

St Peter's Parish Magazine



February & March 2026

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From Fr Jonathan



Dear friends

As this magazine goes to print we are preparing to celebrate the great festival of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple – or Candlemas. In the church calendar Candlemas concludes the Christmas and Epiphany seasons. Candlemas comes forty days after the birth of Christ, but it is very much a pivotal time of the church year. It looks back to the unbridled joy of Christ's birth, but it also moves us on.

At Candlemas the child Jesus is presented in the temple as the law required for every first-born male child. There, patiently waiting for them, are the old man Simeon and the prophetess Anna. To Simeon it had been vouchsafed that he would not see death until he had witnessed at first hand the long and eagerly awaited Christ. It must have been one of the great encounters in the history of the world as the temple is illuminated by the light of Christ, which banishes even the worst darkness the world can ever experience. No wonder he was able to exclaim the words of what we know now in its Latin opening words as the *Nunc Dimittis*, recited or sung every day at Evensong or Compline:

*Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace :
according to thy word.*

*For mine eyes have seen :
thy salvation;*

*Which thou hast prepared :
before the face of all people;*

*To be a light to lighten the Gentiles :
and to be the glory of thy people Israel*

But his message is not simply one sustained outpouring of joy. Turning to the Blessed Virgin Mary he gives a poignant prophecy: "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too." (Luke 2:34-35). As she stood at the foot of the cross on Good Friday she knew in her heart that prophecy poignantly fulfilled in the very moment of the redemption of the world. Yet there at the foot of the cross a new and inclusive community was formed, signed and sealed in Christ's blood, which transcends all the myopic divisions and prejudices of the world.

Lent 2026

Not long after Candlemas Lent this year comes Ash Wednesday, which falls on 18 February this year. The origins of our season of Lent lie in the final period of preparation which people undertook in readiness for their baptism at the Great

Vigil of Holy Saturday. Before long it was realised that the whole church could benefit from an extended period of renewal and self-examination in the weeks leading up to Holy Week and Easter.

Later in this magazine you can find details of our Lent programme, including our Lent study course on the Acts of the Apostles with voices from the Middle East, Stations of the Cross and a Lent Quiet Day focusing on the lives and spiritualities of Ss David, Chad and Cuthbert. I very much hope that in all of these you will find something to enrich and nurture you in the holy season of Lent.

Confirmation 2026

This year's Confirmation service will take place on Sunday 26 April at 10.30 am and will be conducted by the Rt Revd Anderson Jeremiah, Bishop of Edmonton and one of the Area Bishops in the Diocese of London. We shall be preparing children in Year 5 and above and also any adults who have not themselves been confirmed and would like to be. Confirmation preparation will commence after half term. Please do let me know if either you or your child would like to be confirmed this year.

Confirmation and Enthronement of the Archbishop of Canterbury



Bishop Sarah officially became Archbishop of Canterbury in a legal ceremony and service in St Paul's Cathedral on 28 January, so she is now Archbishop Sarah. Her enthronement in Canterbury Cathedral will take place on the Festival of the Annunciation (25 March). We give thanks for her episcopal ministry here in London and we pray for her as she commences what must be the most challenging ministry in the Anglican

Communion, knowing that she will be a great blessing to the wider church.

Enthronement of the Archbishop of Westminster

It is a new season for our friends and fellow Christians in the Roman Catholic Church in England and Wales too. Their new Archbishop, the Rt Revd Richard Moth, who has served as the Bishop of Arundel and Brighton, will be enthroned nearby to St Peter's in Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 14 February. We pray for the soon-to-be Archbishop Richard as we continue to pray for the profound and visible unity of Christ's Church.

Walsingham Pilgrimage 2026 – 01 to 03 May 2026

We shall once again be joining our friends from St Matthew's, Westminster and Christ the Saviour, Ealing Broadway on a parish pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham in Norfolk. The cost (full board) will be £188 per person (plus any travel costs). If you have never been before or would like to know a little more

about Walsingham, where I have been a priest associate since 1994, please don't hesitate to let me know.

Farewell and thank you, Fiona Hymns

Many thanks to Fiona Hymns who concludes her time with us at St Peter's as Director of the Family Eucharist choir. We give thanks for all that she has done with us during her time here and we wish her every blessing for the future.

Ward Funding from Westminster City Council

We are very grateful to our Ward Councillors, Rachel Robathan, Elizabeth Hitchcock and Tony Devonish for granting ward funding to St Peter's Church for our new Youth Club. The funds are for community organisations and projects with the Knightsbridge and Belgravia Ward and they are providing us with new audio-visual equipment for use at the Youth Club and other activities for the whole community.

St Peter's Youth Club

Our new parish Youth Club had a good start with an Epiphany theme in January. **The next meeting is on Sunday 8th February from 2 to 4 pm** when we will be making cookies and our big question will be "What does it mean to love one another?" We would love your child to be in the Youth Club – more details from Mother Jennifer on motherjennifer@stpetereatonsquare.co.uk

NCIL Funding

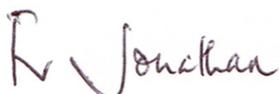
As we go to press we are awaiting the outcome of a grant we have applied for from Westminster City Council for Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy funds to replace our ailing lift and works to the kitchen and Parish Hall, which serves in many ways throughout the year and serves as a Community Hall for the whole community. We have been greatly assisted in this by Monica Lucas, Chair of the Belgravia Neighbourhood Forum and also by the members of the Victoria Neighbourhood Forum, since half the parish falls in the Victoria Area. Our aspiration is to undertake this as a discrete project as NCIL funds are available now.

