

St Peter's Parish Magazine



October and
November
2025

Contents

From Fr Jonathan.....	2
From Mthr Jennifer.....	6
Parish News.....	8
Arise Africa.....	9
From the Parish Magazine October 1935.....	10
From the Parish Magazine November 1935.....	11
Searching for St Peter.....	12
Heritage Open Days.....	14
Nicholas Ridley and Hugh Latimer.....	16
St Cecelia.....	17
Calendar for October 2025.....	18
Calendar for November 2025.....	20
Readings for October & November 2025.....	22
St Peter's Institute.....	23
A Moving Experience.....	25
Recipe.....	30
Children's Pages.....	32
Our Common Life.....	34

From Fr Jonathan



Dear friends

As I write this letter the season of autumn is upon us – *“the season of mist and mellow fruitfulness”* as the poet John Keats evocatively put it in his ode “To Autumn”. October begins with a rich range of Harvest celebrations, not only in the Church but also in the schools of our Parish – our own St Peter’s School, Westminster City School Eaton House School and the Knightsbridge Kindergarten. We give thanks for the good things of creation that we so frequently take for granted but also reflect on how that creation has been squandered, and humanity has forgotten its vocation of being stewards of all that God has given us. In some of those Harvest celebrations the children have reflected on the words which can be derived from the letters of HARVEST – giving thanks for the things that we EAT and we HAVE – whilst also reflecting on those who STARVE through the unequitable distribution of the world’s resources and which could be remedied by humanity relearning the need to SHARE the good things of creation.

October then gives way to November, sometimes referred to as the Kingdom season, beginning with the celebration of All Saints, the commemoration of All Souls, Remembrance Sunday and leading up to the great Solemnity of Christ the King at the climax and crescendo of the old church year, before the new Church year begins on Advent Sunday. Owing to the way the dates fall this year we shall keep our celebration of All Saints on Sunday 02 November and our commemoration of All Souls on Monday 03 November, both with a said Requiem at 12.30 and a Solemn Choral Requiem at 7 pm. Look out for sheets to sign at the back of church for names of loved ones to be remembered at those Requiems and don’t forget to join us for the services themselves. Things are now moving on apace with our work to the fabric of the Church building. After a protracted process, we have just renewed seven-year leases with our two commercial crypt tenants. The urgent work for fire safety in the new alarm throughout the building, the emergency lighting, signage and compartmentation being

complete, it was good to meet on site for a multi-agency meeting with our new architect Kathryn Harris, Vitruvius stonemasons and the Structural engineers on Friday 26 September. This represented the formal taking over of St Peter's by Kathryn in her role as our quinquennial inspector and as major project architect and her carrying out of an up-to-date state-of-the-building report which will lead to the all-important RIBA stage 2 report, signifying a change in gear in our journey towards our major restoration project.

We are currently involved in a statutory consultation with Westminster City Council with a view to petitioning the Chancellor of the Diocese of London to bring the whole building under Faculty Jurisdiction, through the provisions of the ecclesiastical exemption. Unusually for an ecclesiastical building, in the newly built the church following the 1987 fire simply the worship space (broadly representing the footprint of the Georgian Church) was consecrated and placed under faculty jurisdiction whilst the remainder of the building came *de facto* under Local Authority Listed Building Consent. For the past thirty or so years nothing major has needed to be done to the Church, but now the dual consents which would be required for the works ahead of us make things extremely complicated. We have been hugely helped in process by the David Etherington KC, the Diocesan Chancellor and Stuart Jones, the Registrar, our Archdeacons and Diocesan Property Team in moving to this step which we hope and pray will now proceed smoothly.

With the help and support of Monica Lucas and the Belgravia Neighbourhood Forum we are currently applying for Community Infrastructure Levy (NCIL) funding to replace the worn-out and unreliable Church lift and to upgrade the Parish Hall and Kitchen, as a discreet project in the current round of NCIL bids. St Peter's parish embraces both the Belgravia and Victoria Neighbourhood Areas, so we have been encouraged to bid from both pots. In so doing we are demonstrating that we are key players and partners in the local community, and we wish our resources to be freely available to all in our diverse locality and beyond. It is our aspiration that these resources continue to be available to all -

even during the major works at the west end of the Church to the tower and portico.

Many thanks to Valerie Smith for all her hard work in putting together a splendid exhibition of the history of St Peter's "Changing Times, Changing Spaces - From Georgian to Modern in a Parish Church" as our participation in the national Heritage Open Days on 19 and 20 September. We had a good number of visitors through the Church on both days. Thank you also to all those who helped steward, serve refreshments and in all sorts of other ways during the exhibition.

On Sunday 21 September (St Matthew's Day) we said farewell to the Revd Jacqui Miller who has served at St Peter's as self-supporting Associate Priest since 2019. I have known Jacqui and her husband Fr Luke (Archdeacon of London) since we were all curates in the Diocese of St Albans in the early 1990s. Luke, Jacqui and I were all ordained to the diaconate by the Rt Revd John Taylor, the late Bishop of St Albans. Fr Luke and I were both ordained to the priesthood by Bishop John, although Jacqui was ordained to the priesthood later by Bishop Sarah in 2019. We have so much to thank Jacqui for – not least in the two extended periods that St Peter's was without a Vicar and then without a full-time Assistant Priest. It was good to make a presentation to Jacqui as a small token of our appreciation at the main celebrations of the Eucharist on 21 September. Jacqui has kindly written a message to all at St Peter's in the "Parish News" section of this Magazine.

