

# GRAPEVINE

4th July  
2021

Letting people know about the love of Jesus Christ



Many people mistake our work for our vocation. Our vocation is the love of Jesus. Mother Teresa

## Welcome to St Peter & St Mary's Church

I've just celebrated the 35th anniversary of my ordination. Being a Vicar is not referred to as a job, it's called a vocation. I think all vocations come from God and I believe that we all have a vocation. So what is yours?

Firstly, your vocation is who you are, not the job you do. Throughout your working life you may have had several jobs and your life doesn't cease to be of value in retirement. But you still have a vocation.

Secondly, your vocation leaves you feeling unqualified and inadequate. Anything worth achieving requires sacrifice and you probably won't feel up to it. So, if it's comfort and security that you want, then do nothing in your life.

Next, your vocation contributes to the common good. The challenges that come your way might be tough to cope with but the world around us will become a better place through the things you bring to it.

Fourthly, vocation involves a community. Vocation comes from God so it will always include giving and receiving - to love you neighbour as yourself. And you can't love your neighbour unless you love yourself. And you can't really love yourself unless you love your neighbour.

Fifth, Your vocation connects what upsets you and what inspires you. If there is something not being done that needs doing and it's something that you are passionate about you can't sit back and ignore it. Fulfilling your vocation gets things done.

Finally, your vocation highlights the present moment. Your vocation isn't stuck in memories of the past or dreams of the future. The moment that matters is now. Now is the time to act, as the God who inspires your vocation also gives you the ability to fulfil it.

*Michael*

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**Website:** www.stowmarketparishchurch.co.uk **Regd Charity Number 1132857**

### ZOOM LOGIN DETAILS

<https://zoom.us/j/9658283398?pwd=SjN2V252VGxSSngrSnBOM1JETk1Bdz09>

Meeting ID: 965 828 3398 - Passcode: 615182

## Today - Open Air Service & Parish Picnic

Now that summer is here, we are planning to have our Family Service outdoors on the Greensward this week. This will be followed by a Parish Picnic. We can sing in the Service and play at the picnic. Please bring your own food and drink, we will provide the fun and games. The weather forecast is uncertain but if it's wet we will meet in St. Peter's Hall.

The Service still starts at 10am but we have no internet connection in the hall so we will not be able to put it out live on YouTube but you should be able to pick it up later. [https://m.youtube.com/channel/UCUih\\_zTFVjMe1XckXQ0II\\_A](https://m.youtube.com/channel/UCUih_zTFVjMe1XckXQ0II_A) A link can also be found on the Church Website along with the Service Sheet. A DVD of the Service is also available, contact the Vicarage (678623) if you would like one.

## 4 Tips For Effective Prayer

1. Pray to God.
2. Pray together.
3. Pray specifically.
4. Pray earnestly.

Why not join others on the Church Zoom at 6:30pm on Wednesday evenings for half an hour. The first 15 minutes focus on a specific subject then opening up for other areas of concern or thanksgiving.



When you come along. There is no pressure to pray out loud, just the desire to meet with others. To make a difference

If you don't have the computer technology you can also join on even the most basic of phones. Just call 02039 663 809 and follow the instructions. Meeting ID which is 965 828 3398 # and if asked, dial in with meeting password 615182.

## Thankyou

...for the birthday card from Church wishing me a happy 80th birthday  
- Winston Girling

## Christmas Tree Festival

We start taking bookings to decorate a tree this Monday, July 5th via Eventbrite on the Church Website. Sign up and tell your friends as there are a limited number of trees. The theme for this year is 'Nativity'.

## Pat Montgomery

A thanksgiving service for Pat Montgomery will take place, in Church, on July 6th, in Church. followed by a Service in Church at 2pm. If you would like to come please contact Michael.

