



PARISH OF ST PETER'S, HALLIWELL

NEWSLETTER



Sunday 26 January 2025

HEADLINES

- It's Message Sunday!
- Alpha Course – it's not too late to join!
- Duke of Edinburgh Award Opportunity
- Prayers by Hilary Peake on behalf of St Peter's Church

Read on to find out more...

SERVICES

Sun 26 Jan

ST PETER'S CHURCH

8.30am	Morning service
*10.30am	Worship for Everyone service
*6.30pm	Parish-wide service with Communion

SMITHILLS FELLOWSHIP

10am	Family service with Communion
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BARROW BRIDGE MISSION

10.30am	All-age service
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ST ANDREW'S HOPE CENTRE

10.30am	Morning service
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*Livestreamed search YouTube for 'stpetershalliwell'

We are an accessibility friendly parish

Rev Alan writes...

It's Message Sunday!

From starting in Manchester over 30 years ago, The Message Trust is now a worldwide movement which passionately shares the love of Jesus in words and actions with the hardest-to-reach young people and communities.

I worked for The Message for 7 years before starting my ordination training; it was an amazing experience which radically impacted my understanding of faith and my passion for evangelism.



The Message builds up evangelists all over the world in their Advance Groups, equips and trains young people on their Message School of Evangelism, serves communities through Eden and Community Groceries, reaches those in prison with the hope of God, supports those with barriers to employment through Christ-centred enterprise, and declares the love of Jesus through schools work - they are seeing lives transformed as people discover their true identity in Christ.

This Sunday, we have an amazing line-up of world-class speakers at all our services, I am convinced you will be inspired and encouraged in your faith, it's also a great opportunity to invite your friends to come to church. Climax of the day will be our Parish-wide 6.30pm service with Andy Hawthorne.

Andy Hawthorne OBE will be speaking at St Peter's 10.30am, and our Parish-wide 6.30pm service at St Peter's. Andy is the Founder and Global CEO of the



Message Trust. He is a world-renowned speaker, evangelist and author with a wealth of learning from decades of mission into the toughest communities, prisons and schools across the globe. Andy's passion, experience and life-long walk with Jesus will inspire, equip

and empower you to take up the call of reaching the hardest-to-reach people for Jesus.

(continued overleaf)

Sam Ward will be speaking at Smithills Fellowship 10am.



Sam is the UK CEO of The Message. He has a particular passion for urban mission, being actively involved in the Eden Network for over 23 years and now rolling out an exciting new project 'Proximity' whose vision is to resource and support urban missionaries around the UK and beyond. Sam continues to live in the deprived neighbourhood of Openshaw with his family, where his days as Eden Team Leader started.

Ben Jack will be speaking at Barrow Bridge 10.30am.



Ben heads up Advance: The Message Evangelists Movement, committed to the equipping and multiplication of preaching evangelists in the UK and beyond. As award-winning DJ Galactus Jack, he also performs and preaches the gospel around the world.

Danielle Campsall will be speaking at St Peter's 8.30am and St Andrew's 10.30am.

Danielle is the CAO at The Message and a leader of Message Community Church whilst also living and being part of an Eden team in one of the largest council estates in Europe (Wythenshawe). Having her own stories of life's many challenges, Danielle has a heart to see people defined, not by their past, but living the life God has called them to live, despite it.



Bolton Symphony Orchestra Concert

Sat 1 Feb, 3pm at Victoria Hall, Bolton. Rev Alan is playing with our fantastic local orchestra for a family concert of space movie themes including Star Wars, Star Trek, Thunderbirds, ET, Apollo 13 to name but a few. Tickets available on the door or from www.boltonsymphony.org.uk, adults £13, under 19s FREE!



Accounts for Auditing Deadline

It's that time again! Can all treasurers please ensure they have dropped off their 2024 accounts at the Parish Office by **Fri 31 Jan** please. Any issues, please contact finance@stpetersparish.info



New Alpha Course

Thurs, 8pm-9.30pm, Parish Centre



A new Alpha course has just started and it's not too late to join! This series of group conversations that freely explore the basics of the Christian faith in an open, friendly environment.

