



PARISH OF ST PETER'S, HALLIWELL

NEWSLETTER



Sunday 16 March 2025

HEADLINES

- It's Confirmation Sunday!
- World Focus Sunday Update
- Experience Easter Event – Can You Help?
- A Prayer from the National and International Ministry Team

Read on to find out more...

SERVICES

Sun 16 March
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 Confirmation service with Bishop Matthew

SMITHILLS FELLOWSHIP

10am	Morning service with Communion and Lighthouse
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BARROW BRIDGE MISSION

10.30am	Morning service with Lighthouse
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ST ANDREW'S HOPE CENTRE

10.30am	Café Church
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*Livestreamed, search YouTube for 'stpetershalliwell'
We are an accessibility-friendly parish

Rev Alan writes...

Confirmations!

I am delighted to say that we have fifteen candidates for Confirmation at our 6.30pm parish-wide service at St Peter's this Sunday with the Bishop of Bolton, Matthew Porter - many of them young people. I'd love for as many of us as possible to come along and cheer them on as they take this important step of commitment to their faith. Please join us on Sunday evening if you can.

I am really encouraged by this and to see many examples of ways we are growing in our commitment. This was especially evident through the Vision Sunday services at each fellowship over recent weeks. Many of our fellowship leadership teams are stronger. Thanks to everyone who has stepped up to serve in this way. I am particularly pleased to welcome Chris Ward as the new Chair of St Peter's leadership team and look forward to working closely with him in this key role for the fellowship.



I would love for each of us to keep our foot-on-the-gas in growing in our commitment to St Peter's parish **Jesus' Family on Jesus' Mission** and want to ask if would take a few moments during this Lent season to prayerfully reflect on our five areas of commitment to - **Give, Meet, Serve, Baptise and Share, and Pray** – and to consider where you can grow in your commitment. There is a reminder of these and a few words of explanation on the reverse of our verse for the year cards.



One commitment I would urge everyone to do is to sign-up to our Electoral Roll. This is the nearest thing to membership we have in the church and means that you have voting rights to play your part in electing our PCC leadership team and officers. It also has a bearing on our status as a

parish when allocating clergy and diocese resources. It comes up for renewal every 6 years and this year we need everyone to **sign-up before 6 April**. You can grab a form at the back of church or fill it in on-line by visiting: www.stpetersparish.info/electoral-roll. Thanks so much!

Please pray for each candidate for Confirmation:

Sofia, Anaya and Reuben Mistry; Daniel Kelly; Jacob and Gabriel Worsley; Jack and Woody Caffrey; Lewis and Bethany Cunliffe; Erin Close; Kiah Saunders; Natalie Ogden; Charlotte Gresty and Asha Mashru



Baptisms

Easter Sunday, Sun 20 Apr, 6.30pm, St Peter's
Baptism or renewal of baptism vows by immersion
 If you'd like to be baptised or renew your baptism vows, please let Rev Alan know or contact the Parish Office.

NIM World Focus Sunday

Sun 16 Mar, 10.30am, St Peter's
 You'll hear an update on some of our mission partners plus info about an exciting new venture in Kenya which Chandran Jepeganam will be leading – not to be missed! Just a reminder that donations to mission can be made using the contactless machine at the back of church. Thanks for your support.



Audrey Heywood

Thurs 3 April, 1pm, Barrow Bridge Mission followed by 2.15pm committal at Overdale Crematorium
 We are very sorry to inform you that Audrey died on Fri 7 Mar, aged 94 years. Audrey was a long-standing member of Barrow Bridge Mission. Please remember her daughter, Victoria (Park), and her wider family and friends in your prayers at this difficult time. Her funeral details are shown above.

Love Your School Initiative



Thank you to everyone who provided delicious cakes and helped on the team at our drop-in 'Come and Explore' session in St.

Peter's Church on Weds afternoon. We were delighted to warmly welcome many families from our local schools who enjoyed refreshments and activities whilst finding out more about our church.