Church Building Project

I shall shortly be distributing a specific leaflet outlining the next steps in the major building project to the portico and tower and other elements outlined in our "Doors wide open" project, now that essential works such as the fire alarm and electrical works inside the building are complete. We are using a project and bid-writing company called Counterculture to apply for an expression of interest grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund to carry out some repairs to the tower and also to scope the entire project and fundraising strategy as we move apace in 2026.

With my love, thanks and prayers,

as ever,



From Mthr Jennifer

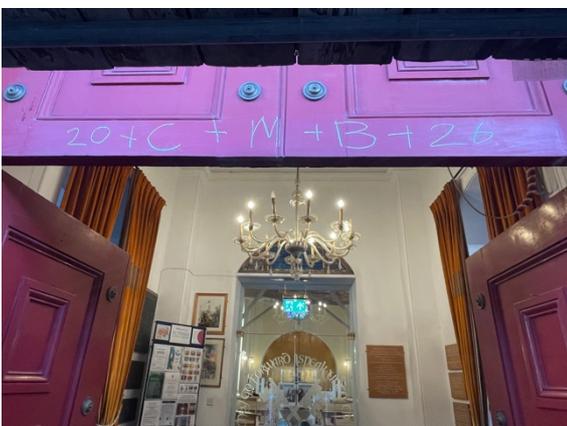
When are you going to take your Christmas decorations down?

Every year, as January arrives, a familiar question arises: *when should the Christmas decorations come down?* Some feel an urge to pack everything away as soon as the New Year's Day dishes are done, while others hold out into February. Far from being mere procrastination, these different approaches are rooted in a rich variety of Christian traditions, each offering its own insight into the meaning of the Christmas season.

Twelfth Night and Epiphany

Perhaps the best-known answer is Twelfth Night, traditionally celebrated on the evening of 5 January. Counting the Twelve Days of Christmas from Christmas Day itself, Twelfth Night marks the final evening before the Feast of the Epiphany on 6 January. In many parts of Europe, this was historically the moment when Christmas festivities officially ended.

In popular folklore, Twelfth Night carried a sense of urgency. Decorations left up beyond this point were thought to bring bad luck, while greenery taken down on the night itself was treated with ceremony rather than casually discarded. Some households would burn holly or ivy in the hearth, marking a symbolic farewell to Christmas joy and a turning toward the ordinary rhythms of the year.



The following day, Epiphany, celebrates the visit of the Magi to the Christ Child. Theologically, marking the moment when Christ is revealed to the wider world; not only to shepherds and angels, but to all the nations. For many Christians, this is a fitting and meaningful conclusion to Christmas, and decorations are taken down on 6 January.

Keeping Christmas Through Epiphanytide

While Epiphany is often treated as an ending, historically it was also a beginning. In the Church's calendar, Epiphany opens a season sometimes called Epiphanytide, which reflects on how Christ continues to be revealed in the world: at his baptism, in his miracles, and in his teaching.

In some traditions, Christmas decorations remain in place throughout this season. Cribbs and trees stay up as visual reminders that the incarnation of Christ continues to shape everything that follows. This approach resists the modern tendency to rush past Christmas and encourages a slower, more contemplative pace.



Candlemas: The Long Goodbye to Christmas

For those who truly dislike parting with Christmas there is another, even older and deeper tradition: **Candlemas**, celebrated on 2nd February. Candlemas marks the Presentation of Christ in the Temple, forty days after his birth, when Mary and Joseph bring him to Jerusalem according to Jewish law.

At this feast we hear of Simeon recognizing Jesus as “a light to lighten the Gentiles,” and candles are traditionally blessed and lit in church. For this reason, Candlemas has long been associated with light, hope, and fulfilment.

In medieval England and many parts of Europe, Candlemas was the *official* end of the Christmas season. Greenery and decorations

remained in place until this day, when they were finally taken down. Even today, some churches follow this tradition, keeping the crib until Candlemas as a sign that Christmas joy lingers longer than the world expects.

What the Traditions Teach Us



Each possible “ending” to Christmas highlights a different truth. Twelfth Night reminds us that celebration has rhythm and balance. Epiphany calls us to see Christ revealed to all people. Candlemas teaches patience and light in the depth of winter. Even the quiet packing away of decorations in mid-January can become a reflective moment, a

gentle transition rather than an abrupt end.

Perhaps the best answer to the question of when decorations should come down is this: *when you are ready to carry Christmas forward without them.* Whether that is on 5 January, 2 February, or somewhere in between, the deeper calling remains the same: to live out the joy we have celebrated.