As we look forward in faith, hope and love to our two hundredth birthday in 2027 and to all that is to come, we give thanks for the great inheritance we have received from those who have gone before us and commit ourselves anew to ensuring that St Peter's continues to be a beacon of light in a darkened world and a place in which all without exception experience the inclusive warmth, love and generosity of God's all-embracing love

With my thanks, warmest good wishes and prayers,
as always,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "R Jonathan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

From Mthr Jennifer



Towards the end of August, I was walking along the Southbank. The sky was an amazing combination of dark blues, and oranges. (The picture above doesn't do the sky justice!) St Paul's Cathedral looked as if someone had drawn around it to outline the dome.

It reminded me of *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner* by Samuel Taylor Coleridge.

*"The sun came up upon the left, Out of the sea came he;
And he shone bright, and on the right Went down into the sea."
(Part 1, lines 25-28)*

Coleridge's Mariner speaks of a sun that sails its eternal course, rising and setting over waters that hold both beauty and dread. In London, there is no sea only the Thames coiling like an old memory through the city. When evening comes, the sky above St Paul's Cathedral ignites into a spectacle of molten gold and rose. The river, the dome, the skyline. They all seem momentarily caught in that sublime rhythm of ascent and descent, of light surrendering itself to shadow.

*“The western wave was all aflame, The day was well-nigh done!
Almost upon the western wave Rested the broad bright Sun.”*
(Part 3, lines 29-32)

Coleridge’s lines in this moment capture the moment that the wave of light rolls over London’s rooftops, spilling into narrow lanes, gilding spires and cranes alike. St Paul’s stands at the center like a vast ship moored in time. Wren’s dome, weathered by soot, war, and rain, now gleams as if newly forged by a celestial fire. The light across its curves is slow and deliberate.

I think of the mariner’s ship: “as idle as a painted ship / Upon a painted ocean” (Part 2, lines 35,36) and how London too, in this moment, seems suspended between movement and rest. The buses crawl like sluggish vessels along Ludgate Hill, but the air above is dreamlike, frozen in beauty. The bells of St Paul’s begin to toll, each note feeling like a heartbeat.

As I stood there, people lift their phones to capture the view, to freeze it, to own it for a moment.

I think of the mariner’s final benediction, that moment when he returns to the world of men bearing the weight of revelation. The sunset, too, feels like such a benediction; a daily reminder that endings are not erasures but transformations. The sky’s burning is not destruction but transfiguration; the sun must die to rise again.

*“He went like one that hath been stunned And is of sense forlorn:
A sadder and a wiser man, He rose the morrow morn.”* (Part 7, lines 109-112)

Mthr Jennifer

Parish News

October and November 2025

The Revd Jacqui Miller writes...



I'd like to say a huge thank you to everyone who made my final Sunday at St. Peter's such a wonderful morning. Thank you for all your kind words, and for the lovely presents. The icon has gone up in my study, and I will think of you all whenever I see it. The very generous cheque will wait a while, so that I have time to think of the most worthwhile thing to do with it.

My time at St. Peter's has been so varied that I hardly know where to start when I think of it. Personally, you all saw me through my journey to priesthood, but together we also navigated Covid and a fair amount of movement in staffing. I very much hope, now you have the great team you do, that you will be able to move forward confidently with all that God has in store. I will watch with interest and will continue to pray for you with love, and with thanksgiving for all we have done together.

St Peter's members beginning new University Courses

Many congratulations to Lara Marques who has accepted an offer to study Medicine at the University of Southampton and to Sophie Thompson accepted to study medicine at the University of Gallway. Congratulations, too, to Zack Probert who is starting at Grey College in the University of Durham to study history

St Peter's School

Many thanks to Jim Glen who has been Chair of Governors since 2021. At the most recent Full Governing Body meeting, Fr Jonathan was elected Chair of Governors and Jim as Vice Chair of Governors for the coming year.

Arise Africa

Unite in prayer with the church in Africa

Arise Africa online on 22 October
7.30 – 8.30 You tube

Christians in Africa are asking you to help them stop the violence and start the healing. Your prayers are a powerful way to stand with them, and you're invited to join a special online event to pray for your persecuted church family in sub-Saharan Africa and find out more about the Arise Africa campaign.

Across the continent, 16.2 million Christians have been displaced by violence and persecution. One of them is Imma, from Benue State in Nigeria. Her village was attacked at night by Fulani militants, who have ties to so called Islamic State. Some of her husband's family were killed. But Imma managed to flee to a camp for IDPs (internationally displaced people). "God showed mercy when He allowed us to survive this attack," she says. "Let Him please convince other people to help us. So that we can take care of ourselves. Since we arrived here, not all of us found a place to sleep. And there's not enough food."

Simon's village was also attacked by Fulani militants, and he arrived at the same IDP camp as Imma. 'It is my prayer that God continues to strengthen us, and fellow Christians' Simon says. 'That He continues to help us to listen to His words and obey.'

Please join in prayer for believers like Simon and Imma. 'I pray that God empowers fellow believers to help us' Imma says 'to help us spiritually by praying for us and also to help us with other needs.'

