



PARISH OF ST PETER'S, HALLIWELL

NEWSLETTER



Sunday 12th July 2026

HEADLINES

- An Attitude of Gratitude!
- Good News for Romania - School Visit
- Banners, Bakes and Banter
- Golden Wedding Anniversaries
- 25 years of Ordained Ministry
- We're hiring! Parish Office Vacancy
- Prayer for the Week from Moira Platt on behalf of St Andrew's (Hope Centre)

Read on to find out more...

SERVICES

Sun 12 July

ST PETER'S CHURCH

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

SMITHILLS FELLOWSHIP

10am	Family service
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BARROW BRIDGE MISSION

10.30am	Morning service with Lighthouse
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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...

An Attitude of Gratitude!

As we approach the end of the school year next week, it's a good opportunity to give thanks for all God has done this year. A huge **THANK YOU** to all our schoolteachers and staff for the wonderful work you do. A special thank you goes to Alison Slater who is retiring after 33 years at St Peter's Smithills Dean Primary, and we are saying goodbye to her at a special assembly at school on Monday.

On Sunday at St Peter's 10.30am service, I have the happy task of praying for Rob and Sue Wilding and Eddie and Sue Brodley as they each celebrate 50 years of marriage. It's a wonderful achievement and there is much to be thankful for. I'll be speaking about having an **Attitude of Gratitude**. Living with gratitude in our lives is a wonderful thing to do. It helps us focus on the things we have rather than the things we don't have. So, here's a little challenge for you all - try taking time this week to show gratitude for the things you have and say a special thank you to someone.



This Sunday evening, we start a brand-new summer sermon series at our parish-wide 6.30pm services at St Peter's. It's called **"Teach us to Pray"** and gives us the opportunity to learn from Godly men and women who boldly approached God in prayer in their moments of greatest joy, sacrifice, pain, and confusion. We start with Steve Walsh looking at **Hannah's Prayer to Be Remembered** in 1Samuel 1:1-20.



Good News for Romania – School Visit

Huge thanks to everyone who welcomed students and teachers from Vasile Parvan School, Barlad. The visit was a great success and included trips to Conwy Castle, Smithills Farm, Cafe Create for lunch and Create Bolton for pottery painting, a treasure hunt in the park, BWFC, a museum visit and much more! They all loved their time at St Peter’s Church last Sunday and being in St Peter’s School too. These visits always improves the children’s confidence, social skills and their English language, plus we had the opportunity to pray for the teachers too. Thank you to you all for your support.

Banners, Bakes and Banter

Thanks to everyone who came along to *Banners, Bakes and Banter* last Saturday at Barrow Bridge Mission. It was wonderful to see all the beautiful hand-made banners on display and a lovely time was had by all - plus £247.13 was raised for the Ugandan orphanage! Thank you for your support.



Funerals in St Peter’s Church

Mon 13 July, 12noon

Judith Gill: All who knew Judith are invited to her funeral, details above. Please keep her family and friends in your prayers at this difficult time.

Tues 14 July, 2pm

Peter Cary: All who knew Peter are invited to his funeral, details above. Please keep his family and friends in your prayers at this difficult time.

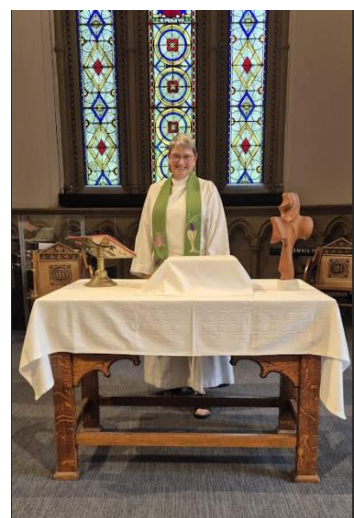
Golden Wedding Anniversaries

Many congratulations to two lovely couples in our church family - Sue and Eddie Brodley and Rob and Sue Wilding – who are both celebrating 50 years of marriage! We praise God for their enduring marriages and ask for his blessing over all the years still to come.



25 years of Ordained Ministry

Rev Sheena Ward was ordained priest on 1 July 2001 in Newcastle. Pictured here to mark 25 years since her ordination - and 5 years since she felt called by God to move to Bolton and join our parish - Rev Sheena presided over communion at our mid-week service at Oasis in St Peter’s on Thursday.



We’re hiring! Parish Office Vacancy

After 7 years on our staff team, our wonderful **Finance Officer**, Elaine Vincent, is leaving us at the end of July to move down south and we will be very sorry to see her go. This means a vacancy is coming up on our small staff team for this part-time role (18 hours per week) based in the Parish Centre. Interested? Please see this link for more info - <https://cdn.email.cdn.churchsuite.com/xWlw94RoTgOI4FJs6Fsn> - and contact Amanda in the Parish Office to discuss further. If you know someone who may be



suitable, please do share! **Closing date for applications is Fri 24 July 2026.**

635 poppies so far; we need 365 more!

