



News & Views

St Peter's, Lutton Place

July / August 2026



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From the Rector

Rev Nick Wills

Dear Friends,

During June, all at St Peter's had wonderful opportunities to celebrate our choral heritage and all that Rupert has given to the worshipping life of our church over the past 30 years as Director of Music. On Sunday 7th June, Rupert conducted past and present members of St Peter's choir, augmented with members of his family, as they sang through the Church Year with a wonderful selection of anthems by British composers. The choir sang beautifully and the whole evening had an uplifting and celebratory tone, which fully rewarded all of the hard work that they had put in rehearsals.

The evening closed with speeches and presentations to Rupert. Ian G read a message from Hugh Morris, the Director of the Royal School of Church Music (RSCM), which accompanied Rupert being presented with the RSCM's Loyal Service Certificate and Medal. Sheila spoke movingly of the support and encouragement that Rupert had given to her and other members of the choir, and John S presented Rupert with a framed score of the front page of a Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, composed by his niece, Joanna Forbes L'Estrange, which was specially commissioned by St Peter's Choir to mark Rupert's retirement.

On 21st June Rupert conducted the choir for Choral Evensong for the final time, and then on Sunday 28th June, at the 10.45am service we again celebrated all that he has given to the musical life of our church, with presents being given during the sermon, and refreshments after the service. (See page 7 for more about it!) All in all, it was a wonderful celebration of ministry for our St Peter's Day Patronal Festival.

News & Views

July / August 2026

St Peter's Lutton Place

Edinburgh

SC017358

The Scottish Episcopal Church

*Rt Rev Dr Dagmar Winter
Bishop for the Diocese of
Edinburgh.*

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*Sheila and Laura work flexibly
part-time. Messages may be left
on the office answer machine,
but please note it may be a few
days before it is heard or dealt
with. Webpage;*

<https://stpetersedinburgh.org/>

Earlier in the month, I was delighted to be invited to the Monday Group for their summer lunch. The conversation flowed freely and ranged across many different topics.

We have also come towards the end of term for our Tuesday Daytime activities. Thank you to Sue for leading the Bible Study Group, and especially to Liz M who has kept me on task as I have cooked the main meal each week, and who has then produced wonderful puddings herself. We have had a lot of fun together, and having completed our first year of cooking together, we look forward to a summer break to recharge our batteries! We also thank Ruth G for all her help with the Toddler Group over the past 2 years. She has now stepped down from doing this, and we wish her every happiness as she gets more involved in St James' Goldenacre.

Our monthly Folk Open Mic and Singing Circle Nights are gently working towards our ambition of creating the friendliest and most supportive Open Mic Night in Edinburgh. Over the past couple of months, various young singer songwriters have performed for us, some of them for the first time in public. It is going so well that we have added in another date on Tuesday 7th July.

As we look forward to the summer, I wish happy and safe travels to all those going on their holidays, and to students returning home.

Your Rector,

Nick

Children's Church

We always welcome children to our services.

At all services, children are very welcome to use and enjoy the activity and colouring-in station in the Children's Corner.



Children's Church during the 10.45am Sunday service will continue through the summer for any children who wish to join in. Fun activities based on the day's Bible theme in the church hall are organised by Becky, and a group of PVG covered volunteers help her to run the activities. Children and their leaders usually leave during the Gloria and return to the service in time for Communion.

If you have any questions, please speak to a Welcomer or to Becky before the service. Or you can email becky@stpetersedinburgh.org any time.

Toddler Summer Specials

For Early Years children up to 6 years old in our Church family and Toddler Group.

Play **Stories about friends of Jesus** **Related craft activities**

Monday 6th July *Andrew the fisherman*

Thursday 16th July *Mary the listener*

Monday 27th July *Peter the Rock*



In the hall, **9.30am-11.30am**, snacks for children include fresh fruit and juice, with tea and fresh coffee for adults.

All children must be accompanied by an adult, who is responsible for their own child/children at all times.

Process

*There is no Process service in July or August, with the next one being held on **Sunday 13th September**.*

These services are reflective, sometimes interactive and always different, and our June service was entitled 'Our garden, our church and our community'.