From the Parish Magazine February 1936

St Peter's Wayfarers' Club was opened in October 1935, as an experiment to test whether the Wayfarer method is as successful for mixed cubs on weekdays as it has been proved to be for mixed centres on Sundays. It is a club with a committee of members and a club president, and is worked on ordinary club lines, but the committee members must be Wayfarer Bodyguard or Services Corps, so that the Wayfarer promises: "to help lonely people and to follow the Wayfarer Rule" guide the club. The club differs from the centre in two respects: (1) both girls and young men are members, and (2) the committee is responsible for the programme and business of the club. The attendance has grown steadily and there are about 70 to 80 present every Thursday. The club is open from 4 till 10. A girls' drill class is held from 5 to 6. This class is also open on Wednesday to give girls who have alternate days off a chance of attending every week. From 6 to 7 the dramatic group is busy rehearsing a play issued by the Village Drama League and written by Lady Scott, who was Provincial Commissioner of Girl Guides in Bengal. Also, between 6 and 7 a community singing class meets and is hoping to have a concert later on. From 7 to 10 part of the Wayfarer band plays for dancing and there are billiards and a table tennis upstairs. The Wayfarers' Sunday Association has just rented the top flat in St Peter's Institute and hopes to have it open as a girl's club on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, if help and funds are forthcoming. There is a great demand for clubs open on Tuesday and Friday, as well as on Wednesday and Thursday. The Wayfarers' Club would be open to any girl attending the girls' club.

COMMENT

The concern of the parish, from Victorian times to offer social as well as religious opportunities continued into the 1930s. Generally, such activities - of astonishing range - took place in the purpose-built St Peter's Institute on Buckingham Palace Rd, now demolished (see John Hilary's article on the Institute in the October/November magazine). St Peter's new Youth Club, without these extraordinary facilities, is also remarkable for its diverse coverage, from cooking to thoughtful discussions on important topics. It met first in January and will meet once a month and content will vary according to the seasons. We have had groups for young people in the past, from the early days of uniformed organisations to more informal gatherings and it is good to have a new one. Please draw this to the attention of children and young people you know.

Valerie Smith

It is cheering in these days to remember that on the Canadian prairie, at Kenville in the province of Manitoba, there stands a little church which we build as part of our Centenary, Thank-Offering in 1927. "St Peter's-of-the-Prairie" is in the care of Captain Morrell, Church Army captain. We are sure that he would be delighted to receive letters or picture papers from anyone in our congregation. His address is: Captain Morrell, C.A., St Paul's Benito, Manitoba. The Bishop of Brandon wrote, "I have not been to Kenville lately, but I hear from the people frequently, and all is going well there."

St Peter's Eaton Square, and St Peter's-of-the-Prairie – our worship and prayers surely join on Sundays, for while we are singing Evensong they must often be holding their morning service.

*Those whom many a land divides,
Many mountains, many tides,
Have they with each other part
Fellowship of heart with heart?*

Such a sense of fellowship ought without doubt to be very real and living between us and those who worship in our daughter church in Canada.

COMMENT

The parish had already had a long association with Canada, supporting mission there since the late 19th century. In 1929 the then Vicar Austin Thompson was put in touch with the Bishop of Brandon in the Diocese of Manitoba. With the help of a donation from St Peter's a church was built at Kenville, a settlement mainly of farmers who had gone out from England in the previous decade. The link continued for a long time until the community dwindled through economic changes and the church was finally closed. In 1978 the building was taken over as part of the Swan River Trust. But until then there had been much activity and affection between St Peter's Eaton Square and St Peter's-of-the-Prairie.

Valerie Smith

Searching for St Peter

Many a provincial art gallery has one or more major works of which it is particularly and rightly proud. This is certainly true of the Shipley Art Gallery in Gateshead which I visited recently. There, dominating a whole wall, is Tintoretto's painting of Christ Washing The Feet of The Disciples. The real name of the great Venetian Renaissance master incidentally was Jacapo Robusti. His father was a dyer – tintore in Italian. Jacapo was the little dyer – Tintoretto.

In his depiction of this scene from Chapter 13 of John's Gospel, Tintoretto shows our patron saint, Peter, having his feet washed at the Last Supper. Peter is on the extreme right of the painting. At first glance that is an odd place to locate the main subjects of the bible passage – that is until you realise where the painting hung in its original home, the church of San Marcuola in Venice. It was one of two, the other being Tintoretto's Last Supper, that hung either side of – **and at right angles to** – the main altar on adjoining walls of the chancel. The Last Supper was on the left; the Washing the Feet on the right. So, for the congregation or anyone in the nave looking up towards the high altar, the closest part of the painting was St Peter having his feet washed by Jesus. Make sense? On the far left of the picture, so furthest from the viewer, the person in red, standing alone, is Judas, unstrapping his sandals, ready for his turn.

