



PARISH OF ST PETER'S, HALLIWELL

NEWSLETTER



Sunday 22nd February 2026

HEADLINES

- Our Annual Vision Meetings Start
- Prayer Room at Parish Centre
- 40 Acts: Do Lent Generously
- Start! Course Coming Up
- Prayer for the Week from Carolyn Rigby on behalf of Barrow Bridge Mission

Read on to find out more...

SERVICES

Sun 22 Feb

ST PETER'S CHURCH

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

SMITHILLS FELLOWSHIP

10am	Vision Sunday
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BARROW BRIDGE MISSION

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

10.30am	Mission Sunday
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*Livestreamed, search YouTube for 'stpetershalliwell'

We are an accessibility-friendly parish

Rev Alan writes...

Looking back with thanksgiving and forward with faith.

Our annual vision meetings for each fellowship start this Sunday at Smithills. The meetings take place as part of the Sunday worship and provide an opportunity to look back with thanksgiving, to acknowledge and celebrate all God has done over the last year, and to look forward with faith and anticipation for all that God will do over the year ahead. It is also an opportunity to appoint our fellowship leadership teams.



Over the coming weeks, I will be taking part in all our 'Vision Sunday' services at each fellowship. Barrow Bridge is Sun 1 Mar, St Andrew's is Sun 8 Mar, and St Peter's is Sun 22 Mar, and for the first time St Peter's will be electing their leadership team. Note, there will be no 8.30am service on Sun 22 March as I want to encourage everyone to join the Vision Sunday service at 10.30am.

Can I encourage you to prayerfully consider if you should commit to serve as a member of your leadership team and speak to one of your leaders or myself if you'd like to explore the opportunity. Sign-up sheets will be available at all our services.

We praise God and offer our thanks and appreciation to Smithills leadership team, their volunteers and especially their Chair, Ross Pyle, for the wonderful work they have done this last year. Please hold them in your prayers this Sunday.



At this Sunday's 6.30pm Parish-wide service at St Peter's, Steve Walsh is speaking on Moses sending spies

to explore the promised land of Canaan (Numbers 13:1-31) in the next of our series of 40 Days – The Movement of God's People.

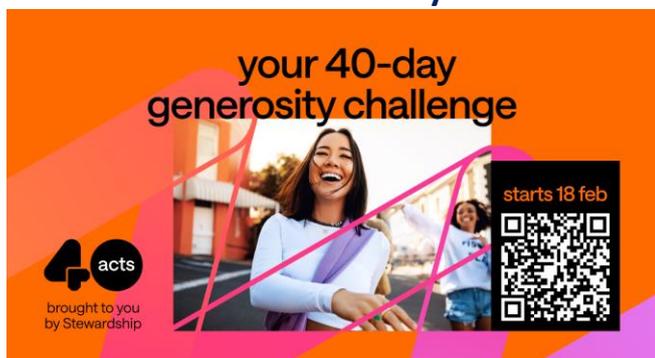
Prayer Room at Parish Centre



Weekdays during Lent, open access 8.30am-4pm
All welcome to come and use the Parish Centre's Prayer Room as a space for reflection and prayer during Lent. *No need to book, just turn up.* Prayer resources available in the room. Wanting to use the

Prayer Room outside of these hours? **Please just ensure you check first with the Parish Office** to see what is possible, taking into account keyholder access and other activities that may be happening at the same time. Thank you.

40 Acts: Do Lent Generously



It's not too late for you to join thousands this Lent who've signed up to do a generosity challenge – building habits, deepening faith and reflecting the heart of Jesus through everyday acts. Each day offers a simple invitation to give, bless, and grow in generosity – one act at a time. Go to: <https://www.stewardship.org.uk/40acts>



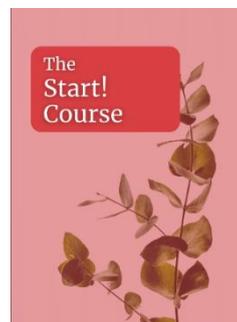
Easter Sunday Baptisms

Sun 5 Apr, 6.30pm Parish-wide Easter celebration service, St Peters

If you'd like to be baptised and amongst the first to use our new baptism pool, please contact Rev Alan or the Parish Office in the first instance.



