

PARISH STAFF		
<u>Vicar</u>	Rev'd Jonathan Thomas The Vicarage, 66 Westfield Road, Woking GU22 9NG email: vicar@stpeterwoking.org Day Off – Friday	Telephone: 01483 762707
<u>Ordained Local Minister</u>	Rev'd Rachel Johnson email: revrach@stpeterwoking.org Day Off – Saturday	Telephone: 07722 650090
<u>Curate</u>	Rev'd Lucy Bush email: curate@stpeterwoking.org Day Off – Friday	Telephone 07803 851711
<u>Churchwardens</u>	Andy Holcombe Pauline Wilde	Telephone 07943 004466 Telephone 01483 722098
<u>Safeguarding Officer</u>	Kay Dodds email: psa@stpeterwoking.org	
<u>Pastoral Assistants</u>	Brenda Cox Allison McFarlane Carol Whitehorn Pauline Wilde	Telephone 07921 160684 Telephone 01483 750637 Telephone 01483 722914 Telephone 01483 722098
<u>Notes & News Editor</u>	Sue Harvey email: svharvey@btinternet.com	Telephone 01483 714632
PARISH OFFICE	Open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 8.30am-12.30pm	
<u>Parish Administrator</u>	Caroline Harvey email: admin@stpeterwoking.org	Telephone 01483 755852

Website: www.stpeterwoking.org



@stmarkswestfield, @stpetersoldwoking, @allsoulssuttongreen



@St Marks Woking
@St PetersWoking



@stpeterwoking

Charity No: 1127922



Parish of
St Peter Woking
St Peter's · St Mark's · All Souls'

**Notes
& News**

Sunday 4 January 2026

Epiphany Sunday

*** HAPPY 2026 – A YEAR OF PRAYER – NEW ***

I hope everyone had a good Jesus-centred Christmas whether with family, friends or alone. As a parish we are designating 2026 a year of prayer, because if we are to see God move in our churches, if we are to grow in numbers and grow in our own relationship with God then prayer has to be at the centre of everything, individually and as a parish.

We already have some exciting ideas to help us all grow in our prayer lives including our upcoming Lent Course but would love it if a few of us who really value prayer could meet together to brainstorm some ideas this month. If you are interested in being part of that meeting please contact me by Monday 12 January and we'll arrange a date to meet. *Jonathan*

*** ALPHA – GET INVOLVED – REVISED ***

We are excited to be running the Alpha course starting with a taster session next week on 15 January at 7.00pm at St Mark's.

Alpha is a wonderful 10 week course for both people exploring the Christian faith or those wanting to strengthen their faith and includes a shared meal. This is a great opportunity to share the good news of Jesus. Could you help in one of these ways:

- ♦ **Sign up** and come along for the taster. We already have a few coming, but would love more!
- ♦ **Invite** a friend to join Alpha using the flyers in church
- ♦ **Cook** a main meal for one or two weeks for the participants (probably 8-15) – we need a few more cooks. You can cook from home and we can collect it
- ♦ **Commit to praying** for Alpha on Thursday evenings

Please contact Jonathan vicar@stpeterwoking.org, 01483 762707, for any of these and he'll give you more details.

Sunday 4 January 2026

Epiphany Sunday

All Souls' 9.30am

MORNING WORSHIP (CW)

HYMNS

740, 529, 65, 39

PSALM 72: 10-15

said from the church Bible (p586)

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 60: 1-6 (p746)

NEW TESTAMENT

Matthew 2: 1-12 (p966)

St Peter's 10.00am

**HOLY COMMUNION (CW) and
Sunday School**

This service will be livestreamed

HYMNS

740, 529, 337, 428

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 60: 1-6 (p746)

GOSPEL

Matthew 2: 1-12 (p966)

St Mark's 11.00am

MORNING WORSHIP (CW)

HYMNS

39, Light of the world, 445, 740

PSALM 72: 10-15

said from the church Bible (p586)

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 60: 1-6 (p746)

NEW TESTAMENT

Matthew 2: 1-12 (p966)

Please note: There is no evening service at St Peter's this week.

*** COFFEE AND PRAYER FOR SUTTON GREEN – NEW ***

As part of our Year of Prayer the Rev'd Chris Reddin, who lives in Sutton Green and sometimes leads services at All Souls', has offered to host a coffee and prayer morning on **Monday 12 January at 10.30am** at 1 New Cottages, Sutton Green Rd. Please join us whether you worship at All Souls', live in the village or have a heart for the village and church. See Jonathan or Lucy for more details.

*** CRAFT AND CHAT - NEW ***

Craft and Chat's first meeting of 2026 will be this month on Friday 16 January in St Peter's Church Centre, 2.30pm to 5.00pm. Bring along your own craft project or just come for a chat. Tea, coffee and biscuits served throughout the afternoon.

