



PARISH OF ST PETER'S, HALLIWELL

# NEWSLETTER



Sunday 3 November 2024

## HEADLINES

- Our Commitment to Serve
- Fun at Our Light Party
- Paul Saxon's Songs + Stories
- Prayers by Release International

*Read on to find out more...*

## SERVICES

Sun 3 Nov  
*It's Lighthouse week!*



### ST PETER'S CHURCH

8.30am	Morning service
10.20am	Lighthouse at Parish Centre
*10.30am	Adult service with Twinklers
*6.30pm	Parish-wide service

### SMITHILLS FELLOWSHIP

10am	Morning service and Lighthouse
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### BARROW BRIDGE MISSION

10.30am	Morning service and Lighthouse
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### ST ANDREW'S HOPE CENTRE

10.30am	Communion service
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\*Livestreamed search YouTube for 'stpetershalliwell'  
We are an accessibility friendly parish

## Rev Alan writes...

### My Church Commitment – To Serve



Last week I wrote about our commitment to **Meet** as part of our Parish Vision to grow in commitment to church: **"Jesus' Family on Jesus' Mission"**. In our morning services, we are learning about what this means in our five areas of commitment to **Give, Meet, Serve, Baptise** and **Pray**. This week I am writing about our commitment to **Serve**.



We see in 1 Peter 4:7-11 instructions to members of the early church to serve one another. Our faith as followers of Jesus, and our actions to serve those around us, are intrinsically connected. If you

read James 2:17 you will see that faith without works is described quite simply as being 'dead'. It's impossible to have one without the other.

There is a call on us all to serve as part of our commitment to St Peter's. And we can serve in many ways, everyone has something to offer. So, take the opportunity to think about your gifts, your passions, what you care about, or even what irritates you or makes you feel angry – then prayerfully ask God to show how you can use your time to serve Him at church. To keep it simple, start with a small step – offer just an hour a month to serve at church in some small way.

You may want to take the initiative and start something new or join in with an area that's already established. Here are some ideas to get you thinking:

- Practical needs – cleaning, building maintenance, sweeping-up, gardening
- Serve on a rota – serving the brews, washing-up, tech team, welcomer
- Get involved with an area of ministry – children and youth, helping older people, help at a drop-in session, our CAP Centre, pastoral care, prayer, leadership team, sub-committee

- Lead a group – become a small group leader or helper, help on Alpha, organise a social event
- Help raise funds – do a sponsored event to support church funds
- Admin/publicity – help in the office, on social media, help promote church events to others

Together everyone achieves more, that's what it means to be part of a team. Will you consider making a commitment to serve? Speak to a leader in your fellowship or contact the Parish Office to offer.

As I've been reflecting on our vision to grow in each of the five areas of commitment, I see it illuminates areas we need to grow as a church. Of course, that's how vision works – you look at where you are, identify what needs to change, and describe where you need to go. With our call to **Serve**, I recognise that we haven't sorted all the systems and processes to make it simple for everyone to serve – our vision is to grow in a way that makes it simple to serve. So, perhaps you feel called to play a part in making our serving system work well? If so, then I'd love to hear from you!

### Announcement - Rev Craig Watson

The Diocesan Bishop of North Africa is pleased to announce that Rev Craig Watson has been appointed to the post of Rector of Holy Trinity, Algiers, Algeria, within the Diocese. Craig will be accompanied by his wife, Elaine, and they will provide leadership for Holy Trinity as it moves forward in its ministry to the English-speaking community in Algiers, supporting the work of the Diocese within the Province of Alexandria. *Please do keep Craig and Elaine in your prayers as they prepare for this exciting new chapter in their ministry.*



### Light Party – Our Halloween Alternative

Lots of fun was had at our fantastic Light Party held in the Parish Centre on Thurs. The young people did craft activities, enjoyed snacks, had a disco and listened to a short talk about Jesus being the Light of the World. Thanks to a wonderful team of volunteers for making this such a great evening too!



### AYF Choir Visit CANCELLED

We're sad to inform you that the visit due to start this week has been cancelled as they have not yet received their travel visas. This means that the concert at St Peter's on Wed 6 Nov has been cancelled. Please pray that the team receive their visas in time for the next phase of their UK tour in Sale from Thu and the Isle of Man the following week. However, we will have Rose with us for a few days as she has a visa, she will be at the 6.30pm parish-wide service. Meanwhile, we are looking into the feasibility for them to visit at the end of their UK tour from about 5 Dec onwards for a week.