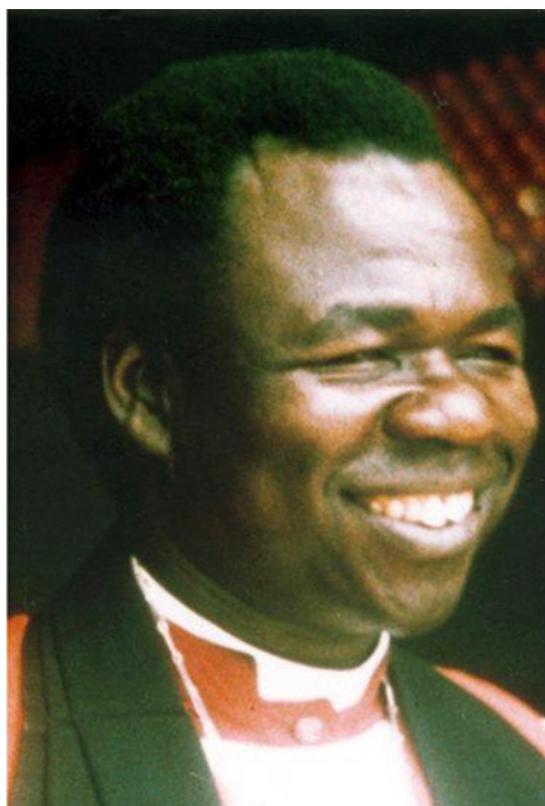


As you might imagine, how the painting got from Venice to Gateshead is a slightly complicated one and doesn't necessarily reflect well, by modern standards, on collectors along the way. It did though end up in Newcastle Cathedral between 1818 and 1986. The original of the Last Supper still hangs in San Marcuola's in Venice.

Tintoretto didn't just paint one version of the Washing of The Feet. He painted at least six. There is one in Toronto and another in Spain's main art museum, The Prado in Madrid. That one was long believed to be the original. Recent analysis though now suggests the original is the one dominating the Shipley Gallery in Gateshead.

David Stanley

Janani Luwum former Archbishop of Uganda



Janani Luwum was the Archbishop of Uganda from 1974 to 1977, a prominent leader in the modern African church, and a martyr who was murdered by Idi Amin's regime for his courageous stand against injustice and his unwavering commitment to Christ.

*The Annunciation of our Lord to the Blessed
Virgin Mary*



'The Annunciation of our Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary'
by
Henry Ossawa Tanner 1898

Readings for February & March 2026

<p>01 February 2026 Presentation of Christ Malachi 3.1-5 Psalm 24. 7-end Hebrews 2.14-end Luke 2.22-40</p>	<p>01 March 2026 2nd Sunday of Lent Genesis 12.1-4a Psalm 121 Romans 4.1-5, 13-17 John 3.1-17</p>
<p>08 February 2026 2nd Sunday before Lent Genesis 1.1 - 2.3 Psalm 136.1-9 Romans 8.18-25 Matthew 6.25-34</p>	<p>08 March 2026 3rd Sunday of Lent Exodus 17.1-7 Psalm 95 Romans 5.1-11 John 4.5-42</p>
<p>15 February 2026 Sunday next before Lent Exodus 24.12-end Psalm 99 Peter 1.16-end Matthew 17.1-9</p>	<p>15 March 2026 Mothering Sunday Exodus 2.1-10 Psalm 127.1-4 2 Corinthians 1.3-7 John 19.25-27</p>
<p>18 February 2026 Ash Wednesday Joel 2:12-28 Psalm 51:1-8 2 Corinthians 5:20-6:10 Matthew 6:1-6,16-21</p>	<p>22 March 2026 5th Sunday of Lent Ezekiel 37.1-14 Psalm 130 Romans 8.6-11 John 11.1-45</p>
<p>22 February 2026 First Sunday of Lent Genesis 2.15-17; 3.1-7 Psalm 32: 1-8 Romans 5.12-19 Matthew 4.1-11</p>	<p>29 March 2026 Palm Sunday <i>Liturgy of the Palms</i> Matthew 21:1-11</p> <p><i>Liturgy of the Passion</i> Isaiah 50.4-9a Psalm 31.9-16 Philippians 2.5-11 Passion according to St Matthew</p>

Calendar of intentions February 2026

Calendar of intentions February 2026 (cont.)

Date	Day	Mass intention
Su 1	THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE - CANDLEMAS	The Parish and People of God
Mo 2	<i>Feria</i>	Knightsbridge Kindergarten
Tu 3	<i>Anskar, Archbishop, Missionary, 865</i>	The Church of Sweden
We 4	<i>Feria</i>	Belgravia Neighbourhood Forum
Th 5	<i>Feria</i>	Westminster City School
Fr 6	<i>Martyrs of Japan, 1597</i>	The people of Japan
Sa 7	<i>Feria</i>	Churches Together in Westminster
Su 8	SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT	The Parish and People of God
Mo 9	<i>Feria</i>	Chelsea and Westminster Hospital
Tu 10	<i>Scholastica, abbess, c 543</i>	Edgware Abbey
We 11	<i>Feria</i>	Westminster St Margaret Deanery
Th 12	<i>Feria</i>	St Peter's School
Fr 13	<i>Feria</i>	Eaton House School
Sa14	<i>Cyril and Methodius, missionaries, co patrons of Europe, 869 and 885</i>	The Rt Revd Richard Moth on his enthronement as Archbishop of Westminster today
Su 15	SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT	The Parish and People of God

