



Town Church

St Peter Port, Guernsey



Choral Eucharist
The Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity
Sunday 20th September 2026
Proper 20

Welcome to Town Church. Whether you are a regular or occasional visitor, we are pleased to have you as part of our worshipping community today. We hope you enjoy the service. Please join us for tea or coffee at the end of the service in the South Aisle

Bienvenue dans notre église dédiée à Saint-Pierre, mais connue sous le nom de "Town Church". Nous sommes heureux de vous accueillir à notre messe aujourd'hui. Nous espérons que vous apprécierez le service. Nous vous invitons à rester pour prendre le thé ou le café à la fin de la messe.

Laipni lūdzam St Peter Port baznīcā, ko sauc arī par Pilsētas baznīcu. Mēs priecājamies, ka esat izvēlējies (-usies) būt kopā ar mums šajā dievkalpojumā un ceram, ka Jums tas patiks. Lūdzam kopā ar mums iebaudīt tēju vai kafiju pēc dievkalpojuma.

Willkommen in unserer Kirche, die Sankt Petrus geweiht, aber als 'Stadtkirche' bekannt ist. Wir freuen uns, dass Sie sich entschlossen haben, an unserer Eucharistiefeier teilzunehmen und hoffen dass Ihnen unser Gottesdienst gefällt. Bitte bleiben Sie am Ende noch bei uns zu Kaffee oder Tee.



Large Print Orders of Service

Please ask one of the sidespersons if you would like one.



Contactless Card payments

If you would like to make donations via contactless card/phone there is a machine by the door.

Communion

If you need communion bringing to you in your place, or require a gluten-free wafer, please ask one of the sidespersons before the service, who will be pleased to arrange this.

Music

The musical setting for the service is the Darke in F.

The cover image is a woodcut print entitled 'Jonah and the Caster Bean Plant' by Jakob Steinhardt 1965.

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The Gathering

Please stand to sing the opening hymn (393)

**O worship the King, all glorious above;
O gratefully sing his pow'r and his love:
Our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,
pavilioned in splendor, and girded with praise.**

**O tell of his might, O sing of his grace,
whose robe is the light, whose canopy space;
his chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.**

**This earth, with its store of wonders untold,
almighty, thy pow'r hath founded of old:
hath 'stablished it fast by a changeless decree,
and round it hath cast, like a mantle, the sea.**

**Thy bountiful care what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;
it streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,
and sweetly distils in the dew and the rain.**

**Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
in thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail;
thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end!
Our maker, defender, redeemer, and friend.**

**O measureless might, ineffable love,
while angels delight to hymn thee above,
thy humbler creation, though feeble their lays,
with true adoration shall sing to thy praise.**

Robert Grant (1779-1838)

The president says

In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All

Amen

The Greeting

The president greets the people

The Lord be with you.

All

and also with you.

Further words of welcome or introduction may be said

Prayer of Preparation

All

**Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Prayers of Penitence

Please sit or kneel

God so loved the world
that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ
to save us from our sins,
to be our advocate in heaven,
and to bring us to eternal life.
Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith,
firmly resolved to keep God's commandments
and to live in love and peace with all.

All

**Most merciful God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy
forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly,
love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God.
Amen.**

Kyrie

Please remain seated while the choir sings the Kyrie

Kýrie, eléison. *Lord, have mercy.*

Kýrie, eléison. *Lord, have mercy.*

Kýrie, eléison. *Lord, have mercy.*

Christe, eléison. *Christ, have mercy.*

Christe, eléison. *Christ, have mercy.*

Christe, eléison. *Christ, have mercy.*

Kýrie, eléison. *Lord, have mercy.*

Kýrie, eléison. *Lord, have mercy.*

Kýrie, eléison. *Lord, have mercy.*

The president says

Almighty God,
 who forgives all who truly repent,
 have mercy upon you,
 pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
 confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
 and keep you in life eternal;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All

Amen.

