

St. Peter's Church, Hersham

23 August 2026
12th Sunday after Trinity



**A very warm welcome
to St. Peter's Church**

Readings

Old Testament:	Exodus 1.8-2.10	OT 50
New Testament:	Romans 12.1-8	NT 157
Gospel:	Matthew 16.13-20	NT 17

8 am Holy Communion

9 am 9am Praise in church. A fun, interactive service for young families followed by refreshments.

10.30 am Parish Communion

8 pm Forest Church: Bats! Looking at the theme of God's creatures we are pleased to welcome visitors who will help us to identify the bats in our churchyard. This service is suitable for all ages and as it is during the school holidays we hope that some of our younger members will be able to join us. Please note the ground is uneven, so wear sensible footwear.



GLUTEN FREE WAFERS: If you require a gluten free wafer for communion please let the sides people know when you arrive and inform the priest when you get to the altar rail.

THIS WEEK: Jackie on leave Monday to Wednesday inclusive

Mon 24		
Tue 25	7.45 pm	Bell ringers' practice. Anyone interested in learning to ring, please contact David Mealor on mealors@btinternet.com
Wed 26	10 am 10 am	Community Café in church (see notices) Walton and Hersham Foodbank in church.
Thurs 27	10 am 2 pm 7.45 pm	Tots' Praise for 0-4 year olds and their carers will meet fortnightly in the holidays for songs, stories, instruments and refreshments. St. Peter's Church Hall St. Peter's Fellowship invite you to the Women's Institute Hall, 4 Burhill Road, Hersham for friendship and refreshments. Full Fellowship (Speakers/Presentations etc.) takes a break for the summer and resumes on 3 September. Summer workshop rehearsal
Fri 28	•	Vicar's day off / Parish Office closed

NEXT SUNDAY: 30 AUGUST

13th Sunday after Trinity

8 am Holy Communion
 9 am 9am Praise in church (see page 1)
 10.30 am A special 5th Sunday non communion service on Vauxmead (field opposite the church). If you would like communion today you are welcome to the 8am service.

NOTICES:

PRAYER MINISTRY: In our efforts to become a more prayerful church, if you came along to last Sunday's meeting on prayer or are interested in praying with us for St Peter's, our community and the world please sign-up for the prayer ministry training we are planning. There is a sign-up sheet at the back of church.

NEW CHURCH 'STRAPLINE'

As you may know, we are updating our website and hoping to integrate our social media with our online presence.

One of the things we would love to do is create a more recognisable 'brand' with a strapline which represents what St. Peter's church is, and does.

So the PCC needs your help!

The idea of a strapline is to be catchy, memorable, and to reflect who we are. This doesn't replace our vision and values but it just tries to capture those in a way that can build more recognition.

You'll know Tesco 'every little helps' and John Lewis is 'never knowingly undersold.'

As a church we want to speak about Jesus!
Some ideas from other churches:

Love God | Love People | Make Disciples
Christ-centred | Holy Spirit-led
Putting faith at the heart of the community
Speaking Jesus | Sharing Jesus
Welcoming all in the name of Jesus
Proclaiming Jesus | Serving others | Loving all

If you have any ideas, we would love to consider them.

The easiest way to do this is to email them to:

curate@stpetershersham.com

With the **subject** line "Strapline"

(This makes it easier to organise in an inbox!)

Tristan will collate them and then the PCC can choose which they think best reflects who we are when they meet in September.



ST PETER'S CHURCH COMMUNITY CAFÉ is open to everybody in the local community every Wednesday 10am to 12pm – the same day as the Walton and Hersham Foodbank. Run on a 'pay what you can if you can' basis, the café initially offers basic refreshments in a comfortable environment ... and we have exciting plans for further developments in the future! Why not pay us a visit to enjoy a coffee and cake as well as a friendly chat?

We'd like to offer our heartfelt thanks to everybody who has contributed towards the Community Cafe - thank you so much for helping us to help the community! Special thanks go to:

- Elmbridge Borough Council for providing us with CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) funding towards this exciting project
- Hersham Community Trust for their kindness in providing us with the comfortable chairs and tables for the café
- Waitrose Hersham for their kind contribution towards the initial running costs from the Community Matters green token scheme
- All the lovely volunteers who have, and are continuing to, generously give their time and support to this project.