Date	Day	Mass Intention
Mo 16	<i>Feria</i>	Westminster Foodbank
Tu 17	<i>Janani Luwum, archbishop, martyr, 1977</i>	The Church and people of Uganda
We 18	ASH WEDNESDAY	For grace to keep the holy season of Lent faithfully
Th 19	<i>Lenten Feria</i>	St Matthew's, Westminster in vacancy
Fr 20	<i>Lenten Feria</i>	The Sea Cadets
Sa 21	<i>Lenten Feria</i>	The Metropolitan Police
Su 22	THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT	The Parish and People of God
Mo 23	<i>Polycarp, bishop, martyr c. 155</i>	Victoria Station
Tu 24	<i>Lenten Feria</i>	The Passage
We 25	<i>Lenten Feria</i> <i>Ember Day</i>	Carlos as he prepares for ordination
Th 26	<i>Lenten Feria</i>	The Royal Mews
Fr 27	<i>George Herbert, priest, poet, 1633</i>	Parish clergy
Sa 28	<i>Lenten Feria</i> <i>Ember Day</i>	Theological Colleges

Calendar of intentions - March 2026

Date	Day	Mass intention
Su 1	THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT	The Parish and People of God
Mo 2	<i>Chad, bishop, missionary, 672</i>	The Diocese of Lichfield
Tu 3	<i>Lenten Feria</i>	Victoria Neighbourhood Development Forum
We 4	<i>Lenten Feria</i>	The Cardinal Hume Centre
Th 5	<i>Lenten Feria</i>	+Emma, Acting Bishop of London
Fr 6	<i>Lenten Feria</i>	Westminster Abbey
Sa 7	<i>Perpetua, Felicity and their companions, martyrs, 204</i>	Modern day martyrs
Su 8	THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT	The Parish and People of God
Mo 9	<i>Lenten Feria</i>	Centrepoint
Tu 10	<i>Lenten Feria</i>	Kids for Kids
We 11	<i>Lenten Feria</i>	Caxton Youth Project
Th 12	<i>Lenten Feria</i>	Royal College of Defence Studies
Fr 13	<i>Lenten Feria</i>	Victoria BiD
Sa 14	<i>Lenten Feria</i>	London Ambulance Service
Su 15	THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT MOTHERING SUNDAY	The Parish and People of God All who nurture and care for children
Mo 16	<i>Lenten Feria</i>	Westminster City Council

Calendar of intentions - March 2026 (cont.)

Date	Day	Prayer Intention
Tu 17	<i>Patrick, bishop, missionary, patron of Ireland c 460</i>	The Church and people of Ireland
We 18	<i>Cyril, bishop, teacher of the faith, 386</i>	All theologians
Th 19	St Joseph of Nazareth	All fathers
Fr 20	<i>Cuthbert, bishop, missionary, 687</i>	Lindisfarne
Sa 21	<i>Thomas Cranmer, archbishop, Reformation martyr, 1556</i>	The Prayer Book Society
Su 22	THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT PASSION SUNDAY	The Parish and People of God
Mo 23	<i>Lenten Feria</i>	Social workers
Tu 24	<i>Walter Hilton, mystic, 1396</i>	Spiritual Directors
We 25	THE ANNUNCIATION OF OUR LORD TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	The Enthronement of Sarah, Archbishop of Canterbury in Canterbury Cathedral
Th 26	<i>Lenten Feria</i>	The London Diocesan Board for Schools – LDBS
Fr 27	<i>Lenten Feria</i>	The Chancellor of the Diocese of London – David Etherington KC
Sa 28	<i>Lenten Feria</i>	The London Diocesan Committee for the Care of Churches (DAC)
Sun 29	PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION	The Parish and People of God for grace to keep Holy Week faithfully
Mo 30	Monday in Holy Week	Amnesty International
Tu 31	Tuesday in Holy Week	Christian Aid

From Nick Moore

My name is Nick.

I am a very sensitive man.

I am thoughtful,

I am kind,

I am considerate of others,

I am intelligent,

I am hard working,

I am generous.

I am a writer, an artist, a runner and a loving and dedicated son, brother, brother-in-law, partner and uncle.

I am also a work addict and an alcoholic, and today I have been sober for 136 days.

On Monday 11 August 2025, I met Dr Neil Brener, the head of the addiction service at the Priory Hospital for the first time. It was not, frankly, an event on my bucket list. But at that stage, I had to be there: there simply was no other choice.

After speaking for about 45 or 50 minutes, Neil asked me if I knew who I was. A simple enough question you might think, and so I initially also thought. I paused and took a breath. I was about to start reciting my CV, a long list of academic and professional achievements, supplemented by a bewildering array of properties and cars and other material possessions that I own.

I did not do this. I had perhaps some little insight into my predicament, even then, in my deeply troubled state. I confessed to Neil that I was about to start reciting my CV, and suggested that that was, perhaps, not actually what he was asking me. He smiled and confirmed that it was indeed not what he was asking.

After a further moment of reflection, I told Neil “I have absolutely no idea who I am”. Neil immediately responded that that was the “most honest” thing that I had told him in the entire consultation.

How on earth did I get here. Just a few weeks shy of my 47th birthday, I was entirely unable to explain who I was without reference to some

external achievement or material possession. What had I been doing for those 47 years?

A period of deep reflection and contemplation followed for the next month. I moved back in with my mother who looked after me, fed me, and made sure I rested and slept properly. I spent as much time as possible with my partner, sister, brother-in-law and nephew as well as my mother.

I stopped drinking on 10 September 2025. I have been completely teetotal since then; for me now even communion wine is excluded.

Stopping drinking is the best decision I have ever made. Slowly, my senses are returning in depth, growing in resolution, and normalising after years of using work and alcohol to numb a very deep feeling of inadequacy, a near-total lack of any kind of self-esteem.

