

## Prayers by Carolyn Rigby on behalf of Barrow Bridge Mission

**'Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, persistent in prayer.'**

### Romans 12:12

Over the last two weeks these words have really resonated with me after I fell and injured my right elbow, resulting in a trip to A & E and a number of hospital appointments.

This time has really made me think about the importance of patience in lots of different situations. When God says be patient in affliction He is reminding us that there will be seasons in life that we simply have to endure. Paul speaks of a season in his life where he was utterly unbearably crushed (2 Corinthians 1:8), this same affliction refers to financial burdens (Corinthians 8:13) and anxiety for a friend in trouble (Philippians 4:14). What does God require of us at such times? He does not say "Make sure you share your testimony and tell everybody you are doing fine." No, God says "Be patient! Hang in there. Hold steady. Stay the course."

We know how much God loves us because he has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with his love. We need to turn to the Holy Spirit and choose patience. Lord, we thank you for your grace which is limitless and for the hope you offer us. Lord, we pray for all those who are "hanging in there" right now, that they feel your presence and know your love.

**Please pray for: Christine Cocker.** E-mail [office@stpetersparish.info](mailto:office@stpetersparish.info) if you want your name to appear on this list as consent must be given by the individual concerned.

Prayer Chain: [amanda@stpetersparish.info](mailto:amanda@stpetersparish.info) /599900

Parish Office: Open Mon to Fri 9.30am-3pm	599900/ 599901	office@stpetersparish.info
Revd. Alan Saunders (Vicar)	07767 643444/ 848624	alan@stpetersparish.info
Revd. Dave Brae (Associate Minister)	847038	dave@stpetersparish.info
Elian Winstanley and Phil Weaver (Wardens)		wardens@stpetersparish.info
Youth Minister (post vacant)		
Amanda Blease (Parish Business Manager)	599900	amanda@stpetersparish.info
Sam Wolstencroft (CAP Centre Manager)	599903 / 07934 716509	samwolstencroft@capuk.org

[www.stpetersparish.info](http://www.stpetersparish.info)

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 26th March 2023**

**Remember...the clocks have gone forward 1 hour this morning!**

**Rev. Alan writes...** Last week I wrote about us entering the *season of annual meetings* and gave dates for meetings at each fellowship, plus our parish-wide APCM. I am looking forward to joining the first of these at Barrow Bridge this Sunday and encourage you to pray for our good friends at Barrow Bridge, and for anyone who is regular member there to consider joining their Leadership Team.

I am excited for the future as I see evidence that we are growing stronger as God is preparing us to follow our vision to make a bigger impact in our parish and across Bolton. One of the key steps towards realising this vision is to strengthen our leadership teams and I am thrilled to announce that we have a new chair for St. Peter's Leadership Team. **Liz Nicholls** has kindly agreed to take on this key role and we are in the process of recruiting a strong team to take forward the leadership and management of St. Peter's. If you are interested to explore getting involved, please speak to myself or Liz, contact can be made via the Parish Office.



I am delighted that we have a new buildings team who are working on various projects at St. Peter's including the driveways, car park, men's toilets, the east window, and carpets, to name but a few! We are preparing to recruit a new post of Children's and Family Worker to the staff team. The PCC are working on our annual budgets guided by our Parish Treasurer Cath Hargraves. We are grateful to God for his provision during these challenging financial times, but we need to increase our financial income in order to meet increasing expenditure and build a stronger church. If you are in a position to increase or start regular giving, or if you would like to discuss or get involved in any of these areas please don't hesitate to get in touch through the Parish Office. A huge thank you to everyone for your commitment to our parish and fellowships!

At our parish-wide 6.30pm service at St. Peter's, Ben Latham, supported by our young people, will be speaking on the next topic in our Philippians series: **New Attitudes** looking at Philippians 2:1-11. Hope you can join us.



**Parish-wide Easter Services:** Taking place in St. Peter's Church on **Maundy Thursday (6th April) at 7.30pm** and on **Good Friday (7th April) at 10.30am**. Services will be held as usual in each of our churches across the parish on Easter Sunday.

**Church Services Today:** 8.30am Service of the Word; 10.30am Morning service. Livestream: <https://youtube.com/live/lfQtjoQYRJI?>; 6.30pm Worship and teaching. Livestream of reading and talk: <https://youtube.com/live/4A RHape54?>  
**Our sister churches:** 10am Smithills Fellowship; 10.30am Barrow Bridge (AGM) and 10.30am St. Andrew's.