Courtesy of Open Doors

From the Parish Magazine October 1935

One goes forward without knowing the future, and without knowing whether success will come. But it is necessary to go forward all the same. – Marshal Foch.

My Dear Friends,

I think that all of us feel that it is no ordinary return to work and the life which we must all of us take up after the holidays. None of us can have felt completely happy and at ease while we have been away; although there is something in the steadfastness of the eternal hills and the calmness of the countryside which amid all the eternal hills and the calmness of the countryside which amid all the anxieties and the problems which on behalf of our nation and the world our statesmen were facing gave us something of that feeling of the permanence of the world which Nature always gives. I believe that few words more aptly express our duty than those I have set over this letter. A contest no less real in the soul of the Nations than in that awful catastrophe which will always be associated with the name of Foch is being carried on. I shall never forget the tones of Bishop Wilkinson's voice when on one occasion he quoted the words of the psalmist, "The Lord sitteth above the waterflow, the Lord remaineth a King for ever." It is these words that I commend to you as also I know that no words of mine are needed to lay upon you the charge of prayer and of faith, whate'er betide. Let us bring to the tasks that lie ahead something of the coolness and steadfastness which living in the heart of Nature and close to that first and still abiding revelation of God may have brought to us.

May God enable us to do our part, as a Parish, in making some contribution to His Kingdom and the best that we can give is to give our minds to try and understand. His Mind and Will and our should offer them for the needs of our world

AUSTIN THOMPSON

COMMENT

October: This was a difficult period in Europe with Germany re-arming in contradiction of the Treaty of Versailles and Italian aggression increasing. In England as well the inter-war social problems of poverty and employment and class tension continued; meanwhile a significant general election was looming. The parish area was still seemingly a place of privilege but Austin Thompson's letter to the parish shows that like his predecessor he and his congregation were still far from being cut off from the realities of life.

Valerie Smith

From the Parish Magazine November 1935

The Vicar's Letter

My dear Friends,

I am more sorry than I can say to be in bed out of the work of the Parish for a while. It is all the more disappointing that it should happen after a holiday and just as the main work in the Parish is beginning. But I hope that if there is any way in which I can help anyone they will not hesitate to write to me and I should be very glad to see any of you who may care to come and see me. I am very fortunate in that Mr. Fletcher is free to help and the Clergy at St. John's are willingly bearing the extra work which my inability to be about lays on them.

I think that I have already made it known that Mr. de Langdale would be leaving the parish after Christmas as unfortunately the finances of St. John's are not sufficient for more than the stipend of the Priest in charge and a Priest for Sunday or occasional help.

I am more anxious than I have ever been over the financial state of the Parish, and the Church Council will have to go very seriously into the question, as it seems, of severe cuts in the Choir and other essential Funds on which the live of the Parish depends. I shall have to write more in details in the December Monthly. Meanwhile, I am sure I can rely on all of you doing your best to help us over these last two months of the year.

This month with its Commemoration of All Saints and Remembrance Day, seems each year to gather to itself a greater solemnity and certainly never since the first Armistice Day has it deeper significance than now.

COMMENT

November: At an already difficult time St Peter's faced its own specific problems with the Vicar's illness at a busy time loss of one of the priests from St John's Wilton Rd. The parish was also in financial difficulties with serious cutbacks required. The imminence of Armistice Day inevitably prompted thoughts of the First World War and the desperate desire to avoid the slaughter of that period.

Valerie Smith

Searching for St Peter

It was when I was trying to find my way to a good place for mudlarking on the Thames foreshore that I found myself heading down Peter's Hill. It's the main walkway from St Paul's Cathedral to the Millennium footbridge and across to Tate Modern. I thought to myself it must have religious connotations, especially as Sermon Lane is incorporated into it, and resolved to do more research. I then promptly forgot about it. It was only when I found myself in the same spot again, visiting the calligraphy exhibition by the South London Lettering Association of which our own Ann Caro is a member, at Gallery 101 on the corner of the street, that I started looking it up.

There's been a Peter's Hill in that location south of St Paul's since before the current cathedral was built. When the Millennium bridge was built, the street was straightened, widened and lengthened.

The name Peter's Hill comes, perhaps not surprisingly, from a church. Old maps show it was once St Peter's Hill. The church which had stood on the hill up from the river was first recorded in the 12th century. During the English Civil War, the parish demonstrated its defiance towards Oliver Cromwell by continuing to use the Book of Common Prayer, despite restrictions at the time. Not long afterwards, like most parish churches in the City, this St Peter's was destroyed in the Fire of London in 1666. Unlike most others, it did not make the list of 51 for rebuilding by Sir Christopher Wren.

Surely then, Sermon Lane must be linked religiously to Peter's Hill, as well as physically? Perhaps not. The London Encyclopaedia states it is *"perhaps named after Adam Sermoneinarius, a 13th century property owner, or since it was once known as Sheremongers Lane, its name may have come from the sheremongers, who sheared or cut, and rounded the silver plates used in the minting of coins"*.

And what about the origins of the name of the adjoining Knightrider Street? That's a whole different article.