Childlike, I now can see the world in a new vibrancy, in a deeper level of detail, with greater resolution. New beauty shows itself forth to me, every day.

I am often now in awe. When was the last time you were truly in awe, truly had to stop what you were doing, even if just for a moment, to appreciate some wonder of the world, perhaps even just a very small detail? I recommend it. If you rarely enjoy this feeling, perhaps pause to contemplate why that might be.

In just 136 days, sobriety has allowed me to begin a journey to define myself as who I truly am, in the deepest spiritual sense, and entirely without reference to any material achievement or possession.

It was a great privilege to be able to share that developing self-definition of who I truly am with you in my opening remarks today. Thank you for listening. It is a critical part of my journey towards a normal sense of self-worth and self-esteem.

I am coming to recognise that shame and guilt are two very powerful drivers keeping legions of people trapped in damaging and destructive patterns of addiction and helplessness. They both had a profound effect on me and caused me to perpetuate my harmful habits for many years, notwithstanding the considerable academic and professional success that I have been so lucky to enjoy in my life so far, despite my addictions.

But what of prevention? What of allowing potential addicts to sidestep the personal pain and trauma and hurt and illness, mental and physical, so intimately linked with addiction. Not to mention the collateral damage to friends, families, loved ones, colleagues, the broader community and

society as a whole; in fact, anyone who might have the fortune, or perhaps misfortune, to encounter us.

And then there is the huge impact of addiction on crime, dragging so many people into the grasp of the criminal justice system. Lives ruined, chances and opportunities blighted, people and society and the taxpayer bearing the cost.

I hope that by starting to share my story of addiction and recovery publicly it might in some small way help others who are currently struggling in silence to seek help sooner. In this way, I hope that we can begin to dismantle and ultimately demolish the walls of shame and guilt that have trapped so many addicts for so long. Maybe we can also hope to be able to prevent others from even setting course along that damaging path in the future.

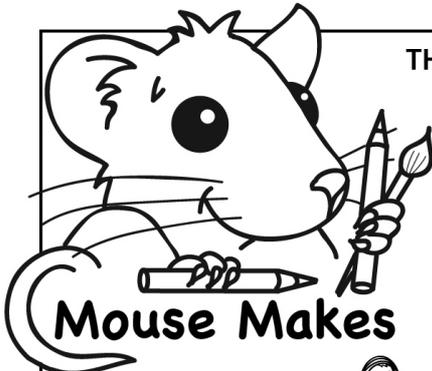
Truly, if we achieve this, even to some small degree, that will be the most enormous gift, and one which, as Christians, we should be proud to be a part of.

Nick Moore

Dr Nick Moore has been a member of our congregation at St Peter's since 2013 and was elected to the PCC in 2024. He trained as a medical doctor at Cambridge and Harvard and worked as a junior surgical trainee until 2006. He has worked in investment banking for the last 20 years.

The article below is based on the "open mic address" that Nick delivered to The Forward Trust National Reunion Event on Saturday 24 January at St John' Church, Hackney.

Children's Pages



Read the story in
Luke 4:1-13



THE TEMPTATION OF JESUS

After Jesus was baptised in the River Jordan where did the Holy Spirit lead him to? v1

How many days was Jesus being tempted by the devil? v2

What did Jesus eat? v2

What did the devil tempt Jesus to turn a stone into? What did Jesus say? v3-4

What did the devil offer Jesus if He worshipped him? What did Jesus say? v7-8

What did the devil ask Jesus to do? What did Jesus say? v9

FIRST TEMPTATION

THE DEVIL SAID:

"If you are God's Son order this stone to turn into bread."

JESUS REPLIED:

"Man shall not live on bread alone."

Read Deuteronomy 8:3

WE LEARN:

Read the Bible

Learn God's word.



SECOND TEMPTATION

THE DEVIL SAID:

"I will give you power and wealth if you worship me."

JESUS REPLIED:

"Worship the Lord your God and serve only Him."

Read Deuteronomy 6:13

WE LEARN:

Put God first

Worship only Him.



JORDAN



T W L D G
R O G L O R Y L O
I B A P T I S E D
V O F O O T H D
S E R V E B T I
J O R D A N J E G



F O R T Y D A Y S S O N K L O R D N H
T D O W N O N W O R S H I P
T E S T W O R L D L T U N B
L V T E M P T A T I O N G R
E I A M J E S U S F N G D E
N L K P D E S E R T E R O A
T H O L Y S P I R I T Y M D
I M J E R U S A L E M F S J
W I L D E R N E S S J U M P

JESUS • BAPTISED • RIVER • JORDAN • HOLY SPIRIT • LED
WILDERNESS • DESERT • FORTY DAYS • HUNGRY • DEVIL
TEMPTATION • STONE • BREAD • WRITTEN • SON • WORLD
KINGDOMS • GLORY • WORSHIP • SERVE • GOD • HIGH

JERUSALEM • TEMPLE • SON • JUMP • DOWN • LIFT • FOOT • LORD • TEST • LENT



THIRD TEMPTATION

THE DEVIL SAID:

"If you are God's Son throw yourself down, the scriptures say God will take care of you."

JESUS REPLIED:

"Do not put the Lord your God to the test."

