

News Sheet for Sunday 29th December 2024 – The First Sunday of Christmas

LINK FOR THE LIVESTREAM SERVICE - <https://cofewrecclesham.org.uk/streamed-services/>

Please click on the link from ten minutes beforehand and there will be the livestream link to take you to the service

From Advent to Christmas Day there are no flowers in the church and so our flower team will have a well-earned break and we look forward to our glorious Christmas flowers – thank you so much!

Thank you to those who have provided hospitality this week – and to all who make up our **worship team** for this Sunday's service – we are blessed...

NOTICES

From Rev Jacqueline – Thank you so much for lovely Christmas prayers and warm wishes, cards and gifts – I feel very blessed....



***I wish for each and every one of you and your families
God's peace, hope and light of Christmas
to enfold you today and always -
and for 2025 to be a year of love & good things.....***



CHRISTMAS HAMPER RAFFLE – A lady called Vanessa won the hamper – ticket bought at the Wreath Making – she was so complimentary about the amazing festive goodies – and thanked us all – and the hamper came back – so over to you, Chris, our faithful and amazing hamper-creator! 😊 ...

COMING SOON – two weeks' time!

- **3-5PM SUNDAY 12TH JANUARY 2025 - Wildlife of Southern Britain: A talk by Ian Stone** – a light-hearted talk with quiz at the end – afternoon tea and cake will be served!

THANK YOU:

ST PETER'S CHRISTMAS WORKERS! - Thank you so much to everyone who have worked so faithfully and tirelessly to make our Advent/Christmas 2024 such a spiritually nourishing and socially enjoyable season – and to everyone who came along!

Led by our wonderful Churchwarden, Rob & to Sue who took care of the hall – we have catered and hosted hundreds of people – adults and children – from our community who have all experienced the warmth and welcome that is St Peter's Church.

Junior Church (Jonathan & Anna, Shirley & Nicola) – Christingle (David & Carol) – School Advent Service (Sally & Jacqueline) – School Carol Service – Third Sunday Nativity – Rowledge Concert – Sound Mix Concert – Christmas Wassail – Wreath Making – Crib Service – Carol Service – Midnight Mass – Christmas Day Celebration Service – and a quiet Service to pray in the new year to come on 31st December

Thank you to those who offered **hospitality** – Kathryn, Myung-Hye, Susan and Sam & Rob – and everyone who joined in

Thank you to those who helped with the **setting up/breaking down / raffles / (endless!) chair-moving** – Colin, Hugh & Sally, Rob & Sam, David & Robert –

Thank you to all who helped with the **worship** side of things on the rota for the 8am and 10am services and at the carol service...

THANK YOU DAVID FOR LEADING OUR WONDERFUL CHRISTMAS MUSIC – and to the choir for leading our singing

THANK YOU TO CHRIS for keeping the parish admin and organisation ticking over and for the service sheet printing...

THANK YOU TO GERALD, LIZZY AND TO THE FLOWER TEAM – for the wonderful array of candles and festive flowers that adorned the church on Christmas Eve....

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO CAME ALONG AND SUPPORTED – AND TO ALL WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE FUNDRAISING EFFORTS - £200 for Christingle – and a good amount for St Peter's, Step by Step & Seeds for Development will have been raised – Colin will confirm a final total that we will send to our charities for the year in due course...

COMING UP:

- **6PM TUESDAY 31ST DECEMBER** - A SHORT, REFLECTIVE SERVICE FOR NEW YEAR'S - come along to herald in the New Year of 2025 with thoughts and prayers of hope and commitment to bear witness to the light

and promise of peace and goodwill to all, and to bless our own lives, family, friends and communities as we begin this 2025 journey into the unknown in faith and trust.

- **3-5PM SUNDAY 12TH JANUARY 2025 - Wildlife of Southern Britain: A talk by Ian Stone** – a light-hearted talk with quiz at the end – afternoon tea and cake will be served! SEE NOTICE BOARD

TODAY'S SERVICE – 29TH December – The First Sunday of Christmas

8am - Holy Communion

10am – Parish Communion for the First Sunday of Christmas – followed by refreshments after the service.

Readings & Hymns: There are **Pew Bibles** available to browse/follow the readings at the back of church
Lectionary: 1 Samuel 2.18-20, 26; Ps148; Colossians 3.12-17; Luke 2.41-end

Hymns:– 364 Joy to the World - 35 Angels from the realms of glory – 213 God rest ye merry gentlemen – Cm1: 427 – Love came down at Christmas – Cm2: 313 infant Holy infant lowly – 229 Good King Wenceslas looked out

Collect for the First Sunday of Christmas

Almighty God, who wonderfully created us in your own image and yet more wonderfully restored us through your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as he came to share in our humanity, so we may share the life of his divinity; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

Collect For the New Year

God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, whose years never fail, and whose mercies are new each returning day: let the radiance of your Spirit renew our lives, warming our hearts and giving light to our minds; that we may pass the coming year in joyful obedience and firm faith; through him who is the beginning and the end, your Son Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

NEXT SUNDAY'S SERVICE – 5th January – Feast of The Epiphany

8am - Holy Communion

10.30am – First Sunday Service for The Feast of Epiphany – with refreshments beforehand in the church

EVERY WEDNESDAY: 8AM ONLINE MORNING PRAYER (although Jacqueline is in person at St Peter's Church when she leads it – you are welcome to join her either in person or on zoom...)