Gloria

We stand while the Choir sings the Gloria

Choir

Glory be to God on high,
and in earth peace, good will towards men.
We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee,
we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,
O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father almighty.
O Lord, the only-begotten Son Jesu Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,
have mercy upon us.
For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord;
thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

The Collect

The president introduces a period of silent prayer with the words,

Let us pray.

O Lord, we beseech you mercifully to hear the prayers
of your people who call upon you;
and grant that they may both perceive and know
what things they ought to do,
and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil them;
through 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.

All

Amen

Please sit

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Jonah 3.10 – end of 4

A reading from the Book of Jonah.

When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the Lord and said, ‘O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.’ And the Lord said, ‘Is it right for you to be angry?’ Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

The Lord God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush.

But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered.

When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, 'It is better for me to die than to live.'

But God said to Jonah, 'Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?' And he said, 'Yes, angry enough to die.' Then the Lord said, 'You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labour and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?'

Let us bless the Lord.

All

Thanks be to God.

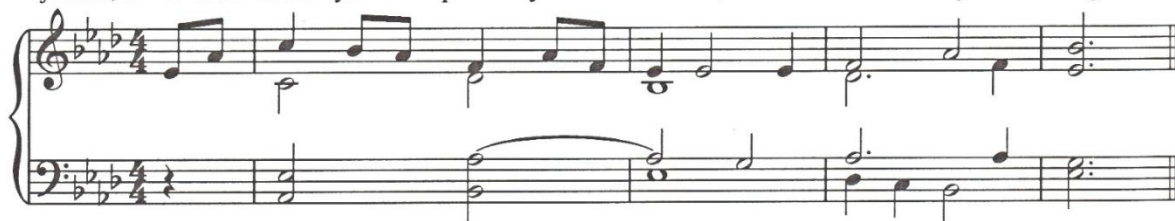
Psalm 145.1-8

The response is sung first by the choir, then repeated by everyone. The choir sings the verses and all join in the response between each verse.

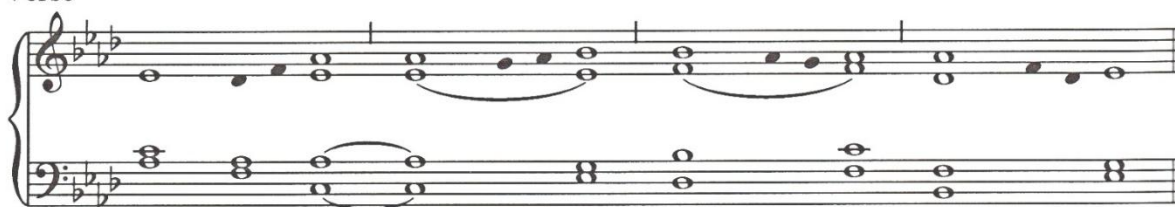
Andrew Moore

Response

cf. vs. 1, 2 I will bless you and praise you for e-ver, O God my King.



Verse



1. ¹ I will exalt you, O God my King,
and bless you name for e | ver and ever.
2. ² Every day I will bless you
and praise your name for e | ver and ever.
3. ³ Great is the Lord and highly | to be praised;
his greatness is beyond all | searching out.
2. ⁴ One generation shall praise your works | to another
and declare your | mighty acts.
5. ⁵ They shall speak of the majesty | of your glory,
and I will tell of all your won | derful deeds.
3. ⁶ They shall speak of the might of your mar | vellous acts,
and I will also tell | of your greatness.
7. ⁷ They shall pour forth the story of your a | bundant kindness
and joyfully sing | of your righteousness.
4. ⁸ The Lord is gra | cious and merciful,
long-suffering and | of great goodness.

Second Reading

Philippians 1.21- end

A reading from the letter to the Philippians

For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well— since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Let us bless the Lord.

All

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 20.1–16

Please stand and turn to face the Gospel reader

All **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

Alleluia, alleluia.

Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.

You have the words of eternal life.

All **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord be with you

All **And also with you**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to his disciples, 'For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; and he said to them, "You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right." So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, "Why are you standing here idle all day?"