### **General Activities at St. Peter's Parish Centre:**

**Monday 27th:** 10am-12noon The Coffee Room. This cafe is open to everyone; 9.30am-10.30am/11am-12noon Strength and Balance class. To go on the waiting list, 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)  
**Tuesday 28th:** 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 29th:** 10am Open Door. All ladies welcome. Coffee 10am-10.20am. Easter hymns with Rob and Sue Wilding and talk by Rev. Alan Saunders. Contact Sandra Lewis on 846490.  
**Thursday 30th:** 10am Aerobics. All welcome. Contact Paula on 07913 408141; 1pm-2.45pm The Well Toddler Group. Contact Parish Office on 599900).  
**Friday 31st:** 10.30am Friday Life. Everyone welcome. Contact [denis.collier@gmail.com](mailto:denis.collier@gmail.com); 8pm Stressbusters. Badminton. Everyone welcome. Contact Geoff Barlow on 561760 / 07835 388732.  
**Saturday 1st April:** 9am-12noon (age-related sessions) INTERACT School of Performing Arts. Contact Emma on 07896 724531

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

**Tuesday 28th:** 9.45am-11.30am TOTS Parent and Toddler Group. Contact Julie on 07835 014470 for details.  
**Wednesday 29th:** From 9am The Hub. Drop-in session. A warm welcome awaits and friendly conversation, refreshments and fun activities.



**Café on the Green:** Thank you for your support last Saturday—over £900 was raised to help provide operations for children with cleft lips and palates in Kenya. The next café will be on Saturday 22nd April.



**Parish Weekend Away—Early bird prices:** A fantastic weekend away at Quinta for the whole church family from Friday 15th—Sunday 17th September! Last date for the early bird price for Quinta is NEXT Friday (31st March). After this, prices increase by £10 per head. Book at <https://stpetersparish.info/quinta-2023-booking>

**Revision of the Electoral Roll (ER):** This list of names and addresses of our church membership is renewed every 6 years. Everyone listed on the ER is eligible to attend, and vote at, our **Annual Parochial Church Meeting taking place on 21st May**. In years when the ER is not renewed, it is updated with the names of any new members and those who are no longer members are taken off. **Anyone who is not already a member and wishes to be entered on the ER should fill out an application form**, available from church or the Parish Office. Revisions will be made from 9th—23rd April after which the updated ER will be published.

**Easter Fun:** All are welcome to join Smithills Fellowship on **Saturday 8th April between 1.30pm - 3.30pm** for a family event looking for Easter themed clues in gardens across the estate. Collect your clue card from 46 Redcar Road (BL1 6LG). Coffee and cakes available. **Donations in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support** gratefully received. *Val Perris is again this year raising funds for the invaluable work of Macmillan by selling chicks / bunnies filled with crème eggs. To donate, please see her Just Giving link <https://www.justgiving.com/page/val-perris>.*



**CAP Thank you:** Our CAP Centre Manager, Sam, says “Thank you so much for your generous donations for our Easter eggs! **Clients will receive a card with John 3:16 and a personal message on it encouraging them to seek Jesus, plus a gift bag.** This contains Fairtrade eggs and creme eggs, an explanation of the Easter message and a booklet - 'Inspiring Prayers'.”



**Ben Allen:** Our worship leader Ben's next single 'Stop for a Moment' is out now! Ben says “This song has a different feel to the first one. It's warmer, more opened up, and energetic - like the feeling on a warm spring day as you start to notice nature around you, burgeoning with new life again. Listen on Spotify, Apple Music, Youtube just by searching the name, or via <https://linktr.ee/benjamin.allen>. Thank you.”



**30 Days of Prayer for the Muslim World:** This annual initiative runs from **22nd March – 20th April** (to coincide with the month of Ramadan). To learn about and pray for the Muslim World, see each day of prayer at [www.stpetersparish.info](http://www.stpetersparish.info). Paper copies available in church or from the Parish Office.

**Powerful Praise 2:** Learn and sing worship songs in a day! All welcome **NEXT Saturday (1st April), 10am-5pm in St. Peter's Church.** Bring your own lunch. Book your place (£10) by emailing [robandsue@stpetersparish.info](mailto:robandsue@stpetersparish.info) or turn up on the day. **All are invited to come along to Praise Time at 4.15pm.**