After meeting in the hall and learning an unaccompanied song, we were then given a sheet with suggested prayer points at certain areas around our beautiful garden. We then spent time enjoying the beautiful evening, reflecting, and in personal prayer. It was a moving and meaningful experience and finishing with singing around the outside firepit before toasting marshmallows, made it extra special. Thank you to the team, and special thanks to Christine B who prepared the text, and Becky for her wonderful diagram of the garden and setting up the firepit.

If you would like to be part of the team who creates the services, please speak to Nick! As the services are planned each month, updated information is included in our Saturday emails and online: <https://stpetersedinburgh.org/process>



Toddler Group

Our Toddler Group is on holiday and resumes on **Monday 17th August** and **Thursday 20th August**.

However, see page 5 for details about our Toddler Summer Specials for children in our church family and Toddler Group who are up to age 6!



We thank Ruth Green very much indeed for all her amazing help with the Toddler Group over the past 2 years. Each week she has faithfully been at one or both sessions and her willingness to do so has been greatly appreciated. Although she will no longer be a regular helper, she has said she is happy to help out on the odd occasion, so we are sure we will likely see her every so often!



During term time, it runs from 9.30am–11.30am on Mondays and Thursdays. It is for those aged 0-3. All children must be accompanied by an adult, who is responsible for their own child/children at all times. Donation £1 per family and tea/coffee and snacks are provided. Our international groups are very welcoming and friendly, with families from all over the world!

For more information about Toddlers or the Summer Specials on page 5 please email Becky via becky@stpetersedinburgh.org.

STUDENTS AND YOUNG ADULTS

Most of our undergraduate students have returned home for the holidays, but we still have several post-graduate students and young adults who remain in Edinburgh and have met up on various occasions. We wish all our students and young adults a very happy summer holiday and look forward to seeing them again when they return in September! We will be having a lunch after the 10.45am service on Sunday 20th September to welcome our students back.



Any students or young adults who want further details are invited to join our student and young adult email and WhatsApp lists and hear about the forthcoming activities. If you are interested in joining this group, please speak to Becky or Nick, or email becky@stpetersedinburgh.org.

St Peter's Day

Sunday 28th June, transferred from 29th June

Our Patronal Festival was Rupert's final service before retiring as Director of Music, and was both celebratory and moving. Alongside Rupert's family, many church members and friends had come to the 10.45am service. The choir was out in force, and alongside former choir members Rupert's brother Sebastian and sister-in law Tessa also augmented the singers. The choir sang settings of Tu es Petrus by both Duruflé and Palestrina (*You are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church*).

For the first half of Nick's sermon, Rupert was invited to sit facing the congregation. Nick showed everyone the RSCM Loyal Service Certificate and Medal and framed front page of the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis which had been presented to Rupert at the concert on 7th June (See p. 8). He then moved to the Biblical symbolism of a Promised Land flowing with milk and honey. Honey represents the wisdom, blessing and goodness of God, and today for Rupert this was bestowed as gifts of special honey and beeswax candles. Through a cleverly crafted interweaving of Rupert's life in church music and opera, milk was then presented in the form of cheese!

A mild Scottish Cheddar represented Rupert as a very young chorister 75 years ago. Cheeses from the various European countries where Rupert had lived, worked and performed (including a cheese called 'Prima Donna') mirrored the careers of Rupert and his wife Elisabeth in lead operatic roles. The final cheese - appropriately - was an 'extra mature' Scottish Cheddar! Next, Rupert was given wine, white port, bottles of beer from other relevant places, and finally a 30-year-old Port to symbolise his 30 years at St Peter's. He was then allowed to sit in a pew while Nick finished the rest of this sermon describing how in St Peter we see an example for ourselves: not perfect, not qualified, several times falling short, but trusted by Jesus, as we are, to build his church.



The congregation has been more than generous in giving towards a farewell gift, and Rupert will receive a generous cheque, some of which will go towards a high-class meal in Glasgow when he and Elisabeth celebrate their Golden Wedding in July.

In the hall after the service, a heartfelt 'thank you' was given to Rupert, with a cake (see the back cover), decorated by former alto Anna C, who returned specially for the service, while Elisabeth was presented with a bouquet of flowers. Finally, Christian W read the following poem for Rupert, that he had written after he heard about the forthcoming retirement.

