



PARISH OF ST PETER'S, HALLIWELL

NEWSLETTER



Sunday 18 May 2025

HEADLINES

- Upcoming Message Mission Week
- Good News for Romania School Visit
- Barrow Bridge's Annual Duck Race
- Prayer for the week from Sam Wolstencroft, CAP Debt Centre Manager

Read on to find out more...

SERVICES

Sunday 18 May
It's Lighthouse week!



ST PETER'S CHURCH

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

SMITHILLS FELLOWSHIP

10am	Morning service with Lighthouse
2pm	Baptism service in Smithills Chapel

BARROW BRIDGE MISSION

10.30am	Morning service with Communion and 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...

Message Mission Week

The Message School of Evangelism team join us on Tuesday.



The team of four, pictured left to right, comprises Rapha from Brazil, Kayleigh the team leader from Surrey, Vinni also from Brazil, and Xandra from the UK. During the week, the team will be visiting local schools, including Canon Slade, St Peter's Primary and Church Road Primary, and joining church activities including our Tread youth group and the 10.30am service at St Peter's next Sunday. Please pray for them.

This Sunday, we welcome Rev Vinny Whitworth to our 6.30pm parish-wide service at St Peter's. He will be speaking on God's righteousness revealed, from Romans 3: 9-31. Do join us if you can!



Don't forget this is the last week for applications for the Youth and Children's Ministry Lead job opportunity - **closing date is Thu 22 May**. Info at: <https://premierjobsearch.co.uk/job/45859/youth-and-children-s-ministry-lead/>.

Susan Hampson

We're very sorry to inform you that Susan died on Sun 11 May, aged 85. Susan moved to the parish after marrying her late husband, Peter, in 1963 and has attended St Peter's ever since. Please keep Susan's daughters – Kate, Philippa and Rachel – and the wider family and friends in your prayers at this difficult time. Susan's funeral will be held in St Peter's Church on **Fri 6 June at 11am**, followed by a reception in the Church Lounge.

Wedding Congratulations

Many congratulations to Paul Whenlock and Shelly Brierley who were married at Smithills Chapel on Sat 10 May. Please keep them in your prayers as they start their married life together.

Good News for Romania School Visit



On Fri 9 May, a group of 10 students, Headteacher Daniel Stefanica and 2 teachers from Vasile Parvan School, Barlad, arrived in Bolton for a 5-day educational visit with Good News for Romania.

They enjoyed a wonderful time with amazing weather visiting Smithills Farm, Bolton Market place and also St Peter's Church on Sunday morning where 4 of the young people read prayers and 8 played the hand chimes. This was so different from their Romanian Orthodox Church and they loved it - what a witness it was to them! After church, it was lunch and games at the Parish Centre and a magic show by the amazing Charles Stanford. They also had time relaxing on a number of occasions at Dave and Kath's and even baked cakes! They absolutely loved time at Create Bolton with the talented Joy Kilpatrick, decorating and glazing their own mugs. They visited Bolton Library and Museum and had a brilliant tour guide, Millie. They rode on a double decker bus, visited Conwy Castle, had time on the beach and spent time at TREAD with our wonderful young people and leaders,

enjoying time playing games on the playing field. TREAD ended with each child writing a prayer on a sticky note and sticking it on a world map around Romania and the U.K. Zoe then did a beautiful prayer for everyone. Their time here was rounded off with a treasure hunt in the park with the talented Dave Moffoot before Joy presented them with their mugs.

For the group, the impact of this time here has been immense; witnessing such love from hosts, drivers and GNfR supporters has clearly made a lasting impression on them. Dave and Kath were able to spend time sharing their faith with them and they could visibly see everyone's Christian love shine through. One girl said: "this visit has been lots of very unique experiences, I thank you all!"

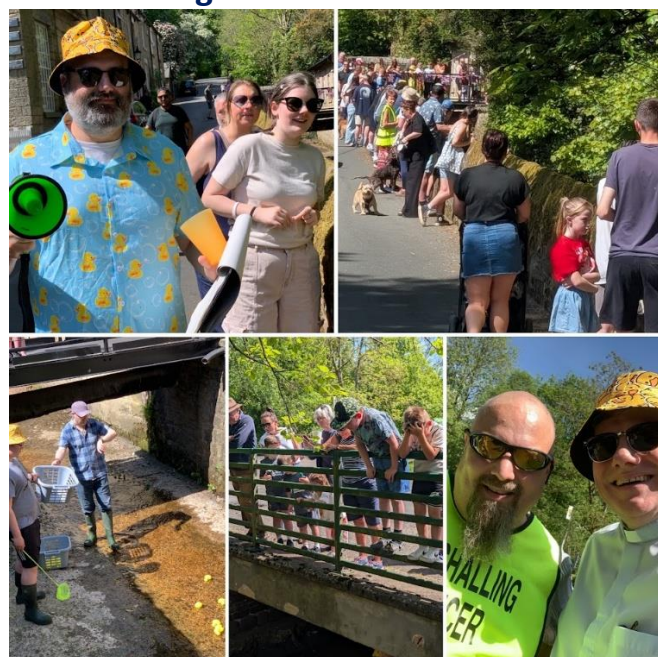
The group, and Dave and Kath, say a huge THANK YOU TO EVERYONE - you've been such a blessing. Please pray for Dave and Kath as they prepare to go to Romania from 4-20 June and for their time there.