David Stanley

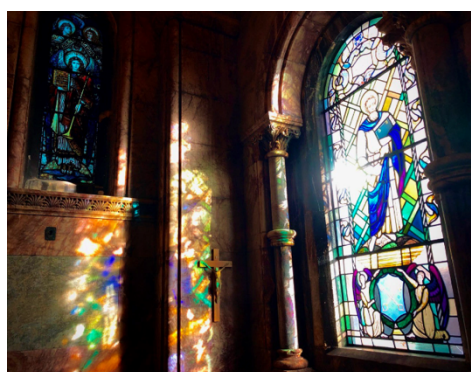
The Heritage Open Days:

19 and 20 September 2025



For the second year St Peter's participated in Heritage Open Days, which coincided this year with London Open House Week, but is not the same. Heritage Open Days are an England-wide series of events which for 2025 focused on the theme "Architecture". St Peter's responded to this with an exhibition entitled "Changing Times, Changing Spaces – from Georgian to modern in parish church" showing how a building can adapt to social and cultural changes over nearly two hundred years.

Round the church, starting at the west door and working anticlockwise, there were notes about key points in each historical period: the Georgian, the High Victorian, the Two World Wars, the after-war period and the modern period, including the story of the fire. It concluded with a "What Next?" section, leading on to the planned rebuilding project which will occupy us over the next few years and include our 200th anniversary. Linked to the various key points were articles associated with that period – drawings of the church and of the Victorian extension, books of photographs, copies of contemporary parish magazines, portraits of important people, showing the development of the area from the later 18th century to the present. Visitors were given a booklet as a basis for a self-guided tour of the exhibition,



though volunteers were on hand to welcome people and answer their questions as necessary, concluding with an offer of tea or coffee and biscuits at the end. Although the Exhibition did not, as last year, focus specifically on the mosaics they were still included in the tour and much admired.

Also, in the sacristy the chasubles made by Caroline Davies were laid out, from Advent through to All Souls – a rare chance even for regular to see the all sets at once. Visitors were also

shown the window in the Vestry which formed the image for the Exhibition with the set-in-stone window and the fluctuating light coming through it picking up the theme of stability and change.

In total there were around 110-120 visitors in the day and a half, slightly up on last year. The flow of visitors was rather different with a steady flow of smaller groups throughout the whole period rather than a concentration at the end. Most of the visitors were passers-by without a connection with the church though some knew of it and were delighted to find it open and with an exhibition in progress.

Thanks to the stalwart volunteers who helped over both days, to make it a welcoming and interesting experience. It was rather disappointing that – even though the event had been widely advertised both in the church building, and through our emails to all on our mailing list very few of the congregation came on either day. Perhaps they think there isn't much to learn about the history of the church and the challenges it has faced but there really is!

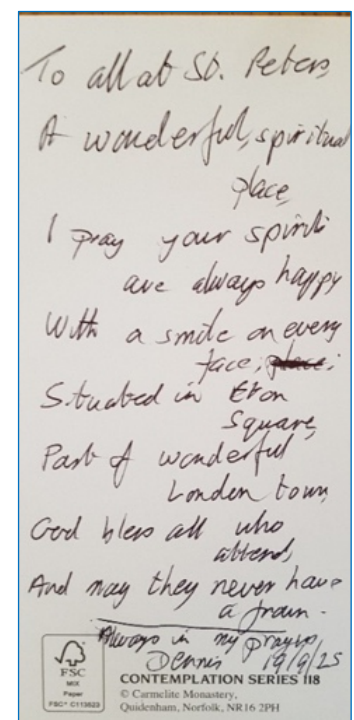


One visitor kindly left us this verse.

