



PARISH OF ST PETER'S, HALLIWELL

# NEWSLETTER



Sunday 14 September 2025

## HEADLINES

- It's Quinta Weekend!
- Compassion Sunday Next Sunday
- Disability Awareness Sunday Coming Soon
- Prayer for the Week from Rev Alan

*Read on to find out more...*

## SERVICES

**Sunday 14 September**

***It's our Parish Weekend Away!***

### ST PETER'S CHURCH

*10.30am	Morning service. <i>All invited to this Parish-wide service</i>
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### SMITHILLS FELLOWSHIP

	<i>No service today – please join us at our Parish-wide 10.30am service in St Peter's</i>
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### BARROW BRIDGE MISSION

	<i>No service today – please join us at our Parish-wide 10.30am service in St Peter's</i>
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### ST ANDREW'S HOPE CENTRE

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

### Rev Alan writes...

**It's Quinta!** This weekend sees 136 of us, including 112 adults and 24 children, from all our fellowships uniting at Quinta Conference Centre in Shropshire for a holiday weekend, crammed full of fun, fellowship, great food, worship and inspiring teaching from Bishop Matthew Porter. These weekends are always a wonderful opportunity to relax and deepen and build new friendships. Bishop Matthew will be speaking on the theme of Resilient Faith and it's my prayer that God will use the weekend to strengthen us as his church. I've written a special prayer on the back page of this newsletter. Please note that the only services this Sunday will be a 10.30am parish-wide service at St Peter's with our Area Dean, Simon Cook, and an informal 10.30am service at St Andrew's. There will be no 6.30pm service.



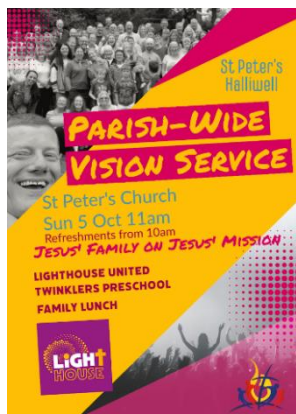
**The start of something new!** I was thrilled to welcome and pray for Josh Openshaw at our parish-wide 6.30pm service at St Peter's last Sunday. He preached a fantastic message on the story David dancing in front of the ark of the covenant from 2 Samuel 6:11-23 and it's well worth listening to on our YouTube channel. At the service, I shared the vision to support Josh in planting a new church in Bolton town centre which will take place in the next year or so. In the meantime, I am really looking forward to working closely with him as part of our parish clergy



team. During his time with us, Josh will be looking to form a church-planting team – a group of people to be sent from

St Peter's parish as part of the new plant. Josh will also be training in church-planting which should bring us lots of great ideas on ways we can grow our fellowships at St Peter's. His first project will be

taking the lead with our next Alpha course which starts on Thu 25 Sept, 8pm at the Parish Centre; this course will link with the Greater Manchester 'Joined-up Alpha' partnership with other churches across the city-region and is open to anyone seeking to explore faith and grow as a Christian. Josh will be visiting and speaking at all our services over the weeks ahead, so please do give him a warm welcome.



Our parish-wide vision service is now confirmed for **Sun 5 Oct, 11am** (refreshments from 10am) at St Peter's Church. There will be special Lighthouse United children's Sunday groups at the Parish Centre and a Twinkler's pre-school session in St Peter's Church Lounge. Following the service, there will be a

family lunch for everyone in the Parish Centre. Please put the date in your diary and join us for what is sure to be a wonderful opportunity to unite the whole parish in worship and share our vision for the year ahead. Please note, this will be the only service on Sun 5 Oct to give the opportunity for everyone to come.

## Compassion Sunday

**Sun 21 Sept, 10.30am and 6.30pm services, St Peter's**



Bethan Stevens, Church Partnerships Manager (North) from Compassion UK will be speaking at these services. Compassion UK is a Christian child development charity that's been working in partnership with local

churches to release children from poverty in Jesus' name since 1952. Do come along to find out more about this amazing ministry.

## Disability Awareness Sunday

**Sun 28 Sept, in all services across the parish (except 10.30 service at St Peter's which will be held on Sun 12 Oct)**

*At this special service, we will be exploring how we can make church a supportive place where people who are disabled can experience God's love.* Do you have any old glasses or sunglasses you can drop off at the Parish Centre? We will use these to create some "simulation glasses" for the services. The fact that some of these will have prescription lenses will not matter as we will be wrapping them in cling film to simulate glaucoma - (it works really well! - the lense is completely blurred anyway with only light getting through.)



**Please drop them off by Weds 24 Sept.** Thank you.



## Bolton Repair Café

**Weds 17 Sept, 10.30am-12.30pm, St Andrews**

**REPAIR CAFE** BOLTON Bring your items in need of repair and stay for delicious coffee and cake.

## Dementia Friendship Support Group

**Thu 18 Sept, 2pm-4pm, Parish Centre**

For those with dementia *and* their carers. Singalong, games, quiz and fun. Tea/coffee/cake and a warm welcome.

Info from [joan@stpetersparish.info](mailto:joan@stpetersparish.info) /01204 840180



## Booking Now!

**Tues 23 – Fri 25 Sept, 7.30pm, St Peter's Church**



Directed by our very own Ben Latham! *Appropriate for anyone 11+.* Tickets from [themarcoplayers.net](http://themarcoplayers.net)

## Next Alpha Course Starts Soon

**Starting Thu 25 Sept, 8pm-9.30pm, Parish Centre**



Our next Alpha course will be led by Rev Josh Openshaw. This series of group conversations freely



explores 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>. Email Amanda in the Parish Office to register.

