



PARISH OF ST PETER'S, HALLIWELL

NEWSLETTER



Sunday 5th July 2026

HEADLINES

- Keith, a Decorator from Bolton!
- World Focus Sunday TODAY: Letter from India
- We're hiring! Parish Office Vacancy
- Three Peaks Thanks!
- Prayer for the Week from Geoff Gunshon on behalf of the National and International Ministry team

Read on to find out more...

SERVICES

Sun 5 July
It's Lighthouse week!



ST PETER'S CHURCH

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

SMITHILLS FELLOWSHIP

10am	Morning service with Lighthouse
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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 with communion
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*Livestreamed, search YouTube for 'stpetershalliwell'

We are an accessibility-friendly parish

Rev Alan writes...

Keith, a Decorator from Bolton!

I am loving our morning sermon series looking at the *Movement on Our Frontlines* – where we are learning how we can live well for God in all areas of our lives on our Frontlines.

I've been speaking on the subject of *Making Good Work* and it's a fascinating topic. Two points really stand out for me. Firstly, what you might call the theology of work – recognising that we are called to work by God. If you read Genesis, you'll see that God gave Adam the responsibility to tend and care for the Garden of Eden. **The Lord God placed the man in the Garden of Eden to tend and watch over it** (Genesis 2:15).

Secondly, that we should work as if we are working for the Lord. In his letter to the Colossian church, the apostle Paul writes: **Work willingly at whatever you do, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people** (Colossians 3:23).

The London Institute for Contemporary Christianity (LICC) who produce the *Fruitfulness on the Frontline* resources, feature a video which tells the story of a decorator from Bolton. A man called Keith, who had



a nasty car accident which led him to reassess his priorities in life. He became more generous, giving

away money to good causes and saw his work as a means to raise money to help others and the church. But Keith had a 'lightbulb moment' in church one day when he realised that he didn't just work to earn money to give away, he realised that the work itself was his service to God. This revelation totally transformed his attitude to work! He started to see himself as someone who through the work he did was helping others – improving their quality of life and bringing glory to God. You can watch the video here:

<https://licc.org.uk/resources/keiths-story/>.

And of course, many of us know Keith, it's Keith Forrester - a regular at Barrow Bridge and a preacher and worship leader at our parish-wide 6.30pm services.

World Focus Sunday TODAY:

Letter from India

Sun 5 July, 10.30am and 6.30pm services in St Peter's Church

You will hear from Dave Moffoot at both services about the sterling work of Education India and its Christian ministry in schools against a background of increasing persecution. Come and be inspired by extraordinary stories of our Christian school leaders,



their joys, their hopes and yes, their sadnesses as well. It promises to be an interesting and uplifting journey of how the Gospel is reaching the poorest of the poor as well as other sections of society. You will not be disappointed!

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.**

Update: Associate Minister Recruitment

No suitable candidates applied for the vacancy and so this will be advertised again very soon. Please keep this key role for our parish in prayer, especially that God would call the right person.

Three Peaks Thanks!

Rev Alan says a huge THANK YOU to everyone who supported, prayed and encouraged him as he took on the three peaks by rail challenge last week. He raised a magnificent £2,140 for the Railway Children charity in testing conditions. So much so that the ascent of Scafell Pike in the Lake District had to be abandoned for safety reasons on the advice of the Mountain Rescue team since the temperatures were too high. However, he was able to conquer Snowdon and Ben Nevis.



Judith Gill

Mon 13 July, 12noon service in St Peter's Church

Judith's family welcome all who knew Judith to her funeral, details above. Please continue to keep her family and friends in your prayers at this difficult time.



Bolton Christian Meditation Group

Sat 9 July, 2-3pm, Parish Centre

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

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.



Dreaming the Impossible Quiz Night

Sat 18 July, 7-9pm, Parish Centre

Join us for a Quiz Night led by our young people to raise funds for their trip to DTI. All welcome. Ticket price includes supper. Contact Ben Latham - 07512 753201 - for info. To donate to this cause, 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...*

St. Andrew's Holiday Club

Tues 4 – Thurs 6 Aug, 1-3pm, St Andrew's (Hope Centre)

3 afternoons of fun, friends and faith. Lunch included.

St. Andrew's HOLIDAY CLUB
AUGUST 4TH TO 6TH
1PM TIL 3PM

FUN GAMES STORIES SONGS CRAFT

LUNCH PROVIDED!

