

Prayers by Diane Ball, St. Andrew's Hope Centre

In 2 Chronicles 20, Judah is being attacked by its enemies. The king, Jehoshaphat, called all the people to come to Jerusalem to fast and seek the Lord's help. Jehoshaphat prayed to God there among the people and he said these words: ***"We have no power to face this vast army that is attacking us. We do not know what to do, but our eyes are on you."***

God told them not to be afraid or discouraged because this battle is not yours it is the Lord's and they all bowed down to the ground and worshipped God. Jehoshaphat appointed men to sing to the Lord and to praise Him for the splendour of his holiness as they went out at the head of the army, saying ***"Give thanks to the Lord, for his love endures forever."*** As they began to sing and praise, the Lord set ambushes against the men who were invading Judah, and they were defeated.

Our world, our neighbourhoods and people's lives are all being attacked. Some by physical enemies in wars and conflicts, or by natural disasters which devastate lives and land, or by societal breakdown, poverty, greed or inequality of power. God is still God, we can seek his face, bow in prayer, say with the people of Judah, ***"we don't know what to do, but our eyes are on you,"*** and then praise God for the answers he will reveal.

Bring to God in prayer now the things that are pressing in on you; in the world, in our nation or in your own or family life, and then keep your eyes on God, not the problem. And praise Him because He's still God.

Please pray for our churches, and St Andrew's in particular, that as we see the huge needs around us, and *don't know what to do*, that we will pray and *keep our eyes on God* not the size of the problems or the current lack of resources. And Praise HIM!

Some songs which may help us in our prayers:

https://youtu.be/t1gvs9O8_y8 and <https://youtu.be/22WoEYfuZNO>

Please pray for: Christine Cocker. E-mail office@stpetersparish.info if you want your name to appear on

Prayer Chain: amanda@stpetersparish.info /599900

Parish Office: Open Mon to Fri 9.30am-3pm	599900/ 599901	office@stpetersparish.info
Rev. Alan Saunders (Vicar)	07767 643444/ 848624	alan@stpetersparish.info
Associate Minister (<i>post vacant</i>)		
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Youth Minister (<i>post vacant</i>)		
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St Peter's Halliwell



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Parish Office, St. Peter's Parish Centre, 347 Church Road, Bolton BL1 5RR



PARISH OF ST. PETER'S
HALLIWELL, BOLTON
Transforming Bolton together in Jesus' name



Welcome to St. Peter's. We are 4 churches:
St. Peter's, St. Andrew's, Barrow Bridge and Smithills Fellowship
One Parish—One Church—One Vision

Sunday 11th June 2023

Rev. Alan writes...WE'RE BUILDING A PEOPLE OF FAITH

At this Sunday's 6.30pm parish-wide service we start a brand-new sermon series called: ***Building a People of Faith***. For the next seven weeks we will study sections in the book of Acts – which tells the story of the acts of the apostles and the life of the early church.

Some have commented that the book of Acts doesn't finish at chapter 28 for the story continues to be recorded in each new generation of followers of Christ. Whatever chapter we are in now in 2023, may it record a story of vision, passion, courage, faith, commitment, promise and hope in our generation. The first followers of Jesus earned a reputation for shaking their world and within a generation their message spread across the Roman Empire. The Holy Spirit worked through the lives of these ordinary people. What kind of people were they? What sort of challenges

BUILDING A PEOPLE OF FAITH



People of Passion, Acts 17:16-34
People of Courage, Acts 18:1-17
People of Faith, Acts 19:1-20
People of Commitment, Acts 16:6-40
People of Promise, Acts 2:1-13
People of Hope, Acts 20:17-38
People of Vision, Acts 11:1-30

did they fear? What qualities did they demonstrate? And what lessons can we learn from their lives? This new series takes us through some snapshots from the book of Acts that offer some answers to these questions.

John Platt from Smithills Fellowship will open the series looking at the theme of ***People of Passion***, from Acts 17:16-34. I hope you can join us.

Friendship Group for those with Dementia and their Carers: NEXT Thursday (15th), 2pm–4pm in the Parish Centre Lounge. Tea/coffee and cake and a very warm welcome. Come and join us. For details, call Joan on 01204 840180.

Save the date for Bolton Deanery Summer Praise: Taking place with the new Bishop of Bolton, Rev. Dr. Michael Porter, on **Thursday 13th July at 7.30pm** at Bolton Parish Church. Hosted by Bolton Central Mission Community. All welcome.