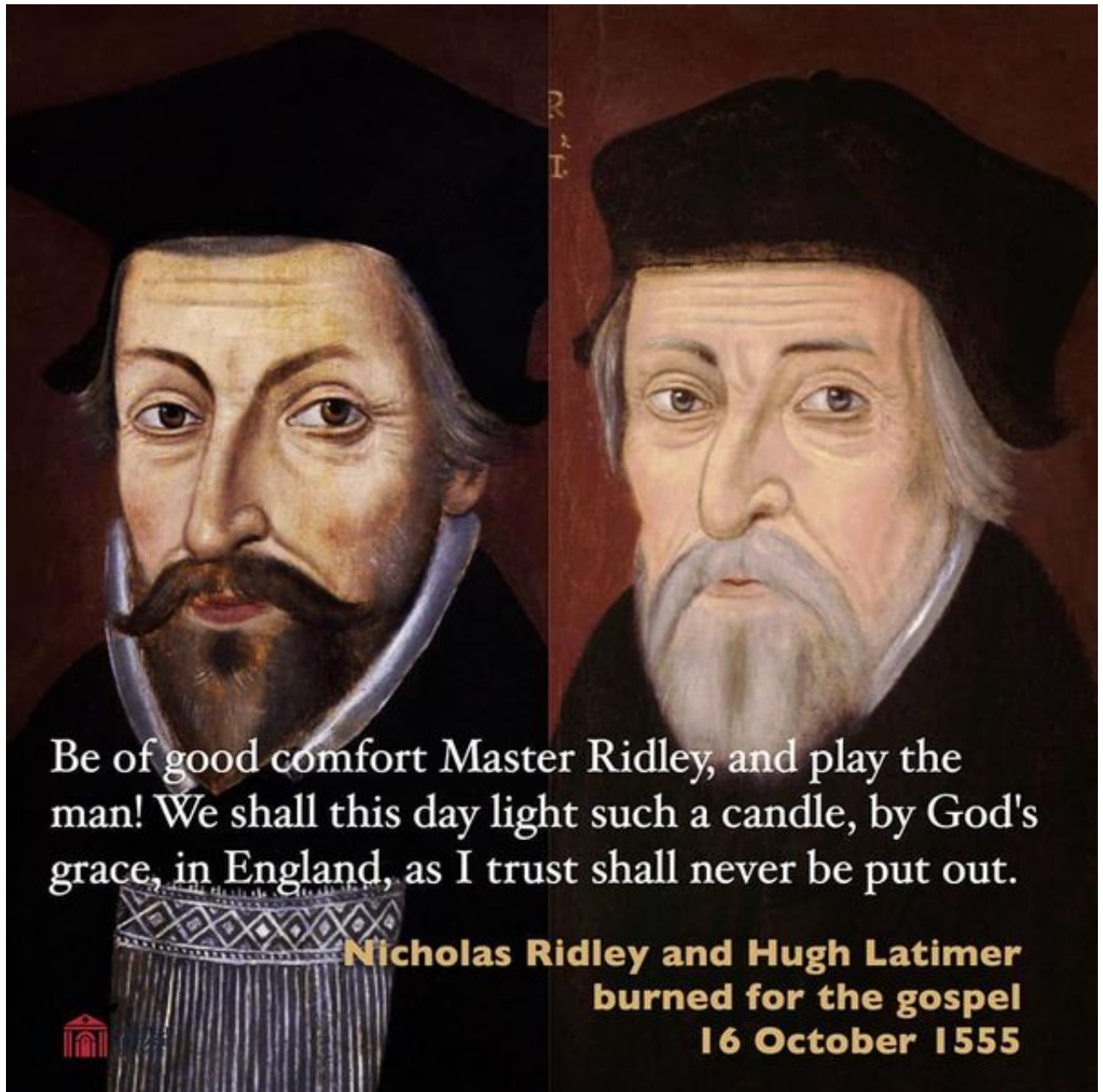
*“To all at St Peter’s,
A wonderful spiritual place.
I pray your spirits are always happy
With a smile on every face.
Situated in Eaton Square, Part of wonderful London town,
God bless all who attend
And may they never have a frown.
Always in my prayers.*

Dennis 19/9/25”

Valerie Smith



October



Nicholas Ridley and Hugh Latimer,
bishops, martyrs 1555

November



Saint Cecilia martyred c230, patron saint of music

Calendar of Intentions October 2025

Date	Day	Mass Intention
We 1	<i>Therese of Lisieux, teacher, 1897</i>	Spiritual Directors
Th 2	<i>Feria</i>	St Peter's School
Fr 3	<i>George Bell, Bishop, ecumenist, peacemaker, 1958</i>	The new Archbishop of Canterbury
Sat 4	<i>Francis of Assisi, friar, deacon, 1226</i>	Our stewardship of creation
Su 5	Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity Harvest Festival	The Parish and People of God
Mo 6	<i>William Tyndale, translator, martyr, 1536</i>	Bible translators
Tu 7	<i>Feria</i>	Westminster City School
We 8	<i>Feria</i>	Amnesty International
Th 9	<i>Feria</i>	Unity of the Church
Fr 10	<i>Paulinus, bishop, missionary, 644</i>	The Archbishop of York
Sa 11	<i>Ethelburga, abbess, 675</i>	Vocations to the religious life
Su 12	Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity	The Parish and People of God
Mo 13	<i>Edward the Confessor, king, 1066</i>	Westminster Abbey
Tu 14	<i>Feria</i>	Metropolitan Police
We 15	<i>Teresa of Avila, teacher of the faith, 1582</i>	London Centre for Spiritual Direction

Calendar of Intentions October 2025 (cont)

Date	Day	Mass Intention
Th 16	<i>Nicholas Ridley and Hugh Latimer, bishops, martyrs, 1555</i>	Those persecuted for their faith
Fr 17	<i>Ignatius, bishop, martyr, c. 107</i>	The London College of Bishops
Sa 18	St Luke the Evangelist	Doctors
Su 19	Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity	The Parish and People of God
Mo 20	<i>Feria</i>	Archdeacon Luke
Tu 21	<i>Feria</i>	Archdeacon Katherine
We 22	<i>Feria</i>	Chelsea and Westminster Hospital
Th 23	<i>Feria</i>	Victoria Station
Fr 24	<i>Feria</i>	Belgravia Neighbourhood Forum
Sa 25	<i>Crispin and Crispinian, martyrs, c 287</i>	Victoria Heritage Quarter
Su 26	Last Sunday after Trinity	The Parish and People of God
Mo 27	<i>Feria</i>	Community of the Resurrection, Mirfield
Tu 28	Ss Simon and Jude, Apostles	College of the Resurrection, Mirfield (Foundation Day)
We 29	<i>James Hannington, bishop, martyr, 1885</i>	The Church and People of Uganda
Th 30	<i>Feria</i>	Eaton House School
Fr 31	<i>Martin Luther, reformer, 1546</i>	The Lutheran Churches

