

# PARISH OF ST PETER'S WOLVERCOTE

## Application for Enrolment on the Electoral Roll

Full name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred title (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

Full address \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

**1: I declare that** (please tick only one box from options A or B)

1A  I am baptised and am aged 16 or over

1B  I am baptised and become 16\* on \_\_\_\_\_

*\*Those who become 16 in the next twelve months may complete the form and become eligible to be entered on the roll on their sixteenth birthday.*

**2: I declare that** (please tick only one box from options A, B or C)

2A  I am a member of the Church of England (or of a Church in communion with the Church of England) and am a resident in the parish.

2B  I am a member of the Church of England (or a Church in communion with the Church of England) and, not being resident in the parish, I have habitually attended public worship in the parish during the period of six months prior to enrolment.

2C  I am a member in good standing of a Church (not in communion with the Church of England) which subscribes to the doctrine of the Holy Trinity and also declare myself to be a member of the Church of England and I have habitually attended public worship in the parish during the period of six months prior to enrolment.

**I declare that the above answers are true and I apply for inclusion on the church electoral roll of the parish.**

Signed:

Date:

## NOTES & CONTACTS



### Notes on completing the Electoral Roll

1. The only churches at present in communion with the Church of England are other Anglican Churches and certain foreign Churches.
2. Membership of the Electoral Roll is also open to members in good standing of a Church not in communion with the Church of England which subscribes to the doctrine of the Holy Trinity where those members are also prepared to declare themselves to be members of the Church of England.
3. Every six years a new roll is prepared and those on the previous roll are informed so that they can re-apply. If you are not resident in the parish but were on the roll as an habitual worshipper and have been prevented by sickness or absence or other essential reason from worshipping for the past six months, you may write "would" before "have habitually attended" on the form and add "but was prevented from doing so because" and then state the reason.
4. If you have any problems completing the form, please approach the clergy or lay people responsible for the parish, who will be pleased to help you.
5. In this form, "parish" means ecclesiastical parish.

Detach the completed form(s) and return **before Sunday 3 March** to:

The Electoral Roll Officer, St Peter's Church Office

First Turn, Oxford OX2 8AQ

Or leave in the marked box at the back of church.

[www.stpeterswolvercote.org](http://www.stpeterswolvercote.org)

## BEING A CHURCH MEMBER

### What it means to join the Electoral Roll

The New Testament describes the church as a Family, Team or Body. In all these images, two things are clear. The church is made up of people, each having a different but equally vital part to play in the health of the whole.

***"As in one body we have many members, and not all members have the same function, so we who are many, are one body, and individually we are members one of another." (Romans 12: 4-5)***

Formally, the way to become a member of St Peter's is to join the Electoral Roll. This entitles you to stand for the PCC or to vote for others to do so and, more importantly, it is a statement of your commitment to the local church. Every six years a new roll is prepared. To be on the new roll, please complete the application form, detach and return to the Electoral Roll Officer (Val Tate) by Sunday 3 March.

However, there are other aspects to being a church member: sharing in prayer, Christian learning and fellowship; providing practical help in the life of the church; and giving financially towards the church's ministry and mission

St Paul's picture of the Body of Christ reminds us that all of us have gifts, skills and talents to use in God's service. Each of us is like a limb or organ or cell that can make a vital contribution to the life of the whole Body.

St Peter's Ministry team and PCC invite you to review how you are involved in the church and its mission. Above all, be assured, whatever contribution you are able to make, large or small, is of great value and very much appreciated.





## GROWING IN FAITH

### Sharing in Prayer, Christian Learning & Fellowship

We hope every member of St Peter's will continue to grow and develop, in their own way, through prayer and Christian learning. Above all we may do this through Sunday worship, but there are many other ways to grow in faith together.

*“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.” (Acts 2:42)*

#### Exploring Spirituality

Every Christian has their own way of feeling close to God in prayer. St Peter's offers prayer opportunities in church nearly every day of the week and monthly in peoples' homes. Prayer Cycles based on the church calendar are published regularly on St Peter's website or in church. These enable members of the broader church body to know they are united in their intercessions. Each Prayer Cycle includes a diary detailing regular and special events such as the Lent Quiet Day, Advent Quiet Evening and Exploring Spirituality meetings. See the church website or contact Revd Viv Bridges for further details.