### Macmillan Coffee Morning

**Thu 25 Sept, 10am at Oasis in St Peter's Church**

All welcome. Donations of cakes, preserves etc will be very much appreciated.



Contact Val Perris on 07984 070364.

### High School Form Signings for 2026 Entry

**Thu 25 Sept, 7pm-9pm, Parish Centre**

Church supplementary forms will be signed but you **must book a timed slot** at [office@stpetersparish.info](mailto:office@stpetersparish.info) / 599900. You'll need to provide: child's name, parent's name, contact details and which church you attend.

### Halliwell Local History Society



**(incorporating Smithills)**

**Tues 30 Sept, 7.30pm, Parish Centre**

Steve Irwin 'Early Aviation in Lancashire'. All welcome. More info from [enquiries@halliwell-lhs.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@halliwell-lhs.co.uk)

### PrayerZone

**Wed 1 Oct, 7.30pm-8.30pm,**

**St Peter's Primary School (BL1 6LA)**

Gather from across the parish for an hour of dynamic prayer and worship.



### Tea, Tasty Treats and Testimonies

**Fri 3 Oct, 7.30pm, Parish Centre**



All ladies are welcome to join us at our next event. We had great feedback the last time we did this so we hope you can join us – no need to book, just turn up.

### Out and About Walk

**Sat 4 Oct, meet 9.30am, opposite St Peter's Church**



Calderbrook and Crook Hill, 7.5 miles moderate. Info from [janeheath@heathnet.plus.com](mailto:janeheath@heathnet.plus.com)

### Café on the Green

**Sat 4 Oct, 9.30am-2pm, St Peter's Smithills Dean Primary School, Limefield Road, BL1 6LA**

Delicious food, including an all-day breakfast, and excellent service. All welcome. The other remaining Café on the Green date this year is 1 Nov.



### Ignite Invitation



### Out and About Walk

**Sat 4 Oct, meet 9.30am, opposite St Peter's Church**



Calderbrook and Crook Hill, 7.5 miles moderate. Info from [janeheath@heathnet.plus.com](mailto:janeheath@heathnet.plus.com)



### Prayer for the Week

This week we have a prayer from Rev Alan for us, Jesus' Family on Jesus' Mission.

**See his prayer on the back page.**

### Looking Forward

#### Do Lunch, Do Life and Cake Sale

**Sun 12 Oct, St Peter's Church**

Today there will be bacon butties straight after the 10.30am service and a cake sale to raise funds for **Good News for Romania** – please remember to bring cash! NB: Next GNfR Coffee Morning/ Bring and Buy is **Sat 18 Oct, 10am-12noon, Parish Centre.**



#### 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations at Parish Centre

**Sun 26 Oct, 10.30am, Parish Centre**

Join us at our celebration service commemorating the re-opening of the Parish Centre on 15 Oct 2000 following its redevelopment and extension. NB: No 10.30am service in St Peter's on this date

## Prayer from Rev Alan

*Isaiah 41:10. So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.*

*Dear Lord, we thank you for the love of your people and church – Jesus' Family on Jesus' Mission. We pray that over the Quinta weekend everyone will have a refreshing time and be strengthened in their faith. We pray for all our parish over this weekend that we will grow more deeply in our knowledge and love of God. Amen*

## Coming up this week

Date & Times	Activity	Details	Location
<b>Mon 15 Sept</b>			
10am-12noon 10am-12noon 1.30pm-3.30pm 5.30pm-7.30pm	AGE UK's Strength & Balance Coffee Room Art Group ABL Weight Management	Classes full, contact Parish Office Drop-in for coffee and cake Critique session. <a href="mailto:ruthrobinson293@gmail.com">ruthrobinson293@gmail.com</a> <a href="http://www.yhbolton.co.uk">www.yhbolton.co.uk</a> / 01204 205090	Parish Centre
<b>Tues 16 Sept</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 Group Ignite KS2 Children's Group Tread Youth Group	Suzi 07834 371509 <a href="mailto:ignite@stpetersparish.info">ignite@stpetersparish.info</a> <a href="mailto:tread@stpetersparish.info">tread@stpetersparish.info</a>	Parish Centre
<b>Weds 17 Sept</b>			
9am-1pm	Hope at the Hub	Drop-in community session, all welcome	St Andrew's
10.30am-12.30pm	Bolton Repair Cafe	Bring your items for repair, stay for refreshments	St Andrew's
10am-11.30am	Open Door Ladies Group	Visit from Rev Vinny Whitworth. Val 07902 167971	Parish Centre
<b>Thu 18 Sept</b>			
8.30am-9am	Prayer Meeting	Julie 07835 014470	St Andrew's
2pm-4pm	Dementia Friendship Support Group	<a href="mailto:joan@stpetersparish.info">joan@stpetersparish.info</a>	Parish Centre
10.30am-12noon	Oasis Coffee Morning and Service	Refreshments 10.30am, service 11.30am	St Peter's
<b>Fri 19 Sept</b>			
10.30am-12noon 10am-12noon 8pm-10pm	Friday Life Group Watercolours Class Stressbusters Badminton	<a href="mailto:denis.collier@gmail.com">denis.collier@gmail.com</a> Lucinda 07977 821119 Geoff 07835 388732	Parish Centre
<b>Sat 20 Sept</b>			
9am-12pm	INTERACT Performing Arts Group	Lucy/Emma 07896 724531	Parish Centre

## 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 599909

**Warden:** 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 // **P:** 01204 599903

**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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