

ST PETER

DE BEAUVOIR TOWN

A SERVICE OF THE WORD

27 December 2020

CHRISTMAS 1



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**. *Please check the Christmas Programme for additional hours over the Christmas and New Year holidays.*

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

Gathering *while music is played*

Greeting

We meet to celebrate the coming of Christ into the world.

The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us
and we beheld his glory.

Prayers of penitence

As we kneel with the shepherds before the newborn
Christ child,
we open our hearts in penitence and faith.

Silence is kept

Christ came in humility to share our lives:
forgive our pride.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Christ came with good news for all people:
forgive our silence.
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Christ came in love to a world of suffering:
forgive our self-centredness.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

May the God of all healing and forgiveness
draw *us* to himself
and cleanse *us* from all *our* sins,
that we may behold the glory of his Son,
the Word made flesh,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Collect

God in Trinity,
eternal unity of perfect love:
gather the nations to be one family,
and draw us into your holy life
through the birth of Emmanuel,
our Lord Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Readings

Isaiah 61.10-62.3

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring
up,

so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,
and her salvation like a burning torch.
The nations shall see your vindication,
and all the kings your glory;
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the LORD will give.
You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Galatians 4.4-7

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!' So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

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

The first Noel the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain:

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star
shining in the east, beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night. [Refrain]

And by the light of that same star
three Wise Men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent,
and to follow the star wherever it went. [Refrain]

This star drew nigh to the northwest,
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest;
and there it did both stop and stay,
right over the place where Jesus lay. [Refrain]

Then entered in those Wise Men three,
full reverently upon the knee,
and offered there, in his presence,
their gold and myrrh and frankincense. [Refrain]

The Gospel *all stand*

Luke 2.15-21

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and

all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

Sermon to be posted online

Prayers for the church and the world - *all sit or kneel*

Christ, for whom there was no room in the inn,
give courage to all who are homeless;
in your mercy
hear our prayer.

Christ, who fled into Egypt,
give comfort to all refugees;
in your mercy
hear our prayer.

Christ, who fasted in the desert,
give relief to all who are starving;
in your mercy
hear our prayer.

Christ, who hung in agony on the cross,
give strength to all who suffer;
in your mercy
hear our prayer.

Lord of the Church
hear our prayer,
and make us one in heart and mind
to serve you with joy for ever. 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.

Instrumental S.McMahon arr. *Coventry*
Carol/Greensleeves & J.S. Bach *Allemande* from Suite
for Cello no. 1 in G major *played by Sarah McMahon,*
cello

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

Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth
peace
to all in whom he delights.

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

Closing Prayers

Heavenly Father,
whose blessed Son shared at Nazareth the life of an
earthly home:
help your Church to live as one family,
united in love and obedience,
and bring us all at last to our home in heaven;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

May the joy of the angels,
the eagerness of the shepherds,
the perseverance of the wise men,
the obedience of Joseph and Mary,
and the peace of the Christ-child
be ours this Christmas.
Amen.

Instrumental J.S. Bach, *Prelude* from Suite for Cello
no.1 in G major played by Sarah McMahon, cello

SAVE THE MUSIC FUND

St Peter's *Save The Music Fund* has been set up to support professional musicians struggling to work. We provide employment with live sessions in weekly Sunday services and recorded sessions for Home Worship and online events. We also offer space in church for rehearsals and recording.

To make a donation - click on **Donate to St Peter's** on Home page and select Save the Music

Please exit one row at a time

OPEN CHURCH

Wednesdays 9-11am

Sundays 3-5pm

and

Saturday 26 December 3-5pm

Thursday 31 December 3-5pm

Friday 1 January 3-5pm



www.stpeterdebeauvoir.org.uk

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