

St Peter's Church, St Albans

Notices and News

22nd April 2012

Mon 23	9am	Morning Prayer in the Lady Chapel
	7.30pm	Circle Dancing, Octagon
	7.30pm	Bellringers' Practice
	8pm	Lectio Divina in the Library
Tues 24	9am	Morning Prayer in the Lady Chapel
	9.30am	Toddler Time in the Octagon
	10.30am	Funeral in church
	7.30pm	Choir practice
Wed 25	9am	Morning Prayer in the Lady Chapel
	10am	Toddler music group in the Octagon
	10.45am	Baby music group in the Octagon
	1pm	Concert – <i>The De Parys Trio</i> <i>Martin Hughes (violin), Jill Hughes (flute)</i> <i>Eric Hill (guitar)</i>
	8pm	APCM in the Octagon
Thurs 26	9am	Morning Prayer in the Lady Chapel
	10-11.30am	Baby Time in the Octagon
	2pm	Memorial service in church
Fri 27	9am	Morning Prayer in the Lady Chapel
	5pm	Friday@Five (10-13years)
	5pm	Friday in the Library (7-10 years)
	6.30pm	Choir practice
Sat 28	1.30pm	Wedding in church

Annual Parochial Church Meeting – Wednesday at 8 pm. Octagon.

If you haven't already picked up a copy of the annual Year Book, reports and draft accounts from by the South porch, please do pick up your copies in advance of the APCM.

The revised electoral roll is also by the South porch if you would like to check your details.

This week in church

Tuesday at 10.30 am - Funeral service for John Bulmer

Thursday at 2 pm – Memorial service for Brenda Chant. Those who knew Brenda are invited to attend and also to stay on for tea/ refreshments to be served afterwards in the Octagon.

Notice re Church building repairs.

Scaffolding has gone up this week and urgent repairs to stonework have now begun on the north side of the church's roof. We are still in need of further funds, so please consider whether you could make a donation to support the completion of this necessary work to our Grade 2 listed building. Gift Aid envelopes for this purpose are available by the South Porch and donations can be sent to the office or placed in the labelled box in the wall by the south door.

If you have not yet got round to setting up an arrangement for regular planned giving to St Peter's, this would also be a good opportunity to do this. Information and relevant forms can also be found to the right of the south porch. This is the most helpful way to give to support the work of the church as it enables us to properly plan our budget. Many thanks to all who give already in this way.

Advance Notice – Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

The Queen is the Patron of St Peter's and her appointments secretary is involved in the appointment of Vicars of St Peter's. As "the Queen's" church, it will be good to play our part in the city's Diamond Jubilee celebrations. These are shaping up in a number of ways.

Junior Church banner. Aided by local resident artist Jean, children of St Peter's are to make a special banner in honour of the Queen. The main session on this will be on Sunday May 6th during Junior Church. On 20th May the finished banner will be photographed along with the children who made it and the photo sent to the Queen. The banner will be used especially in Junior Church processions during this Diamond Jubilee year.

Bank Holiday celebrations – June 4th

On June 4th we want to collaborate with the City Council on plans to make the Diamond Jubilee in St Albans very special. St Peter's Street will be close to traffic, and tables and bunting will fill the centre of the street for a giant street party. There will be fairground rides, food stalls, and a music stage. People will also be invited to bring their own picnics.

During the afternoon we are hoping we might be able to offer "Tower Tours & Teas" at St Peter's as the "Queen's church". The vicar herself will be fully involved in helping to run these and is looking for further volunteers to join the team and do a stint between 2 – 5 pm. (Funds raised will support the stonework repairs to the roof).

In the evening at the end of the programme on the music stage, the Queen's representative – the Lord Lieutenant of Hertfordshire, will ceremonially light the Jubilee Beacon on top of the old Town Hall. A fire work display will follow, and a lasar from St Peter's tower will sweep the St Albans skyline! Groups from St Peter's may like to plan to go together to this event, as well as offer a slot during the afternoon for helping with teas and tours. Please sign the list at the back of church if you are able to offer some time on the Bank Holiday afternoon.

Other Notices & events

Garden of Hope gardeners. Winter has been and gone, a very warm March and the first April showers have ensured a strong growth on plants and shrubs. But of course the weeds have also taken advantage of the same conditions. Therefore weeding needs to commence. If you can spare some time at your convenience then please weed an area of the raised beds. Please let me know if and when you will be joining in the light exercise (good for the body and for the soul!). Peter Court 01727 873635

Will readers and intercessors please pick up their readings for May

The next **Themed Evensong** will be 29th April, on the Life and Works of Charles Dickens, followed by a glass of wine.

Christian Aid Week - 13th to 19th May 2012: St Peters will be undertaking a house-to-house collection during Christian Aid week - last year eight of us raised almost £800 in support of Christian Aid's phenomenal work.

We need more collectors as some roads are missed - could you spare some time during 13th - 19th May to collect in one of the roads that St Peters undertakes to cover? As simple as posting the envelope on one occasion and then knocking on the door to collect on the next visit - I have always found people most polite and keen to help. Do contact Laura Turner via lauraturner3121@aol.com for details

Book Group. The next meeting will be on Thursday 31st May at 8pm at 2 Rowlatt Court, Hillside Road. We shall discuss 'The Plot: the Biography of an English Acre' by Madeleine Bunting. The book for the July meeting will be 'Brooklyn' by Colm Toibin. New members are always welcome.

St Peter's Spring Fair. The Friends are running St Peter's Fair again, which this year will be on Saturday 26th May 2012. It is being organised for St Peter's and local community as part of our community building vision. The Fair will commence around 11.30 am and the aim is for stalls and activities also to be dedicated to raising funds for The Friends and its work to support the 'God's Acre' project.

Confirmations 2012

Are you thinking about getting confirmed? Would you like to explore the Christian faith a little more deeply and reflect on what it means to be part of the church? Whatever age you are, you are welcome to join a series of lively sessions led by the vicar and others designed to prepare you for confirmation. Those not sure whether they are ready to take the step of confirmation are also most welcome to join. If interested, please give your name to Anne or to Jos.

The service of confirmation by the bishop will be on Saturday 27th October, at 6.30 pm. Sessions in preparation will begin at the start of September – day and time to be arranged. There are likely to be two groups – one for adults and for one for younger people (age 12 plus).

Stewardship notes:

Planned giving cards - Planned giving cards have been introduced for those who have made a regular financial commitment to St Peters through their bank. You can collect a card each time you attend a service from boxes found adjacent to the West and South doors. The card can then be put into the collection as a symbol of your regular financial commitment. There is no need to write anything on the card, they will be re-used week by week.

For information concerning all aspects of giving, please contact Peter Court, Parish Giving Officer, 01727 873635

Prayer

The Prayer Chain – If you would like to pass on your or someone else's name to our Prayer Chain, please ring or email one of the first contacts: Sheelagh Marlow 863520, email: sheelaghmm@aol.com; Betty Pickbourne 859704 or Nancy Walthew 845249, email: nancywalthew@talktalk.net.

Parish Prayer List – If you would like in addition to place your or someone else's name on the parish prayer list, these names will be included regularly within the intercessions at both Sunday and weekday services. Please pass names to one of the ministerial team. .