



PARISH OF ST PETER'S, HALLIWELL

NEWSLETTER



Sunday 20th September 2026

HEADLINES

- Education Sunday and Reunion Services
- Vision Service on Sun 18 Oct
- Rev Alan Playing with Orchestra
- No More Knives Vision Night
- GNfR Fundraiser Ceilidh
- Prayer for the week from Carolyn Rigby on behalf of Barrow Bridge Mission

Read on to find out more...

SERVICES

Sun 20 Sept
It's Lighthouse week!



ST PETER'S CHURCH

8.30am	Morning service
10.20am	Lighthouse at Parish Centre
10.30am*	Adult service with Communion and 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 Communion and Lighthouse
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ST ANDREW'S HOPE CENTRE

10.30am	Café Church
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*Livestreamed, search YouTube for 'stpetershalliwell'
We are an accessibility-friendly parish

Rev Alan writes...

Education Sunday and Reunion Services

It was wonderful to welcome the new Reception children from St Peter's Smithills Dean CE Primary School into our wider church family at a special service at St Peter's last Sunday. Matt Harding, Headteacher of St Peter's, led the service and we prayed for the children as they embark on their journeys of growth in mind, body and spirit.



In the evening at our 6.30pm Parish-wide Reunion Service, it was lovely to welcome back former clergy and leaders. Paul Hardingham preached, and they all shared stories of how God has been using them in the time since they left St Peter's – it was a great to hear firsthand the impact St Peter's continues to make as we send people out into various mission activities. God really blesses our generosity and concern for the wider church. I feel as we enter a new season in our preparations to send out a church planting team with Rev Josh, it is helpful to be encouraged by all that God continues to do through us and to trust that he will continue to bless St Peter's.



At this Sunday's 6.30pm Parish-wide Service, Rev Josh will be leading and his dad, Steve, will be preaching. Together they are looking at Acts 5:17-6:7 and the theme of stepping out in faith when God asks us to... how faithful God is... and how it can sometimes cost us. Hope to see you there!

Vision Service

Our parish-wide vision service is now confirmed for **Sun 18 Oct, 11am** (refreshments from 10am) at St Peter's Church. This will be an all-age/worship for everyone service with a Twinkler's pre-school session available 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 18 Oct to give the opportunity for everyone to come.**

Rev Alan Playing with Orchestra

Sat 26 Sept, 7.30pm, Victoria Hall, Bolton



BOLTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Mahler Unwrapped

Listen to our wonderful Artistic Director, Ben Crick, present a 20 minute illustrated introduction to Mahler's 7th Symphony, featuring live orchestral excerpts and on-screen images, then enjoy the full symphony without interruption.

Saturday 26th September 2026 7.30pm
Victoria Hall Bolton



Rev Alan will be playing with Bolton Symphony Orchestra in this special concert. Get ready for a fascinating musical journey! Listen to their esteemed Artistic Director, Ben Crick, as he presents a comprehensive 20-minute illustrated introduction to Mahler's 7th Symphony, featuring live orchestral excerpts and on-screen images. Then, sit back and enjoy the full symphony without interruption, allowing yourself to be fully immersed in the grandeur of this iconic masterpiece. Whether you're a classical music aficionado or just discovering the world of symphonies, everyone is welcome to explore this wonderful symphony and experience the magic of Mahler's 7th! Tickets: Adults £13, Under 19s FREE available on the door or from 01204 522569 or visit: <https://www.boltonsymphony.org.uk/>

Visitors from Kijabe at 6.30pm Service

Sun 20 Sept, 6.30pm, St Peter's Church

Chandran Jepegnanam says *"I am delighted that Drs. Eunice and Rebecca, two consultants from Kijabe are with us for two weeks. Thank you for your prayers and support that has made this possible. They will be at the 6.30pm service at St Peter's today so please do come if you can, listen to their story, say hello and encourage them. It would be lovely to see you all."*

No More Knives Vision Night

Tue 29 Sept, 7-8.30pm, Grace Church, Somerset Rd, BL1 4NE



NO MORE KNIVES VISION NIGHT

TUESDAY 29 SEPTEMBER, 7PM - 8:30PM
GRACE CHURCH, SOMERSET ROAD, HEATON, BL1 4NE

Come and hear more about the No More Knives tour that's coming to Bolton and how you can stand with us. With performances from NXT CHAPTER, plus special guests.

Rev Alan has played a key role in setting up this opportunity to partner with The Message Trust, plus churches, Bolton Council and the Police, to bring the *No More Knives Tour* to Bolton's High Schools in Jan 2027. Come along to find out more about ways you can support this exciting initiative to help tackle knife crime and share the Christian message of hope.

GNfR Fundraiser Ceilidh

Sat 3 Oct, 4-7pm, Parish Centre

Fun for all the family! **Limited tickets available so get yours now.** Contact Kath on 07903 546008 or the Parish Office to book tickets (including food).