#### Christian Learning

**Home Groups** meet fortnightly for discussion on the Bible or Christian books, fellowship and prayer. New members are always welcome!

#### Short Courses

**Christ for Today** is a course primarily for newcomers to the church, or for anyone interested in taking a fresh look at the basics of faith today, or adults interested in confirmation. Over six sessions, we explore how the life, teaching, death and resurrection of Jesus are relevant today.

Further talks and short courses run from time to time. Contact Revd Charles Draper for further details about these or Home Groups.

#### Fellowship

**Open Fellowship** meets Mondays fortnightly in St Peter's Old School Room for a talk from an invited speaker, discussion and tea. Each term, the final meeting is a Bring and Share lunch. Details are available in the weekly *Partnership Link*, on our website or through the Church Office.

## SHARING TIME AND TALENTS

### Taking Part in Church and Community Life

Most aspects of church life are supported by volunteers who find space in busy lives to share their skills and knowledge for the benefit of others. This support often falls on a few people so we need to spread the load! Any help, however small, is a valued gift for which we're truly thankful.

*“Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.” (Luke 6,38)*

#### Many Opportunities

Many practical ways to help out don't need regular commitment. Sidespeople, welcomers, readers, flower arrangers and cleaners are all on rotas and usually help only once a month, sometimes less. If you're comfortable using a home computer, there are rotas that need occasional updating, or website copy to be written.

One of our most important ways we communicate with the wider community is *The Flying Goose*. The team urgently needs additional help managing the whole production process, collecting articles, editing, liaising with advertisers and the printer. You don't need all the skills, just some to complement the rest of the team.

If you enjoy gardening, why not join the team keeping the churchyard tidy? Singing is a great social activity. Our choir is always looking for members so give it a go - no auditions! Or join the All-Age choir every third Sunday of the month. Then there's bellringing, a unique mix of physical exercise and mental agility.

Occasionally we need fit people to put up gazebos, and carry chairs and tables which doesn't take much time but is a valued contribution.

#### Specialist Skills

A final mention goes to specialist skills such as bookkeeping, marketing, promotion, writing, first aid, risk assessment, plumbing or websites. Let us know what you can do to keep St Peter's going and adapting to the 21st Century.

To provide more ideas and information, we've created the booklet *“Taking Part”*, copies of which may be found in church and online.

## PRACTICAL HELP FOR CHURCH LIFE

**We need help with the following tasks, some of them urgently.  
Tick those you already support or which interest you.**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Sunday 10am Welcoming	<input type="checkbox"/>	Work with Young People
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sunday 10am Sidesperson	<input type="checkbox"/>	Christian Aid Team
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sunday 10am Reading	<input type="checkbox"/>	Social events
<input type="checkbox"/>	Choir	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hospitality team
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bellringing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Church cleaning team
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sunday morning coffee	<input type="checkbox"/>	Churchyard gardening
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sat/Sun afternoon open church	<input type="checkbox"/>	Flowers in church
<input type="checkbox"/>	Updating rotas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Flying Goose</i> editing
<input type="checkbox"/>	Website copy and editing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Flying Goose</i> print/distribution
<input type="checkbox"/>	I could provide occasional, general help		
<input type="checkbox"/>	I have specialist skills in eg Health & Safety, websites, bookkeeping		

Please send me information about the following:

#### Financial Support

#### Growing in Faith

<input type="checkbox"/>	Parish Giving Scheme	<input type="checkbox"/>	Home Groups
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gift Aid	<input type="checkbox"/>	Christ for Today
<input type="checkbox"/>	Legacies	<input type="checkbox"/>	Exploring Spirituality

Use this form to offer practical help even if you're not joining the electoral roll. Otherwise, complete *“Application for Enrolment on the Church Electoral Roll”* overleaf. Return all forms to Electoral Roll Officer c/o St Peter's Church Office before Sunday 3 March 2019.

