



PARISH OF ST PETER'S, HALLIWELL

NEWSLETTER



Sunday 4th October 2026

HEADLINES

- CAP Harvest Appeal – Food Donations Next Sunday!
- Week of Prayer Coming Up
- Income Survey 2026
- Isaiah 53 Pop-up Shop Next Sunday
- Vision Sunday Service and Lunch
- Prayer for the week from Nigel Clarke on behalf of Smithills Fellowship

Read on to find out more...

SERVICES

Sun 4 Oct
It's Lighthouse week!



ST PETER'S CHURCH

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

SMITHILLS FELLOWSHIP

10am	Family 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...

Harvest Appeal – Food Donations Next Sunday!

I caught up with Dave Bagley, Chief Exec of Urban Outreach, at the No More Knives launch night last



Tuesday. Dave made me aware of the shortage of food donations and the challenges this gives with meeting the needs of people who rely on the **Store House Pantry**. I asked him to provide an update so that we can prayerfully consider how we support this cause at

harvest, here's what Dave has to say...

"Urban Outreach worked with 43,338 different individuals last year on over 120,000 occasions. Last year we gave out 5,832 parcels which provided food to 12,152 people. On average we provided £15,857.58 worth of gas and electric top ups equating to £190,290.96 for the year. **Friends of Fun food** which provides one to one support for young people with cooking experiences delivered to 660 young people. In addition, **Christmas Dinner on Jesus** provided 1,315 hampers giving 4,346 people a Jesus blessed Christmas Lunch which included 2,219 children who also received toys, if requested.

"Harvest is crucial for us, as this year we have nearly run out of food."

"There is something pure and beautiful at doing what Jesus asks us to do. In Luke 9:13 He (Jesus) replied *"You give them something to eat"*, the context was they were hungry. Isaiah 58:10 is one of those immense trigger verses "If" the solution lies with us doing what God asks us to do, which is to spend ourselves on behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, and then God's thunder with the "Then" your light will rise in the darkness etc. Without the food, people of all ages will go hungry. The solution lies with us giving just one thing for one person and then if we all do it there will be more than enough for everyone. It's not a question of "worthiness" it's just a request from God to do it."



Harvest Services Next Sunday

Sun 11 Oct, all services

Harvest services are being held in all fellowships across the parish next week. Please drop off packaged, dried and tinned goods (**not** fresh) so that these can be passed on to Urban Outreach for distribution to those in need across Bolton. Thanks.

**URBAN
OUTREACH**
(BOLTON)



**Baptise
and Share**

Baptism

Sun 4 Oct, 10.30am, St Peter's

We welcome **Rowan KELLY** and thank God for the gift of this child and for his parents, Godparents, family and friends on this special occasion.

Week of Prayer

Mon 12 – Sun 18 Oct

Next week we are holding a *Week of Prayer* for our Parish and beyond.

There are several ways we would love you to engage with this: use the online Prayer Diary (online link and paper copy available in all churches next Sun 11 Oct); 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.



Income Survey 2026



During October, we are required by Manchester Diocese to complete the annual Income Survey. If you are over 16 and have attended a church in this parish at least 12 times in the last 12 months, please make sure you fill in a confidential and anonymous form – **it's simply one box to shade in (not tick) and then you put the form in the sealed box!** By taking into account worshippers' incomes, the Diocese calculate the appropriate Parish Share we are required pay – this supports the work of ministers across the Diocese, the ongoing education and training of Readers and clergy and other support and development resources.

Isaiah 53 Pop-up Shop Next Sunday

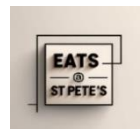
Sun 11 Oct, 10.30am, St Peter's Church

David from our local Christian bookshop in Bolton town centre - Isaiah 53 - will be in church today with a pop-up shop. There will be a lovely and varied selection of gifts, cards, books etc available for you to buy so please take the opportunity to have a look and show your support for their ministry. After all, it's never too early to start Christmas shopping! Thanks.

Vision Service

Sun 18 Oct, 11am (refreshments 10am), St Peter's

Vision Service Lunch: Help Needed



Following the Vision Service on Sun 18 Oct in St Peter's, there will be a lunch (jacket potatoes and fillings, and cake) for everyone in the Parish Centre. Can you help by preparing food for the lunch? Are you able to be part of the team setting up the room, serving lunch and clearing up? **Thanks for the offers of help received so far – we still need a bit more!** Please speak to Elaine Weaver or Janette Daeth or email eats@stpetersparish.info.