Join Zoom Meeting - <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87443605688?pwd=UYiMVbph9q6XaSTsxawA4ixebxjT.1>
Meeting ID: 874 4360 5688 - Passcode: 307447

FREE TICKET PASS FOR WESTMINSTER ABBEY – I have secured a pass that allows 6 visits for the year church family members to use – up to four people per visit- **there are three passes left for the coming year** – please see Jacqueline to reserve your pass

Please see Notice Board for up to date news / events / services

PRAYERS FOR:

Andrew Jones, Beryl Tate, Gerald Martin, Zoe Perkins – for all who are poorly, and give thanks for the healing and ongoing wellbeing of all recovering and on the mend from illness...

RIP – Tony Booker – who very sadly died suddenly on Saturday 14th December. We pray in trust that Tony is reunited with Mavis and we pray for Tony's friends who mourn.

We remember all those dear to us whose years' mind falls around this time
(please let Jacqueline know if you would like someone remembered by name ...)

Please also pray for the life and work of our Church, that we might be part of God's revival, and loving and transforming grace here in our place...

Please contact Jacqueline on vicar@cofewrecclesham.org.uk or 716431 / 07806 775974 if you have a notice to share – or if you would like to talk about something else – her day off is a Monday....

OTHER NOTICES

PCC

- **From April 2025 – vacancies for the service positions of Churchwarden and PCC Secretary** – we are aware that both Rob and Judith will be stepping down from their roles as Churchwarden and PCC Secretary. Do you think either might be something God is prompting you to think about – if so, please do come and have a chat with Jacqueline or, indeed, Rob or Judith in the first instance.
- **WRECCLESHAM FETE TEAM** – **We would love two or three people to represent St Peter's** when the planning for 2025 fete begins – this is to liaise with the wider fete team to keep up to date with plans and to help organise our own contributions. We always trust that help comes forward on the day, but the finer details of planning and ideas is something that a little group would be ideal to facilitate – **please do let Rob know if you can help...**

St Peter's School is looking to recruit a Foundation Governor to join them as they seek to bring the best school-life experience to our children. This is a volunteer role and if you are interested to discuss the role with a current governor or to know more, please do see the poster on the notice board with information and contact details - please email: info@stpeters-farnham.surrey.sch.uk

Farnham Assist – details available by the notice boards – Farnham Assist reach out to older people who live alone or who are carers

Calling all singers.... Do you like to sing? Come and join our informal choir. No experience needed, you don't need to read music or commit to regular Sundays. We will meet at 9.30 before the service to run through the hymns with David - just turn up. For more information please contact me on 07548830018 or email carolzeiher@sky.com.

THIS WEEK'S THANK YOUs... Please see notice above – and to all of us for being there for each other and doing what we can for the love of the Lord and our St Peter's Church! ☺

GENERAL NOTICES

WRECCLESHAM OVER 60'S – On 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month @ 1.30pm – a lovely group meet at the Leverton Hall – please pick up a leaflet for information....

Farnham Foodbank BASKET IS LOCATED ON THE RIGHT-HAND SIDE OF THE CHURCH BY THE DOOR
Please only donate long-life goods – fresh and perishable goods cannot be accepted – thank you for all that you contribute

Urgent : new food list (getting ready for Christmas orders): Christmas cake, Mince pies, Chocolate Selection boxes, Packets of custard - Items such as stuffing and gravy - thank you so much...

Please continue to put donations in the basket and Lizzy Hendry will kindly be taking the food to the Foodbank – thank you everyone...

Contact: mail: info@farnham.foodbank.org.uk or call 07901 58153 visit our website farnham.foodbank.org.uk

Diocese News - If you would like to receive news and information from the Diocese, please sign up to their [weekly parish brief](#).

Lectionary Readings – 29th December – The First Sunday of Christmas

First Reading: 1 Samuel 2.18-20,26 (Pew Bible p.269)

¹⁸Samuel was ministering before the Lord, a boy wearing a linen ephod. ¹⁹His mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year, when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. ²⁰Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, 'May the Lord repay you with children by this woman for the gift that she made to the Lord'; and then they would return to their home.

²⁶ Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favour with the Lord and with the people

Second Reading – Colossians Chapter 3:12-17 (Pew Bible p.1187)

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. NRSV

Gospel Reading: Luke 2.41-end: The boy Jesus in the Temple (Pew Bible p.1033)

⁴¹Every year the parents of Jesus went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. ⁴²And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. ⁴³When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. ⁴⁴Assuming that he was in the group of travellers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. ⁴⁶After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, 'Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety.' ⁴⁹He said to them, 'Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?' ⁵⁰But they did not understand what he said to them. ⁵¹Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

⁵²And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favour.