

Reflection St Peter & Paul

Yesterday in Exeter Cathedral as in many other Cathedrals, a number of Ordinands who have been in training became Clergy by the Laying on of hands by their Bishop. This is usually the time for Ordinations, the Feast Of Petertide. This weekend it is 33 years since I was Ordained in Manchester Cathedral.

Many people often ask "Well, what do you believe in?" but for Christians it is not what but whom. Petertide is surely a good time to remind ourselves that we believe in a Living Christ. We believe that Jesus is the Son of God and is our Saviour. We seek a living relationship with Him. I recently came across a poem by John Oxenham.

Not what, but whom, I do believe that in my darkest hour of need, hath comfort that no mortal creed to mortal man may give not what but whom.

Fr Terry

Please join us
for refreshments
and fellowship
after the service
in the church hall



NEXT SUNDAY 05.07.26 St Thomas
10.30am in the Church



OT Habakkuk 2: 1-4
NT Ephesians 31: 1-6
GOSPEL John 20: 24-29

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St Thomas, Exeter

28th June 2026

St Peter & St Paul

10.30am in the Church

Today

Sung Eucharist

Hymn Numbers

277 *Jesus shall reign where're the sun*

128 *Fight the good fight*

473 *The Church's one foundation*

30 *And can it be*

Tuesday 30th June

3.30-5pm Crafternoon in the Church

7.30pm House group at Helen's house.

Wednesday 1st July

10am Walsingham Mass

Thursday 2nd July

9.30-11am St Thomas Tots

10.30-12noon Knit & Natter at Jenny
Tuckett's house

Friday 3rd July

9.30am Morning Prayers

10am Staff Meeting

Saturday 4th July

From 12 noon Love St Thomas Summer
Festival in the Churchyard, Hall and
Church.



Collect

Almighty God, whose blessed apostles Peter and Paul glorified you in their death as in their life: grant that your Church, inspired by their teaching and example, and made one by your Spirit, may ever stand firm upon the one foundation, Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Acts 12: 1-11

About that time King Herod laid violent hands upon some who belonged to the church. He had James, the brother of John, killed with the sword. After he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. (This was during the festival of Unleavened Bread.) When he had seized him, he put him in prison and handed him over to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending to bring him out to the people after the Passover. While Peter was kept in prison, the church prayed fervently to God for him. The very night before Herod was going to bring him out, Peter, bound with two chains, was sleeping between two soldiers, while guards in front of the door were keeping watch over the prison. Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell. He tapped Peter on the side and woke him, saying, 'Get up quickly.' And the chains fell off his wrists. The angel said to him, 'Fasten your belt and put on your sandals.' He did so. Then he said to him, 'Wrap your cloak around you and follow me.' Peter went out and followed him; he did not realize that what was happening with the angel's help was real; he thought he was seeing a vision. After they had passed the first and the second guard, they came before the iron gate leading into the city. It opened for them of its own accord, and they went outside and walked along a lane, when suddenly the angel left him. Then Peter came to himself and said, 'Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hands of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting.'

2 Timothy 4: 6-8, 17, 18

As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing. But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Matthew 16: 13-19

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.'

Post Communion

Almighty God, who on the day of Pentecost sent your Holy Spirit to the apostles with the wind from heaven and in tongues of flame, filling them with joy and boldness to preach the gospel: by the power of the same Spirit strengthen us to witness

to your truth and to draw everyone to the fire of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Notices

Today Fr Terry will preach and preside at our service of Sunday worship. We are very grateful to Fr Terry for stepping-up to take many extra services during the interregnum.

Next Sunday we welcome the **Rev Sarah Cumming** who will preach and preside at our service of Sunday worship when we will be celebrating our patronal festival St Thomas' Day.

On Tuesday 30th June between 3.30—5pm there will be a Crafternoon session to make a display for the Summer Festival. Please come along and be creative. Refreshments available.

At the **Summer Festival** (on July 4th) we will be serving inexpensive refreshments in the hall, and selling homemade cakes, jams, etc. We are looking for volunteers to run this stall at various times between noon and 5pm—and you will also have an opportunity to join in the general activities. There will be a sign-up sheet in the hall on Sundays.

Rev Hannah Alderson, our new Rector, will be licensed to our parish at 7.30pm on **Monday 7th September**. Please continue to pray for Hannah and her family as they prepare to move into our community.

The staff team will be meeting **Hannah to plan her licensing service** on the morning of Friday 10th July. If anyone would like to be involved in that please speak to Ian.

The church office has received an email from **Peter Pike** who was a chorister at St Thomas before emigrating to Australia in 1950. He has written a hymn based on Jesus' "I am" statements from John's gospel. You can listen to it at.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K8Ldr2mdvFQ>