Start! Course Coming Up



From Tues 1 Mar for 4 weeks, 11.30am-1pm, Parish Centre, light lunch included.

Discover the basics of Christianity with Start! Looking for a simple, engaging way to explore the Christian faith? Start! is the perfect place to begin. This DVD-based course

is designed for small groups and assumes no prior knowledge of Christianity or church life — it really does start from scratch. Each session lasts about 90 minutes, including a free lunch, and includes:

- Two short, lively video segments filmed in fun, relatable locations like Blackpool beach, a fairground, and a shopping centre.
- Interactive discussions and exercises that get everyone talking and thinking.
- Space for reflection so participants can explore faith at their own pace.

For more info and/or to book your place, contact the Parish Office – office@stpetersparish.info / (01204) 599900.

DTI Youth Camp – Deadline is TODAY!

Weds 29 Jul – Mon 3 Aug, Staffordshire Showground

We're going to Dreaming the Impossible again this Summer with our young people aged Y7 - Y11. It's an amazing opportunity for them to go deeper in their faith as well as their relationships with one another. Think camping, huge worship sessions, seminars, inflatables, cafes, music gigs, sports and more - it's so



much fun! **If you'd like to send your young person, please let us know by TODAY (Sun 22 Feb).** For info and to book tickets (£180 incl. food and transport), please contact ben.latham@stpetersparish.info or 07512 753201.

Quinta Fundraiser Progressive Meal 2026

Sat 21 Mar, 6.30pm, various homes

Quinta is a parish-wide weekend away and the Progressive Meal is a parish-wide event (only 63% of confirmed hosts are from St Peter's) — but at the moment, 89% of our guests are from St Peter's! **So: a special appeal to those of you at St Andrew's, Barrow Bridge, and Smithills — you can sign up here:** <https://forms.gle/ZVwCm1ixS8VdcFiv7>. We can accommodate any special dietary requests, any transport needs, and if you're unable to pay the suggested £15, we can cover that too. Any questions? Stephen or Rachel can help — (01204) 433810/ 07954 995160 or thebrierleys@proton.me

Bolton Christian Meditation Group

Thu 26 Feb, 2pm-3pm, Parish Centre

All welcome at this session. No need to book, just turn up. For info, contact j.wilde.1963@gmail.com

Halliwell Local History Society (incorporating Smithills)

Tues 24 Feb, 7.30pm, Parish Centre
Open evening – “Take A Trip Down Memory Lane”. Films/photos/items from the archive. Come along and share your stories. All welcome. Info from enquiries@halliwell-lhs.co.uk



Soul Sisters Ladies' Ministry Film Night

Fri 27 Feb, 7pm for 7.30pm start, Barrow Bridge Mission

We'll be watching a powerful film called Fireproof - see trailer at: youtube.com/watch?v=84q0SXW781c.



Tea/coffee provided but feel free to bring snacks and drinks with you. No charge, **FREE**. Just come along and join us, we'd really love to see you there.

Renew for Women

Renew
for women

Saturday 7th March 2026

10am - 4pm // Refreshments available from 9:15am
St. Mary's Church, Rawtenstall

"Who do you think you are?"
Treat yourself to a day to untangle lies that hold you back and unleash your true God-given identity.
Led by Sue Eldridge

Tickets £10 + booking fee go to www.ticketsource/renew

Includes light refreshments however please bring your own lunch

For more information email renew@rossendalecafe.church

Resource Church Interest Meeting

Mon 23 Feb (NB: this is a repeat of 11 Feb), 7.30pm-9pm, Parish Centre

If you're curious about the vision for a Resource Church in Bolton, we'd love you to join us. Explore what a Resource Church is and why it matters for Bolton, worship and pray together and learn how to discern God's voice and guidance as we journey

forward. The Resource Church will be charismatic and evangelical in expression, rooted in orthodox Christian faith, and fully aligned with the doctrine and life of the Church of England. **The gatherings will take place every two weeks, with the second meeting each month repeating the same material as the first.** This creates an ongoing, accessible space to listen to God together and grow in clarity, unity, and shared vision. Whether you're simply interested, prayerfully exploring, or sensing a gentle nudge to be involved, you are very welcome to come along. Info from Rev Josh – josh@petersparish.info

CreateBolton: Upcoming Workshop

STOP LOOK CREATE

A time just to be....