Newcomers' Meal

Last Saturday evening, we enjoyed a wonderful, relaxed meal in the Parish Centre and had a great time enjoying fellowship together, making new connections and getting to know each other more. *Many thanks to all who made this evening possible.*



Barrow Bridge's Annual Duck Race



Last Sunday, just under £300 was raised to support the work of Barrow Bridge's mission partners. We enjoyed beautiful weather and a lovely afternoon was had by all – thank you for your support.



Baptisms

Sun 18 May, 2pm, Smithills Chapel

We welcome **Isla and Eva AXON** and thank God for the gift of these children and for their parents, Godparents, family and friends on this special occasion.



Worship Unplugged

Sun 1 June, 6.30pm, St Peter's Church

All welcome to join us for this very special evening.



Bolton Repair Café

Weds 21 May, 10.30am-12.30pm, St Andrews



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

Bolton Christian Meditation Group

Thurs 22 May, 2pm-3pm, Parish Centre

All welcome to join us for this session. More info from j.wilde.1963@gmail.com

Halliwell Local History Society (incorporating Smithills)



Tues 27 May, 7.30pm, Parish Centre

Steve Fielding will be speaking on 'Lancashire Murders'. All welcome. More info from enquiries@halliwell-lhs.co.uk

Do Lunch, Do Life

Sun 1 June, straight after 10.30am service, St Peter's

All welcome to join us for bacon rolls, veggie sausages and cakes. Any offers of help on the day or to bake cakes, please

let Janette Daeth know -

janette.daeth@gmail.com.

Thank you.



Out and About Walk

Sat 7 June, meet opposite St Peter's at 9.30am



A walk from Top Lock Wigan, taking in the Leeds Liverpool canal, a former railway line

and woodland paths. 6-7 miles. All welcome. For further details contact Jane Heath on 07472 926650.



Volunteers Needed for 6.30pm Service

We need more volunteers on the Welcome Team rota for our Parish-wide service – can you help? To find out more about helping facilitate the 6.30 service, please speak to Phil or any member of the team. Thank you.

Macmillan Cancer Support

Val Perris wishes to say a big thank you to all who supported her sale of knitted Easter chicks. An



amazing **£1206.58** was raised to support the work of Macmillan nurses!

Spillages in St Peter's Church

We respectfully ask that if you spill a drink on the carpet in church, please mop it up straight away using the contents of the spillage box at the back of church. We're still trying to keep our relatively new carpet looking good so really appreciate your support with this – thank you!

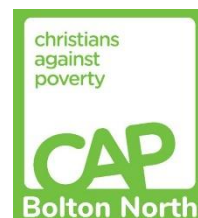


Open Staff Prayers

Weds 21 May, 9.30am-10am, Parish Centre

All welcome to join the church staff team at their morning prayers. No need to book, just turn up.

Prayer for the Week



Sam Wolstencroft, CAP Debt Centre Manager, reminds us of Psalm 140:12 'I know that the Lord will maintain the cause of the afflicted and justice for the poor'. **See her prayer on the back page.**

Prayers by Sam Wolstencroft, CAP Centre Manager

Lord Jesus, we lift your name high. You are powerful. You are good. You are above all others. There is no mountain too high that you can't climb, no situation too complex that you can't break through and transform lives. Nearly half of children in families with just one parent live in poverty. We lift up to you single parents and ask you, Heavenly Father, to intervene in the challenges they're facing. We pray for local children's centres, churches and other organisations that provide vital support to parents, and for the challenges they themselves may be facing, such as a lack of funding or staff. We pray that MPs would have compassion and empathy when reviewing policies and making decisions, taking into account the impact on real people's lives.

God of restoration, we thank and praise you for every person who is no longer trapped in debt and poverty and now living with hope. Thank you that you are the restorer of all things, and through you, radical transformation becomes possible. We give you all the glory and all the praise. Amen.

Coming up this week

Date & Times	Activity	Details	Location
Mon 19 May			
9.30am-12noon 10am-12noon 1.30pm-3.30pm 5.30pm-7.30pm	AGE UK's Strength and Balance classes Coffee Room Art Group ABL Weight Management Programme	Classes full, contact Parish Office Drop-in for coffee and cakes Illuminated Letter www.yhbolton.co.uk / 01204 205090	Parish Centre
Tues 20 May			
10am-11.30am 6pm-7.15pm 7.30pm-9pm	Little Wiggles Toddlers Group Ignite KS2 Children's Group Tread Youth Group	Suzi 07834 371509 ignite@stpetersparish.info office@stpetersparish.info	Parish Centre
Weds 21 May			
9am-1pm 10.30am-12.30pm	Hope at the Hub Bolton Repair Cafe	Drop-in community session Bring your items for repair, stay for refreshments	St Andrew's
9.30am-10am 10am-11.30am	Open Staff Prayers Open Door Ladies Group	All welcome to join in My Time as a Churchwarden – Elian Winstanley. Val 07902 167971	Parish Centre
Thu 22 May			
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-3pm 8pm-9.30pm	Bolton Christian Meditation Group Alpha Course and Life Group	j.wilde.1963@gmail.com office@stpetersparish.info	Parish Centre
Fri 23 May			
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 24 May			
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

Warden: 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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