Do you knit or crochet? **Barrow Bridge Banner Group need your help to create a cascade of 1000 poppies for Remembrance Day.** You can knit or crochet using any pattern you like or use one provided by the group. If you can use your own wool that would be greatly appreciated but we can supply it, if needed. If you have any wool that you no longer want but would like to donate it, that would be great too! There's a box for donated wool along with copies of a simple poppy and crochet pattern at the Parish Centre. **Thank you for all the wonderful poppies created so far.** NB: Please drop your completed poppies off at Barrow Bridge Mission or the Parish Centre, thank you. *Look out for more info to follow on events to be held at Barrow Bridge Mission relating to Remembrance Day.* Contact office@stpetersparish.info/ 01204 599900



summer camp, has been cancelled. If you'd still like to donate to this cause, your support is appreciated- please go to: <https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/30537>

Quinta 2027 Fundraiser: Progressive Meal Sat 19 Sept, various homes across the parish

This is the weekend we would have been at Quinta if we'd been going this year! Instead of being away together, we've decided to be at home together — and hold another Progressive Meal instead. Better still, the funds raised will help even more people enjoy Quinta 2027! **So please save the date.** *Booking will open in the next few weeks so watch this space...*



Prayer for the Week

Moira Platt, on behalf of St Andrew's (Hope Centre), links this week's prayers to our current parish morning sermon series - Movement on our Frontlines - and focusses on 3 of the frontline groups that take place at St Andrews. **See her prayer on the back page.**

Looking Forward

Save the Date: Marco Players - Hobsons Choice



**Tues 20 – Fri 23 Oct,
7.30pm, St Peter's Church**

Join us for this classic Northern comedy by Harold

Brighouse. Go to: themarcoplayers.net/bookings or phone 0333 666 3366 for more info and tickets.

Good News for Romania Fundraiser Ceilidh

Sat 3 Oct, 4-7pm, Parish Centre

**Good News for Romania
FAMILY CEILIDH
WITH LIVE BAND**

Saturday October 3rd, 4-7pm
at St Peter's Parish Centre, 347 Church Rd, Bolton, BL1 5RR

Tickets, including potato or cheese pie & peas:
Adults (16 & over) - £15 each
Family 2 adults & 2 children under 16 - £35 each
Children £7 each • Under 5's free

Please bring your own alcohol free drink

This will be a fun time together raising funds for the work of Good News for Romania

Contact Kath on 07903546008 or the Church Office on 599900, to book or collect tickets, giving your choice of meal.

CHARITY COMMISSION NO 1215645

Pop this date in your diary! A fun event for everyone. Ticket price includes supper (just bring your own alcohol-free drink.) See Dave or Kath Richardson for more details.



Bolton Repair Café

Weds 15 July, 10.30am-12.30pm, St Andrews (Hope Centre)



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

Dementia Friendship Support Group

Thurs 16 July, 2-4pm, Parish Centre



For those with dementia *and* their carers. Refreshments, quiz, fun, a warm welcome. Info: joan@stpetersparish.info /01204 840180

An Evening with Bishop Matthew

Thurs 16 July, 7pm refreshments, session 7.30pm-9pm, St Peter's Church



All are invited to an evening with Matthew Porter, Bishop of Bolton, regarding discipleship and spiritual practices - the theme is: *Reading*. Rev Josh Openshaw will lead us in worship and Bishop Matthew will take over from 7.45pm.

DTI Quiz Night Cancelled

Sat 18 July, 7-9pm, Parish Centre

Unfortunately, this fundraiser event led by our young people attending the Dreaming the Impossible

Prayer from Moira Platt on behalf of St Andrew's (Hope Centre)

Heavenly Father, we thank you for sending Jesus to be such a great example for us to follow on our frontlines. May we display the fruit of the spirit daily wherever You have placed us and also within our church community. We thank you for all the fellowships that make up our parish. We especially pray for St Andrews at the Hope Centre. Help your people to be a light in the community, to bring hope where there is despair, joy where there is sadness and your love where there is emptiness. Lord, we continue to thank you for your blessings and encouragement at the **Hub at the Hope**. May it be a place of peace where people feel welcomed, valued and supported. We pray that the break over summer will be a time of refreshment and guide the leaders as they seek your will in developing the Hub. We thank you, Father, for a busy term at **Tots on Tuesday** and the new families that have joined. Thank you that it is a safe place for families to learn together through play and friendship. Please bless the team as they take time out over the holidays. We pray for patience and protection for all families facing the challenges and stresses that come when schools are closed, help them to take advantage of organised events and have fun. We praise you that we have the freedom to run a **holiday club** in August at the Hope Centre. Bless the leaders as they plan and organise the daily activities around the story of Luke. Help them to create a warm and joyful place and build good relationships with the youngsters who attend. May this be a special time for the children where they can learn about the never-ending love of Jesus. Amen

Coming up

Date & Times	Activity	Details	Location
Mon 13 July			
10am-1.30pm 10am-12noon 1.30pm-3.30pm	Ageing Well with Strength and Balance Coffee Room Art Group	office@stpetersparish.info Drop-in for coffee and cake. All welcome. Artwork Critique Afternoon with Simon Scott	Parish Centre
Tues 14 July			
9.45am-11.30am	Tots on Tuesday	Julie 07835 014470	St Andrew's
10am-11.30am 6pm-7.15pm	Little Wiggles Toddlers' Group Ignite KS2 Children's group	office@stpetersparish.info ignite@stpetersparish.info	Parish Centre
Weds 15 July			
9am-1pm 10.30am-12.30pm	Hope at the Hub Bolton Repair Cafe	Drop-in community session, all welcome Bring your items for repair, stay for refreshments	St Andrew's
Thurs 16 July			
8.30am-9am	Prayer meeting	Julie 07835 014470	St Andrew's
2pm-4pm	Dementia Friendship Support Group	joan@stpetersparish.info	Parish Centre
10.30am-12noon	Oasis Coffee Morning and service	Refreshments 10.30am, service 11.30am	St Peter's
Fri 17 July			
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 18 July			
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

Wardens: Simon Scott and Chris Ward

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
347 Church Road, Bolton BL1 5RR
www.stpetersparish.info



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