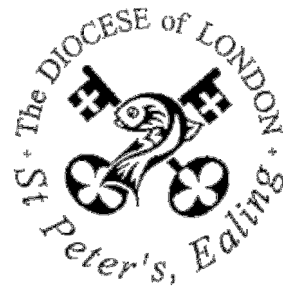


# PARISH PROFILE OF ST PETER, EALING



## A. THE PARISH

### 1. Geography and background

The parish of St. Peter, Ealing, is situated in west London between central Ealing on its southern edge, the A40 and North Circular Road on its northern and eastern sides, and by St. Benedict's Abbey on its western side. It is serviced by Ealing Broadway station, which is on the main westbound railway line out of London and is also a terminus on both the District and Central lines of the Underground. The Church and vicarage are within a Conservation Area and the parish comprises predominantly residential properties with a few offices, shops and pubs.

According to an analysis of the 2001 Census data provided by the Diocese, the parish has a population of 7,051, split male and female equally. Only 14.2 % are under 16 or age 16-18 in full-time education, whereas 19% are over the age of 60. 77.5% list themselves as white, 9.5% as Asian, 3.2% as black and 9.6% are from other ethnic groups. 4037 people (57.3%) describe themselves as Christian. Unemployment levels are relatively low. Of the people over 16 years of age in the parish, only 0.9% describe themselves as 'long-term unemployed'. 25% of the population age 16-74 are in higher managerial or professional jobs.

There is a state primary school opposite the church building and several private schools nearby; whose use of the church's facilities could be developed further. St Peter's has been represented on the Governing Body of Twyford CE High School in Acton, and is represented on that of Christ the Saviour Primary School (formerly St Saviour's Infants School and Christ the Saviour CE Junior School).

## 2. Development Plans

We are not aware of plans for any major new housing, roads, community facilities or industrial development schemes within the parish boundaries. There is a large shop and residential development under construction in Dickens' Yard, behind the Town Hall near the Station. [www.dickens-yard.co.uk]

## B. THE CHURCH

### 1. Geography and background

St. Peter's Church, situated at the junction of Mount Park Road and Montpelier Road, is in the Deanery of Ealing and the Willesden Episcopal Area of the Diocese of London. It has an electoral roll of 142 (of whom over fifty per cent live outside the Parish boundaries) which has proved stable in recent years. About 12% of the congregation are from ethnic and linguistic minorities.

There are photographs of the Church and Vicarage on the Parish website:-  
<http://www.stpeterealing.org.uk>

### 2. Liturgy and Worship

St Peter's is a mainstream Anglican Parish Church and is liturgically in the contemporary liberal catholic tradition, lively and vigorous in its faith.

- **Daily:** That the church is open daily from 8.45 am until 6 pm is seen as an important part of its mission. We would hope the new Incumbent would renew a pattern of daily offices in Church.
- **Weekly:** worship is focused on the 10 am Sunday Parish Mass, with vestments, music and incense. St Peter's encourages active lay participation leading readings, intercessions and the offertory, and as Ministers of the Eucharist. Evening Prayer is said every Sunday, with BCP Evensong on the first Sunday of the month and weekly in Advent and Lent. There is a Mass on Wednesday evenings, and a monthly BCP service on Thursday mornings, and there has been a Mass on Fridays at 7.30am. St Peter's has used specially printed Common Worship books since 2000, and has had a number of special seasonal services.
- **Monthly:** There are regular Healing Masses with anointing and laying on of hands.
- **Festivals:** All major festivals, including our Patronal Festival in June, are celebrated fully.
- We also have a number of **Special Services**, including a Covenant Service in January, a service for Christian Aid in May, and a Dedication in July.

**Baptism:** We practise an open policy on baptism, which normally takes place during the main Parish Mass. There were six baptisms at the church in 2010.

**Attendance:** Average attendance at the Sunday 10 am Eucharist over the three months March to May 2011, excluding Holy Week, was 80, of whom 12 were under the age of sixteen. The number of Christmas communicants in 2010 (including the Midnight service) was 135, while 162 attended the Christingle service. The number of Easter communicants in 2011 was 100.

**Music:** St. Peter's has enjoyed an historic succession of capable and well-known organists from its consecration through to the present day. Mark James has recently been appointed Director of Music, having previously worked with the boy Choristers of Ely Cathedral as the Choir House Music Tutor. St. Peter's is a musical church with a fine organ, a committed SATB choir, and a congregation who are both excited by high quality music and actively supportive of it. The building has a fine acoustic and is used regularly for concerts.

**Personal prayer and spirituality:** St Peter's arranges occasional Parish retreats, and in addition clergy are expected to make their own annual retreat. There is an active prayer life including a group of Prayer Partners.

