

**19 January 2025**

**Second Sunday of Epiphany**

*The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity*



St Peter's  
Glenfield

*connecting our  
community to Christ*

*10.15am United Service at  
Glenfield Methodist Church*

*No service at St Peter's this morning – do go to our partners in Christ at Glenfield Methodist Church to join the united service there.*

*A service of Holy Communion is at 10am at All Saints', Newtown Linford, this morning*

**Collect**

Eternal Lord,  
our beginning and our end:  
bring us with the whole creation to your glory,  
hidden through past ages  
and made known in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

*Services and events*

**Upcoming services onsite and online**

**Daily Prayer** on Friday on **Facebook** at 9am. No midweek service this week.

**Children's group on Sunday**

A group for 0-11s normally runs alongside the Sunday 10am service on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month. With Breakfast Church on the 1<sup>st</sup> and Crumpet Church on the 4<sup>th</sup>, this means there is something suitable for children to grow in faith every week at St Peter's.

**Alpha**

We are looking at running Alpha online this term on a midweek evening, starting soon. Please speak to Richard or Barry Jones if you're interested in joining this course, an opportunity to explore the basics of Christian faith. There may also be the chance to be confirmed at a deanery service later this term – attending the first few sessions of Alpha will be part of the preparation for this. Do talk to Richard about this if you'd like to explore that possibility.

**Shaped by God Together**

The process for discerning the Minster Community that St Peter's will be part of in the future continues with meetings this month. We are exploring a potential grouping which includes some of the fringes of the city and neighbouring county villages, but options remain open.

**Events this week:**

Tue: Music Time at 1.15pm in Church Centre

Wed: Growth Group at 2.30pm at 72 Chestnut Road

Thu: ReNew Café from 9.30am in Church Centre

## News and updates

### Giving

If you would like to give to support St Peter's, please use our [online donation page](#) or sign up for regular gifts at [Parish Giving](#). If you give by standing order, please speak to Doreen Denney.



If you pay tax, filling out a Gift Aid declaration will enable the church to reclaim the tax you have already paid on your gift, making each £1 you give worth £1.25 to us. This can make a truly substantial difference to the church – please consider whether you can do this, declaration forms are available in church.

### Prayer diary

The diocesan items for prayer in the weekly news sheet are drawn from the quarterly prayer diary which also contains reminders and information for daily prayer as well. It can be downloaded from the diocesan website. Content for our partner mission and aid agencies is taken from their prayer emails which you can sign up to receive on their websites.

### Measures for everyone's safety

We aim to ensure everyone attending is able to remain as safe from infection as they wish: you are able to socially distance if you pick up a card from the back and sanitizer is provided. We ask you do not attend a service if you have tested positive for COVID-19 but join the online stream instead.

## Prayers

### Please pray for:

Liz. Val, giving thanks for recovery after a major operation. Ella, with back pain. Janet, during a difficult time following leg surgery. Richard. Spencer. Helen, with severe asthma. Anne, with cancer. Brian. Diane. Thelma. Alan. Clare recovering at home after surgery. Rose, with a broken wrist. Pat, that new medication will improve her breathing. Alf, and his wife caring for him. Sarah's mum, preparing for an operation. Hollie, starting new treatment for cancer.

For the bereaved families of John Kinton and George and Elizabeth Hope, whose joint funeral is on 28 January, 1pm at Gilroes.

*Please send any prayer requests to Hayley or Richard by Thursday evening for inclusion at the weekend.*

[www.stpetersglenfield.org.uk](http://www.stpetersglenfield.org.uk)  
[www.facebook.com/stpetersglenfield](https://www.facebook.com/stpetersglenfield)

**Contact the Rector, Richard Trethewey:**

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0116 287 1604

**or the administrator, Hayley Moore:**

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0116 239 3768

## **Leicester Diocese**

### *The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2025*

At the heart of our reflections for this year's Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is the question posed by Jesus to Martha: 'Do you believe this?' (John 11.26). This same question resonated throughout the deliberations of the first Ecumenical Council, meeting in Nicaea in 325, which gathered Christian communities from around the world to strengthen their relationships as the Church of Jesus Christ. Read in isolation the question might appear as a stark challenge, but from the Gospel story it is clear that the words of Jesus are spoken in love and experienced as invitation as well as challenge. Similarly, while the Council of Nicaea was not without its challenges as a wounded and scattered Church sought to discern the truth of the Gospel message, there was an obvious desire to deepen connection and belonging and to live faithfully as disciples of Christ.

Reflecting on these moments we are reminded that the gift of our faith brings both support and challenge. The 1700<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Council of Nicaea this year has been embraced with a hopeful enthusiasm in the global Church and in ecumenical bodies, inspiring a wide range of events and dialogues. It is valued as a significant moment of shared history across the different Christian traditions, despite the many ways in which our paths may have diverged in the years since.

An important question, and one to which this Week of Prayer for Christian Unity resource seeks to respond is: what is its relevance to the life and mission of the local church?

There is an opportunity to celebrate and draw strength and encouragement from the gift of our shared faith. In these troubled and turbulent times, we can take heart from the endurance of that faith. The Church that gathered in Nicaea was one that had been shaken and wounded by violence and persecution and was therefore close to the suffering of humanity. It was presented with an opportunity for dialogue with the political power which posed difficult choices about how best to share the Good News of the Gospel as faithful disciples of Christ, whose Kingdom is not of this world. In today's polarised world, when trust in the willingness of political powers and authorities, including the Church, to protect the most vulnerable has been undermined, how might a renewal of our commitment to Christian unity contribute to positive change?

Our polarised and fracturing world needs a new vision for peace, centred on the recognition of our interconnectedness and shared humanity. As we mark this anniversary, we have an opportunity to ask the hard questions about what may be getting in the way of our shared identity as Christians and our collective witness to the world. We are reminded of the transformative power of our faith which gives hope in suffering through the promise that all will be renewed in Christ.

*Dr Nicola Brady, General Secretary, Churches Together in Britain and Ireland*

*God of our journeyings,  
Christ of our shorelines,  
Spirit of endless horizons,  
beckon us towards unity.  
Challenge us to step out of our upper rooms  
and safe spaces,  
to be bringers of light and peace.  
Imbue us with the light of your love,  
reconciling us to ourselves,  
to each other and to you  
when we confront the scandal of division.  
Graft peace, love and compassion into  
our mission and discipleship.  
Bind with peace any broken limb  
that we might go into the world  
and live the way of Jesus  
for the sake of all creation.  
Amen.*