

## Prayers by Sam Wolstencroft, CAP Centre Manager

For households on a low income, the year ahead may feel uncertain. Let's focus our prayers on those who are trapped in poverty, or at risk of being pushed into poverty.

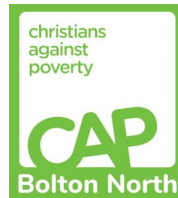
We pray for those who are starting 2024 with money worries or unmanageable debt. May God break through any shame they feel about their situation and give them courage to ask for help.

A YouGov poll commissioned by CAP in July 2023 revealed that the high cost of living has negatively impacted the physical health of 31% of UK adults (16.4 million people). We pray for all those who are facing illness and health conditions and ask you, Father God, to draw near and bring them the peace that passes all understanding.

The high cost of living has contributed to relationship breakdown for 1.8 million UK adults, according to the YouGov poll. We pray that you, God, would bring harmony and unity into homes this year and protect families against the far-reaching impact of financial hardship. The same God whose miracles are in the Bible is at work in 2024, and we can always trust in him.

Lord God, we know that those living in poverty are close to your heart. At the start of this new year, please be with all those who are struggling in mind, body and spirit. May they know the peace that passes all understanding. We pray too for fairer systems for all. Help us to play our part in building a more just society.

Amen.



Prayer Chain: [ruthrobinson293@gmail.com](mailto:ruthrobinson293@gmail.com)

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Youth Minister ( <i>post vacant</i> )		
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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 21st January 2024**

**Rev. Alan writes...** I am loving hearing stories from people who have been motivated by our Verse for the Year 2024: *'Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works'* (Hebrews 10:24). One brilliant example was the launch of the Bolton Repair Cafe at St. Andrew's Hope Centre which started on Wednesday. Steve Walsh from St. Andrew's and his team did a splendid job repairing various items brought to the centre and visitors enjoyed a warm welcome with fresh cups of tea,




coffee, and lots of delicious cake! Steve tells me that ten items were repaired on the day, seven done on site, two taken away by repairers to complete at home, sadly one of two clocks was a bit too risky for the team to take apart, but more research will be done on that. Items included textiles, jewellery, a watch battery, a sewing machine, a wheelchair flat tyre, and a walking aid with brakes that needed tweaking. Well done to Steve and team! I'm looking forward to the next Repair Cafe on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February 10.30am-12.30pm, then every third Wednesday each month.


Last Sunday evening at our 6.30pm parish-wide service, Keith Forrester kick-started 'Common Ground', our brilliant new sermon series looking at Christian doctrine. His talk on the bible is well worth catching up on our YouTube channel: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8\\_KT24X-MRA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8_KT24X-MRA). This Sunday I continue the series by exploring the doctrine of Jesus Christ, man and God, looking at John 1:1-14. We will also be featuring the launch of our new Alpha Course which starts on Wednesday—see details below. Be sure to join us if you can.

**Curious About Faith?:** Our free **Alpha Course starts NEXT Wednesday (24th), 8pm-9.30pm for 12 weeks in the Parish Centre.** Join a series of group conversations that freely explore the basics of the Christian faith. Everybody welcome. Contact [amanda@stpetersparish.info](mailto:amanda@stpetersparish.info)/ 599900.



**Parish Services TODAY: St. Peter's Church: 8.30am** Service of the Word; **10.30am** Morning service with Communion. Livestream: <https://youtube.com/live/hOaX-indx4o>; **6.30pm** Worship and teaching. Livestream of reading and talk: <https://youtube.com/live/cEkyJw5-itU>. **Sister churches: 10am** Smithills Fellowship; **10.30am** Barrow Bridge (Communion); **10.30am** St. Andrew's (Café)

**Midweek service on Thursday 25th in St. Peter's Church:** Refreshments from 10.30am. **Service from 11.30am-12noon.** 

 **Lighthouse (Ages 4-13):** TODAY in St. Peter's Parish Centre from 10.20am-11.45am. Contact Ben — 07512 753201/[lighthouse@stpetersparish.info](mailto:lighthouse@stpetersparish.info).

