

CHRISTMAS AT ST PETER'S



St Peter's Church
East Blatchington, Seaford

SUNDAY 22 DECEMBER
Carols by Candlelight 6pm

15 December 2024
Third Sunday of Advent

CHRISTMAS EVE
Crib Service 4pm
Midnight Mass 11.30pm

CHRISTMAS DAY
Holy Communion 8am
Sung Eucharist 10am

SERVICES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday	5.30pm – Parish Eucharist (said)
Sunday	8am – BCP Holy Communion
	10am – Parish Eucharist - <i>also livestreamed</i> Hymns: 34 26 534 (Sheet & 384) 165
	4pm – Evening Prayer
Tue., Thur., Fri. & Sat.	9.30am – Morning Prayer <i>Also on 'Facebook Live'</i>
Wednesday	10.30am – Midweek Eucharist
Mon., Wed. & Fri.	8pm – Compline on 'Facebook Live'. <i>Please ask if you would like a copy of the service.</i>
The Bible Group meets in the Chapel Upper Room (Church Hall) on Mondays at 2pm. All are welcome!	
'Breathing Space': Mondays, 6pm. Half an hour of silence for prayer and contemplation, also available on <i>Zoom</i> (link available from our website). <i>Meeting ID: 851 6436 0499, passcode: letmein.</i>	
Rosary Group: second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 2pm. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 24 December.	

- **THE ADVENT COURSE** continues on Monday within the Bible Group – 2pm in the Chapel Upper Room.
- **THERE WILL BE NO COFFEE** served after the 10am service on 15 December as the Bond Dance School, who are regular users of our hall, have exams booked at that time.
- **MESSY CHURCH** A BIG 'Thank you' to all who helped to make our Messy Church afternoon such a happy event last Sunday!

We pray ...

- for George Rix, Linda Stratford and the serving and sacristy teams, and for all who steward, clean, help maintain the church and Chapel Rooms and keep the churchyard and grounds tidy;
- for the innocent men, women and children who are trapped in war situations that others have created: may this season of Advent carry a message of hope that peace will conquer violence;
- for the people we take for granted, for those who are near us all the time: may God bless them with peace and happiness;
- for Syria: for unity among leaders, for peace, reconciliation and a break to the cycle of violence and vengeance and for the protection of innocent civilians; ask that the church remains a beacon of hope, love and sanctuary and its leaders have wisdom and compassion;
- for all those who are suffering from illness, pain and grief – and by name for Linda Ballard, Angela Chalkley, Carole Clarke, Jeff Clarke, Stephen Dempster, Dorothy Jones, Debbie Kendall, Shirley Linsell, John Martin, Brian Mayell, Sarah McStravick, Noellie Monfort, Shirley Pain, Ann Reed, Ann Rix, Valerie Skues, Albert, Barbara, Lynne, Lora, Ralph and Sharon, those listed in 'Cross Keys' and all who have asked for our prayers;
- for the recently departed:
- for those whose year's minds fall this week:
18: Frank Bastow; 19: Robert (Bob) West;
21: William Hangerman, Paterson Saunders.

OFFERTORY If you feel moved to donate at the end of the service, there is a collection plate and a contactless card machine at the back of church.

If you would like to make a bank transfer our details are:

Account name: East Blatchington PCC

Sort code: 09-01-51 **Account no:** 87169403

Benefice Administrator: Natasha Tansley

officeebb.benefice@gmail.com

☎ 01323 899054

Pastoral Care Co-ordinator: Kay Blackburn

kayblackburn@hotmail.com

☎ 01323 870902

Safeguarding Officer: Zena Maher

safeguardingsaintpeters@gmail.com

☎ 07739 984449

Bulletin items by noon on Thursday please, earlier is good!

bulletinstpeters2015@gmail.com

☎ 01323 891921

www.ebbchurches.org.uk

www.facebook.com/StPetersEB

Rector: Vacancy

Churchwarden: Anne Collison

☎ 07774 003878 annexplore@btinternet.com

Associate Vicar: Revd Elizabeth Jinks

☎ 07902 715423 associatevicarebb@gmail.com

COLLECT

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.

FIRST READING Zephaniah 3:14-end

A reading from the book of the prophet Zephaniah.

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The LORD has taken away the judgements against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the LORD.

CANTICLE OR PSALM

Either **Psalm 146:4-end**



R *The Lord shall reign for ever.*

Happy are those who have the God of Jacob for their help,
 whose hope is in the Lord their God;
 Who made heaven and earth,
 the sea and all that is in them;
 who keeps his promise for ever;
 Who gives justice to those that suffer wrong
 and bread to those who hunger. **R**

The Lord looses those that are bound;
 the Lord opens the eyes of the blind;
 The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;
 the Lord loves the righteous; **R**

The Lord watches over the stranger in the land;
 he upholds the orphan and widow;
 but the way of the wicked he turns upside down.

The Lord shall reign for ever,
 your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Alleluia. **R**

Or **Isaiah 12:2-end**

SECOND READING

Philippians 4:4-7

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

GOSPEL Luke 3:7-18

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptised by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy

of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax-collectors came to be baptised, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages." As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptise you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

POST COMMUNION

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts;
 kindle in us the fire of your Spirit
 that when your Christ comes again
 we may shine as lights before his face;
 who is alive and reigns now and for ever.



The Lord shall reign for ever.