Read Deuteronomy 6:16

WE LEARN:

God cares, trust

Him do not test Him.



Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
1 Samuel 2:11-17, 22-25, 3:1-21

As soon as he was old enough to leave his parents, Samuel went to live at God's temple in Shiloh, with the priest, Eli..

Eli's sons were also priests, but they helped themselves to what people had brought to give to God.



Eli talked to them about it. They ignored him.



But Samuel did all the work he was given well.

One night, after everyone had gone to bed, Samuel heard someone calling him.



He thought it was Eli, so he ran to him.



No, I didn't call you

It happened again.



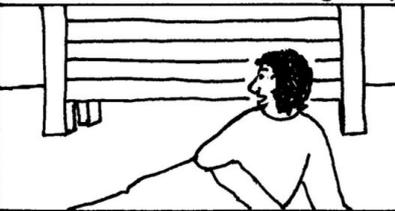
I didn't call. Go back to bed.

The third time, Eli knew it must be God calling Samuel.



You must say, 'Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.'

God called Samuel again,



and Samuel answered as he had been told.

I told Eli his sons had done bad things, but he has not stopped them. Now, even being sorry will not make up for what has happened.

The next morning, Eli demanded to be told what God had said.



Samuel was afraid, but he told him.

He is God. He will deal with us as is right.



God continued to talk to Samuel. He became known throughout Israel.



m	r	i	g	h	t	s	o	r	r	y	k
o	c	s	j	t	e	p	p	z	h	a	b
r	s	r	k	a	l	e	a	v	e	g	p
n	c	a	l	l	i	n	g	p	a	p	i
i	b	e	o	k	s	w	s	i	r	r	v
n	r	l	r	e	t	d	t	g	d	i	b
g	o	d	d	d	e	m	a	n	d	e	d
a	u	j	r	p	n	n	s	o	n	s	d
b	g	i	p	n	i	n	h	r	w	t	d
s	h	o	e	a	n	s	w	e	r	e	d
t	t	v	n	i	g	h	t	d	c	x	j
s	h	i	l	o	h	s	a	m	u	e	l

talked

Israel

Shiloh

stopped

night

Eli

leave

demanded

calling

right

ignored

priest

brought

heard

sorry

third

God

speak

sons

answered

Lord

listening

Samuel

morning

Recipe

Parsnip Soup

Ingredients

- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 2 garlic cloves, finely chopped
- 600g/1lb 5oz parsnips, cut into 1cm/½-inch cubes
- ½ tsp dried red chilli flakes, plus extra to serve
- 1 litre/1¾ pints hot vegetable stock
- 200ml/7fl oz double cream
- salt and freshly ground black pepper



For the croûtons

- 3 thick slices good bread, such as sourdough, cut into 2.5cm/1 inch pieces
- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 55g/2oz Gruyère cheese, finely grated (optional)

Method

1. Preheat the oven to 200C/180C Fan/Gas 6.
2. Heat the oil in a heavy-based saucepan over a medium heat. Add the garlic and parsnips and fry for 4–5 minutes, stirring occasionally, until coloured. Add the chilli and fry for 1 minute.
3. Pour in the stock, stir and bring to a simmer. Cook with the lid on for 12–15 minutes, or until the parsnips are tender.
4. Meanwhile, for the croûtons, put the bread on a baking tray in a single layer and drizzle with the oil. Sprinkle over the cheese, if using, and season with salt and pepper. Bake for 5–10 minutes, or until crisp and golden.
5. Remove the soup from the heat and blitz with a stick blender until smooth.
6. Return to the heat, stir in the cream and heat through. Season to taste with salt and pepper.
7. Serve the soup topped with the croûtons and a sprinkling of chilli flakes if you wish.

Mayfair - Saturday 16th May 2026

Save the Date!



The date for this year's Mayfair is now in the diary! We're excited to share that several stalls are already planned, and we're now looking for volunteers to help run them.

Please do save the date and join us on Saturday 16th May as we come together to enjoy the day and raise money for our church.

If you would like to offer your help, please contact Mother Jennifer: motherjennifer@stpetereatonsquare.co.uk.

Lent and Holy Week 2026 at St Peter's Church



ASH WEDNESDAY

Wednesday 18th February

*One of the principal holy days of the Church
when all should make every effort to be in church
to receive the blessed sacrament and the imposition of ashes*

8 am Holy Eucharist (said) with imposition of ashes
12.30 pm Holy Eucharist (said) with imposition of ashes
7 pm Choral Eucharist with imposition of ashes

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Thursdays in Lent at 6 pm (beginning 26th February)

PARISH LENT COURSE - ACTS OF HOPE

Wednesdays at 9 am (starting 25th February)

Studies in the Acts of the Apostles
with voices collected by the Charity "Embrace the Middle East"

if there is sufficient demand we may put on an additional Zoom session

PARISH LENTEN QUIET DAY

Saturday 7th March 10 am to 2.30 pm
at Stephen's, Rochester Row
with three addresses by the Parish Clergy
on Saints whose days fall in Lent

Saints David, Cuthbert and Chad

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES

Palm Sunday – 29th March

8.am Holy Communion – Book of Common Prayer
9.30 am Family Eucharist with dramatic reading of the Passion
10.45am Procession of palms leading straight into
The Choral Eucharist with Sung Passion Gospel
Missa Voce Mea – Ingeneri ; O Lord, in thy wrath - Gibbons