A poem for Rupert, written by Christian Wong, our Organ Scholar

*For thirty long years and a little bit more,
You've known every anthem, hymn, descant, and score.
You've held us together: the wobbling, the strong,
And steered the occasional daydreamer along.*

*On Thursdays you came, and on Sundays you stayed,
Through Evensong, Eucharist, and canticles played,
Your hands shaped the music with scrupulous care,
While some of us singers were simply elsewhere.*

*That voice, once it carried the great opera stage,
Has lost not a fraction of beauty with age,
It still settles over the nave like the lights
Which fall through the windows on cold Sunday nights.*

*You dress as a man who has thought about ties,
You smile as a man who is quietly wise,
You arrive, always early, which cannot be taught;
A virtue the rest of the choir might have forgot.*

*Thirty-plus years is a long time to stay,
To coax the same verses the very same way,
To love the same building, the same ancient air:
It takes a rare person. We knew one was there.*

*Farewell, dear Rupert. You have given us much.
The music, the laughter, the candles, the hush,
The Sundays we chanted and somehow came through:
Because someone precise was conducting us.
You.*

Choir concert on 7th June

A large audience enjoyed a splendid choir concert of Choral Music through the Church Year by British Composers, with Rupert conducting, Sheila accompanying the anthems and Christian playing the hymns. Almost all our choir were able to sing, with Rupert's son Andrew, nieces Joanna and Emily, and Emily's husband Rob also joining in. In the audience were Rupert's wife Elisabeth, son Bruce, and many of the congregation and friends.



Starting at Advent and Purcell's 'I was Glad' (words from Psalm 122, often sung on Advent Sunday), the programme took in most Liturgical Seasons: Christmas, Epiphany, The Presentation of Christ, Lent, Easter, Ascension, Pentecost, Harvest, All Souls and Christ the King, returning to Advent with Parry's triumphant version of 'I was Glad'. Many renowned British composers were represented, including Byrd, Forbes L'Estrange, Gibbons, Leighton, MacMillan, Stainer, Stanford, Tallis, Walmisley and Wood. The audience also enthusiastically sang several hymns, including 'O come all ye faithful': we do not often sing 'Yea, Lord, we greet thee' in June!

An abundance of positive praise has been heard since including: 'stunning singing'; 'beautifully conducted'; 'the choir and organ sounded magnificent'; 'Rupert's descriptions of the pieces were fascinating and excellent', 'what a momentous occasion' and 'a true testament to what Rupert has built'.

You can read on pages 3 and 11 about the presentations made to Rupert at the end of the concert. Refreshments then followed.

Music Notes

Sheila, Organist



With the retirement of Rupert, our inspiring and much-loved Director of Music for over 30 years, we convey to him our most grateful thanks for all he has contributed during this wonderful ministry and wish him a very long and happy retirement!



- We are delighted that Christian W, our Organ Scholar who has made excellent progress this year, will be continuing the Scholarship over the next academic year. Thank you to all who financially contribute towards it. If you wish to contribute, please contact Laura, our Treasurer.
- Thursday choir rehearsals and Voice for Life are suspended over the summer and resume on Thursday 27th August.
- Our next Choral Evensong is on Sunday 30th August (not in July). We hope that many will come and share this traditional choral led service.
- A new email address has been created for choir matters. For information about joining the choir, where to meet and the commitment required, please either speak to me after a morning service, or email me at the new address: choir@stpetersedinburgh.org

A personal note of thanks from Sheila to Rupert

As a sign of the honour, respect and high esteem in which Rupert is held, the choir commissioned the St John's Service, a setting of the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis by his niece, Joanna Forbes L'Estrange. Dedicated to Rupert in recognition of his 30 years as Director of Music at St Peters, the direction at the beginning of the Magnificat states 'With reverence and wonder'. What a fitting description of not only Rupert's humility, but also his awe-inspiring musicianship and vast knowledge, at which many of us never cease to be astonished.

Over 30 years at St Peter's he has inspired and passed on his passion and love of Church music with wit and humour to innumerable people including singers, listeners, junior choristers, and 3 Organ Scholars. Wherever Rupert has lived in the 75 years since he started singing in the choir of Hampstead Parish Church in north London, he has contributed to church music, and this was reflected in a highly personal message sent to him from Hugh Morris, Director of the RSCM.

There have been some superbly fun and amazing experiences through choir trips and concerts, including singing Choral Evensong in Durham Cathedral - I never thought I would ever play that organ, let alone for an actual service! Most people know about Rupert's prestigious career as an opera singer, and through him it is wonderful that some of our Junior Choristers have also experienced this world, on junior choir trips.