CAP September Challenge - Thanks



Thanks for all your donations to help support CAP's head office with the amazing work they do. Thanks too to all who joined in with this challenge to walk or run 30k during the 30 days – you've raised **£622 (incl. Gift aid)**! NB: The JustGiving page will be open until 14 Oct in case anyone still wants to give: https://click.contact.justgiving.com/?qs=ABB7InYiOjEsImQiOjUwMDZ9AAYAAAAABUnF_W2KWNjig-1vc1iTYP3AKL7GrdIddV4dzhMHgxycsuMU1MoV2cJU MiBVncjnZWHU5lwalxbsUYFpfckN0wIDB0Aovxb7pMsMw

6.30pm Reading Rota

If you would like to go on the 2027 reading rota for the 6.30pm parish-wide service, please let Sam know by the end of October - samwolstencroft@capuk.org.

Macmillan Coffee Morning - Thanks



Val Perris thanks all who contributed or donated in any way to make last week's coffee morning in St Peter's such a great success and raise much needed funds. To date, an amazing **£1850.27** has been raised! NB: Val has been donated a voucher from Smithills Open Farm (£45 face value, for 2 adults and 2 children) which she is selling to add to this total. Interested? Please contact her on 07984 070364.



Bolton Christian Meditation Group

Thurs 8 Oct, 2pm-3pm, Parish Centre

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

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@stpetersparish.info /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 whilst enjoying some lovely refreshments in a relaxed and welcoming setting. Info: Dave or Kath Richardson 07903 546008

NIM NEWS: Mission Matters

This week we bring news from our Mission partners **Craig and Elaine Watson.**



"Our news: Algeria is 20th on the world watch list for countries where Christians are most persecuted. In 2024 it was in the top 10. Nothing has changed in Algeria since 2024, it is just that other countries have got worse.

From 1580, there has been an English-speaking Christian community in Algiers which, in 1871 became known as Holy Trinity. Today, Holy Trinity is seeing remarkable growth, from on average 35 adults and 5 children in 2024 to 120 adults and 20 children in 2026. Special times of worship have grown from around 100 to well into the 300s now.

We need to develop the site to make it fit for purpose for today and the future, as its facilities are circa 1907. Please pray that the Lord will release the funds we need to build the new buildings; provide the permits

for building; provide the companies to do the work; and get the funds into Algeria to pay for it all! The 4th Sept was a big day as a new 'group' started at HTA after the main church service. Please pray all continues to go well as this group runs through the autumn and for those who will be going to the training organised by ICS in Lyon at the end of October to build on this new initiative.

Join us in praying for the government of Algeria, the prosperity of the land and people, and the wellbeing and flourishing of the Algerian diaspora; that they all may know God's blessing and will act justly, love mercy and walk humbly with the Lord, the creator of heaven and earth."

We look forward to Craig and Elaine being back at St Peter's Church at the end of October. They will be facilitating an **'Algerian Evening' on Sat 24 Oct in the Parish Centre** – full details and how to get tickets will be in next week's newsletter. All donations to NIM'S work are gratefully received and such a blessing and encouragement to our Mission partners. Please go to <https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/12903#!/DonationDetails>



PrayerZone



Weds 7 Oct, 7.30-8.30pm, Barrow Bridge Mission

Gather from across the parish for an hour of dynamic prayer and worship.

Florence Odonga

The family of Florence would like to thank you for all your prayers for Florence and Max during the year. They are so grateful to you, and to God, for the love, kindness and support shown to them, especially for all the meals that you have given so generously. Please do continue to keep them in your prayers.

Prayer for the Week

Nigel Clarke from Smithills Fellowship says "As we journey through the weeks ahead, let us remember that God is with us in all the circumstances of life. Let us bring our parish, our community and those we love before Him in prayer." **See his prayer on the back page.**

Looking Forward

Marco Players: Hobson's Choice by Harold Brighouse

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



Rehearsals are underway for this not-to-be-missed play! Book tickets now on 0333 666 3366, online via this QR code, or at the Parish Office.

Prayer from Nigel Clarke on behalf of Smithills Fellowship

Loving God

Thank you for the blessings of each day, for our church family and for all those who bring joy and encouragement into our lives. Be with our parish and our local community. Help us to be welcoming, caring and ready to support those who are struggling.

We pray especially for those who are ill, lonely, grieving or in need. May they know your loving presence and find comfort and strength. Help us to be people who bring peace, kindness and hope.

Keep us close to you and help us to share your love wherever we go.

Amen

Coming up

Date & Times	Activity	Details	Location
Mon 5 Oct			
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 6 Oct			
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 7 Oct			
9am-12noon	Hope at the Hub	Drop-in community session, all welcome	St Andrew's
10am-11.30am	Open Door Ladies' Group	Traditions – Ann Waring. Val 07902 167971	Parish Centre
7.30pm-8.30pm	PrayerZone	Dynamic prayer and worship. All welcome.	Barrow Bridge
Thurs 8 Oct			
8.30am-9am	Prayer Meeting	Julie 07835 014470	St Andrew's
2pm-3pm 8pm-9.30pm	Bolton Christian Meditation Group Alpha Course and Connect Group	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 9 Oct			
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 10 Oct			
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



St Peter's Halliwell



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