

**ST PETER**  
—  
DE BEAUVOIR TOWN

# A SERVICE OF THE WORD

20 December 2020

**Advent 4**



## Welcome to St Peter's...

St Peter's has been at the heart of De Beauvoir Town since 1841. The congregation today is a lively mix of people of all ages from all parts of the world.

An inclusive church in the liberal catholic tradition, faithful to the Anglican Communion, in the Diocese of London - whatever your experience of church, you are welcome here.

While our *Communion in Community* is restricted by the Covid-19 pandemic **Home Worship** is offered weekly online or by signing up for postal mailing.

**St Peter's Church** is open for **Private Prayer** on **Wednesdays 9-11am** and **Sundays 11am-12.45pm & 3-5pm**.

**St Peter's Community Partnership** has reopened the crypt for restricted community events and activities in line with government guidelines. Please contact the Parish Office with any enquiries.

For restricted funeral, wedding and baptism/christening enquiries, please contact the Vicar *-be aware when planning ceremonies that restrictions can suddenly change!*

With blessings

Julia Porter-Pryce

Vicar

## **Greeting**

Grace, mercy and peace  
from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ  
be with you  
**and also with you.**

## **Prayers of penitence**

When the Lord comes,  
he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and  
will disclose the purposes of the heart.  
Therefore in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

**Lord our God,  
in our sin we have avoided your call.  
Our love for you is like a morning cloud,  
like the dew that goes away early.  
Have mercy on us;  
deliver us from judgement;  
bind up our wounds and revive us;  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen**

The Lord enrich us with his grace,  
and nourish us with his blessing;  
the Lord defend us in trouble and keep us from all evil;  
the Lord accept our prayers,  
and absolve us from our offences,  
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Saviour. **Amen.**

## Collect

Eternal God,  
as Mary waited for the birth of your Son,  
so we wait for his coming in glory;  
bring us through the birth pangs of this present age  
to see, with her, our great salvation  
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## Lighting the Advent Candle

People of God: prepare!  
God, above all, maker of all,  
is one with us in Christ.

Maranatha!

**Come, Lord Jesus!**

God, the mighty God,  
bends down in love to earth.

Maranatha!

**Come, Lord Jesus!**

God with us, God beside us,  
comes soon to the world he has made.

Maranatha!

**Come, Lord Jesus!**

We are God's children,  
we seek the coming Christ.

Maranatha!

**Come, Lord Jesus!**

## Readings

### Luke 1.26-38 read by Kate Green

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.' Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

### Luke 1.46-55 read by Beniece Oddoye

And Mary said,  
'My soul magnifies the Lord,  
and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,  
for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his

servant.

Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;  
for the Mighty One has done great things for me,  
and holy is his name.

His mercy is for those who fear him  
from generation to generation.

He has shown strength with his arm;  
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their  
hearts.

He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,  
and lifted up the lowly;

he has filled the hungry with good things,  
and sent the rich away empty.

He has helped his servant Israel,  
in remembrance of his mercy,  
according to the promise he made to our ancestors,  
to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.'

*Hymn to be played while words are read silently/ the tune  
is hummed*

Come, thou long expected Jesus,  
born to set thy people free;  
from our fears and sins release us,  
let us find our rest in thee.

Israel's strength and consolation,  
hope of all the earth thou art;  
dear desire of every nation,  
joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver,  
born a child and yet a King,

born to reign in us forever,  
now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal spirit  
rule in all our hearts alone;  
by thine all sufficient merit,  
raise us to thy glorious throne.

*Sermon to be posted online*

**Prayers for the church and for the world** *by Margaret Glover*

*Each petition is followed by...*

Lord, meet us in the silence  
**and hear our prayer.**

We join our prayers of celebration and supplication as one  
and ask, Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake  
of your son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

Uniting our prayers with the whole company of heaven, let  
us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.  
Amen.**

*Solo The Angel Gabriel from heave'n came* sung by David Millington, tenor

## **Thanksgiving**

Let us give thanks and praise for all God's gifts

*Silence is kept*

For birth and life and strength of body,  
for safety and shelter and food,  
we give you thanks:

**we praise your holy name.**

For sight and hearing and the beauty of nature,  
for words and music and the power of thought,  
we give you thanks:

**we praise your holy name.**

For work and leisure and the joy of achieving,  
for conscience and will and depth of feeling,  
we give you thanks:

**we praise your holy name.**

For grace and truth in Jesus Christ,  
for the gifts of the Spirit and the hope of heaven,  
we give you thanks:

**we praise your holy name.**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

## **The Peace**

**In the tender mercy of our God,  
the dayspring from on high shall break upon us,  
to give light to those who dwell in darkness  
and in the shadow of death,  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

**The peace of the Lord be always with you  
and also with you.**

## **Closing Prayers**

**With love and compassion,  
come, Lord Jesus.  
With judgement and mercy,  
come, Lord Jesus.  
In power and glory,  
come, Lord Jesus.  
In wisdom and truth,  
come, Lord Jesus.**

**May God the Father, judge all-merciful,  
make us worthy of a place in his kingdom.  
Amen.**

May God the Son, coming among us in power,  
reveal in our midst the promise of his glory.  
**Amen.**

May God the Holy Spirit make us steadfast in faith,  
joyful in hope and constant in love.  
**Amen**

As we await our coming Saviour,  
go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

# ADVENT-CHRISTMAS 2020

## CHRISTMAS SERVICE OF THE WORD

Thursday 24 December 11pm

Friday 25 December 10am

Sunday 27 December 10am

## FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

*with Holy Communion*

Sunday 3 January 10am

Space for Public Worship is sadly limited

Connect to Home Worship online

or by post *on request*

## OPEN CHURCH

Throughout the Advent-Christmas season, St Peter's will be open for private prayer, family visits, take-away Christmas crafts & candle-lighting for loved ones separated by distance/death

**Wednesdays 2,9,16,23,30 December 9-11am**

**Sundays 6,13,20,27 December 3-5pm**

**Thursday 24 December 3-5pm**

**Saturday 26 December 3-5pm**

**Thursday 31 December 3-5pm**

**Friday 1 January 3-5pm**