For more details please contact Pauline Wilde 722098 or the parish office.

*** THIS WEEK PLEASE PRAY FOR ... ***

Wendy Aplin, Peter Bliss, Alison & Ian Cole, Valerie Hendricks, Lynda Kirk, Chris & Denise Randall, Carol & Brian Whitehorn, and Mary & Geoff Williams.

WHAT'S ON

St Peter's is open Monday-Friday 9.00am -12.30pm, Saturday and Sunday 9.00am-6.00pm All Souls' is open on Sundays from 9.00am-6.00pm.

Sunday 4 January	Youth Group	St Mark's	6.00pm
Tuesday 5 January	TOTS	St Mark's	10.00am
Tuesday 5 January	Refresh Café & Extra	St Mark's	3.15pm
Wednesday 6 January	Ctty Gardening Group	St Mark's	11.00am
Wednesday 6 January	Community Fridge	St Mark's	1.30pm

*** THIS WEEK'S MORNING PRAYER – Daily at 9.00am ***

Monday 5 January	Psalm 48	Colossians 1:15-23
Tuesday 6 January	Psalm 78:1-39	Colossians 1:24-2:5
Wednesday 7 January	Psalm 78:40-end	Colossians 2:6-end
Thursday 8 January	Psalm 85	Colossians 3:1-11
Friday 9 January	Psalm 118	Colossians 3:12-4:1

**To join Morning Prayer on Zoom enter Meeting ID: 498 905 544
Passcode: 668876 On Thursdays we usually meet in person at St Peter's**

*** ISSUES ON HUMAN SEXUALITY**

AND PRAYERS OF LOVE AND FAITH – REVISED *

The PCC held an Awayday in October to discuss the Church of England's 'Prayers of Love and Faith', which can be used for same-sex couples in a church service. Before we decide whether to use them in our church we wanted to discuss the issues with, and get the views of, our congregations so we will be holding a Discussion Morning on Saturday 17 January from 10am-12 noon in St Peter's Church Centre.

We'll be looking at what the Bible has to say on the subject of human sexuality, where the Church of England is at and explaining what 'Prayers of Love and Faith' are as well as allowing plenty of time for small group discussion. Please come along whatever your views are on the subject. We'll have short reading materials available from next week to read in advance to help people prepare for the discussions.

Sunday 11 January
Baptism of Christ

9.30am	All Souls'	Holy Communion (CW)
10.00am	St Peter's	All-Age Worship <i>This service will be livestreamed</i>
11.00am	St Mark's	All-Age Worship and Baptism of River Sophia Wheeler <i>(accompanied by the Band)</i>
5.00pm	St Peter's	Evening Prayer (BCP)

*** CHANGE OF OFFICE HOURS – NEW ***

From this week Caroline won't be working on Wednesdays so the Parish Office will now be closed on Wednesdays, but will be open Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays as normal with slightly extended opening hours.

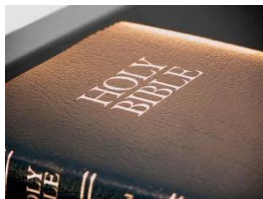
*** COMMUNITY GARDENING GROUP – MONTHLY IN WINTER ***

The Community Gardening Group, which meets on Wednesdays, is meeting monthly during the winter. The next gardening session will be on Wednesday 7 January, from 11.00am.

Huge thanks to all who have been involved in any way during 2025!

*** SPARE BIBLES? ***

The Bible is more popular than ever at the moment, people are hungry for God's word and we would like to offer free Bibles in our churches for any visitors as we have started to do at St Peter's where some have already been taken! Do you have any spare, good quality modern Bibles you could give away? If so please contact Jonathan.



*** HELP NEEDED – NEW ***

I am still in need of someone to help on a regular basis to serve refreshments after the morning service at St Peter's on a 3rd Sunday. If you are able either to help regularly or could join a reserve list, please contact Pauline Wilde 01483-722098 asap.

*** LUCY'S LETTER ***

Epiphany season has begun – the joyful continuation of the Christmas story, when we especially remember the wise men who came from afar to find the Christ child. In Matthew's account, the Magi are the first people in his gospel who are Gentiles – and they find this new King, written in the stars.

Matthew's gospel starts with the Magi coming to Jesus, and it ends with us being told to take Jesus to the people. The Great Commission in Matthew Chapter 28 shows us that God cares so much about all people knowing Jesus, that God is not content to wait for people like the Magi to see a star anymore. God wants us – those who know and worship Jesus – to go and tell everyone about him.

In this Epiphany season, we are also starting the Alpha course – do pray about who you could invite to come and learn about this new king, just like those three wise men did.

Prayer for January

Loving God,

Thank you that you reveal yourself to people in different ways – through angels, stars, signs, your Word, and through other people. We pray for fresh revelation for ourselves during this Epiphany season.