Everyone's welcome. **No matter your background or beliefs, you're invited.** Find out more at <https://alpha.org.uk/try-alpha> or through the Parish Office.

Quinta 2025 Parish Weekend Away

Fri 12 – Sun 14 Sept

Don't miss this fantastic weekend away for the whole church family! Quinta is a beautiful 50-acre estate, situated in north-



west Shropshire, close to the Welsh border. It's located in unspoilt countryside but is easily accessible being about 1.5 hours drive from Bolton. **More details about the weekend in next week's newsletter** and at <https://stpetersparish.info/quinta-2025-booking/>

Duke of Edinburgh's Award at St Peter's



St Peter's has a long history of delivering the Duke of Edinburgh Award, pioneered in Smithills Fellowship, now offered across the whole Parish. We believe that by delivering the award we are empowering young people; supporting them as they learn new skills, overcome obstacles, and build confidence and resilience. By completing the programme, they'll develop the skills and attitudes they need to become more rounded, confident adults - qualities that colleges, universities and employers are attracted to. The award has 4 sections and it's possible to count existing extracurricular activities towards the award (eg. if they are in a sports team or play an instrument they could already be on their way). Your child could have their first Award (Bronze) by Nov! **We are currently looking for the young people who'd like to take part in the coming year.** Please contact Mark Rigby - 07964329916 / markmttl@gmail.com by 16 Feb for more info.

Volunteers Needed for Spark

An exciting new opportunity to volunteer at SPARK, a new mid-week children's club for KS1 children at St Peter's Parish Centre! If you would like to invest in the future of our children and would be interested in helping out, please get in touch with Lucy Hargraves on lucyhargraves@manchester.anglican.org.



'Love Your School' Initiative

Tues 28 Jan, 7pm-9pm, Harwood Methodist Church

A training and prayer event is being held for this initiative from the Children Changing Places project, which is aimed at encouraging and equipping churches to serve their local schools. We'd love you to support this – everyone welcome. To book on, see <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1089855219299?aff=oddtcreator>

Halliwell Local History Society (incorporating Smithills)

Tues 28 Jan, 7.30pm, Parish Centre



Open Evening. A chance to look into the Society's archives. All welcome. More info from enquiries@halliwell-lhs.co.uk

Café on the Green

Sat 1 Feb, 9.30am-2pm, St Peter's Smithills Dean Primary School, Limefield Road, BL1 6LA

Delicious food and excellent service. Raising funds for work in the Diocese of Machakos, Kenya to provide free surgical treatment for children born with cleft lip/palate and other facial deformities. All welcome. The other Café on the Green dates this year are 5 Apr, 4 Oct and 1 Nov.



Home for Good Peer Support Group

Sat 1 Feb, 12.30pm-2pm, Parish Centre

For adopters, foster, kinship carers and families. Bring and share lunch. Info:



Fiona 07786 844141

Out and About Walk

Sat 1 Feb, 9.30am, meet opposite St Peter's Church



Sizergh along Scout Scar. Sizergh is near Kendal on the edge of the beautiful Lake District. An 8-mile walk. All

welcome. For further details contact Jane Heath on 07472926650.

Do Lunch, Do Life Next Sunday

Sun 2 Feb, straight after 10.30am CAP Sunday service, St Peter's Church

All welcome to join us for sandwiches and cake so please do stay after the service. If you can help on the day, please contact Janette Daeth - 07982 035706 / janette.daeth@gmail.com. Thank you.

Diocesan Survey – Your input needed!

Manchester Diocese welcomes responses to a short survey which explores your feedback and perspective on some changes that have taken place in Manchester Diocese over recent years – incl. restructuring of Deaneries in 2021 and intro of Mission Communities in 2022. Open until **Fri 31 Jan**, it takes 5 mins to complete, is aimed at anyone who works or worships in our diocese and responses are anonymous. Go to: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/manchesterdiocese-012025>. Query? oliviakershaw@manchester.anglican.org