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

Associate Minister Advert

Advertising is now live for our parish Associate Minister role, a clergy role to support Rev Alan in the leadership of the parish. **Please pray for the right person and share with anyone you think may be suitable.** See the ad on the Parish, Diocese and New Wine Jobs pages. Closing date for applications: 7 Oct. <https://pathways.churchofengland.org/en/jobs/associate-minister-st-peter-halliwell/4101>



Macmillan Coffee Morning

Thurs 24 Sept, 10am at Oasis in St Peter's Church (followed by short service at 11.30am)

All welcome. Donations of cakes, preserves etc will be



very much appreciated – please contact Val Perris on 07984 070364. We hope to see you there!

Bolton Christian Meditation Group

Thurs 24 Sept, 2pm-3pm, Parish Centre

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

Bolton North PACT Meeting

Thurs 24 Sept, 6pm-7.30pm, Parish Centre

At this Police and Community Together meeting, you'll have a chance to meet the local Policing Chief Inspector, Area Sergeant, and Community Safety Officers. Please do come along and let them know of any issues you may have.

Halliwell Local History Society



Tues 29 Sept, 7.30pm, Parish Centre
Speaker Charlie Boardman: 'The Great Tree'. All welcome. Info: enquiries@halliwell-lhs.co.uk

High School Form Signings for 2027 Entry

Thurs 1 Oct, 7pm-9pm, Parish Centre

Church supplementary forms will be signed but you **must book a timed slot** at office@stpetersparish.info / 599900. Please provide: child's name, parent's name, contact details, and which church you attend.

Café on the Green

Sat 3 Oct, 9am-1.30pm, St Peter's Smithills Dean Primary School, Limefield Rd, BL1 6LA

Delicious food and excellent service. All welcome. Proceeds to Operation Smile UK for children with cleft palates.



Out and About Walk

Sat 3 Oct, meet 9.30am, opposite St Peter's Church

Wigan's Royalty walk starting from Hall Lane, Wigan. 6 miles, easy walking through Woodland and canal paths with a lunch stop at Haigh Hall. Bring packed



lunch/ drink and wear suitable footwear and clothing. Info: Janet Ainsworth 07427 690087

Local History Fair

Sat 3 Oct, 11am-4pm, St Peter's Church



All invited to come and support this local history fair, organised by Halliwell Local History Society, where many other local societies will also be present (including Woodland Trust, Philatelist Society etc.) There will be displays of old photos, newspaper cuttings and artefacts, slideshows and stalls selling second hand maps/books/photos. Admission free.



Prayer for the Week

Carolyn Rigby from Barrow Bridge Mission says, "As activities across the parish resume, we remember the faithful volunteers who make these groups and events happen." **See her prayer on the back page.**

Looking Forward

Marco Players: Hobson's Choice

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

themarcoplayers.net
E: info@themarcoplayers.net
P: 0333 666 3366
Marco Players | marcoplayersbolton

THE MARCO PLAYERS
The Classic Northern Comedy
HOBSON'S CHOICE
By Harold Brighouse

"A Single Choice can Change Everything..."

20th - 23rd Oct 26
St Peter's Church, Halliwell
Church Road, BL1 5RL

This production is presented by arrangement with CONCORD THEATRICALS LTD.

NODA For every stage **bats**

Prayer from Carolyn Rigby on behalf of Barrow Bridge Mission

Heavenly Father, we thank You for the generous people who freely give their time and energy to help others. Thank You for their hearts of service and the quiet ways they lift the burdens of those around them. Bless them with strength, patience, and deep joy in their work. Protect them from exhaustion and let them see the good fruit that comes from their kindness. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Lord God, we lift up every volunteer who serves with faithfulness. When they feel tired, please refresh their spirits and strengthen their hands. Fill them with wisdom and grace for the tasks before them. Remind them that they are your hands and feet in this world and let their own needs be generously provided for. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Coming up

Date & Times	Activity	Details	Location
Mon 21 Sept			
10am-1.30pm 10am-12noon 6pm-7.30pm	Ageing Well with Strength and Balance Coffee Room Weight Management session	office@stpetersparish.info Drop-in for coffee and cake. All welcome www.yhbolton.co.uk / 01204 205090	Parish Centre
Tues 22 Sept			
9.45am-11.30am	Tots on Tuesdays	Julie 07835 014470	St Andrew's
10am-11.30am 6pm-7.15pm 7.30pm-9pm	Little Wiggles Toddlers' Group Ignite KS2 Children's Tread Youth Group	office@stpetersparish.info ignite@stpetersparish.info tread@stpetersparish.info	Parish Centre
Weds 23 Sept			
9am-12noon	Hope at the Hub	Drop-in community session, all welcome	St Andrew's
10am-11.30am	Open Door Ladies' Group	Remembering Campaigner days by a teenager. Val 07902 167971	Parish Centre
Thurs 24 Sept			
8.30am-9am	Prayer Meeting	Julie 07835 014470	St Andrew's
2pm-3pm 6pm-7.30pm 8pm-9.30pm	Bolton Christian Meditation Group Police and Community Together meeting Alpha Course	j.wilde.1963@gmail.com office@stpetersparish.info office@stpetersparish.info	Parish Centre
10am-12noon	Macmillan Coffee Morning at Oasis	Refreshments 10am, service 11.30am	St Peter's
Fri 25 Sept			
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 26 Sept			
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: Joanne Greenhalgh

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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