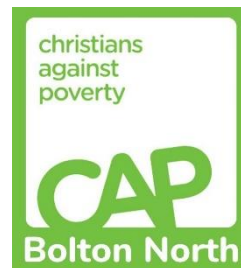
### Barrow Bridge Guided Walk

**Sun 3 Nov, 2pm, meet at Barrow Bridge Mission**

A fascinating guided walk/illustrated historical walk about the history of Barrow Bridge Village and mills. Everyone welcome. The walk will last about 1 ¼ hours. Info from Mike Perris (01204) 842041.



### CAP Advent Calendars



We're giving clients' children a Meaningful Chocolate 'Real' Christmas advent calendar as a way of sharing the true meaning of Christmas. If you'd like to contribute (each one is £4.95), please give donations to Sam via the Parish Office. Thank you!

Also, we'd really appreciate £5 or £10 vouchers for any supermarket to give to families at Christmas and any nice boxes of 'smellies' for women / men. Please pass to Sam by **Sun 1 Dec**. Many thanks.

### Christmas Dinner on Jesus 2024



It's that time again! This year, as a parish we are delighted to continue our commitment to

supporting this wonderful initiative led by Urban Outreach to help bring light and hope to people in Bolton who have had to put Christmas on hold this year due to illness, sadness or financial problems.



As a parish we have a target to collect **1,000 x 400g Christmas Puddings** (they should say *serves 4*). Heads up...Best buys are currently Lidl and Aldi standard puddings, selling at £1.99! Puddings can be dropped off in all fellowships and at the Parish Centre. If you would prefer to donate money so we can buy the puddings on your behalf, please just use this link and we will happily sort it:

<https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/27138>



### Paul Saxon - Songs and Stories

Sat 9 Nov, 7.30pm, St Peter's Church



An evening of creativity, worship and original songs written by Paul, who will also share the stories behind why the songs have been written. David Woodman and Keir Simister will be in the band playing hammer dulcimer and keys. The evening will be a chance to

worship, to be encouraged and inspired as we journey through joy, lament and the promises of God. Tickets (suggested donation £10 or pay what you can afford) available from Paul or the Parish Office.

### Bolton Christian Meditation

Thurs 14 Nov, 2pm-3pm, Parish Centre

All welcome at this session, just turn up. For info, contact [j.wilde.1963@gmail.com](mailto:j.wilde.1963@gmail.com)

### Bolton Repair Café

Weds 20 Nov, 10.30am-12.30pm, St Andrews



Bring your items in need of repair and stay for delicious coffee and cake.

### Dementia Friendship Support Group

Thurs 21 Nov, 2pm-4pm, Parish Centre

For those with dementia *and* their carers. Singalong, games, quiz and fun. Tea/coffee and cake and a very warm welcome. For info, contact [joan@stpetersparish.info](mailto:joan@stpetersparish.info) /01204 840180



### Smithills Christmas Market

Sat 7 Dec, 12.30pm-3.30pm

Please contact John Platt - [j.t.platt@me.com](mailto:j.t.platt@me.com) - if you can help in any way. Your support is appreciated.



### Smithills Christmas Market

Save the date **7th DECEMBER 2024**

1. Save the date, and invite your friends & families.
2. Get involved, share a stall & sell your crafts or goodies etc.
3. Volunteer on the day, help always needed

we'd love to hear from you John & Adele Platt: [j.t.platt@me.com](mailto:j.t.platt@me.com)



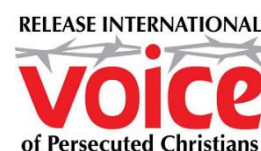
### Good News for Romania



Please pray for Dave and Kath as they prepare to go to Romania from **Thurs 7 Nov – 19 Nov**. Please pray for safety in their travels, for positive relationships and that they are also able to meet all the needs that inevitably crop up once there! Thank you for your support.

### Prayer for the Week

Today, Sun 3 Nov, our mission partner **Release International** will be taking part in a FREE online event to mark



the *International Day of Prayer for the persecuted church* (IDOP). Since the mid-1990s IDOP has been marked by Christians around the world in Nov as a way of remembering the plight of, and focusing prayer on, the needs of persecuted Christians. More info at: <https://releaseinternational.org/idop-2024/>  
**See prayer for Release International on back page.**

### Looking Forward

#### Rehearsal Dates for Christmas Choir 2024

Sun 22 Dec, 6.30pm, St Peter's, Carols by Candlelight

Save the following rehearsal dates!