### 3. Nurture

**Preaching and sermons:** Preaching is taken seriously and careful preparation, keeping to an agreed timing, and delivery are all important. Sermons are usually printed out and available for reading and discussion and are also put up on the website.

**Children:** St. Peter's runs a lively and growing children's ministry focused on the weekly Junior Church, meeting at the same time as the Parish Mass. St. Peter's is one of the parishes authorised by the Bishop to give communion to children (from the age of about 6) before they are confirmed. We see this as a central part of our nurture of children, and provide instruction and an annual initiation, usually at Whitsun. Once a term the Parish Mass is specifically orientated to include children as servers, readers and intercessors, with an alternative to a traditional sermon. A crèche is available every Sunday providing for families with babies and very young children. The church adheres fully to Diocesan Child Protection policies.

**Youth:** There has traditionally been active provision for young people through the Uniformed Groups, bearing the St Peter's name and badge. Brownies and Guides each meet weekly in the Church Hall, and Cubs and Scouts in a nearby building. Youth Groups have been an important component of parish life, now needing revitalisation. Young people regularly act as servers at the Parish Mass.

**Study Groups:** There are annual Advent and Lent courses. All courses and study groups are resourced by our weekly book shop and library. There are also a number of less formal spiritual and literary house groups

### 4. Mission

**Mission Action Plan:** A copy of the current Mission Action Plan is available on request. The PCC is seen as policy making, example setting and load bearing while the leadership style is collaborative and accountable, with clear and complementary roles for clergy and laity. Leadership is neither clerically nor lay dominated, but is not dissipated and has a clear focus. Mission is writ large in the work of St Peter's, and is led by the Mission Committee, a sub-committee of the PCC.

**Shared Ministry and Stewardship:** St. Peter's encourages active involvement and leadership of lay people in relevant areas - such as adult education, mission, sick-visiting, the taking of the sacrament to the sick, and bereavement visiting. We believe in responsible stewardship of resources including money, and have previously had groups for marriage preparation led by lay people.

**Older People:** The parish has a number of residential homes, for both the elderly and for vulnerable young adults. The ministry to older people includes the active participation of lay members as commissioned visitors taking the sacrament to residential homes and the housebound. There has also been a fortnightly afternoon club which was run in a very professional manner, with a varied selection of speakers and excellent catering.

**Service to the Community:** St Peter's strives to offer its facilities to the wider community. At present the Church Hall serves many different groups including a Montessori School, Kumon classes, the local Health Authority for a mother and baby clinic, as well as for political meetings, exercise classes, and other interest groups including private use particularly for children's parties. It is used as a polling station during national and local elections. It has full wheelchair access. The church is used for many school Carol Services and Concerts.

**Overseas:** Close links have been developed with some international organisations. We particularly value our support for the Sudanese Development Programme and School run by Fr Joseph Choufar. We support an ordained Consultant Ophthalmologist working in Nigeria. There is a thriving Traidcraft stall twice a month after Sunday services. The parish supports *ALMA* - the link between the Diocese of London and the Anglican Church of Mozambique and Angola. There are also links with *World Vision* through which the Junior Church sponsors a child in Bangladesh. In recent years parish pilgrimages have been made to Turkey and Syria.

## 5. Ministry

### a. Staff

**Ordained:** The present establishment is a vicar alone; in the past there has been a stipendiary curate in training. One male and one female NSM priest share the liturgy and participate in the work of the parish. St Peter's positively supports all the NSMs in ministry beyond the confines of the parish. The ministry of women within the ordained ministry of the church is fully affirmed.

**Lay Readers:** The parish has a Reader, who supervises the Junior Church, and also preaches regularly. The Reader is part of a regular extended staff-meeting.

**Sacristan:** A voluntary sacristan makes a significant contribution to our worship.

**Administrator:** We have a part-time salaried administrator.

All ordained or employed staff work to specifications of ministry or job descriptions respectively. Clergy participate in the 'Annual Ministerial Development Review', and there is an Episcopal Review every 3 years in the Willesden Area.

## 6. Training

The clergy attend regular study and training days. At present Junior Church training is done 'in house', though we see scope for development in this and other fields

## 7. Communications

The congregation is proud of its relaxed informal atmosphere.

The principal method of communication within St Peter's is the weekly Newsletter made available every Sunday and containing all important announcements, forthcoming services and other parish events. Key announcements are made orally before Sunday Mass and all formal notices are displayed on the notice board.

A parish bulletin is published monthly, and is available on the website. A Christmas newsletter is distributed to every household within the parish boundaries.

PCC minutes and forthcoming agendas are made available to everyone inside the entrance of the church, key notices are displayed prominently on the notice boards and the parish web-site is regularly updated.

