



PARISH OF ST PETER'S, HALLIWELL

# NEWSLETTER



Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2026

## HEADLINES

- Parish-wide Vision Service – Next Sunday!
- Harvest Services Today
- Mission to Young People – Today's 6.30 service
- Week of Prayer Coming Up
- Prayer for the week from Diane Ball on behalf of St Andrew's (Hope Centre)

*Read on to find out more...*

## SERVICES

*Sun 11 Oct*

### 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 Harvest service |
|------|------------------------|

### BARROW BRIDGE MISSION

|         |                         |
|---------|-------------------------|
| 10.30am | Morning Harvest service |
|---------|-------------------------|

### ST ANDREW'S HOPE CENTRE

|         |                         |
|---------|-------------------------|
| 10.30am | Morning Harvest service |
|---------|-------------------------|

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

### Rev Alan writes...

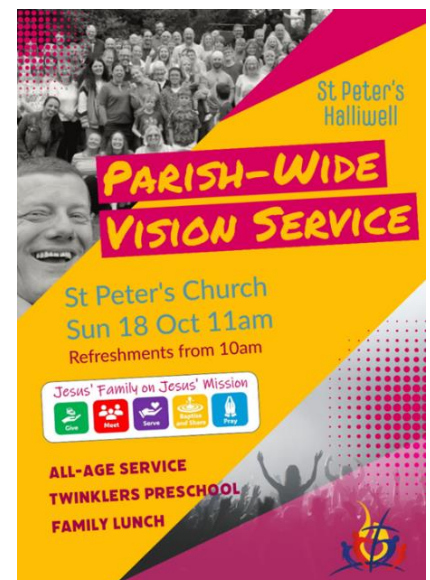
#### Parish-wide Vision Service.

Next Sunday 18 Oct, 11am is our Parish-wide Vision Service at St Peter's. It will be the only service in the parish that day to give everyone the opportunity to come. We will start serving refreshments from 10am to give people plenty of time to arrive and catch up. The service starts at 11am and is an all-age/worship for everyone service and we hope to have children from all our fellowships with us. There will be a Twinklers session in the Church Lounge starting after the first song. Following the service, just after 12noon, we will go down the road to the Parish Centre where we can enjoy lunch - baked potatoes with a variety of fillings and homemade cakes - giving more opportunity to socialise and get to know people from across our four fellowships.

God has given me a real heart for unity, and I love these occasions when we can all get together as St Peter's Parish family – please make every effort to come. We'll raise the roof of St Peter's in worship and be encouraged as we look to the

future. I'll be launching a new **Movement of Disciples** initiative and Josh Openshaw will be sharing plans for the launch of our **Resource Church Plant** in Bolton town centre. There will be worship, prayer and fun activities for all ages to enjoy. **Let's unite as Jesus' Family on Jesus' Mission!**

In the lead up to our Vision Service, we are starting a **Week of Prayer** this Sunday – see inside for more details and how to get hold of the Prayer Diary.



## Harvest Services TODAY

Sun 11 Oct, all services across the parish

**URBAN OUTREACH** (BOLTON) Please drop off packaged, dried and tinned goods (not fresh) in church so that these can be passed on to Urban Outreach for distribution to those in need across Bolton. Please note, they are often short of tins of UHT milk, tea bags, tinned fruit, pasta sauce and tinned meat items. You can also give money in various different ways, if you'd prefer, see: <https://urbanoutreach.co.uk/get-involved/donate-money/>.

## Mission to Young People – TODAY'S 6.30pm Parish-wide Service

Emma Owen, Head of Youth Engagement at The Message Trust, will be joining us at this Sunday's 6.30pm parish-wide service at



St Peter's. Emma is a fantastic communicator with a heart bursting with love for Jesus - some of you may remember her as a member of the World Wide Message Tribe band back in the early days of The Message. She will be sharing details of exciting new mission initiatives to young people, including the Bolton No More Knives tour in January 2027. Please come and be inspired!

## Isaiah 53 Pop-up Shop TODAY

Sun 11 Oct, 10.30am, St Peter's Church

Bolton's Christian bookshop - Isaiah 53 - are bringing a pop-up shop to church with a varied selection of gifts, cards, books etc available for sale. Please take a look and show your support for their ministry. After all, it's never too early to start Christmas shopping!

## Week of Prayer

Mon 12 – Sun 18 Oct



This week, we are holding a *Week of Prayer* for our Parish and beyond. There are several ways to engage with this: use this link to see the online Prayer Diary - <https://shorturl.at/yLZvv> - or pick up a paper copy available in all churches; sign up for a slot/slots in the Parish Centre Prayer Room (in-person slots

available during centre opening times, 9.30am-3pm), at <https://signup.24-7prayer.com/signup/1d579a>; arrange to meet with friends / Life Group to pray

together; make prayer a priority in your regular groups and meetings during the week.

