



PARISH OF ST PETER'S, HALLIWELL

# NEWSLETTER



Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2026

## HEADLINES

- It's St Peter's Annual Vision Sunday!
- Our Easter services
- Easter Celebration in St Peter's School
- CAP Life Skills course coming up
- Prayer for the week from Hilary Peake on behalf of St Peter's Church

*Read on to find out more...*

## SERVICES

*Sun 22 Mar*

### ST PETER'S CHURCH

8.30am	<b>No service</b> - please join us at 10.30am
10.30am*	Vision Sunday service with Twinklers
6.30pm*	Parish-wide service with Communion

### SMITHILLS FELLOWSHIP

10am	Family service with Communion
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### BARROW BRIDGE MISSION

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

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

### Rev Alan writes...

#### It's St Peter's Annual Vision Sunday!

Yes, it's the last, but not least, of our Vision Sunday services this week at St Peter's Church. So much has happened in the life of St Peter's over this last year, and it will be great to look back and celebrate all that God has done in us and through us. The children and young people will also be joining us for this service. And don't forget that we've cancelled the 8.30am service at St Peter's so that everyone can join in with this special occasion for the church.



Please pray for St Peter's Chair, Chris Ward, and all the leadership team.

Our excellent sermon series on the Movement of God's People continues at our parish-wide 6.30pm service this Sunday and I will be speaking on **40 Days and Jonah** from Jonah 3:1-4:1. It will be great to see you there! It's well worth watching previous talks in this series which can be found on our YouTube Channel:

[www.youtube.com/stpetershalliwell](http://www.youtube.com/stpetershalliwell).



## 8.30am service and Lighthouse

Please note, there will not be an 8.30am service today as everyone is invited to attend the Vision Sunday service at 10.30am in St Peter's instead. Today's scheduled Lighthouse session in the Parish Centre will also not take place so that the children can be part of the Vision Sunday service and appropriate activities will be provided for them at the back of church.

## Our Easter services

### MAUNDY THURSDAY 2 April

7.30pm Parish-wide Communion, St Peter's

### GOOD FRIDAY 3 April

10.30am Parish-wide Service, St Peter's

### EASTER SUNDAY 5 April

8.30am Easter Day Service, St Peter's

10.00am Easter Day Service, Smithills

10.30am Worship for Everyone Communion, St Peter's

10.30am Easter Day Service, Barrow Bridge

10.30am Family Communion, St Andrew's

6.30pm Parish-wide Easter Baptism Service with Communion, St Peter's

# EASTER SERVICES



## Baptise and Share

### Easter Sunday baptisms

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



We're delighted that we've got a few people who are signed up to be baptised in our brand-new baptism pool. **If you're still thinking about it, you're not too late!** Please contact Rev Alan or the Parish Office.

### Sylvia Collins

Thurs 2 Apr, 1.30pm, St. Peter's

Sylvia's funeral will take place in St. Peter's, followed by a burial in Heaton Cemetery. A reception will be held following the service in the church lounge. All are warmly invited to attend.



## Easter Celebration in St Peter's School

Mon 30 Mar, 10.15am-11.30am, St Peter's Primary School, Limefield Road, BL1 6LA

Reception and Key Stage 1 are having an Easter Celebration and you are invited! The

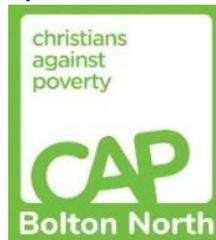
children will be parading in Easter hats and making Easter decorations and would really love for older members of our

fellowships and groups to come and join them for cake and coffee. This will be a lovely, fun morning so if you'd like to attend, for catering purposes, please let the Parish Office know - [office@stpetersparish.info](mailto:office@stpetersparish.info) / 01204 599900.