Calendar of Intentions November 2025

Date	Day	Mass Intention
Sa 1	<i>All Saints Day</i>	Our communion with the Saints in light
Su 2	All Saints Sunday	The Parish and People of God
Mo 3	All Souls' Day <i>transferred</i>	That the souls of the faithful departed may rest in peace
Tu 4	<i>Feria</i>	London Ambulance Service
We 5	<i>Feria</i>	The Houses of Parliament
Th 6	<i>Feria</i>	London Diocesan Clergy Study Day
Fr 7	<i>Willibrord, bishop, 737</i>	The Old Catholic Churches
Sa 8	<i>Saints and Martyrs of England</i>	Churches Together in England
Su 9	Third Sunday before Advent Remembrance Sunday	The Parish and People of God Those who died in times of military conflict throughout the world that there may be peace
Mo 10	<i>Leo the Great, bishop, teacher of the faith, 461</i>	Pope Leo XIV
Tu 11	<i>Martin, bishop, c. 397</i>	St Martin's in the Fields Armistice Day
We 12	<i>Feria</i>	King Charles III
Th 13	<i>Charles Simeon, priest, evangelical divine, 1836</i>	St Michael's, Chester Square
Fr 14	<i>Samuel Seabury, bishop, 1796</i>	The Episcopal Church in the USA
Sa 15	<i>Feria</i>	The Most Revd Sean Rowe Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church in the USA

Calendar of Intentions November 2025 (cont)

Date	Day	Mass Intention
Sa16	Second Sunday before Advent	The Parish and People of God
Mo17	<i>Hugh, bishop, 1200</i>	+Stephen Conway, Bishop of Lincoln
Tu18	<i>Elizabeth, princess, philanthropist, 1231</i>	The Church and People of Hungary
We19	<i>Hilda, abbess, 680</i>	The Order of the Holy Paraclete, Whitby
Th 20	<i>Edmund, king, martyr, 870</i>	The Prince and Princess of Wales
Fr 21	<i>Feria</i>	Royal College of Defence Studies (Seaford House)
Sa 22	<i>Cecilia, martyr, c. 230</i>	Andrew-John Smith, our organists and singers
Su 23	Christ the King	The Parish and People of God
Mo 24	<i>Feria</i>	Society of Catholic Priests (SCP)
Tu 25	<i>Catherine, martyr, 4th century</i>	Inclusive Church
We 26	<i>Feria</i>	St Peter's Poppets
Th 27	<i>Feria</i>	Kathryn Harris, our Architect
Fr 28	<i>Feria</i>	Cleveland Clinic
Sa 29	<i>Day of intercession and thanksgiving for the missionary work of the Church</i>	The spread of the Gospel of inclusion and love
Su 30	The First Sunday of Advent	The Parish and People of God

Readings for October and November

Sunday 5 October 2025 Harvest Festival Philippians 4.4-9 John 6.25-35	Sunday 1 November 2025 All Saints Day Daniel 7.1-3, 15-18 Psalm 149 Ephesians 1.11 -end Luke 6.20-31
Sunday 12 October 2025 17th after Trinity 2 Kings 5.1-3, 7-15c Psalm 111 2 Timothy 2.8-15 Luke 17.11-19	Sunday 9 November 2025 3rd Sunday before Advent Job 19.23-27a Psalm 17:1-8 2 Thessalonians 2.1-5, 13-end Luke 20.27-38
Sunday 19 October 2025 18th after Trinity Genesis 32.22-31 Psalm 121 2 Timothy 3.14-4.5 Luke 18.1-8	Sunday 16 November 2025 2nd Sunday before Advent Malachi 4.1-2a Psalm 98 2 Thessalonians 3.6-13 Luke 21.5-19
Sunday 26 October 2025 Last Sunday after Trinity Ecclesiasticus 35.12-17 Psalm 84:1-7 2 Timothy 4.6-8, 16-18 Luke 18.9-14	Sunday 23 November 2025 Christ the King (Sunday next before Advent) Jeremiah 23.1-6 Psalm 46 Colossians 1.11-20 Luke 23.33-43
	Sunday 30 November 2025 First Sunday of Advent Isaiah 2.1-5 Psalm 122 Romans 13.11.14 Matthew 24.36.44

St Peter's Institute

As part of its mission to the less affluent parts of the parish, St Peter's established a social club that was initially run out of St Peter's Chapel in Palace Place. Spurred on by its vicar, Rev. John Storrs, the church then commissioned the architect E.F.C. Clarke to design a dedicated building on Buckingham Palace Road for the use of men and boys of the parish, at a cost of £15,000 (see photo). The new premises of St Peter's Institute were formally opened on 1 July 1890 by Princess Louise, Duchess of Argyll, and could cater for as many as 600 men and the same number of boys. The institute had its own gymnasium, as well as a reading room, library, concert hall and classrooms for technical instruction – indeed, one press article referred to the building as a 'parochial Pantechnicon' for all the facilities it offered. Political meetings were held at the institute, while the massed bands of the Guards used its rooms to practise for their part in the Trooping of the Colour. One art exhibition held on the premises in 1905 made the headlines as it featured a full-length painting of an Arab chieftain by the King of Portugal, Carlos I.