They said to him, “Because no one has hired us.” He said to them, “You also go into the vineyard.”

‘When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, “Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.” When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, “These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.” But he replied to one of them, “Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?” So the last will be first, and the first will be last.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Please sit.

The Creed

Please stand when the president stands

All

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the Lord, the giver of life,
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
 who with the Father and the Son
 is worshipped and glorified,
 who has spoken through the prophets.
 We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
 We acknowledge one baptism
 for the forgiveness of sins.
 We look for the resurrection of the dead,
 and the life of the world to come.
 Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

Please sit or kneel. At the end of each bidding the following response is used

Lord, hear us.

All

Lord, graciously hear us.

And at the end this ending is used.

Merciful father

**accept these prayers
 for the sake of your Son,
 our Saviour Jesus Christ.
 Amen.**

All

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

Please stand. The president introduces the peace

Christ is our peace.

He has reconciled us to God

in one body by the cross.

We meet in his name and share his peace.

All The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace

Preparation of the Table Taking of the Bread and Wine

During the following hymn (242), a collection is taken, the table is prepared, and bread and wine are placed upon it. If you wish to donate, but do not have cash; contactless card/phone payments can be made after the service, by the door.

**Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.**

**Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.**

**To all life thou givest to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
and wither and perish but nought changeth thee.**

**Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all laud we would render: O help us to see
'tis only the splendour of light hideth thee.**

Walter Chalman Smith(1824-1908)

The president receives the prayer cards which have been left in the church by visitors during the past week.

We come to you, loving God,
pilgrims on the road of faith.
In this sacred place, many have paused,
to seek, to grieve, to give thanks.
We gather their prayers now,
offered in silence and trust.
We bring our own needs too,
the weight we carry,
the hopes that guide our steps.

All

**As we offer bread and wine,
sustain us for the road ahead.
Lead us through wilderness and wonder,
and let the grace of this sacrament
be our nourishment for the journey
Amen.**

Be present, be present,
Lord Jesus Christ,
our risen high priest;
make yourself known in the breaking of bread.

All

Amen.

The president takes the bread and the wine

The Eucharistic Prayer



The Lord be with you **R** and al-so with you.

Lift up your hearts. **R** **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

R **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Father, we give you thanks and praise
 through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, your living Word,
 through whom you have created all things;
 who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our Saviour.
 By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh;
 as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin,
 he lived on earth and went about among us;
 he opened wide his arms for us on the cross;
 he put an end to death by dying for us;
 and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life;
 so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
 and with all the company of heaven,
 we proclaim your great and glorious name,
 for ever praising you and singing:

The choir sing the Sanctus and Benedictus

Choir

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of hosts,
Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of hosts,
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory:
Glory be to thee, O Lord most high.
Glory be to Thee, O Lord most high. Amen

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord,
Hosanna in the Highest
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord,
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the Highest.

Please sit or kneel

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.

All

Great is the mystery of faith;

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice

made once for the sins of the whole world;

rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,

we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice

of praise and thanksgiving,

we bring before you this bread and this cup

and we thank you for counting us worthy

to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people

and gather into one in your kingdom

all who share this one bread and one cup,

so that we, in the company of the Blessed Virgin Mary,

Saint Peter the Apostle and all the saints,

may praise and glorify you for ever,

through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,

for ever and ever.

All

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

A short silence is kept before we pray the Lord's Prayer in our first language whichever that may be.

Nous récitons le Notre Père dans notre langue maternelle.

Mēs lūdzam Tēvreizi katrs savā dzimtajā valodā.

Wir beten das Vaterunser in unserer Muttersprache.

As we join our prayers with the Church Universal,
so we say, each in our own language, the prayer that
Jesus taught us.

All

**Our Father, who art in heaven
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

Notre Père....

Vater Unser....

Mūsu Tēvs

Padre Nuestro....

Pai Nosso....

Onze Vader....

Ein Tad....

Ojcze Nasz....

Breaking of the Bread

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ

All

**Though we are many we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

The choir sing the Agnus Dei as the bread is broken.