**Sun 1 Dec** 1pm-3pm, **Thurs 5 Dec** 7.30pm-9pm, **Sun 15 Dec** 1pm-3pm, **Wed 18 Dec** 7.30pm-9pm

All rehearsals are in St Peter's. See flyers in church for more information.

## PRAYER from Release International

Lord, we pray for all our brothers and sisters who have suffered violence and oppression against them in so many places around the world, simply because they love you.

Father, thank you that you always walk alongside your people and sustain them as they seek to witness and learn more about you; often in places where they are despised and hated.

Thank you, Lord, that you have raised charities with supporters around the world who care for your persecuted family and wish to serve them with your loving heart in so many difficult situations.

Father, today we ask that you provide Release International with all the necessary financial support they need to do your work around the world. These are difficult times and resources are limited, so with humble hearts we ask you to lead and encourage their supporters to maintain this Ministry in its work in whatever way they are able.

In your precious name we ask Lord,  
Amen

## Coming up this week

Date & Times	Activity	Details	Location
<b>Mon 4 Nov</b>			
9.30am-12noon 10am-12noon 6pm-7.30pm 7pm-9pm	AGE UK's Strength and Balance classes Coffee Room Weight Management Programme Farnworth Performing Arts Co	Classes full, contact Parish Office Drop-in for coffee and cakes <a href="http://www.yhbolton.co.uk">www.yhbolton.co.uk</a> /01204 205090 <a href="mailto:office@stpetersparish.info">office@stpetersparish.info</a>	Parish Centre
<b>Tues 5 Nov</b>			
9.45am-11.30am	Tots on Tuesday	Julie 07835 014470	St Andrew's
10am-11.30am 6pm-7.15pm 7.30pm-9pm	Little Wiggles Toddlers IGNITE Children's Club Tread Youth Group	Suzi 07834 371509 <a href="mailto:ignite@stpetersparish.info">ignite@stpetersparish.info</a> Ben 07512 753201	Parish Centre
<b>Weds 6 Nov</b>			
9am-1pm	Hope at the Hub	Drop-in community session	St Andrew's
10am-11.30am 7pm-9pm	Open Door Ladies' Group Farnworth Performing Arts Co	David and Kath, Good News For Romania <a href="mailto:office@stpetersparish.info">office@stpetersparish.info</a>	Parish Centre
<b>Thurs 7 Nov</b>			
8.30am-9am	Prayer Meeting	Julie 07835 014470	St Andrew's
10.30am-12noon	Oasis Coffee Morning and Service	Refreshments 10.30am, service 11.30am	St Peter's
8pm-9.30pm	Alpha Course and Life Group	<a href="mailto:office@stpetersparish.info">office@stpetersparish.info</a>	Parish Centre
<b>Fri 8 Nov</b>			
10am-12noon 10.30am-12noon 8pm-10pm	Watercolours Class Friday Life Group Stressbusters Badminton	Lucinda 07977 821119 <a href="mailto:denis.collier@gmail.com">denis.collier@gmail.com</a> Geoff 07835 388732	Parish Centre
<b>Sat 9 Nov</b>			
9am-12noon	INTERACT Performing Arts Group	Lucy/Emma 07896 724531	Parish Centre
7.30pm	Paul Saxon - Songs + Stories	Paul or Parish Office	St Peter's

## Keep Connected

**Parish Business Manager:** Amanda Blease E: [amanda@stpetersparish.info](mailto:amanda@stpetersparish.info) / P: 01204 599900

**Finance Officer:** Elaine Vincent E: [finance@stpetersparish.info](mailto:finance@stpetersparish.info) / P: 01204 599901

**Vicar:** Rev Alan Saunders E: [alan@stpetersparish.info](mailto:alan@stpetersparish.info) / M: 07767 643444 / P: 01204 848624

**Wardens:** Phil Weaver and Simon Scott E: [wardens@stpetersparish.info](mailto:wardens@stpetersparish.info)

**CAP Debt Centre Manager:** Sam Wolstencroft E: [samwolstencroft@capuk.org](mailto:samwolstencroft@capuk.org) / M: 07934 716509

**Caretaker:** David Park E: [david@stpetersparish.info](mailto:david@stpetersparish.info)

St Peter's Parish Centre  
347 Church Road, Bolton BL1 5RR  
[www.stpetersparish.info](http://www.stpetersparish.info)



St Peter's Halliwell



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