## Courtney Meppen-Walters



We are sad to announce that Courtney has died aged 32. He worshipped at St Peter's 10.30am services. His funeral takes place on Fri 16 Oct, 9.30am at Hollinwood Crematorium. Please pray for

his family, especially his partner Sarah Downs and children Taoe, Milany and Naia.

## Café on the Green

Huge thanks to everyone who came along to last Saturday's café. A fantastic **£1114.43** was raised with proceeds going to Operation Smile UK for children with cleft palates. Thank you!



## Good News for Romania Ceilidh



Many thanks to everyone who came along and supported last Saturday's GNFR fund-raising ceilidh in the Parish Centre. It was lovely to be able to spend quality time together, learn some new dances and enjoy supper and fellowship too. We had great fun!



## NEW: True North Men's Wellness Group

Weds 14 Oct, 12.30pm, St Andrew's (Hope Centre)

A new group taking place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month. No need to book – just turn up, although to help with catering for the FREE lunch, please email [office@stpetersparish.info](mailto:office@stpetersparish.info) if you're definitely coming.

A MEN'S WELLNESS GROUP

# TRUE NORTH

Good food. Good company. No judgement.

Whatever worries or niggles you've got, chances are another bloke in the room has felt it too. Space to talk, or listen.

**Lunch is on us. Just bring yourself.**

**12.30, every 2nd Wednesday of the month**  
St Andrews Church, Johnson Fold

[office@stpetersparish.info](mailto:office@stpetersparish.info)

## Circle of Support for women who support and care for husbands/partners with a long-term illness

Weds 14 Oct, 12.30pm-2pm, Parish Centre

A facilitated space for quiet conversation and sharing, an opportunity to meet others whose lived experience is similar. Info from Sam Potts 07702 317481.

## Dementia Friendship Support Group

Thurs 15 Oct, 2pm-4pm, Parish Centre



For those with dementia *and* their carers. Refreshments, quiz, fun and a very warm welcome. Info from Joan on 01204 840180

## Good News for Romania Coffee Morning

Sat 17 Oct, 10am-12noon, Parish Centre

All welcome to come along to this fundraising coffee morning/bring and buy sale. Grab yourself a bargain and enjoy some lovely refreshments in a relaxed, welcoming setting. Info from Dave or Kath Richardson 07903 546008



## Create Bolton Fundraiser

Sat 17 Oct, 7.30pm, Café Create, Claremont House, Bark Street, Bolton, BL1 2AX

The Marco Players present Alan Bennett's Talking



Heads: A Cream Cracker Under the Settee and A Bed Among the Lentils. Tickets £10. Book online via [createbolton.org.uk](http://createbolton.org.uk) (scroll down to 'Events') or call in to Café Create.

## National and International Ministries - Algerian Evening

Sat 24 Oct, 6.30pm, Parish Centre

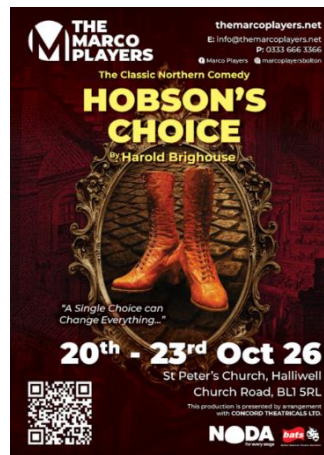
All welcome at this special Algerian evening with Craig and Elaine Watson. It starts with a meal, provided by a local restaurant based on an Algerian menu Elaine has



suggested – yes, there will be couscous but also so much more! Following food, Craig and Elaine will lead the rest of the evening featuring updates about their work in Algiers, some Algerian themed games to give

you a flavour of their life there and a time to chat and ask questions. There's a suggested donation of £15 per head, to cover the cost of food, but if that would be a problem, please don't let it stop you coming.

**Numbers are limited so please book promptly** by emailing how many places you need and names of who is attending to [phil.weaver@stpetersparish.info](mailto:phil.weaver@stpetersparish.info).



## Play in St Peter's Church

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

The Marco Players present Hobson's Choice by Harold Brighouse, a not-to-be-missed play! Tickets from 0333 666 3366, online via this QR code, or at Parish Office.

## Christmas Choir 2026

Enjoy Christmas? Enjoy singing? This year, the Christmas Choir has two opportunities to share their songs in St Peter's! Firstly, in concert on **Sat 28 Nov, 4pm with The Mastersingers 'Prelude to Christmas'** and, secondly, at the **Carol Service on Sun 20 Dec, 6.30pm**. Rehearsals begin on Sun 1 Nov. To join the choir/for info, email: [robandsue@stpetersparish.info](mailto:robandsue@stpetersparish.info)



## Dave Moffoot's Trip to India

Dave has headed out to India once again, as part of a team of 7, from 9-28 October. He says "*We will be in the Tamil Nadu area and will offer training to teachers in 5 different schools where the Headteacher is sometimes the only Christian. Despite the Hindu majority, these schools are often over-subscribed because of the Christian values that are strongly embedded. We seek, as usual, to take every opportunity to talk about Jesus, one-to-one with staff, through assemblies and staff devotions. Persecution is rife in India and so we need to be very sensitive as to how the Gospel is put across. Please would you pray for humility and team unity but also courage to make Jesus known. Thank you.*" Pick up a copy of his latest newsletter in church or at the Parish Office.