Choir

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
Have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
Have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
Grant us thy peace.

Giving of Communion

The president says the following invitation to communion

Draw near with faith.

Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ
which he gave for you,
and his blood which he shed for you.

Eat and drink

in remembrance that he died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts
by faith with thanksgiving.

Jesus is the Lamb of God

who takes away the sin of the world.

Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

All

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

*All those who wish to receive communion are welcome to do so here today. Please kneel or stand at the altar as space becomes available. The **chalice** or the **pipette**, will be brought to you. If you do not wish to receive communion but would like a blessing, please come forward with everyone else, to either side of the altar and hold this service booklet in your hands as an indication of this wish. Please feel free to kneel or stand. If you need to receive the sacrament in your seat, please alert a welcomer. If you do not wish to receive the sacrament or a blessing, then please feel free to stay in your seat.*

The president and people receive communion.

Communion Anthem

'I give to you a New Commandment' Peter Nardonne

Prayer after Communion

Please sit or kneel

Almighty God,
you have taught us through your Son
that love is the fulfilling of the law:
grant that we may love you with our whole heart
and our neighbours as ourselves;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All

Amen.

All

**Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out
in the power of your Spirit
to live and work
to your praise and glory.
Amen.**

Notices may be given

Final Hymn (296)

**Let all the world in ev'ry corner sing,
my God and King!**

**The heav'ns are not too high,
his praise may thither fly;
the earth is not too low,
his praises there may grow.**

**Let all the world in ev'ry corner sing,
my God and King!**

**Let all the world in every corner sing,
my God and King!**

**The Church with psalms must shout,
no door can keep them out;
but, above all, the heart
must bear the longest part.**

**Let all the world in every corner sing,
my God and King!**

George Herbert (1593-1632)

The Blessing

The president says

May the Father from whom every family
in earth and heaven receives its name
strengthen you with his Spirit in your inner being,
so that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All

Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All

In the name of Christ, Amen.

Organ Voluntary

‘Offertoire sur les Grands Jeux’. Couperin

Please join us for refreshments following the service.

NOTICES

RESTORATION OF THE GREAT CLOCK OF WESTMINSTER

Keith Scobie-Youngs, Director, of Cumbria Clock Company which carried out the 5-year restoration of Big Ben, is bring his fascinating audio-visual presentation of the restoration and conservation project his company carried out between 2017/2022 – a talk he brings to many audiences, world-wide. The presentation will be held at the Princess Royal Centre for the Performing Arts on 25th September at 8pm. Tickets are free, but places must be reserved on the PRCPA’s website. Retiring collection.

HARVEST THANKSGIVING 27 SEPTEMBER 2026

BRING & SHARE LUNCH

At Noon. Please bring a plate of food to share.

ITEMS FOR GUERNEY WELFARE AT HARVEST THANKSGIVING

If you are able to donate, the following items are currently in need:

Tomato ketchup	Tinned meat (corned	Meals in a tin
Sugar	beef, hot dogs etc)	Strawberry jam
Custard and Rice	Fray Bentos pies	Washing up liquid
pudding		Size 7 nappies

DEAN’S INSTALLATION AT TOWN CHURCH at 7 pm

If you would like to attend on the evening of 29th September, please sign up in church today.

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Morning Prayer
(in church & online)

7.45 am Monday - Thursday

Evening Prayer
(in church)

5.30 pm Monday - Thursday

Wednesday 23rd Sept

10 am – 12 pm Wednesday Welcome

Thursday 24th Sept

1.10 pm Come to the Quiet

Said Eucharist with reflective music.

Friday 25th September

7.30 pm Bel Canto Concert

Next Sunday 27th September

Harvest Thanksgiving

8 am Said Eucharist (BCP)

11 am Sung Eucharist

followed by a Bring & Share Lunch

6.30 pm Choral Evensong

Rector

The Revd Penny
Graysmith

01481 715641

penny.graysmith@deanery.gg

Churchwardens

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Martin Priest

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Associate Priest

The Revd Peter Graysmith

www.townchurch.net or