- Press the pause button
- Look at God's world with fresh eyes
- Enjoy the freedom of spiritual creativity

An evening of fellowship, reflecting and listening to God's word for you.
A time to relax, share, create, pray and eat cake.
With Joy Kilpatrick.

Thursday 19th March
7pm -9pm
Cafe Create
£15 per person

To book online via www.createbolton.org.uk
Click on 'Book Workshops' then 'Next Availability' or call in to the cafe.

No experience necessary

To book your place on this workshop, and to see details of all the other exciting upcoming events at CreateBolton (Claremont House, Bark St, BL1 2AX), please go directly to their website at: <https://www.createbolton.org.uk/book-online>



Prayer for the Week

On behalf of Barrow Bridge Mission, Carolyn Rigby reminds us how Jesus withdrew from his friends and followers, to spend time with the Lord and how in Psalm 27:14 we're encouraged to *'Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord.'*
See her prayer on the back page.

Looking Forward

APCM Cheese and Wine Evening

Save the date for our parish-wide Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM), a Cheese and



Wine evening on **Thurs 30 Apr, 7pm** in the Parish Centre. Hope to see you there!

Prayer from Carolyn Rigby on behalf of Barrow Bridge Mission

Lord Jesus, during this season of Lent help us to take time away from life's busyness to refocus our hearts and spirits as we wait for you. Help us to choose to recentre our lives on your Word, your teachings and to take heart in all your promises. Lord Jesus Christ, help us to reach out to others, seeing their needs as you see them and caring for them with your compassion. May we love as you love: extravagantly and indiscriminately. May we care as you do: without counting the cost. Lead us deeper into your generous, sacrificial heart so that by following your lead, we will move with compassion, especially towards those suffering in places and situations we may never fully understand. Amen

Watch 'Revelation Song' by Kari Jobe here: www.youtube.com/watch?v=8-Gxjtd6Wp4&list

Coming up

Date & Times	Activity	Details	Location
Mon 23 Feb			
10am-12noon 10am-1.30pm 1.30pm-3.30pm 6pm-7.30pm 7.30pm-9pm	Coffee Room Ageing Well with Strength and Balance Art Group ABL Weight Management session Resource Church Interest Meeting	Drop-in for coffee and cake. Everyone welcome. office@stpetersparish.info rrobinson293@gmail.com www.yhbolton.co.uk / 01204 205090 Rev Josh Openshaw – josh@stpetersparish.info	Parish Centre
Tues 24 Feb			
9.45am-11.30am	Tots on Tuesday	Julie 07835 014470	St Andrew's
10am-11.30am 6pm-7.15pm 7.30pm-9pm 7.30pm-9pm	Little Wiggles Toddlers' Group Ignite KS2 Children's Group Tread Youth Group Halliwell Local History Society	office@stpetersparish.info ignite@stpetersparish.info tread@stpetersparish.info enquiries@halliwell-lhs.co.uk	Parish Centre
Weds 25 Feb			
9am-1pm	Hope at the Hub	Drop-in community session, all welcome	St Andrew's
10am-11.30am	Open Door Ladies Group	This is Me! Val 07902 167971	Parish Centre
Thu 26 Feb			
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	Bolton Christian Meditation Group	j.wilde.1963@gmail.com	Parish Centre
Fri 27 Feb			
10.30am-12noon 10am-12noon 7pm-9pm	Friday Life Connect Group Watercolours Class Stressbusters Badminton	denis.collier@gmail.com Lucinda 07977 821119 Geoff 07835 388732	Parish Centre
Sat 28 Feb			
9am-12noon	INTERACT Performing Arts	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 599909

Warden: Simon Scott E: wardens@stpetersparish.info

Pioneer Minister: Rev Josh Openshaw E: josh@stpetersparish.info / M: 07534 309265

CAP Debt Centre Manager: Sam Wolstencroft E: samwolstencroft@capuk.org / M: 07934 716509 / P: 01204 599903

Caretaker: David Park E: david@stpetersparish.info

St Peter's Parish Centre
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www.stpetersparish.info



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