Working together with such an experienced, understanding and fantastic colleague has been such a unique privilege and joy! I also thank his wife, Elisabeth, who has quietly supported him throughout, and I have greatly valued and appreciated the wise counsel and friendship of them both.

My heartfelt thanks go to Rupert for being such a wonderful, supportive, encouraging and inspiring colleague, teacher and friend since we started working together 22¾ years ago. He will be tremendously missed by all, but most especially by me.

However, it is only 'au revoir' and not 'adieu' – happily Rupert has agreed to return to conduct 'his' Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in the Autumn.



To the Members of the Congregation of St Peter's, Lutton Place, Edinburgh

Thank you from Rupert Forbes

It was so pleasing to see such a good audience at my final concert as Director of Music at St Peter's on 7th June. Following the concert I was completely overwhelmed by the response from the audience and also by the kind message of appreciation from Hugh Morris, the Director of the RSCM, and to be awarded an RSCM Medal in acknowledgement of my thirty years at St Peter's.



In addition I received a framed RSCM Loyal Service certificate signed by the Rector and Organist, as well as a framed photograph of the opening page of the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis written by my niece Joanna Forbes L'Estrange. Named after the choir of my Alma Mater, St John's College Cambridge, it was commissioned by St Peter's choir. Sheila has invited me back to conduct a performance of this at Evensong later in the year. It was a delight to speak to many members of the congregation at the reception following the concert and to hear so many kind words of appreciation.

I was also moved that there was such a good congregation for my last service celebrating St Peter's Day on 28th June, when we were able to sing settings of "Tu Es Petrus" by Maurice Duruflé as an introit as well as the more extensive setting by Palestrina as the anthem. I had never expected to be the subject of a sermon, but the Rector Nick Wills cleverly and subtly composed his address to mention various items from the extremely generous donations from the congregation, including various cheeses and honey, not to mention certain items in bottles. These included various beers from the continent and some wines, each of special significance, but the crowning glory was a bottle of thirty-year-old Ramos Pinto Tawny Port which had been laid down around the time when I started my tenure at St Peter's. There is also a restaurant voucher for an evening meal which Elisabeth and I will enjoy later in the month when we celebrate our Golden Wedding.

I should like to express my thanks to the congregation for their enormous generosity in making donations to provide such wonderful gifts on the occasion of my retirement. It has been a wonderfully enjoyable and rewarding thirty years which I have spent making music at St Peter's and I really appreciate all the friendships I have made during this time. It has been

a great joy throughout this period to have had the support of Sheila, who has been of enormous assistance helping the junior choristers and restraining me when I have tried to be over-ambitious. She has also been responsible for training our Organ Scholars, and Christian W's poem which he recited at the reception made an apposite and amusing eulogy.

I will now allow things to settle down with the choir for a while but, as mentioned above, I will be back for Choral Evensong later in the year.

Vestry Update, June 2026

By Roddy S, Vestry Secretary

Vestry met on 18th June and had a helpful and productive meeting. Safeguarding issues were discussed briefly as a follow up to last month's in-depth look at this, reflecting the need to make this issue increasingly embedded in our thinking and discussions.

On a more mundane level, we have made some progress regarding adequately protecting the heating pipes in the hall to prevent injury. If you have any ability in woodwork, however slight, and a little time to spare do let a member of Vestry know. We may have enough ability in our congregation to move this health and safety issue forward.

We have several ongoing building issues regarding trees growing in our tower (see p. 17); providing adequate heating in the Millar chapel for the winter months; and the mast in our tower. Old buildings have both beauty and complexity, but we are blessed at St Peter's to have people who have both expertise and tenacity at dealing with these issues. Progress can be like the Knight in a chess game, two steps forward and one to the side, but at least the summer gives more opportunities to make steps forward.

Still unresolved are issues around making digital donations within the church buildings easier, but this will be discussed in more detail in July. As usual we started and ended in prayer, a good reminder to everyone that we are trying to be both practical and spiritual.