Even before its new premises were completed, the club had its own football team, St Peter's Institute FC, which played its home matches in Battersea Park. The club's emblem, worn on the players' caps, was a pair of crossed keys, symbolising the keys to the kingdom of heaven given to St Peter by Jesus (Matthew 16:19). St Peter's Institute FC held the distinction of being a founder member of the London Football Association in 1882; it entered the FA Cup twice, although it lost on both occasions. St Peter's Institute also had its own cycling club, formed in 1888. The club's uniform was dark grey with black cap and stockings, and the club badge (shown here) also featured St Peter's crossed keys. In addition, Miss Edith Bovell ran a bicycling school from the institute's premises – a reminder of the role that cycling played in enabling women to gain both physical and social mobility in the late Victorian era.

The dedicated home for St Peter's Institute was located next door to St George's Public Baths on Buckingham Palace Road, and the institute itself would expand to offer a swimming club as well as cricket, tennis and photography. The building was taken over by the Royal Sanitary Institute in 1909, but the boys' club continued to lease rooms in it for several years afterwards. St Peter's Institute would later run courses out of 6 Eccleston Street, the neo-Gothic building that eventually became the Eccleston Street Post Office. By the 1920s, the institute was providing services to women, including the Club for Girls in Domestic Service that used to meet on Wednesday evenings and Thursday afternoons, with dancing, singing, raffia work, dressmaking and swimming among its activities. The building at 90 Buckingham Palace Road was eventually pulled down in 1976, although the gabled red-brick properties that stood next to it on the corner with Eccleston Street still survive.

John Hilary



St Peter's Institute, Buckingham Palace Road

A Moving Experience



Movers and Shakers, a modern expression of uncertain meaning. The Editor has asked for a personal experience of moving house and having just done that and been considerably shaken in the process I seemed a likely candidate.

Probably we are a good choice having moved house twelve times already in sixty-three years, all enforced by working life, this latest being the first solely by choice. While it has been our thirteenth attempt at changing quarters and has brought us to Flat 13 in our block it feels far from unlucky. The right decision at the right time and if it could only have been achieved by magic with us and the cats fast asleep, it would have been rather enjoyable.

We had no choice in which removal firm to engage as the sheltered accommodation we were buying specified a well known and long-established firm. We assumed that they would

know the best way to go about the job and would need little input from us. That was our first mistake.

We had decided to have some items put into storage to be delivered after the main move. So all the pictures, books, table lamps, rugs and general clutter, of which those who know us will testify, we have quite a bit, was boxed up. Unless the move is to be made by air freight the industry works by volume not weight. This leads to some unlikely combinations in the packing cases. Ornaments wrapped in out-of-season garments, dining room glasses hidden among the towels. No logic applied and the boxes labeled "Books" because that is removers' code for "Going into storage" and is easy to spell and quicker to write. It sounds so simple doesn't it. First of all, decide what essentials must be taken, something to sit on, a means of preparing food. Bedding. Last item packed should be the kettle for the immediate brewing of tea on arrival. First job to do after the tea is to make the bed. By the time everything has arrived you will be glad to fall into it.

We should have had our suspicions from the very beginning. First of all, there was a muddle over the date that the estimator should visit. Then a date for the move was fixed, a Monday in mid-May. Fine, except at 4.30 on the Friday we received a message to say that they wanted us to arrange a three-space parking area outside our front door. Did their head office not know that they were picking up from a narrow street in central London and that Westminster Council Parking department is easy to contact by email? We did try ringing the office but of course it was closed by then. However, with the help of lovely neighbours who parked their cars in in the required spaces and moved them at the critical moment. it was managed. On the appointed day the team arrived, four brawny young chaps lead by our estimator, who told us that he had had sixteen years' experience in the business, though not probably as the guiding light of jolly young men who had no idea of what was involved. For instance, the use of common sense was not one of his instructions. "Every item must be wrapped singly in a huge

sheet of paper “. What? Every single plastic teaspoon? Yes. That is no exaggeration. The boxes destined for storage departed. An experienced mover said it amounted to one third of a normal household load.

Then came removals day. Fortunately, we realized in time that the grill for the front of the cat carrier had gone into storage and there was still time to buy a new conveyance for Stanley and Gladys. This turned out to be of a far superior design to the original. It was what could be described as a “ top loader“. Instead of having to insert the first cat through the door and keep in there while attempting to persuade the second to join it, with the new version it was a just a case of removing the lid and, one person with one cat, plonking them in simultaneously with no time for discussion.

Loading everything was quite an undertaking. Not a huge houseful but five stories worth of unremarkable furniture. The piano had to remain for removal by a specialist firm but everything else was to go. Pretty straightforward really. Our one request was that the small carpet destined for the new bedroom should go in last so that it could come out first and be laid before the bed and three chests of drawers arrived. That got lost in the translation and must have been understood as “Leave that tatty old rug behind because they don’t want it”. It had to be retrieved at a later date along with the piano stool and my three wheeled walking aid.

“Right, that is everything in the van. See you in Canterbury” was more or less the parting shot from Team Leader. We loaded the cats and ourselves into our son’s capacious car and set off in confidence arriving at our destination in time to see our belongings brought in, well, crammed in, to what should be a neat little flat.

Very soon I began to blame myself for believing that “everything was in the van”. Had I done a final look around I might have come across those so far undiscovered items which include the broom,

mop and litter bin from the kitchen cupboard although we do have the bucket of polishes and dusters. The electric fire from the conservatory although the one from the sitting room arrived safely. Nor have we found the big black bag containing my uncle's handwritten memoirs of the South African Wars in the early 1900s.