GNFR Fundraiser



Thank you to everyone who supported the Good News for Romania coffee morning last week in the Parish Centre. An amazing **£1589.61** was raised to help the families in need. Praise be to God.



St Peter's Community Allotment

Spring is in the air and the growing season is almost upon us. So why not help serve as part of our

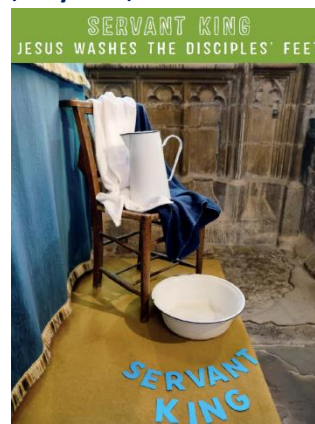


allotment team? Ruth Saunders is hosting a planning meeting, with bacon butties, at the Vicarage (1 Sefton Road) on **Sat 22 March**

at 9am. Come along, enjoy a tasty breakfast and learn about ways you can get involved at our Harpers Lane allotment community plot.

Experience Easter Event – Help Needed
Mon 31 Mar and Tues 1 Apr, daytime, St Peter's

Please pray for this interactive way to explore the Easter story with children, which classes from local schools will attend. Stations will be set up in church covering: Future Hopes - The Story of Palm Sunday; Servant King - Jesus washes the Disciples' Feet; Remember Me - The Last Supper; Alone - The Garden of Gethsemane; The Cross - Symbol of Hope and Resurrection - New Life.



Please help! We need volunteers to set up/pack down and run the stations. If you can help, contact LucyHargraves@manchester.anglican.org

Quinta Fundraiser: Progressive Meal 2025
Sat 17 May, 6.30pm, various homes

It's back! It's big! It's better than ever...! If you've not been before, everyone who takes part will get a three-course meal with each course in a different person's house (and with different guests around the table). It's a great way of getting to know people, raising money for our weekend away at Quinta, and not having to do the washing-up!! **Booking will open in a couple of weeks.** For now: 1, save the date! 2, **if you would like to host**, please contact Stephen (07954 995160) or Rachel (07726 749389) by Thursday 20th March. We'd love to have

more hosts from Barrow Bridge, Smithills or St Andrew's! *Info from Stephen and Rachel Brierley.*

General Lay Ministry Training Courses

Are you wanting to develop your calling and gifting to Christian ministry and service? Manchester Diocese currently have eight courses available:

- Children and Families
- Community Outreach and Social Justice
- Ecology and Creation
- Mission and Evangelism
- Parish Admin, Finance and Governance
- Pastoral Outreach and Listening
- Prayer and Spirituality
- Worship and Liturgy
- Youth Work

All courses are around 12 sessions long and will run from April to July this year. Delivery will be a mixture of online and in-person teaching at a variety of venues around the diocese. **The closing deadline for applications is Sun 6 Apr.** For info about course content and application forms, go to: [General Lay Courses - Diocese of Manchester](#) or contact the Local Ministry Officer, Jamie Mackenzie - 07553 374130 / jamiemackenzie@manchester.anglican.org



Bolton Repair Café

Weds 19 Mar, 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 20 Mar, 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 /01204 840180



Home for Good Peer Support Group

Sat 22 Mar, 12.30pm-2pm, Parish Centre

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



Fiona 07786 844141

Soul Sisters Ladies' Ministry Film Night

Fri 28 Mar, 7pm for 7.30pm start, Barrow Bridge Mission

We'll be watching a powerful film called War Room - please have a look at the trailer here:

https://youtu.be/ml1-XY9t_Lw?feature=shared

Treats, tea and coffee on offer - feel free to bring

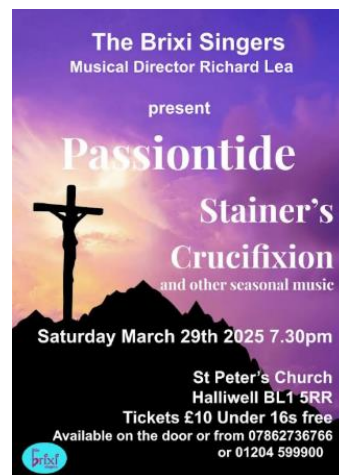


along anything you'd like to share! No charge, **FREE**. Just come along and join us, we'd love to see you there!