Housebound or ill? *If you, or someone you know, have not received Communion because you/they have been unable to come to Church, please let one of the Clergy or Pastoral Team know as members of our Clergy and Lay Pastoral Team would then be happy to bring you Communion at home. Please also let Nick, Sue or Donald know if you hear of a member of St Peter's who is ill.*

FOLK OPEN MIC NIGHT AND SINGING CIRCLE



Tuesdays 7.30pm - 9.30pm

7th July

1st September

Continuing to be a very friendly, encouraging and supportive environment to make music, our Open Mic and Singing Circle night has more of an emphasis on traditional folk song. Alongside everyone being very welcome to contribute and perform their own songs and/or music, there is also the opportunity for those present to join in singing a selection of folk songs, often accompanied on the piano, but also sometimes unaccompanied or with other instruments.

- Do you want to share and listen to folk and roots standards and maybe some new and original music?
- Are you talented and creative, and looking for an outlet to share your skills and learn from others, in a supportive atmosphere?

If so, come and let's create Edinburgh's friendliest Open Mic Night together!

In the Hall

Free

Many Congratulations to Rev Fiona (Fee) Reynolds!

Many will remember Fee and her husband Scott, who worshipped with us before Fee was Ordained as a Priest in the Anglican Communion in July 2025.

On 2nd July she was appointed as Priest-in-Charge at St Peter, Peebles and St Andrew, Innerleithen. We send her our very best wishes and prayers as she begins a new ministry.

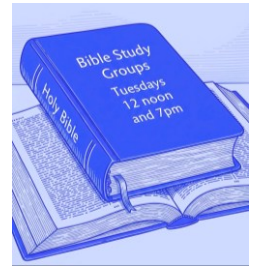


TUESDAYS AT ST PETER'S

7.00pm Evening Bible Study Group

Ruth Green & Donald Allister Year-round (Choir Vestry)

Donald and Ruth write: All are welcome as we explore the Bible together. A series looking at the early chapters of the Acts of the Apostles. Every Tuesday year-round at 7.00pm for an hour.



The Tuesday morning events, resume on 1st September.

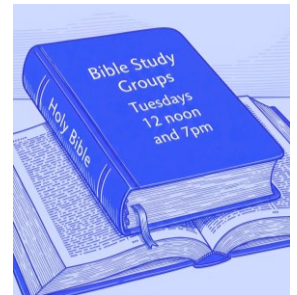
11.00am Morning Prayer Service *Nick Wills*

An opportunity to pray together for St Peter's, and those in need in our local community, our nation and the wider world.



12 noon Daytime Bible Study Group *Sue Whitehouse*

Everyone is invited to come and join in. Reading scripture is one of the ways in which we can grow in our faith. We engage together, learn more about God, listen to each other's ideas and experiences, and learn to recognise what God intends for us in our lives, church community, and in the world.



1.00pm Tuesday's Chewsday!

A freshly cooked two-course lunch to eat socially together - for congregational members, and is especially attractive to those who attend the 12 noon Bible Study Group.

It would be helpful if you could please let the office know by the Sunday before if you plan to come, especially if you have any dietary requirements.

There is a suggested donation of £6, but we would not want this to be an obstacle to anyone who wants to join us.



Picture – one of the recent meals: A summer salad of three cheeses, beetroot, pickled vegetables, heritage tomatoes, new potatoes and mixed leaves.

St Peter's Book Club

The Book Club meets in the Choir Vestry and one can just turn up to discuss the chosen book.



The group usually meets on the last Wednesday of the month from 7.00pm to 8.00pm. Even if you do not come to the group, if you have read something of interest, please do let the group know via the office email! New members are always welcome to discuss a wide range of titles. For more information, please contact the office, or see <https://stpetersedinburgh.org/book-club>

29th July *One Puzzling Afternoon*, by Emilie Critchley. (Modern fiction)

26th August *Dissolution*, by C. J. Sansom (Historical fiction)

30th September *The Laws of Connection*, by David Robson (Exploring how social connections impact health and longevity)

LITTLE FOLK Traditional rhymes and folksongs

Our informal, relaxed and fun introduction to music through a mixture of nursery rhymes, song, stories and movement, usually meets in the hall on Sundays during term-time. It resumes on **Sunday 23rd August**.



- For all early years children aged 0-6.
- 3.00pm-4.00pm
- Led by Sheila, Nick & Becky
- £2 per family per session
- Finishes with refreshments



All children must be accompanied by an adult who is responsible for them, and whom we also encourage to join in!

Please ask Becky, Sheila or Nick if you have you any questions.



Walking Group

A report of the walk on 23rd May by Janet H, who also kindly led it.