## CAP Life Skills course coming up

Weds 25 Mar-13 May (6 Weds sessions), 12.30pm-2pm, Parish Centre



CAP Life Skills is a friendly group that gives people the confidence and decision-making skills they need to survive life on a low income. Participants learn practical money saving techniques, such as cooking on a budget, living healthily on less, making their money go further as well as taking part in sessions on building healthy relationships. It's all about discovering new ways to live for a better future. This **FREE** 6-week course is open to anyone 18+ and includes lunch and refreshments at each session as well as all course materials you require. The course will be run by fully trained CAP Life Skills managers, Sam Wolstencroft and Jane Hampson. There are limited places on each course so if you book a place and are unable to make it, please cancel in advance so we can give someone else the opportunity to attend.

\* Please be assured that you will not be required to share any personal financial information unless you want to. Use this link to sign up - <https://stpetershalliwell.churchsuite.com/events/340gdhku> – or contact the Parish Office.

## Bolton Church Plant – Interest evening

Mon 23 Mar, 7.30pm-8.30pm, Parish Centre



Rev Josh says "You are warmly invited to come along and hear more about the vision for the Bolton Church Plant and the opportunities there are to get involved. We'll share a little about the heart and hope behind the plant, what God seems to be doing in Bolton, and some of the ways people can be part of the journey ahead. We'll also spend some time praying together – particularly for

the right building to open up, for a team to form, and for the upcoming Easter event at the University that week. It promises to be an encouraging, faith-filled, and expectant evening, and it would be wonderful to see you there. Tea, coffee, and biscuits provided!"

More info from Rev Josh – [josh@stpetersparish.info](mailto:josh@stpetersparish.info)

## Bolton Christian Meditation Group

Thurs 26 Mar, 2pm-3pm, Parish Centre

All welcome at this session. No need to book, just turn up. For info, contact [j.wilde.1963@gmail.com](mailto:j.wilde.1963@gmail.com)

## CreateBolton: Upcoming drama

Sat 18 April, 7.30pm, Café Create

This monologue features our very own Ben Latham! Tickets available now.

An Evening of Theatre  
Fundraising for Create Bolton

# TALKING HEADS

## A CHIP IN THE SUGAR

BY ALAN BENNETT

18<sup>th</sup> April 2026 at 7:30<sub>pm</sub>

Cafe Create, Claremont House  
Bark Street, Bolton BL1 2AX

Tickets £5.00

BOOK ONLINE:  
[createbolton.org.uk](http://createbolton.org.uk)

Presented by permission of Concord Theatricals Ltd

## Electoral roll revision deadline

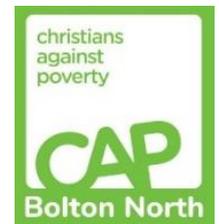
Not completed an electoral roll form yet? Please check to see if you are on the list in church and, if not, complete a form before next **Sun (29 Mar)** and post it in the box available in each fellowship. To qualify you need to have been baptised, over 16, and consider yourself a regular member.



## Easter eggs for CAP clients

Sam, our CAP Debt Centre Manager, says 'We're giving our clients an Easter egg from the Meaningful Chocolate Co which are Fairtrade and include the Easter story. We're buying them in bulk

but would really appreciate any contributions from the church. They are now £6.99 per egg...please pass any money to Sam or the Parish Office. **Thank you so much for all your donations so far. It's not too late to still give if you'd like to!"**



## Prayer for the week

Hilary Peake, on behalf of St Peter's, bases this week's prayer on **Psalm 46 (NIV)**:

<sup>1</sup> God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. <sup>2</sup> Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, <sup>3</sup> though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging. <sup>4</sup> There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells. <sup>5</sup> God is within her, she will not fall; God will help her at break of day. <sup>6</sup> Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall; he lifts his voice, the earth melts. <sup>7</sup> The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. <sup>8</sup> Come and see what the Lord has done, the desolations he has brought on the earth. <sup>9</sup> He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth. He breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire. <sup>10</sup> He says, "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."  
<sup>11</sup> The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress." **See her prayer on the back page.**