Help us also to bring this good news to other people, and inspire us to share your goodness and love through things like Alpha, our community events, our services, and in our day to day lives. Amen.

*** REFRESH CAFÉ – EXTRA VOLUNTEER ***

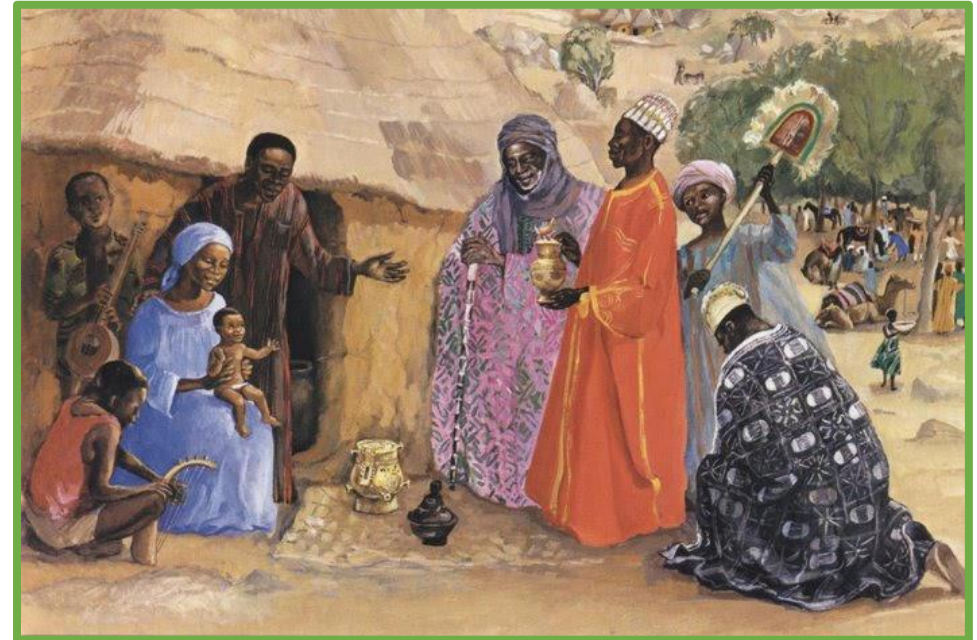
Refresh Cafe opens at St Mark's every Tuesday after school in term time for local families to find community, play games and enjoy milkshakes together. We then invite 11-16 year olds to join from 4.00pm for games, tea, toast and faith chats. We are looking for a new volunteer to help with setting up, making and serving drinks and getting to know the community. You would join a lively team, and could serve fortnightly or monthly. Speak to Lucy or Jonathan if you are interested.

SERVICES IN JANUARY

	All Souls' 9.30am	St Peter's 10.00am	St Mark's 11.00am	St Peter's 5.00pm
Sunday 4 January	Morning Worship CW	Holy Communion CW and Sunday School	Morning Worship CW	
Sunday 11 January	Holy Communion CW	All-Age Worship	All-Age Worship and Baptism	Evening Prayer BCP
Sunday 18 January	Morning Worship BCP	Holy Communion CW and Sunday School	Holy Communion CW	
Thursday 22 January		St Peter's 10.30am Midweek Communion		
Sunday 25 January	* Informal Worship (see below)	Morning Worship CW and Energise	Morning Worship CW	Holy Communion BCP

* SUNDAY 25 JANUARY - SERVICE AT ALL SOULS' - NEW *

The Rev'd Chris Reddin has kindly offered to lead an informal service for the All Souls' congregation at her house - 1 New Cottages, Sutton Green Rd, which is the first house on the main road after the bend next to Foxes Path. This will be at 9.30am instead of a service in the church.



EPIPHANY

The word 'epiphany' comes from the Greek noun 'epiphaneia' meaning manifestation or revelation, and we use it to focus attention on the manifestation of God to the world in the person of Jesus Christ.

In many ways the season of Epiphany is a continuation and extension of our Christmas celebration of the incarnation – of the Word made flesh. Throughout this season, which continues until the feast of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple on 2 February, we celebrate the revelation of Christ's divine glory in a variety of ways, but principally through three well-known Biblical stories – the coming of the Wise Men; the Baptism of Christ; and the first miracle at Cana in Galilee, when Jesus turned water into wine.

It is the first of these stories that is the most familiar, as the visit of the Wise Men to the Holy Family in Bethlehem is often told as part of the Christmas narrative: yet its familiarity can easily mask its power. 'Where is he who has been born king of the Jews?' (Matthew 2: 1) This question was originally posed by the Magi as they searched for the Holy Child, but it has become a motif for us during the season of Epiphany as we consider where we might find Christ in the world today