



PARISH OF ST PETER'S, HALLIWELL

NEWSLETTER



Sunday 20 April 2025

HEADLINES

- Our Easter Celebrations!
- An APCM with a Difference!
- Newcomers' Dinner Coming Up
- Book Now for Quinta
- Easter Prayer from Rev Alan

Read on to find out more...

SERVICES

Sunday 20 April

Easter Sunday

NB: No Lighthouse today

ST PETER'S CHURCH

8.30am	Easter Day service
*10.30am	Worship for Everyone service with Communion
*6.30pm	Parish-wide Baptism service with Communion

SMITHILLS FELLOWSHIP

10am	Family service with Communion
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BARROW BRIDGE MISSION

10.30am	Family service with Communion
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ST ANDREW'S HOPE CENTRE

10.30am	Easter Day service
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*Livestreamed, search YouTube for 'stpetershalliwell'
We are an accessibility-friendly parish

Rev Alan writes...

Happy Easter - He has Risen!

He has Risen Indeed, Alleluia! The death and resurrection of Jesus Christ are the most significant events in the history of the world, bringing hope and life for us all. So, it is a great cause for celebration! At our Easter Sunday morning services at each fellowship, we will be looking at the resurrection story of Jesus' invitation to ***Come and have Breakfast*** from John 21:1-14. This is the climax of our ***Jesus the Forgiver*** sermon series.



And our Sunday evening 6.30pm parish-wide service at St Peter's will be a glorious Easter celebration with baptisms and communion. I will be speaking on the theme: ***The Good News of the Resurrection*** from Matthew 27:61-28:10.



Next week we start a new 9-week sermon series called ***The Challenge of Jesus***, as we continue with the over-arching theme this year of ***Fix Our Eyes on Jesus***. During the series we will look at Jesus' gentle approach to those who find faith challenging; his challenge to share the good news of the Gospel with others; and the challenge of Jesus' claims to follow him alone as the way to life.



Easter Baptisms

Easter Sunday, Sun 20 Apr, 6.30pm, St Peter's

We thank God for these candidates from across the parish on the wonderful occasion of their baptisms today: **Janet Ainsworth** (Barrow Bridge), **Mandy Morris and Becky Rushton** (St Andrew's) and **Chris Williams** (Smithills)

Cafe on the Green



Thank you to everyone who came along and supported Café on the Green on Sat 5 Apr. **A fantastic £1237.63 was raised!** This will be going to a worthy cause – details to be announced soon. Please note the other Café on the Green dates this year are 4 Oct and 1 Nov.

Working Party in St Peter's Churchyard



Thank you to all the volunteers who worked so hard last Sat in the glorious sunshine to help improve the churchyard, including the car park area. We really appreciate your support and the progress you made.

An APCM with a Difference!

Thu 1 May, 7.30pm Parish Centre

This year we want to try something new. As a way of showing our appreciation for everyone's commitment

to our fellowships and parish, our parish-wide APCM (Annual Parochial Church Meeting) will be a social event in the Parish Centre with cheese and wine, plus other non-alcoholic drinks and nibbles. The evening will start with worship, then we will cover the business side of things with our annual reports and elections, Rev Alan will give an update on our vision, and then we'll have an opportunity to relax and socialise.

This parish-wide meeting is open to everyone from all our fellowships, and we hope this new format will help grow interest and increase attendance. Please try to prioritise attendance if you can. A key part of the meeting is to elect our Churchwardens, PCC members



and Deanery Synod representatives. Nomination forms and role descriptions are available at all services or from the Parish Office. Contact any of your fellowship leaders or Rev Alan if you'd like to discuss serving in this way, especially for the Churchwarden vacancy as Phil Weaver steps down, thank you!



Newcomers' Dinner

Sat 10 May, 5.30pm-7pm, Parish Centre



St Peter's Leadership Team would like to invite anyone who joined us after Covid, or considers themselves new to St Peter's Church, to come for dinner. Children welcome. Please RSVP **ASAP** to sam.wolstencroft@gmail.com. Please let us know of any allergies or dietary requirements.

Quinta Parish Weekend Away Bookings

Fri 12 – Sun 14 Sept, Quinta, Shropshire



Have you booked yet? Don't miss this fantastic weekend away for the whole church family! All are invited so **please book your place by 30 April**. Bargain price – same as 2019 and 2023, due to fundraising eg. £300 for a family of 4... includes all meals, free children's activities (free childcare!), worship and teaching with Bishop Matthew, lots of fun and chance to meet new people/ spend quality time with those you know a bit. Booking forms available now in all churches or go to:

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

Here are some quotes when we asked what people's favourite part of the weekend was in 2023:

'Worship Unplugged – a little piece of heaven!' 'The morning/evening prayers were very peaceful.' 'Time spent getting to know people.' 'Chatting to people from all 4 churches and worshipping as one Parish.'