As far as the basement bathroom is concerned, the ironing board, the bathmat, the plastic soap dish and the yellow rubber duck arrived carefully wrapped but there were notable absences. As well as the yellow duck's companion, the flamingo, a present from the Reverend Jacqui, there is the Lloyd loom linen basket (note the stylish alliteration) which was probably used as a packing case for a useful indoor watering can, a steam iron, £200 in cash ("Put in a safe place" by the TL instead of being handed to one of us) and the wall safe containing all my Jewelry. We comfort ourselves that for no good reason it may have gone into storage on the way to Kent. How I wish I had taken photographs of my little treasures. The firm have reminded us that they are not insured against the loss of valuables so make sure you are. The firm assure us they will resume a search when we are quite sure we have unpacked absolutely everything.

I could go on but the editor is beginning to mention something about a dead line. So if asked for advice on moving I would say, if you don't have to don't but if you do, keep a frankly suspicious eye on everything and don't rely on anything you are told. Check, check and double check for yourself. Just wish I had.

Ann Bawtree

Hosting with Housing Justice



Do you have a spare room that you could offer to a homeless asylum-seeker, refugee or other migrant in need? The Compassionate Communities team within the Diocese of London is working in partnership with Housing Justice to provide temporary accommodation for London's destitute asylum-seekers, refugees and other forced migrants while they resolve their immigration status.

Find out more here or scan the QR code below:

<https://www.compassionatecommunitieslondon.org.uk/refugee-response/hostingwithhousingjustice>



Recipe

Pumpkin Pie



Ingredients

For the pastry

- sweet shortcrust pastry case (or a packet of ready made sweet shortcrust pastry with 40g/1½oz crushed pecans mixed in)

For the pumpkin pie filling

- 450g/1lb prepared weight pumpkin flesh, peeled and cut into 1in/2.5 cm chunks
- 2 large eggs plus 1 yolk (use the white for another dish)
- 75g/3oz soft dark brown sugar
- 1 tsp ground cinnamon
- ½ level teaspoon freshly grated nutmeg
- ½ tsp ground allspice
- ½ tsp ground cloves
- ½ tsp ground ginger
- 275ml/10fl oz double cream

Method

1. Pre-heat the oven to 200C/400F/Gas 6.
2. If using a shop bought sweet crust pastry case, use one that is 23cm/9in diameter and 4cm/1½in deep. If using your own pastry, roll it out and use it to line a 23cm/9in pie plate (not loose bottomed). Bake the pastry case blind for 20 minutes.
3. To make the filling, place the pumpkin chunks on a baking tray, cover with foil and roast until tender. This will take about 20-30 minutes, depending on your pumpkin. Press the cooked pumpkin in a coarse sieve and to extract any excess water. Set aside to cool before blending in a food processor, or mashing by hand to a pureé.
4. Lightly whisk the eggs and extra yolk together in a large bowl.
5. Place the sugar, spices and the cream in a pan, bring to simmering point, giving it a whisk to mix everything together. Then pour it over the eggs and whisk it again briefly. Now add the pumpkin pureé, still whisking to combine everything thoroughly.
6. Reduce the oven temperature to 180C/350F/Gas 4. Pour the filling into your pastry case and bake for 35-40 minutes, by which time it will puff up round the edges but still feel slightly wobbly in the centre.
7. Remove the pie from the oven and place the tin on a wire cooling rack. Serve warm or chilled (stored loosely covered in foil in the fridge) with some chilled crème fraiche or whipped cream.

Children's Pages

PRAYERS AND GIFTS

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

praying

house

fish

bread

opened

gifts

visitor

ashamed

snake

stone

given

better

neighbour

egg

find

knocking

scorpion

need

seeking

parents

bed

asking

good

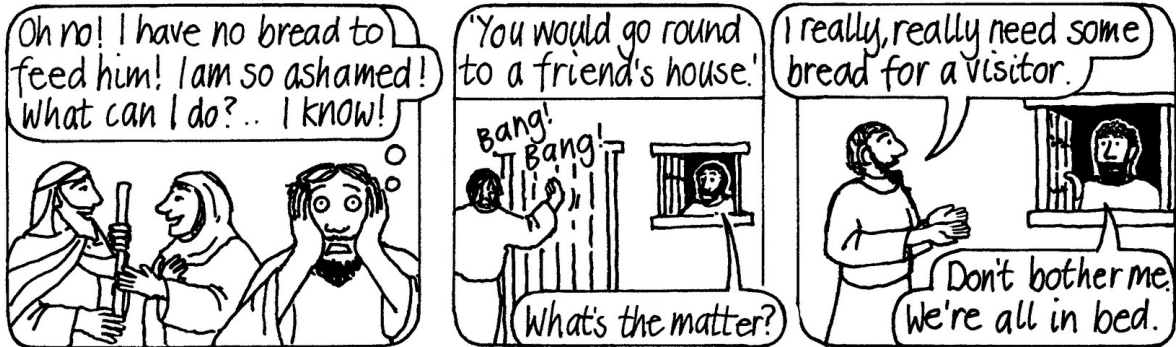
friend

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Matthew 7:7-11, Luke 11:5-13

To teach about praying, and God's good gifts, Jesus told this story - 'If you have a visitor arrive in the middle of the night..'



Our Common Life

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Our Common Life

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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</i> Wednesday	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