

**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  
Email: g.nathaniel@btinternet.com  
Rectory: 522847
- **Parish Wardens:** Andrea Mortimer 524179  
Judy Evans 404522
- **Church Wardens:** Judy Evans 404522  
Linda Nicholas 451635
- **Treasurer:** Pam Butler 520051
- **Church Office:** Martin Handy 516351  
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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 3

WELCOME TO ST PETER'S

15th December 2019

### Collect for the week

O Lord, Jesus Christ,  
who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you:  
grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight;  
for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen

### Today's Services

9:45 am Advent—Peace  
11:15 am Holy Communion  
6:30 pm Evening Worship

### Diary For The Week

9:00 am	Morning Prayers	<b>Mon</b> <b>16</b>
9:45 am	Scramblers	
2:00 pm	Craft Group	
9:00 am	Morning Prayers	<b>Tue</b> <b>17</b>
12:00 am	Communion	
12:30 am	<b>St. Peter's Pantry</b>	
9:00 am	Midweek Communion	<b>Wed</b> <b>18</b>
4:00 pm	Blue Christmas	
		<b>Thurs</b> <b>19</b>
9:00 am	Morning Prayer	<b>Fri</b> <b>20</b>
7:00 pm	Bell Ringing	
		<b>Sat</b> <b>21</b>
9:45 am	Advent—Joy	<b>Sun</b> <b>22</b>
11:15 am	Christmas Praise	
6.30 pm	9 Lessons and Carols	

### PREACHING THEMES FOR TODAY

**9:45 am** Away in a Manger: Shepherds

**11:15 am** Advent means Preparation

Isaiah 35:1-10;  
James 5:7-10;  
Matthew 11:2-11

**6.30 pm** Evening Worship

Isaiah 5:8-30;  
Acts 13:13-41

## Rector's Reflection

All of Scripture is a sacred love story, the love of God the Father for His people. It is a story filled with expectation, longing and fulfilment.

From the beginning God has lovingly walked with us, called to us, searched for us even when we turned from Him over and over again. Throughout the Old Testament God repeatedly calls his people back to himself and time and again we remain unfaithful. He sends the prophets to call His people back and with the call to return comes a promise: a promise of hope, a promise of redemption, a promise of restoration, a promise to be made again into the people we were meant to be - a people fully alive in God.

These saving acts of God will be accomplished through a Saviour who will come to rescue us and bring us back into fellowship with God. No longer will we strive with God. No longer will we be separated from Him. No longer will we turn from Him because through His Saviour, His Messiah, His Anointed one. He will give us new hearts and set us free.

This event is so spectacular, so exceptional and so important that time itself starts here. The first day of the Church year is the first Sunday of Advent. Advent comes from the Latin "Adventus" and simply means "coming." The Season of Advent begins four Sundays before Christmas and it is a time for us to prepare not only for the celebration of the coming of Christ as a babe on Christmas Day, but also for the Second Coming of Christ when He will return in triumph to judge the world.

In her book *Around the Year with the [Von] Trapp Family*, Maria Von Trapp says that the "whole of Advent is characterized by the boundless desire for the coming of Christ expressed in the liturgy" of the Church. And so we cry out with the Church and with all our hearts: "Maranatha! Come, Lord Jesus!"

*Revd Canon Garth Nathaniel*

**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](mailto:elaine.redditchaog@gmail.com), or Heather Berry who will pass your details on.

**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.

**Parish Giving Scheme:** If you have received confirmation that the start date for your Direct Debit will be January you may need to do one of the following:

1. Cancel your standing order once the payment for December has been made.
2. Stop using the weekly envelopes when you have used the last one dated for December.



### **"ALWAYS KEEP ON PRAYING" for:**

**Juan Carlos and Penny Marces in Peru:** For their work with couples and with children and families.

**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, Iyra Dutton.

**Our Nation:** Pray for our government at this critical time. For our local councillor Juliet Brunner, and for our MP Rachel Maclean.

**Parish Prayers:** Haseley Close, Matchborough; Far Moor Lane, Winyates Green; Fladbury Close, Woodrow; Costers Lane, Winyates

**CPAS:** Pray for the CPAS leadership team as they go on a retreat to seek God's will and blessing for their future work. Pray also for those starting the Arrow Leadership Programme in the coming months.

**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 that Radiate Redditch will be able to build good relationships with those in the area that need their support. Pray that people in need will find their way to the Hub will find it and that they will encounter the love of Jesus through it.

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

**Please consider sending Christmas greetings to church friends by hanging a message on the tree in the Huband Room,** and donating the money you would have spent on cards to Tearfund. There are gift tags for your message and a collection box for donations by the tree.

**Christmas Service Flyers** are now available if you would like to take some to distribute in your street.

**St. Peter's Pantry is on TUESDAY this week.** The school's children's choir will be coming to sing. Communion at 12 noon.