Quinta Progressive Meal Fundraiser

Sat 17 May, 6.30pm start at the Parish Centre, meal in various homes

Bookings being taken now. We've already got 11 people signed up so far (hooray!) which is our fastest ever start, with over 25% of the places already taken — so book now to avoid disappointment. (Not that anyone will be disappointed, but we need numbers early!). So, if you'd like to have a three-course meal hosted in three different homes, please book on by scanning the QR code below or using this link:

<https://stpetershalliwell.churchsuite.com/events/8swoff13/>



The meal is open to everyone aged 11 or over. If you'd like to contribute £15 to the cost of the food, that would be welcome — profits to our Quinta weekend away. But the most important thing is to book, come, and enjoy an evening of fellowship!

Men's Social Evening

Fri 25 Apr, from 7.30pm, Hollywood Road Social Club (behind Church Road Post Office)

All men are invited to join us for an evening of snooker/pool/darts. For more info, contact Simon Perris on 07940 182760.

Halliwell Local History Society (incorporating Smithills)



Tues 29 Apr, 7.30pm, Parish Centre
Steve Williams 'For You, The War is Over'. All welcome. More info from enquiries@halliwell-lhs.co.uk

Out and About Walk

Sat 3 May, meet 9.30am opposite St Peter's Church

A walk from Burnley to Cant Clough Reservoir and Hurstwood Reservoir of around 8.5 miles, across moorland and farm tracks. Bring a packed lunch, all



welcome. For further details contact Jane Heath on 07472 926650.



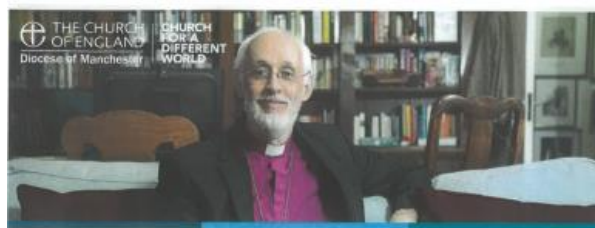
Spark KS1 Group

Great news! We've got 2 volunteers lined up to help with our new group for children aged 5-7, **but we still need at least one more volunteer before we can start sessions** - each Tues 4.30pm-6pm at the Parish Centre — hopefully after the May half-term holiday. If you can help, please contact Lucy Hargraves - lucyhargraves@manchester.anglican.org



Parish Share Thanks

We are thankful that as a parish we were able to meet the full £115,000 Parish Share contribution requested by Manchester Diocese for 2024. **Thanks to everyone who gives financially for enabling us to achieve this.**



Thank you



Prayer for the Week

Our vicar, Rev Alan, has an Easter prayer for us. **See his prayer on the back page.**

Looking Forward

New Alpha Course Starting

Thurs 8 May, 8pm-9.30pm, Parish Centre

Stay Curious, Try Alpha. A great way to find out more about the Christian faith. For more details and to sign up contact office@stpetersparish.info



Prayers by Rev Alan

Heavenly Father

On this joyous Easter day, we come together as your family to give thanks and praise for the incredible gift of your Son, Jesus Christ. As we celebrate His resurrection, we are reminded of the triumph of light over darkness, hope over despair, and life over death.

Lord, we thank you for the love you have poured out on us through the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross. May His resurrection be a source of inspiration and renewal for us all. Help us to grasp the depth of your love and the power of redemption.

As your family, we lift our hearts in gratitude for the blessings you have bestowed upon us. We thank you for the gift of life, for the love of family and friends, and for the opportunity to gather together in your name. On this Easter day, we also remember those facing challenges or hardships. May your love and grace be a comforting presence in their lives. Grant us the compassion to reach out to those in need, just as you reached out to us with the ultimate expression of love through Jesus.

We commit this day and our lives to you, trusting in your plan and purpose for us. May your resurrection power be evident in our lives, transforming us into vessels of grace and love. In Jesus' name, we pray.

Amen

Coming up this week

Date & Times	Activity	Details	Location
Mon 21 Apr – Bank Holiday			
	No activities today		
Tue 22 Apr			
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
Weds 23 Apr			
9am-1pm	Hope at the Hub	Drop-in community session	St Andrew's
10am-11.30am	Open Door Ladies Group	Finding Out. Sandra 01204 846490	Parish Centre
Thu 24 Apr			
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
Fri 25 Apr			
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 26 Apr			
9am-12pm	INTERACT Performing Arts Group	Lucy/Emma 07896 724531	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

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St Peter's Halliwell



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