Monday 30th March

12.30 pm Holy Eucharist (said)
7 pm Holy Eucharist (said) with reflection

Tuesday 31st March

12.30 pm Holy Eucharist (said)
7 pm Holy Eucharist (said) with reflection

Wednesday 1st April

8 am Holy Eucharist (said)
12.30 pm Holy Eucharist (said)
7 pm Holy Eucharist (said) with reflection

Maundy Thursday – 2nd April

7 pm Choral Eucharist of the Lord's Supper, with the washing of feet,
the stripping of the sanctuary and watch of the passion
Missa Dicebat Jesus – D. Lobo
Domine, to mihi lava pedes – Cardoso ; In monte Oliveti - Almeida

Good Friday – 3rd April

10 am The Good Friday Story (worship for all ages)
12 noon The Liturgy of Good Friday
Lamentations I - Tallis ; Hear my prayer - Purcell
Crucifixus à 8 – Lotti ; Adoramus te, Christe - Lassus

Holy Saturday - 4th April

8 pm The Easter Vigil
lighting of the new fire and the First Eucharist of Easter
Missa Prima sexti toni – Croce ; Vide aquam - Lassus

Easter Day – Sunday 5th April

8 am Holy Communion – Book of Common Prayer
9.30 am Family Eucharist
11 am Festival Choral Eucharist
Missa Festiva, op. 62 – Peeters ; Laudate Dominum, op. 9 - Dupré

Our Common Life

<p>Vicar Fr Jonathan Kester 020 7235 4242 07539 332408 frjonathan@stpetereatonsquare.co.uk</p>	<p>Parish Administrator Sheila Matthews 020 7235 4482 admin@stpetereatonsquare.co.uk</p>
<p>Assistant Priest Mother Jennifer Midgley-Adam 020 7201 9950 motherjennifer@stpetereatonsquare.co.uk</p> <p>Honorary Assistant Priest Fr Herbert Bennett</p>	<p>Bookkeeper Susan Redwin 020 7235 4482 finance@stpetereatonsquare.co.uk</p>
<p>Licensed Lay Minister Dr Judith Richardson 07907 459693</p>	<p>Choral Eucharist Director of Music Andrew John Smith 07545 009607 music@stpetereatonsquare.co.uk</p> <p>Assistant Director of Music (Choral Eucharist Organist) Dan Moulton</p>
<p>Churchwardens Samantha Singlehurst sammiefromlondon@hotmail.com 07930 826475</p> <p>Ekanem Peers empeers@yahoo.co.uk</p>	<p>Family Eucharist Deputy Director of Music Andrew Sackett andrewjsackett@gmail.com</p> <p>Director Family Eucharist Choir Fiona Hymns</p>
<p>Hon Treasurer John Hilary jhilary@gmail.com</p>	<p>Resources Committee Convenor: Richard Carter</p>
<p>P.C.C. Secretary Valerie Smith Vasmith440@gmail.com</p>	<p>Formation Group Convenor: Fr Jonathan Kester</p>
<p>Verger/Facilities Coordinator Colin Chadwick 07365 002204 verger@stpetereatonsquare.co.uk</p>	<p>Transformation Group Convenor: TBC</p>

Our Common Life

<p>Standing Committee Chair: Fr Jonathan Kester</p>	<p>Electoral Roll Officer Dr Judith Richardson richardson_judith@hotmail.com 07907 459693</p>
<p>Hospitality Co-Ordinator Raana Khatabakhsh</p>	<p>Communications Group Valerie Smith</p>
<p>Parish Magazine Editor Phoebe Hilary</p>	<p>Safeguarding Officer Raana Khatabakhsh safeguarding@stpetereatonsquare.co.uk</p>
<p>School Headteacher Jane Carrington 020 7641 4230</p>	<p>Children's Champion Maite Boudy</p>
	<p>Bible Reading Fellowship Please contact Parish Office for more information</p>
<p>P.C.C. Members Maite Boudy Richard Carter Stephen Coultie Robin Duttson Jim Glen Oliver Grant John Hilary Raana Khatabakhsh Alasdair Locke Nicolas Moore Evelyn Olugboja David Propert Ekanem Peers Carlos Remotti-Breton Judith Richardson Valerie Smith James Watson</p>	<p>Deanery Synod Richard Carter 020 76414230 John Hilary jhilary@gmail.com Jim Glen 07970375655 Ekanem Peers empeers@yahoo.co.uk Judith Richardson 020 3268 0055</p> <hr/> <p>Lay Eucharistic Ministers Valerie Smith Carl Muller Jane Booth Raana Khatabakhsh Evelyn Olugboja</p>

Sunday Morning Services

Holy Communion BCP	08:00 am
Family Eucharist	09:30 am
Choral Eucharist with our world-class choir	11:00 am

Weekday Eucharist

Each day Monday to Friday	12.30 pm
<i>also Wednesday</i>	08.00 am

Morning Prayer: Monday - Friday at 08:00am
(Excluding Wednesday)

Evening Prayer:
Monday - Friday at 5.00pm

We are open for private prayer Monday – Friday
8.00am – 5.00pm