**CONFIRMATION
PREPARATION COURSE FOR
YOUNG PEOPLE:**



During September and October, we will be holding a 4-session Confirmation Preparation course for young people aged 11+ years, who attend and worship at St Peter's Church. If you are interested and feel ready to make this commitment, then please do speak to Deborah Lock (Licensed Lay Minister), who will lead the course, or Jackie: vicar@stpetershersham.com The preparation sessions will be held on the following Sunday afternoons 4-5pm:

13 September in Women's Institute Hall

20 September in Church Hall

4 October in Women's Institute Hall

25 October in Women's Institute Hall (and pick up from church)

The Confirmation Service will be on Sunday 1 November. Further details to follow.

The young people need to attend each session, so please discuss with Deborah if there are any issues with the dates and do contact Deborah: debslock@yahoo.co.uk if you want to find out further details about the course.



www.surreychurchespreservationtrust.org

SURREY CHURCHES RIDE & STRIDE - SATURDAY

12 SEPTEMBER 2026: The Surrey Churches Preservation Trust (who kindly contributed towards our organ fund) are holding their annual Ride & Stride event on Saturday 12 September. If you fancy dusting off your bike and cycling around some of the churches of Surrey to raise money both for St. Peter's and for the Trust, please see the details at:

<https://www.surreychurchespreservationtrust.org/ride-stride/>



ST. PETER'S CHURCH ECO-CHALLENGE WEEK 3



1 Use less water

Reducing water usage conserves natural resources, reduces energy consumption and limits pollution. Try taking a shorter shower and don't leave taps running when not in use. Collect rainwater in water butts and other containers for gardening.

2 Switch to LED light bulbs

Not only are LED lightbulbs cheaper to run, they are 80% more efficient than traditional bulbs so decrease our carbon footprint.

3 Research Climate Change

Do your own research on how and why we should be doing all we can to reduce our carbon footprint and preserve the planet for future generations.

4 Spend time in nature

"The earth is the Lord's and
everything in it, the world, and all
who live in it" – Psalm 24:1



ST. PETER'S CHURCH ECO-CHALLENGE:

We are half-way through our four week Eco-challenge. As we look to make some more small changes this coming week, please keep in mind continuing the challenges from weeks one and two. Please share the challenge on page 6 and encourage family, friends and neighbours to join in. As part of our ARocha Bronze award, the lifestyle team is encouraging you to take part in a four week Eco-challenge. This is all about raising awareness of creation care and will involve making small changes to our daily habits in the hope that together we can make a real difference.

ST. PETER'S WEBSITE: WWW.STPETERSHERSHAM.COM

A great way to keep yourself (and your family and friends) updated with what's going on at St. Peter's is through our website. It's packed full of useful information so do go online and take a look. There are details of upcoming events, our services, groups and courses, plus previous news sheets should you want to catch up on anything you've missed. It really is a great way to let people know what we have to offer so do share the website address with people you know.

PLANNED GIVING: If you would like to support the work of our church please scan this QR code. If each person who doesn't currently give regularly could commit to give just £20 per month (which is about the cost of a coffee a week), it would make a huge difference. Thank you.





easyfundraising

EASYFUNDRAISING - How you can help the Friends of St Peter's projects without costing you a penny?

You can help fund the Friends mural restoration project through your on-line spending and it is an easy way to raise funds without costing you. Easyfundraising, is the UK's biggest charity shopping site. Easyfundraising partners with over 8,000 brands (e.g. Marks and Spencer, Sainsburys, Tesco, British Airways, Tui, John Lewis, go compare to name a few) who will donate part of what you spend to a cause of your choice. It does not cost you anything, as the cost is covered by the brand. If you would like to help, please go to <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk>. Once you have registered an account, then you are able to select the causes you would like to support – to find us type in Hersham PCC. You should then be all set to go! So before you shop on-line go first to Easyfundraising and find the brand and go from there to the brands website and you can help the Friends' project through your purchases. There is also an app available which you can download from the Apple or Google play stores if that works better for you. Thanks for your support

Pray with us

God of mission, fill us with your Holy Spirit to show and share our faith and love in our community, and help us to grow as a church family. Amen.