## Prayer for the Week

At Harvest time, Diane Ball from St Andrew's reminds us that "*The earth is the Lords and all that is in it, He declared it good, and gave it as provision to sustain all He created. In God's hand is the life of every living thing.*" **See her prayer on the back page.**

## Looking Forward

### The Mastersingers 'A Prelude to Christmas'



**Sat 28 Nov, 4pm, St Peter's Church**

An afternoon of music to prepare you for the Christmas season. With St Peter's Parish Christmas Choir as guests! Tickets £12, under 16's FREE.

Tickets online via QR code or from Parish Office.

## Prayer from Diane Ball on behalf of St Andrew's (Hope Centre)

Gracious God

Forgive us when we treat the earth as our own possession, and use and abuse its resources for short term gain without care for its future ability to provide for all God's creation. We pray for farmers and communities globally that fear harvest as weather patterns, natural disasters or conflict have destroyed their crops, animals, food and livelihoods. We pray for wisdom and training and funding to consider how and what they farm as climates change. We pray for people who can no longer afford nutritious food for their families, and we pray for all the agencies, both worldwide and those here in Bolton, who work to provide for people at times of desperate need. We particularly pray for Urban Outreach as we give to them this harvest to support their food ministries. May they continue to offer hope in the form of food, given with God's mandate to feed the hungry, and the love of Jesus to all who come to them in need. In Jesus' Name we pray, Amen

## Coming up

| Date & Times                             | Activity                                                                     | Details                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Location      |
|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| <b>Mon 12 Oct</b>                        |                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |               |
| 10am-1.30pm<br>10am-12noon               | Ageing Well with Strength and Balance<br>Coffee Room                         | <a href="mailto:office@stpetersparish.info">office@stpetersparish.info</a><br>Drop-in for coffee and cake. All welcome                                                                                                               | Parish Centre |
| <b>Tues 13 Oct</b>                       |                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |               |
| 9.45am-11.30am                           | Tots on Tuesdays                                                             | Julie 07835 014470                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | St Andrew's   |
| 10am-11.30am<br>6pm-7.15pm<br>7.30pm-9pm | Little Wiggles Toddlers' Group<br>Ignite KS2 Children's<br>Tread Youth Group | <a href="mailto:office@stpetersparish.info">office@stpetersparish.info</a><br><a href="mailto:ignite@stpetersparish.info">ignite@stpetersparish.info</a><br><a href="mailto:tread@stpetersparish.info">tread@stpetersparish.info</a> | Parish Centre |
| <b>Weds 14 Oct</b>                       |                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |               |
| 9am-12noon                               | Hope at the Hub                                                              | Drop-in community session, all welcome                                                                                                                                                                                               | St Andrew's   |
| 10am-11.30am<br>12.30pm-2pm              | Open Door Ladies' Group<br>Circle of Support for Women                       | Leprosy Mission Charity. Val 07902 167971<br>Sam Potts 07702 317481                                                                                                                                                                  | Parish Centre |
| <b>Thurs 15 Oct</b>                      |                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |               |
| 8.30am-9am                               | Prayer Meeting                                                               | Julie 07835 014470                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | St Andrew's   |
| 2pm-4pm<br>8pm-9.30pm                    | Dementia Friendship Support Group<br>Alpha Course and Connect Group          | Joan 01204 840180<br><a href="mailto:office@stpetersparish.info">office@stpetersparish.info</a>                                                                                                                                      | Parish Centre |
| 10.30am-12noon                           | Oasis Coffee Morning and Service                                             | Refreshments 10.30am, service 11.30am                                                                                                                                                                                                | St Peter's    |
| <b>Fri 16 Oct</b>                        |                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |               |
| 10.30am-12noon<br>10am-12noon<br>7pm-9pm | Friday Life Connect Group<br>Watercolours Class<br>Stressbusters Badminton   | <a href="mailto:denis.collier@gmail.com">denis.collier@gmail.com</a><br>Lucinda 07977 821119<br>Geoff 07835 388732                                                                                                                   | Parish Centre |
| <b>Sat 17 Oct</b>                        |                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |               |
| 9am-12noon                               | INTERACT Performing Arts                                                     | Lucy/Emma 07896 724531                                                                                                                                                                                                               | St Peter's    |
| 10am-12noon                              | GNFR Coffee Morning/Bring and Buy Sale                                       | Kath Richardson 07903 546008                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Parish Centre |

## Keep Connected

**Parish Business Manager:** Amanda Blease **E:** [amanda@stpetersparish.info](mailto:amanda@stpetersparish.info) / **P:** 01204 599900

**Finance Officer:** Joanne Greenhalgh **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

**Wardens:** Simon Scott and Chris Ward **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)**



**St Peter's Halliwell**



**@StPetersHalliwell**



**@stpetershalliwell**