COME ALONG FOR 3 AFTERNOONS OF FUN, FRIENDS AND FAITH!
EVERYONE WELCOME!

Save the Date: GNfR Ceilidh

Sat 3 Oct, 4-7pm, Parish Centre

Pop this date in your diary! A fun event for everyone, raising funds for Good News for Romania. Ticket price includes supper (bring your own alcohol-free drink.)

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

Summer Club at the Parish Centre

Need childcare for during the school holidays? Look no further - The Family Club have got this covered! Contact 07913 669399 for more info.

The Family Club
Summer Club
FUN. FRIENDS. ADVENTURE.

Open 8:00am until 5:30pm

Join us for an exciting summer full of themed days, sports, creative activities and outdoor adventures! Every day is packed with fun, laughter and memories to last a lifetime.

FOREST SCHOOL ADVENTURES!
 We'll be visiting our local Forest School Provision throughout the summer on selected days. Children will enjoy exploring the outdoors, taking part in woodland activities and building confidence in nature.

THEMED DAYS, SPORTS & ACTIVITIES
 A mix of themed days, sports, creative crafts, team games and exciting activities to keep everyone engaged and having fun!

ALL MEALS INCLUDED
 Nutritious, tasty meals and snacks are included in all sessions.

FOREST SCHOOL BUS FARE
 £5.50 on selected Forest School days only.

FULL & HALF DAY OPTIONS AVAILABLE

Full Day	Half Day	Forest School Bus Fare	Where?
8:00am - 5:30pm £29.50	• 8:00am - 12:45pm • 12:45pm - 5:30pm £16.00	£5.50 (selected days only)	St Peter's Parish Centre, Bolton

BOOK THROUGH OUR APP
 Simply book your session through The Family Club app and give your child a summer holiday to remember!

07577 835 377 (during club hours) | hello@thefamily-club.co.uk | thefamily-club.co.uk

Pray

Prayer for the Week

Geoff Gunshon, on behalf of NIM, prays for David Moffoot's team at Education India, the subject of the World Focus Services at 10.30am and 6.30pm in St Peter's today. See his 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.

Prayer from Geoff Gunshon on behalf of the National and International Ministry team

Father, we lift to you David Moffoot and the rest of the team at Educating India for your blessing. We thank you for the work they have done in bringing educational reform and a knowledge of You to a nation rapidly becoming more politically significant in the world.

We ask that you walk alongside them as they travel through India, a country suffering with religious persecution, and guide them as they navigate the local tensions.

We thank you for the receptiveness of the teachers and students they encounter. We thank you that through modern education and a love of You children can find a way out of the ever-present poverty trap in the country.

Father, thank You for the calling on the hearts of the team members, thank You for their willingness to respond and help them keep their eyes on You.

We ask all these things in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Coming up

Date & Times	Activity	Details	Location
Mon 6 July			
10am-1.30pm 10am-12noon 6pm-7.30pm	Ageing Well with Strength and Balance Coffee Room ABL Weight Management	office@stpetersparish.info Drop-in for coffee and cake. All welcome. www.yhbolton.co.uk / 01204 205090	Parish Centre
Tues 7 July			
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	office@stpetersparish.info ignite@stpetersparish.info tread@stpetersparish.info	Parish Centre
Weds 8 July			
9am-1pm	Hope at the Hub	Drop-in community session, all welcome	St Andrew's
10am-11.30am	Open Door Ladies' Group	Review of the Year. Val 07902 167971	Parish Centre
Thurs 9 July			
8.30am-9am	Prayer meeting	Julie 07835 014470	St Andrew's
2pm-3pm 8pm-9.30pm	Bolton Christian Meditation Group Alpha Course	j.wilde.1963@gmail.com office@stpetersparish.info	Parish Centre
10.30am-12noon	Oasis Coffee Morning and service	Refreshments 10.30am, service 11.30am	St Peter's
Fri 10 July			
10.30am-12noon 7pm-9pm	Friday Life Connect Group NB: No Watercolours class today Stressbusters Badminton	denis.collier@gmail.com Lucinda 07977 821119 Geoff 07835 388732	Parish Centre
Sat 11 July			
9am-12noon	INTERACT Performing Arts	Lucy/Emma 07896 724531	St Peter's Church

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



St Peter's Halliwell



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