Prayer for the Week

This week we have a prayer and reflection - *Darkness, Treasures, God's Love* - from Hilary Peake on behalf of St Peter's Church. Please use her prayer and reflection to spend time with God this week, praying that He will lead and guide you to His treasure, light and love for you. She says 'Broken world, broken people, hard and difficult times have led me to look for light in the darkness before I'm swamped. The word 'treasure' kept popping up, in my readings, devotions and recently in our church services. Spend a short time in prayer giving to God any worries, fears, concerns. *Definition of darkness: absence of light. Definition of treasure: of value. Definition of God: In the beginning God is Light, God is love.* **See the back page.**

Looking Forward

Good News for Romania Bring and Buy Sale and Coffee Morning



Sat 8 Mar, 10am-12pm, Parish Centre

Raising funds to support the fantastic work of GNfR. Come along to grab yourself a bargain and enjoy refreshments and company too.

Church Social with Food and Magician!

Sat 8 Mar, 5.45pm, Parish Centre

A tea-time social event for everyone. More details to follow and tickets available soon. Save the date!

The Brixi Singers Concert

Sat 29 Mar, 7.30pm, St Peter's Church

Come and see this highly regarded Bolton-based choir perform a concert for the Lenten/Passiontide season. Tickets available soon. Save the date!

Prayer from Hilary Peake on behalf of St. Peter's Church

Our darkness may be overwhelming at times, our Treasures may be many things, but God's love and light are constant. Two books I've recently read have struck a chord. *'The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse'* by Charlie Mackesy is beautiful, written for difficult times and all ages - every page holds a new treasure, how everything we do makes a difference and whoever we are we are of value, also how to love, how to care, how to be. *'I Haven't Been Entirely Honest with You'* by Miranda Hart. No spoilers... Her journey through difficulties and pain, each chapter taking a step at a time but in every part of the journey finding Treasures. Both books reflect God's involvement with, and in, everything we are and do. His light, his love. One last treasure straight from God. During one of our family services, a young child after joining at the front dancing and waving ribbons, ran back to her daddy who swept her up in his arms, kissed and hugged her - an absolute picture of God's love. God says "I will give you Treasures of darkness, and hidden riches of secret places, that you may know that it is I who calls you by your name". Amen

Coming up this week

Date & Times	Activity	Details	Location
Mon 27 Jan			
9.30am-12noon 10am-12noon 6pm-7.30pm 1.30pm-3.30pm	AGE UK's Strength and Balance classes Coffee Room Art Group Weight Management Programme	Classes full, contact Parish Office Drop-in for coffee and cakes ruthrobinson293@gmail.com www.yhbolton.co.uk / 01204 205090	Parish Centre
Tue 28 Jan			
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 Group Ignite Tread Youth Group	Suzi 07834 371509 ignite@stpetersparish.info office@stpetersparish.info	Parish Centre
Wed 29 Jan			
9am-1pm	Hope at the Hub	Drop-in community session	St Andrew's
10am-11.30am	Open Door	This is Me? Val 07902 167971	Parish Centre
Thu 30 Jan			
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	office@stpetersparish.info	Parish Centre
Fri 31 Jan			
10am-12noon 10.30am-12noon 8pm-10pm	Watercolours Class Friday Life Group Stressbusters Badminton	Lucinda 07977 821119 denis.collier@gmail.com Geoff 07835 388732	Parish Centre
Sat 1 Feb			
9am-12noon	INTERACT Performing Arts Group	Lucy/Emma 07896 724531	St Peter's
12.30pm-2pm	Home for Good Peer Support Group	Fiona 07786 844141	Parish Centre

Keep Connected

Parish Business Manager: Amanda Blease

E: amanda@stpetersparish.info / P: 01204 599900

Finance Officer: Elaine Vincent

E: finance@stpetersparish.info / P: 01204 599901

Vicar: Rev Alan Saunders

E: alan@stpetersparish.info / M: 07767 643444 / P: 01204 848624

Wardens: Phil Weaver and Simon Scott

E: wardens@stpetersparish.info

CAP Debt Centre Manager: Sam Wolstencroft

E: samwolstencroft@capuk.org / M: 07934 716509

Caretaker: David Park

E: david@stpetersparish.info

St Peter's Parish Centre
347 Church Road, Bolton BL1 5RR

www.stpetersparish.info



St Peter's Halliwell



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