ways of how we can help.

Chaplaincies: Chaplains and volunteers in retail and industrial chaplaincy in Redditch, prison chaplaincy, and hospital chaplaincy. Padres to the Air, Army and Sea Cadets.

Churches Together: Pray for the various Christmas outreach events taking place across Redditch. For the Redditch Community Gospel Choir and the Joint CTiR Choir as they both perform in the Kingfisher Centre, as well as for St. Stephen's Christmas Tree Festival.

"Happily Ever After" pantomime by Duggie Dug Dug will be at Christ Church at 4pm on Sunday 1st December. Tickets will be available on the door. Adults £4, Family of 4 £10, Concessions £3

Blue Christmas: 4pm, Wednesday 18th December. A quiet Christmas service, especially for those living with loss at this time of the year.

Thank you to everyone who filled a shoebox for Operation Christmas Child. 14 boxes were taken to the pickup point and will make some children very happy!

There will be a Traidcraft Stall after the 9:45 service on 8th December for your last minute Christmas shopping (unless a grandchild chooses that day to arrive!)