## **Crisp Packets**

You can take your empty crisp packets to Red Gables for recycling, today, Sunday July 4th, 2pm-4pm

## **Are you Organized?**

**As Geoff Marchant steps down as Church Treasurer we have tried to work out what we need to have in place to make sure everything carries on smoothly in the future. There is already a team of people who deal with many of the money matters in Church and we now need someone is able to be encouraging in managing that team. Here is the description of what will be asked of the person who will be our new Finance Co-ordinator.**

The main requirement is for someone who is willing to be the main point of contact for financial matters and who can act as a co-ordinator of the various people who carry out most of the day-to-day banking.

### **The essential requirements are:**

The ability to attend PCC meetings (10 evenings a year) and Buildings & Finance Committee meetings, currently 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each month (evening).

The ability to work positively with other volunteers, assisting them with any queries and generally ensuring that things which need to be done are done.

Ability to use emails in order to monitor the Treasurer email address and respond as necessary.

Being reasonably comfortable with numbers e.g. being able to check that your personal bank account statements are correct each month, or that your shopping receipts are correct.

### **The following would be helpful:**

Knowledge of Microsoft Office products – Outlook for emails , Word for documents and Excel spreadsheets which help to monitor certain lists of donations/payments etc.

Familiarity with using a computer/tablet/smartphone to browse the internet and access applications – examples of this in normal life might be using Facebook or the Covid19 app.

### **The following are not necessary:**

Any knowledge of accounting – aspects of this which might be helpful can be picked up whilst doing the job, and there are 3 qualified accountants in the church plus our retained external

accountant and Geoff, all of whom are available to help with any technical query which might arise.

Time to carry out the day-to-day transactions – these are almost all done by other people:

Cash/cheque income is counted and banked either by nominated counters after each service or by the church office. Other income is largely handled automatically.

Cheque payments are usually raised by Heather Baker. Where possible, automatic payments are made by Standing Order or Direct Debit.

Recording transactions in the Accounting System – this is done on a monthly basis by Chloe May, who also enters data into the recording spreadsheet which produces the monthly reporting data for PCC.

**Geoff has offered to support and help anyone who takes on this role. If you think this is something you can do, please contact Michael.**

## Global Hunger Appeal

Sadly, the world is beset with many problems, and right now more than 30 million people in 20 countries are teetering on the brink of famine in what is now a global hunger emergency. The Covid-19 pandemic, violent conflict and the climate crisis have all increased global hunger. People in countries including South Sudan, Afghanistan and Burkina Faso are facing the very real threat of starvation.

Can you help? Christian Aid is making a special appeal to Christians in the UK, asking us to help them and their local partners to work with communities to prevent famine and build resilience by delivering life-saving food and support to people who need them most.

Please consider giving a donation. This can be done easily online via the Christian Aid website: [www.christianaid.org.uk](http://www.christianaid.org.uk) or, if you prefer, put cash or a cheque made payable to Christian Aid into a clearly marked envelope and leave it in the collection plate at church.

God has blessed us; let us be a blessing to others.



# Diary

## **Sunday 4th July**

10am Family Service - Outdoors on the Greensward  
To be broadcast later on YouTube  
Followed by Parish Picnic

## **Monday 5th July**

Book online to decorate a Christmas Tree  
2:30pm Monday Afternoon Homegroup on Zoom  
7:30pm Building & Finance Meeting on Zoom

## **Tuesday 6th July**

2pm Memorial Service for Pat Montgomery  
6pm Boys Brigade & Girls Assoc. meet in St Peter's Hall

## **Wednesday 7th July**

10am Little Fishes in St Peter's Hall Garden  
6:30pm Prayer Meeting on Zoom

## **Thursday 8th July**

Noon Holy Communion in Church

## **Saturday 10th July**

Wedding of Lee Mullett & Kirsty Charlick

## **Sunday 11th July**

10am Morning Worship - in Church  
And livestreamed on YouTube

## **Sunday September 19th**

Battle of Britain Sunday

## **Sunday October 3rd**

Harvest Festival

## **Sunday 7th November**

3pm Bereavement Service

## **Sunday 14th November**

Remembrance Sunday

## **Christmas Tree Festival**

26th Novemer 1st January