Dalkeith - Newbattle Abbey Round **23rd May 2026**

On a fine, sunny afternoon our walk started off from Dalkeith crossing King's Park, then to the entrance of Newbattle Golf Club and followed the track through Benbught Wood to reach the Maiden Bridge over the River South Esk. This is a late 15th century stone humpback bridge named after Margaret Tudor who crossed it before her marriage to James IV. We all crossed it and on the



far side followed the river upstream through Lord Ancrum's wood to reach another crossing point just beside an old icehouse for the Abbey. Newbattle Abbey was a Cistercian monastery founded in 1140. It became quite prosperous partly due to the coal mines in its possession; the monks were among the first coal miners in Scotland. By the Reformation few monks remained. Part of the abbey was converted to a stately home and is now used as a College of Education. Nowadays you can enjoy a guided tour to explore its historic rooms. The grounds are well kept with several large, ancient trees. There are also striking formal gardens to one side of the building.

Our walk took us back to the edge of the Esk and we took an ancient path known as Salters Road. This route was originally used by the monks for transporting salt and other goods to the Abbey from Prestoungrange (sic). We were then able to get back to our starting point. The going underfoot was dry throughout and though it was warm,



we had the shade of the trees with all their various shades of green. A pleasant walk with plenty to see and lots of nature to enjoy.

If you would like to receive Walking Group emails with information about forthcoming and last-minute walks, please email Sheila via the office.

Essential Repairs

If you crane your neck to look up at St Peter's tower, you will see that the trees growing from the band below the louvres have all gone. We are very grateful to rope access company Igoe Up for their expert ability to scale a 40 metre tall tower and get the vegetation out.

From the ground it is hard to get the sense of how tall the tower is. Jack, the steeple jack, gives a sense of perspective while inspecting the stonework. The photo on the inside front cover shows one of the trees that was growing in the tower!

Phase one of the work has cost £840. The team will be back in the next few weeks to rake out the remaining tree roots and repoint.

Ongoing financial support is invaluable to keep St Peter's buildings safe and weather tight. Thank you everyone who makes a regular gift. With your support St Peter's looks forward as a lively Christian church.



Edinburgh Festival of the Sacred Arts

Sunday 16th August – Saturday 22nd August

By Richard

To find the full programme and website of this sub-festival of the Fringe, search 'Edinburgh Festival Sacred Arts' or

<https://www.edinburghsacredartsfestival.org/programme>

There are about twenty events with Eventbrite links in the programme for booking tickets; price are quite varied, from free to £20. My experience last year was that booking is not essential, except for visiting the Magdalen Chapel.

There is music, drama, poetry, even a silent movie on the life of Moses, but the focus this year is on Sacred Spaces. This includes opportunities to see the conservation work taking place at St James Church Goldenacre, and the new stained glass at the Church of the Sacred Heart.

Other highlights include:

- Monday 17th 13.15 at Canongate Kirk, the Young Composers' Competition
- Monday 17th 19.30 at St Mary's Roman Catholic Cathedral, *Whatsoever You Do: Music for the Homeless Jesus* – including Gavin Bryars' iconic composition "Jesus' Blood Never Failed Me Yet".
- Wednesday 19th 19.30-21.00 at Sacred Heart, Lauriston Street, a concert commemorating the lives of Charles, Samuel and S. S. Wesley, and the Wesley musical dynasty. Also played at this will be music commissioned from the winners of last year's Young Composers, including that of our organ scholar Christian Wong. The link to this event is: [O For a Thousand Tongues: Celebrating 'The Musical Wesleys'](#).
- Thursday 20th 19.30 at St Giles Cathedral, a rare opportunity to hear 'Ninian: a concerto' for clarinet and organ, introduced by its composer, Sir James MacMillan.

The Closing Service at Old St Paul's on Saturday 22nd August (16.00) will take the form of Orthodox Vespers.

I'm sure you'll find something to inspire and enjoy. As St Paul wrote in Philippians 4: 8, 'Whatsoever is true, noble, just, pure, lovely, commendable, excellent, praiseworthy – think on these things.'

Helping Those in Need

Newington FoodBank⁺

The donations of non-perishable food and basic toiletries that keep appearing in the box at the back of church each week are gratefully appreciated! Individuals can also take donations directly to the Foodbank at Community Church on Thursday mornings. Items particularly required are: tinned meat, pasta sauce, coffee, sugar, biscuits, cooking oil, shampoo, shower gel and razors.