**Regular Activities at St. Peter's Parish Centre: *Everybody welcome.***

**Monday 22nd: 10am-12noon** The Coffee Room; **9.30am-10.30am/11am-12noon** Strength and Balance class. FULL. Contact 599900/[amanda@stpetersparish.info](mailto:amanda@stpetersparish.info); **1.30pm-3.30pm** Art Group. All welcome. Contact [ruthrobinson293@gmail.com](mailto:ruthrobinson293@gmail.com); **7.30pm** Girls Discipleship group. Contact [pais@stpetersparish.info](mailto:pais@stpetersparish.info).

**Tuesday 23rd: 10am-11.30am** Little Wiggles. Contact Suzi on 07834 371509; **7.30pm -9pm** TREAD. Years 7+. Contact Ben on 07512 753201

**Wednesday 24th: 10am-11.30am** Open Door. All ladies welcome. Romance on the Ffestiniog Railway. Contact Sandra on 846490; **8pm-9.30pm** Alpha Course.


**Thursday 25th: 10am** Aerobics. All welcome. Contact Paula on 07913 408141;

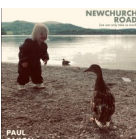
**Friday 26th: 10am-12noon** Watercolour Classes. Contact Lucinda on 07977 821119; **10.30am** Friday Life. Contact [denis.collier@gmail.com](mailto:denis.collier@gmail.com); **8pm** Stressbusters. Badminton. Contact Geoff on 561760 / 07835 388732


**Saturday 27th: 9am-12noon** (age-related sessions) INTERACT School of Performing Arts. Contact Emma on 07896 724531


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

**Tuesday 23rd: 9.45am-11.30am** TOTS Parent and Toddler Group. Contact Julie on 07835 014470 for details. 

**Wednesday 24th: From 9am** The Hub. Drop-in session. A warm welcome, friendly conversation, refreshments and fun activities; 

 **Paul Saxon:** Please check out our Worship Leader Paul's latest song release 'Newchurch Road', available on all streaming platforms (Spotify/apple music etc). It's a song about growing up/learning to live with grief/pain whilst also celebrating the joy of the present moments easily missed.

 **Café on the Green:** Taking place on **Saturday 3rd February from 9.30am-2pm** in St. Peter's Primary School. All welcome. Join us for delicious food and good company.


**Bolton Home for Good Support Group:** This group for adopters, foster and kinship carers and their families will meet **NEXT Saturday (27th) from 12.30pm-2pm** in **St. Peter's Parish Centre**. All welcome for a bring and share lunch, chill out or chat and supervised activities. Contact Fiona on 07786 844141 for info. 

**Out and About Walk:** All welcome on **Saturday 3rd February**. Worden Park to Euxton – 7 miles. Meet at 9.30am opposite St. Peters Church. Bring a packed lunch.

**Help needed - The Well Toddler Group:** This group is currently *on hold* as it needs more volunteer leaders in order to continue running its sessions on Thursday afternoons from 1pm-2.45pm in the Parish Centre. If you are interested in helping, please contact [amanda@stpetersparish.info](mailto:amanda@stpetersparish.info) in the first instance. Thank you.

**Women's Ministry Social:** Taking place on **Thursday 8th February, 7pm-9pm** in the **Parish Centre**. All welcome, come alone or with friends for an evening of tea, tasty treats and testimonies—it really is so powerful to hear one another's stories of connecting with God. We'd love to see you there! More details from [katie.leaver@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:katie.leaver@hotmail.co.uk). 

**Dates for your diary—Good News for Romania:** A GNfR Quiz Night will take place on **Friday 1st March at 7.30pm** at The Victory Reform Club, BL1 4JA with Quizmaster Dave Moffoot. Tickets £8.50 including potato pie and pea supper. Book your tickets now from Kath Richardson on 841906/ 07903 546008. The next GNfR Coffee Morning will be on **Saturday 9th March, 10am-12noon** at the Parish Centre. 

 **CAP Easter Eggs:** Our CAP Centre Manager, Sam, says '*We would like to give our clients an Easter Egg and particularly one from the Meaningful Chocolate Co which are Fairtrade and include the Easter story. We'll buy these in bulk but would really appreciate any contributions from the church. They are £4.50 now per egg...please pass any money to Sam or the Parish Office. Thanks!*'