

## Prayers by Hilary Peake on behalf of St. Peter's Church

### Lent journey to Easter: Pray for Our Journey

Did you know there is a forecast of snow for Easter? We'd much prefer Spring sunshine. Lent can be a tricky time, challenging us to look hard at what Jesus has done for each of us, what he was prepared to go through and suffer on our behalf.

But this forecast made me think. Snow covers everything that's dirty, it covers rubbish wherever it is. It makes the ugliest thing beautiful. It doesn't last though, or the illusion of beauty after the snow melts. Refuse lorries collect and remove rubbish on Good Fridays, quite symbolic, but the rubbish is there again the week after. At Easter, we share in the death and resurrection of Jesus and through this we are made beautiful.

God doesn't make mistakes. Let's thank him for removing the rubbish in our lives, releasing us to see him, the world and others through his eyes.

All we have to do is take the step, his hand is held out ready. So when we share communion and, yes, eat our Easter egg, let's say thank you again.

Amen.



**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.

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Youth Minister (post vacant)		
Amanda Blease (Parish Business Manager)	599900	amanda@stpetersparish.info
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St Peter's Halliwell



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HalliwellParish

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 19th March 2023**

**Rev. Alan writes...** We are approaching the annual meeting season! Meetings are planned as part of the morning services as follows:

**Barrow Bridge:** Sun 26 March

**Smithills Fellowship:** Sun 14 May

**St. Andrews:** Sun 30 April

Plus, the parish-wide **Annual Parochial Church Meeting:** Sun 21 May, 4pm at St. Peter's.

I am flagging these up to give everyone plenty of time to prayerfully consider joining the leadership teams of our churches and parish. In the run-up to these annual meetings please use the opportunity to explore getting involved by talking to myself or the leaders in your fellowship. I am really keen to strengthen our teams and build the church. Please pray for and encourage our leaders and give them every bit of support you can, they are doing an amazing job!

Work is in progress to strengthen the leadership team at St. Peter's, and I will be saying more about this soon.

The new Bishop of Bolton has been announced – it is Rev. Dr Matthew Porter who is Vicar of St. Michael le Belfrey in York. He will be starting in June. Please pray for him and his wife Sam as they prepare to move.



This Sunday evening at our parish-wide 6.30pm service I will be speaking on **New Purpose** looking at Philippians 1:12-30, particularly what is our purpose for living – it's a big topic – and how we can all advance the gospel irrespective of our circumstances. Hope to see you there!

**Lighthouse Takeover in St. Peter's Church TODAY:** The Lighthouse children and leaders will be in church today (NB: *NOT the Parish Centre*) leading, preaching, and performing in the 10.30am service. **Come along to see what our amazing children get up to!** Info from Ben on 07512 753201/ [lighthouse@stpetersparish.info](mailto:lighthouse@stpetersparish.info)



**Church Services Today:** 8.30am Service of the Word; 10.30am Morning service. Livestream: <https://youtube.com/live/0pllezVea6Q>; 6.30pm Worship and teaching. Livestream of reading and talk: <https://youtube.com/live/JeFeO23EA>. **Our sister churches:** 10am Smithills Fellowship (Time Out); 10.30am Barrow Bridge (Communion) and 10.30am St. Andrew's.

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

**Monday 20th:** 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);  
**Tuesday 21st:** 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 22nd:** 10am Open Door. Coffee until 10.20am. Woodland Trust – Roberta. Contact Sandra Lewis on 846490.  
**Thursday 23rd:** 10am Aerobics. All welcome. Contact Paula on 07913 408141; 1pm-2.45pm The Well Toddler Group. Contact Parish Office on 599900).  
**Friday 24th:** 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 25th:** 12.30pm-2pm Home for Good (see below).

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

**Tuesday 21st:** 9.45am-11.30am TOTS Parent and Toddler Group. Contact Julie on 07835 014470 for details.  
**Wednesday 22nd:** From 9am The Hub. Drop-in session. A warm welcome awaits and friendly conversation, refreshments and fun activities.



**Bolton Home for Good Support Group:** This group for adopters, foster and kinship carers and their families will meet on **Saturday 25th March from 12.30pm-2pm in St. Peter's Parish Centre.** All welcome to come along for a bring and share lunch, chill out or chat and supervised activities. For more info, contact Fiona on 07786 844141.



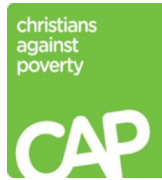
**Curry Nights coming up:** Taking place at 7.30pm at Fazz's Indian Restaurant, Market Place, Bolton, BL1 2AL. For the Ladies on **Monday 27th March** and Blokes Curry Night on **Tuesday 28th March.** With guest speakers. Set menu £18. Contact Jonathon on 07753 427329 / [blokescurrynight@outlook.com](mailto:blokescurrynight@outlook.com) ASAP.

**30 Days of Prayer for the Muslim World:** This annual initiative takes place from **22nd March – 20th April** (to coincide with the month of Ramadan). If you would like to learn about and pray for the Muslim World, each day of prayer will be uploaded to our website—[www.stpetersparish.info](http://www.stpetersparish.info). Paper copies will soon be available at the back of church or from the Parish Office.



**Coronation Weekend, 6th-8th May 2023:** Our plans are: Saturday (6th) Watching the Coronation together in St. Peter's Church, Sunday (7th) Eating together and Monday (8th) Serving the Community together. **Could you be part of a team to help organise these events?** If so, please speak to a member of Leadership Team, Alan or Amanda by **Sunday 16th April.**

**CAP Requests:** CAP team meeting and lunch **THIS Thursday 23rd March 12.15pm - 2.15pm in the Parish Centre.** If you want to know more about being part of the team, you are welcome to join us - please let Sam know ASAP. Also CAP Easter Egg wrapping night is **Wednesday 22nd March in the Parish Centre at 7.45pm.** Contact Sam if you can help—[samwolstencroft@capuk.org](mailto:samwolstencroft@capuk.org)/599903 or 07934 716509.



**Quinta Fundraiser—Progressive Meal:** Starting at the Parish Centre **6.30pm on Saturday 15th April**, finishing by 10pm. **Have you signed up yet?** If not, please use this link: <https://forms.gle/nrocNwyza9hqpDW4A>. For more info, contact from Stephen/Rachel Brierley on 433810 or 07954 995160.

**Out and About Walk:** The next walk is 'Singing and Ringing Around Burnley' on **Saturday 1st April.** This walk is 6 miles long and climbs to the Singing and Ringing Tree above Burnley, a gentle 800ft climb. Leave at 9.30am from outside St. Peters Church. Walk begins at Townley Hall, Burnley (£1.50 to park all day). Toilets and café at Townley Hall. More details from [paul.gray@stpetersparish.info](mailto:paul.gray@stpetersparish.info).

**Erin Close:** Erin (who attends Barrow Bridge Mission) is doing a sponsored abseil down the east side of Bolton Wanderers' stadium on **Saturday 15th April** (time t.b.c) in aid of Backup North West, a Bolton based charity that supports young people who are homeless/at risk of homelessness. Supporters welcome on the day to cheer her on! Please go to <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/shona-close2>. Thanks.

**Good News for Romania:** David and Kath thank everyone who supported the GNfR coffee morning in any way. An amazing amount of over **£1800** was raised! Praise God for His goodness.