Bethany Christian Trust & Edinburgh City Mission

Every night and five lunchtimes a week these charities jointly run a van distributing food, hot drinks and clothes to the homeless. Required is adult-sized clothing in a reasonable condition to distribute; shirts/tops, sweaters/fleeces/hoodies, trousers, joggers, warm waterproof jackets, socks, underwear, ideally new but clean, blankets and sleeping bags.



<https://edinburghcitymission.org.uk/ministry/care-van/>

Fresh Start

Fresh Start is always in need of various household donations. If you would like to help, please pick up a leaflet at the back of the church, or see their webpage:



<https://www.freshstartweb.org.uk/>

Ukraine and Middle East Crisis Appeals

Christian Aid offers assistance to Ukraine refugees

<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/emergencies/ukraine-crisis-appeal>

Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC)

<https://www.dec.org.uk/appeal/ukraine-humanitarian-appeal>

Christian Aid Middle East Crisis Appeal

<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/emergencies/middle-east-crisis-appeal>

The Church Office There are no set office hours with Laura and Sheila working flexibly part-time, sometimes from home. If you want to see either of them in the office, please make an appointment.

Regular Services in St Peter's

Sundays ♦ 9.00am ♦ Holy Communion ♦ Traditional language, no music and sometimes no sermon

Sundays ♦ 10.45am ♦ Holy Communion ♦ Modern language, with choir and congregational singing

2nd Sunday of the month (*not July or August*) ♦ **6.30pm ♦** Process

Last Sunday of the month (*not July*) ♦ **6.30pm ♦** Choral Evensong

Tuesdays (*term-time*) ♦ **11.00am ♦** Prayer Service ♦ no music or sermon

1st Thursday of the month ♦ 11.00am ♦ Holy Communion ♦ Traditional language, no music and no sermon, followed by a picnic lunch in the hall

Regular Activities in St Peter's

Sundays

10.00am-10.30am ♦ Choir Rehearsal

3.00pm-4.00pm ♦ Little Folk ♦ in hall (*term-time only – resumes 23rd August*)

Mondays & Thursdays (*term-time only – resumes Mon 17th & Thur 20th August*)

9.30am-11.30am ♦ Toddler Group ♦ in hall

Third Monday of the Month ♦ 3.00pm ♦ Monday Group ♦ in Choir Vestry

Tuesdays (*term-time only – resumes on Tuesday 1st September*)

11.00am ♦ Prayer Service ♦ in hall

12 noon ♦ Daytime Bible Study Group ♦ in hall

1.00pm ♦ Tuesday's Chewsday! ♦ lunch in hall

Tuesdays (*year-round*)

7.00pm ♦ Evening Bible Study Group ♦ in Choir Vestry

Last Wednesday of the month

7.00pm-8.00pm ♦ St Peter's Book Club ♦ in Choir Vestry

Thursdays (*Resumes on Thursday 27th August.*)

6.15pm Voice for Life ♦ 7.00-8.00pm Junior Choir ♦ 7.45-9.30pm Adult Choir

Bishop Donald Allister's Bible Teaching Videos

Alongside Donald's new Bible teaching video to his YouTube channel:
<https://www.youtube.com/@feedmysheep2023>

Once published, the talks are free to access and remain indefinitely. During July the studies continue on St John's Gospel.

Sunday Readings

**The passages being read*

July 2026

Sunday 5th July

Sixth Sunday of Trinity

Zechariah 9: 9-12 ♦ *Psalm 145: 8-15 ♦ Romans 7: 15-25a ♦
*Matthew 11: 16-19, 25-30

Sunday 12th July

Seventh Sunday of Trinity

*Isaiah 55: 10-13 ♦ Psalm 65: 1-14 ♦ Romans 8: 1-11 ♦ *Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23

Sunday 19th July

Eighth Sunday of Trinity

Isaiah 44: 6-8 ♦ Psalm 86: 11-17 ♦ *Romans 8: 12-25 ♦ *Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43