Church services across the parish today:

St. Peter's Church: 8.30am Service of the Word with Communion; 10.30am Morning service. Livestream: <https://youtube.com/live/Rt2twvQyz14>; 6.30pm Worship and teaching. Livestream of reading and talk: <https://youtube.com/live/tiebNLbLR2s>. **Our sister churches:** 10am Smithills Fellowship; 10.30am Barrow Bridge and 10.30am St. Andrew's (Café Church).

General Activities at St. Peter's Parish Centre:

Monday 12th: 10am-12noon The Coffee Room. This cafe is *open to everyone*; 9.30am-10.30am/11am-12noon Strength and Balance class. These classes are FULL. To go on the waiting list, contact 599900/amanda@stpetersparish.info

Tuesday 13th: 10am-11.30am Little Wiggles. All parents and carers welcome at this group for babies and toddlers. No need to book, just turn up!; 7.30pm-9pm TREAD. Youth group for years 7+. Contact Ben on 07512 753201.

Wednesday 14th: 10am Open Door. All ladies welcome. Coffee 10am-10.20am. Bible discussion—Sheena Ward. Contact Sandra on 846490.

Thursday 15th: 10am Aerobics. All welcome. Contact Paula on 07913 408141; 1pm-2.45pm The Well Toddler Group. Contact Parish Office on 599900; 2pm-4pm Friendship Group for those with Dementia and their Carers.

Friday 16th: 10.30am Friday Life. Everyone welcome. Contact denis.collier@gmail.com; 8pm Stressbusters. Badminton. Everyone welcome. Contact Geoff Barlow on 561760 / 07835 388732.

Saturday 17th: 9am-12noon (age-related sessions) INTERACT School of Performing Arts. Contact Emma on 07896 724531

General Activities at St. Andrew's (Hope Centre):

Tuesday 13th: 9.45am-11.30am TOTS Parent and Toddler Group. Contact Julie on 07835 014470 for details.

Wednesday 14th: From 9am The Hub. Drop-in session. A warm welcome awaits and friendly conversation, refreshments and fun activities.



St. Paul's Halliwell Celebratory Concert - 175 years: Thursday 22nd June at 7pm, performed by The Eden Singers and St. Thomas' School Choir. Tickets (£7 incl. refreshments) from West Bolton Team (843060) or you can also reserve them through the Parish Office on 599900. All welcome.

A Big Thank you: We are so grateful to everyone who contributes financially to all our churches and our Big Vision, CAP, NIM and Youth and Youth Minister funds too.

Baptism: Please pray for Isla HOUGH and Winnie MURDOCH who are being baptised TODAY (11th) at 2pm in St. Peter's Church. We thank God for the gift of these children and for their parents, godparents, family and friends on this special occasion.



Can you help?: We are organising some working parties to do a general tidy of our grounds at St. Peter's Church and the Parish Centre. This will be from 9:30am-12:30pm on a Saturday morning and will involve activities such as pruning bushes, creating attractive borders and resurfacing pathways. The dates proposed are NEXT Saturday (17th) at the Parish Centre and both 1st July and 22nd July at church. If you are available and willing to assist, please email the Church Wardens—wardens@stpetersparish.info - or phone the Parish Office on 599900. Thank you.

Acts 435: Please join the Acts 435 database to help members of our community and CAP clients in times of urgent need, requesting eg. second hand clothing/items. To join, please email acts435@stpetersparish.info. Thank you.

Rev. Layfetta Masih: Layfetta is being licensed as vicar in the Gower Ministry area of Swansea, Wales on Sunday 30th July. All are invited to come and say farewell to Layfetta, Nabeel and the family on Sunday 25th June at 3pm at St. Catherine's Church, Highfield Road, Farnworth. Followed by refreshments and fellowship. *Please join us if you can.*



Do Lunch, Do Life: Taking place from 11.45am (following straight after Lighthouse) in the Parish Centre on Sunday 2nd July. All are welcome to join us for bacon butties, brews and cake with all donations going towards taking our young people to the Dreaming the Impossible (DTI) Christian festival this summer. Please let Janette know ASAP if you can help on the day or bake a cake! janette.daeth@gmail.com / 07982 035706. *Thank you in advance for your support.*



Are you a young person who plays an instrument?: As a church we are eager to encourage as many young people as we can to participate in music in worship. If you play an instrument and would like to participate in a service, please contact Rob, Keir and Karen (Music Team).



Parking for St. Peter's Church: If you drive to St. Peter's, please use the church car park which has its access located on Moorside Avenue. This helps to reduce parking congestion in the area and is appreciated by our neighbours. Thank you.