## Looking Forward

### Halliwell Local History Society Talk



**Tues 31 Mar, 7.30pm, Parish Centre**

Peter Watson 'Funny You Should Say That.' All welcome. Info from [enquiries@halliwell-lhs.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@halliwell-lhs.co.uk)

### Out and About Easter Walk

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

Do join us on Easter Saturday for a 5.5mile moderate walk around the foothills of Pendle Hill from the picturesque village of Downham. Enjoy



the beauty of the Spring season walking across grassland and woodland,

with quite a few inclines and stonewall stiles, many pretty flowers and spring lambs in this beautiful part of Lancashire. More info from Janet Ainsworth on 07427 690087

## Prayer from Hilary Peake on behalf of St Peter's Church

I chose Psalm 46 some time ago for these prayers. It speaks directly to today's world and our needs.

A time to remember what God has done and what He is doing.

When God speaks, things happen. A world created, a universe formed. Life, seasons, order and cycles.

Words are powerful, to hate or heal. God's words are truth and life, goodness and hope. We can hear God in the stillness and the rush, in the business and the quiet. Pray that the words we speak can encourage and comfort, that we can listen and support. No matter how we feel, be honest with God, remember His promises.

Linger in prayer, pray with passion, boldness and hope. The world needs God the forgiver and changer of lives.

Pray destruction will end. Lord, you're our refuge, strong tower, our shelter. Come Holy Spirit.

God of mercy and grace hear our prayers. Amen

## Coming up

Date & Times	Activity	Details	Location
<b>Mon 23 Mar</b>			
10am-12noon	Coffee Room	Drop-in for coffee and cake. Everyone welcome. <a href="mailto:office@stpetersparish.info">office@stpetersparish.info</a> <a href="mailto:ruthrobinson293@gmail.com">ruthrobinson293@gmail.com</a> <a href="http://www.yhbolton.co.uk">www.yhbolton.co.uk</a> / 01204 205090 <a href="mailto:josh@stpetersparish.info">josh@stpetersparish.info</a>	Parish Centre
10am-1.30pm	Ageing Well with Strength and Balance		
1.30pm-3.30pm	Art Group		
6pm-7.30pm	ABL Weight Management session		
7.30pm-8.30pm	Bolton Church Plant - Interest Meeting		
<b>Tues 24 Mar</b>			
9.45am-11.30am	Tots on Tuesday	Julie 07835 014470	St Andrew's
10am-11.30am	Little Wiggles Toddlers' Group	<a href="mailto:office@stpetersparish.info">office@stpetersparish.info</a> <a href="mailto:office@stpetersparish.info">office@stpetersparish.info</a> <a href="mailto:ignite@stpetersparish.info">ignite@stpetersparish.info</a> <a href="mailto:tread@stpetersparish.info">tread@stpetersparish.info</a>	Parish Centre
11.30am-1pm	Start! Course		
6pm-7.15pm	Ignite KS2 Children's Group		
7.30pm-9pm	Tread Youth Group		
<b>Weds 25 Mar</b>			
9am-1pm	Hope at the Hub	Drop-in community session, all welcome	St Andrew's
12.30pm-2pm	CAP Life Skills	<a href="mailto:samwolstencroft@cap.uk">samwolstencroft@cap.uk</a>	Parish Centre
<b>Thurs 26 Mar</b>			
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	<a href="mailto:j.wilde.1963@gmail.com">j.wilde.1963@gmail.com</a>	Parish Centre
<b>Fri 27 Mar</b>			
10.30am-12noon	Friday Life Connect Group	<a href="mailto:denis.collier@gmail.com">denis.collier@gmail.com</a> Lucinda 07977 821119 Geoff 07835 388732	Parish Centre
10am-12noon	Watercolours Class		
7pm-9pm	Stressbusters Badminton		
<b>Sat 28 Mar</b>			
9am-12noon	INTERACT Performing Arts	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)

**Pioneer Minister:** Rev Josh Openshaw E: [josh@stpetersparish.info](mailto:josh@stpetersparish.info) / M: 07534 309265

**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)



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