Sunday 26th July

Ninth Sunday of Trinity

1 Kings 3:5-12 ♦ *Psalm 119:129-136 ♦ Romans 8:26-39 ♦ *Matthew 13:31-33,44-52

August 2026

Sunday 2nd August

Tenth Sunday of Trinity

*Isaiah 55: 1-5 ♦ Psalm 145: 8-9, 15-21 ♦ Romans 9: 1-5 ♦ *Matthew 14: 13-21

Thursday 6th August

The Transfiguration of the Lord

Daniel 7: 9-10, 13-14 ♦ Psalm 97 ♦ *2 Peter 1: 16-19 ♦ *Luke 9: 28-36

Sunday 9th August

Eleventh Sunday of Trinity

*1 Kings 19: 9-18 ♦ Psalm 85: 8-13 ♦ Romans 10: 5-15 ♦ *Matthew 14: 22-33

Sunday 16th August

Twelfth Sunday of Trinity

Isaiah 56: 1, 6-8 ♦ Psalm 67 ♦ *Romans 11: 1-2a, 29-32 ♦ *Matthew 15: 21-28

Sunday 23rd August

Thirteenth Sunday of Trinity

Isaiah 51: 1-6 ♦ Psalm 138 ♦ *Romans 12: 1-8 ♦ *Matthew 16: 13-20

Sunday 30th August & Thursday 3rd September Fourteenth Sunday of Trinity

Jeremiah 15: 15-21 ♦ Psalm 26: 1-8 ♦ *Romans 12: 9-21 ♦ *Matthew 16: 21-28

Sunday 30th August

Choral Evensong

Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

*Exodus 12: 21-27 ♦ *Matthew 4: 23 – 5: 20 ♦ Psalm 119: 9-16

September

Sunday 6th September

First Sunday in the Season of Creation

*Ezekiel 33: 7-11 ♦ Psalm 119: 33-40 ♦ Romans 13: 8-14 ♦ *Matthew 18: 15-20

Receiving the weekly notices and readings

At 3.00pm each Saturday an email with the weekly notices, together with the Sunday readings, Collect and Year's Mind is sent to our congregational members. If you attend services but do not receive these emails and would like to keep in touch, please fill in a yellow GDPR form, available at the back of the church, and give it to Sheila, a Welcomer, or hand it into the office.

Dates for the Diary

July

- Thur 2nd** Monthly Communion Service ♦ 11.00am
Mon 6th Summer Special Toddler Session for our Church and Toddler Group children up to around age 6 ♦ 9.30am-11.30am
Tue 7th Evening Bible Study ♦ 7.00pm
Tue 7th Folk Open Mic Night and Singing Circle ♦ 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Tue 14th Evening Bible Study ♦ 7.00pm
Thur 16th Summer Special Toddler Session ♦ 9.30am-11.30am
Tue 21st Evening Bible Study ♦ 7.00pm
Mon 27th Summer Special Toddler Session ♦ 9.30am-11.30am
Tue 28th Evening Bible Study ♦ 7.00pm
Wed 29th St Peter's Book Club ♦ 7.00pm

August

- Tue 4th** Evening Bible Study ♦ 7.00pm
Thur 6th Monthly Communion Service ♦ 11.00am
Tue 11th Evening Bible Study ♦ 7.00pm
Mon 17th Monday Toddlers resume ♦ 9.30am-11.30am
Tue 18th Evening Bible Study ♦ 7.00pm
Thur 20th Thursday Toddlers resume ♦ 9.30am-11.30am
Thur 20th September magazine deadline
Sun 23rd Little Folk resumes ♦ 3.00pm-4.00pm
Tue 25th Evening Bible Study ♦ 7.00pm
Wed 26th St Peter's Book Club ♦ 7.00pm
Thur 27th Thursday choir rehearsals and Voice for Life resume ♦ times on p. 20
Sun 30th Little Folk ♦ 3.00pm-4.00pm Choral Evensong ♦ 6.30pm

September

- Tue 1st** Usual Daytime Tuesday events resume ♦ 11.00am ♦ 12 noon ♦ 1.00pm ♦ 7.00pm
Tue 1st Folk Open Mic Night and Singing Circle ♦ 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Thur 3rd Monthly Communion Service ♦ 11.00am
Sun 6th Little Folk ♦ 3.00pm-4.00pm
Tue 8th Usual Tuesday events ♦ 11.00am ♦ 12 noon ♦ 1.00pm ♦ 7.00pm

Magazine Articles

Please email or submit your articles and photographs to Sheila asap. Thank you.

office@stpetersedinburgh.org

*The DEADLINE for the
September issue is
Thursday 20th August*

p. 7 Rupert's final Sunday before retiring, Sunday 28th June