## **8. Resources**

### **a. Finance**

The 2010 Accounts showed income of £140,000 and expenditure of £139,000, allowing for budgeted items of major maintenance. Gross stewardship for 2011 is forecast to be £82,000, and most of the families on the Electoral Roll contribute. The current parish financial balance may appear precarious; however in the autumn of 2011 the PCC are arranging stewardship focussed meetings for the entire congregation which we hope will improve the situation.

The PCC tries each year, in its contribution to the Diocesan Common Fund, to exceed the mean parish cost in the Diocese; in 2010 this was by 2%.

Assets, excluding the nominal value of the Hall, were around £45,000 at the end of 2010.

Clergy out of pocket expenses are reimbursed in full. The PCC also pays one quarter of the Vicarage gas and electricity bills.

### **b. Administration**

St Peter's employs a part time Administrator who is responsible for all the day-to-day bookings and administration of the Church Hall, which last year produced an income of £30,000. The Administrator also runs the parish office and provides the administrative back-up for the Vicar's work as incumbent. The parish office's computer system was replaced in 2010.

### **c. Property**

**Church:** The church was built in 1892 to the design of John Dando Sedding and Henry Wilson. It is listed Grade II\* and is a masterly example of a large parish church with a seating capacity of around three hundred people. Our 3-manual Bishop Organ is considered a major asset, and is often used for recitals. A new heating system was installed in 1999. In general the Church is in good repair, though the current Quinquennial Report has noted deterioration to the stone facings of the buttresses above the roof; plans for a major restoration of the stonework on the north side of the church are to be funded in part by English Heritage, and an appeal for the remaining costs is under way.

**Vicarage:** The vicarage is a large detached Edwardian property listed grade II, with a Study, Dining Room, 2 further reception rooms and six bedrooms. It is situated within its own grounds and adjoins the church property on Mount Park Road. The vicarage and gardens have been used for meetings and various parish events. On the second floor is a self contained flat, with a separate entrance; this has at times been occupied by the curate, and is currently let as glebe by the Diocesan office.

**Church Hall:** A spacious church hall, connected to the church through the north transept door, opened in 1980. The kitchen and toilet facilities were modernised to meet new European standards in 1997, but storage space is restricted. We hope to make structural improvements to the Hall in a future appeal.

## **9. Ecumenical Activity**

*Christians Together in Central Ealing* provides a monthly meeting for clergy from the Roman Catholic, Anglican, Methodist, Baptist and URC churches, and from the Society of Friends. St. Peter's assists a URC church initiative called Contact which is a meeting place for separated parents who do not have custody of their children, where they may meet on neutral ground. There is a large Roman Catholic Benedictine Abbey in north Ealing with its community, parish and school. Representatives of the Parish attend inter-faith meetings regularly.

## **10. Deanery/Area/Diocese**

St Peter's often collaborates with adjacent parishes for Confirmation services. Ealing Deanery is co-terminus with the Borough, and St Peter's is part of the Central Ealing sub-chapter.

Presently there are two parish representatives on the diocesan synod and one more on the Ealing deanery synod (including the secretary of this synod).

## **11. Development**

A copy of the annual reports to the APCM, held in April 2011, is available on the Parish website. This details many aspects of developments within the parish.

## **12. Next Ministry**

We are looking for someone who:

- is a person of prayer with a deep regard for the sacraments and a sense of occasion when taking services, with experience of a predominantly Eucharistic parochial ministry.
- recognises the need to offer an all-inclusive ministry within the Church of England.
- has sound theology and doctrine, and is flexible in discussion. A challenging preacher, sympathetic to our liturgical heritage, and able to inspire and direct spiritual awareness.
- has a commitment to a ministry to children of all ages.
- is a strong leader, a good communicator and discreet listener, with a collaborative style, has good pastoral skills and a sense of mission to the people of this area whether regular worshippers or not.

- has vision, energy and enthusiasm and will encourage and empower others to take the initiative and the lead.
- recognises the need for fundraising, both for routine stewardship and for special appeals.
- has a commitment to social justice throughout the world
- has a sense of humour and enjoys the social aspects of parish life.

This statement of the conditions, needs and traditions of the parish was approved by the Parochial Church Council at a Section 11 meeting held on Wednesday 14 September 2011.

Further details can be obtained from the Churchwardens:-

St. Peter's Parish Office  
 56 Mount Park Road  
 LONDON. W5 2RU  
 Telephone & Fax: 020 8997 3655  
 E-mail: [admin@stpeterealing.org.uk](mailto:admin@stpeterealing.org.uk)  
**Website:** <http://www.stpeterealing.org.uk>

**Staff:**

Assistant Curate (NSM): The Revd. Margaret Joachim  
 Assistant Curate (NSM): The Revd Keith Stephenson  
 Reader: Mrs Susan Peatfield

Also The Revd Harold Stringer (Retired)

Churchwardens: Richard Peatfield (0208 997 8376)  
 Allison McAllister (0208 998 1726)