Seasonal Concert in St Peter's

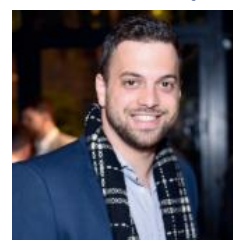
Sat 29 Mar, 7.30pm, St Peter's Church

All welcome to come and see this highly regarded Bolton-based choir perform a concert for the Lenten /Passiontide season. Not to be missed! Tickets (£10, under 16's FREE) now available from the Parish Office or on the door on the night.



NIM Livestream of Holyland Lecture - Is there Hope for the Holyland?

Mon 31 Mar, 7pm, Parish Centre



Based in Jerusalem, of Christian Palestinian heritage, Daniel Munayer serves as the Executive Director of Musalaha, an organisation dedicated to teaching, facilitating and training reconciliation, primarily between

Israelis and and Palestinians of diverse ethnic and religious backgrounds. Daniel's work emphasises freedom for the oppressed and redemption for the oppressors, grounded in the humanization of all. All welcome so please do join us for this fascinating evening.



Prayer for the Week

This week we have a prayer from Geoff Gunshon on behalf of the National and International Ministry Team (NIM). **See his prayer on the back page.**

Looking Forward

Quinta 2025 Parish Weekend Away

Fri 12–Sun 14 Sept

Don't miss this fantastic weekend away for the whole church family! You're all invited.

Booking form available in all churches. More details at

<https://stpetersparish.info/quinta-2025-booking/>



Prayers by Geoff Gunshon on behalf of National and International Ministry Team (NIM)

Father, we thank you for the privilege of serving you and your purposes.

We thank you, especially at this time, for your calling on Chandran Jepegnanam. We thank you for the gifts you have given him and for his willingness to respond. Amen

Chandran is going to use his skills as anaesthetist in a Christian based hospital in Kenya.

Father, we lift to you the people running the hospital to the glory of your name. We ask for your blessing on their work. Amen.

Father, we also lift to you the local people who benefit from the work of this hospital. May they be grateful for your provision. Amen

We ask all these things in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Coming up this week

Date & Times	Activity	Details	Location
Mon 17 Mar			
10am-12noon 5.30pm-7.30pm	Coffee Room ABL Weight Management Programme	Drop-in for coffee and cakes www.yhbolton.co.uk / 01204 205090	Parish Centre
Tue 18 Mar			
9.45am-11.30am	Tots on Tuesday	Julie 07835 014470	St Andrew's
10am-11.30am 12noon-2pm 6pm-7.15pm 7.30pm-9pm	Little Wiggles Toddlers Group CAP Life Skills Ignite Tread Youth Group	Suzi 07834 371509 office@stpetersparish.info ignite@stpetersparish.info office@stpetersparish.info	Parish Centre
Wed 19 Mar			
9am-1pm	Hope at the Hub Bolton Repair Cafe	Drop-in community session Bring your items for repair, stay for refreshments	St Andrew's
10am-11.30am	Open Door	Working in the bakery! Alan Rigby. Val 07902 167971	Parish Centre
Thu 20 Mar			
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
2pm-4pm 8pm-9.30pm	Dementia Friendship Support Group Alpha Course and Life Group	joan@stpetersparish.info office@stpetersparish.info	Parish Centre
Fri 21 Mar			
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 22 Mar			
9am-12pm	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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