



PARISH OF ST PETER'S, HALLIWELL

# NEWSLETTER



Easter Special Double Edition: Sundays 31<sup>st</sup> March and 7<sup>th</sup> April 2024

## HEADLINES

- Spreading Easter Joy! – this week's highlights.
- Coming Up – activities after Easter.
- Prayer for the Week – prayer for those affected by debt and poverty.

*Read on to find out more...*

## SERVICES

*Sun 31 Mar - Easter Sunday*

*Sun 7 Apr - Lighthouse Week*



8.30am	Easter Communion (31 Mar) Morning Service (7 Apr)
10.30am	Easter Family Communion (31 Mar) Livestream: <a href="https://youtube.com/live/ShM0M14s8nA">youtube.com/live/ShM0M14s8nA</a> Adult Service and Twinklers (7Apr) Livestream: <a href="https://youtube.com/live/PGJn_x9Br2w">youtube.com/live/PGJn_x9Br2w</a>
6.30pm	Parish-wide Celebration (31 Mar) Livestream: <a href="https://youtube.com/live/xjit-Kut6uc">youtube.com/live/xjit-Kut6uc</a> Parish-wide Service (7 Apr) Livestream: <a href="https://youtube.com/live/aPiWiXEdEQ">youtube.com/live/aPiWiXEdEQ</a>

### SMITHILLS FELLOWSHIP

10.00am	All-Age Service (31 Mar) Morning Service with Lighthouse (7 Apr)
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### BARROW BRIDGE MISSION

10.30am	All-Age Service (31 Mar) Morning Service with Lighthouse (7 Apr)
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### ST ANDREW'S HOPE CENTRE

10.30am	Morning Service (31 Mar) Communion (7 Apr)
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## Rev Alan writes...

### Happy Easter - He has Risen!

He has Risen Indeed, Alleluia! The death and resurrection of Jesus Christ are the most significant events in the history of the world, bringing hope and life for us all. So, it is a cause for celebration! At our Easter Sunday morning services at each fellowship, we will be looking at the story of the empty tomb and Jesus' resurrection in Luke 24:1-12.



And our Sunday evening 6.30pm Parish-wide service at St Peter's will be a glorious Easter celebration with Communion, and I will be speaking on the theme: **"Freedom in the Risen Christ - We are a Resurrection People!"** from 1 Corinthians 15:12-20.



Next week we start a new 8-week sermon series called **The Mission of My Church**, looking at the Book of Acts. The Book of Acts is the sequel to the Gospel of Luke. Where Luke's gospel dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, the Book of Acts reveals that Jesus wasn't finished doing and teaching even after His crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension.

We have learnt that Jesus' Church is **Jesus' family on Jesus' mission**. This means that being a part of Jesus' family requires participating in Jesus' mission. We can't be a part of Jesus' family and ignore His mission. Acts 1:8 reminds us that Jesus' mission is to see the gospel proclaimed to all peoples and so it is the challenge to us as the Church is to be witnesses of all that He has done.



**A gentle reminder so that you're not late for church... the clocks go forward an hour this Sunday!**

# What's Gone On

## Spreading Easter Joy!

So much joy has been spread through some amazing activities over the last week, here are a few highlights to share!



**Year 2 children from Church Road Primary** visited St Peter's for a fun-filled morning of activities to learn about the Easter story on the theme of God's mercy and grace. Activities included singing action songs, building model bridges, chalk craft crosses, games, acting and discussion time. The sessions were led by the diocese Children Changing Places team together with our Pais team. Their teacher, Miss Simpson, said: *"Thank you so much to everyone for their time and hard work during our amazing visit this morning. Both classes really enjoyed their time in church and the activities reinforced all of our RE learning in class. Please pass on our appreciation to everyone involved today."*



**Open Door Ladies Group** held a special Easter service on Wednesday with music for Easter hymns provided by Denis Collier, readings, and a special message about the depth of God's love from Rev Alan. Thanks to Sandra Lewis who does a marvellous job organising Open Door sessions each week – any ladies are welcome to join, and details can be found on the back page each week.

**Guests enjoyed a great time at our Coffee Room** at the Parish Centre on Monday where you can be sure of a warm welcome and friendly conversation. Sam Wolstencroft, our CAP Debt Centre Manager, says: *"The Coffee Room is a safe and warm place for people to*

*meet others and have good, helpful conversations. Our volunteers are very good at spotting someone on their own and going to spend time listening, and we have adjacent rooms where people can have private space too."*



CAP clients often come to Sam's drop in here and receive a warm welcome. A grant from Bolton Council helps towards heating costs as it is a designated Warm Space. It's open to anyone, so feel free to drop-in for tea/coffee and cake. It takes place every Monday 10am-12noon during term time and the next is 15 Apr. **Sam has written this week's prayer which you can read on the back page.**



**Congratulations to Sandra and Alan Kennedy**, from St Andrew's, who celebrated their Diamond wedding anniversary after 60 years of marriage on 28 March. We send them our love on this wonderful occasion.

**Rev Alan visited St Peter's Smithills Dean CE Primary** to thank staff for their work over the last term and give them Easter treats from church.



## Coming Up

### Working Party at Parish Centre

Sat 6 Apr 9.30am-12.30pm, Parish Centre



Please join us if you can for a general tidy up of the external grounds, including digging out the weeds and gravel at the front next to the entrance. Many hands make light work!



## New Weight Management Programme

Starting Mon 8 Apr 6pm-7.30pm, Parish Centre

ABL (A Better Life) offers FREE nutritional and fitness support and advice, and considers other behavioural and psychological aspects, and life circumstances linked to weight gain and poor health. This includes realistic goal setting, no strict diets or exercise routines and an emphasis on long-lasting lifestyle changes aimed at maintaining a healthy weight after a 12-week rolling programme. Sign up at [ybolton.co.uk/](http://ybolton.co.uk/) 01204 205090.

## Prayer Zone



Wed 10 Apr, 8pm-9pm at St Andrew's. It will start with a reflection, followed by lectio divina - a way of praying the scriptures that leads us deeper into God's word, followed by a time of open prayer.

## Café on the Green



Sat 13 Apr, 9.30am-2pm at St Peter's Smithills Dean Primary School. Come to enjoy delicious food and excellent service. The event raises much needed funds for work in the Diocese of Machakos Kenya to provide free surgical treatment for children born with cleft lip, cleft palate, and other facial deformities. It is a partnership set up by Smithills Fellowship, working with local churches in partnership with Bishop Joseph Kanuku. Future cafes will take place on 8 June, 5 Oct.

## Bolton Repair Cafe

Wed 17 Apr 10.30am-12.30pm, St Andrew's. Bring items for repair, and stay for delicious coffee and cake.



## Powerful Praise 3

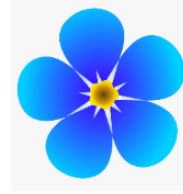
Sat 20 Apr, from 10am to 5pm, St Peter's

If you haven't already signed up for the next Powerful Praise session, there's still time to do it – [robandsue@stpetersparish.info](mailto:robandsue@stpetersparish.info) / 07812 335251. And, if singing up-front isn't for you, the day ends with a wonderful Praise Time at 4.15pm and everyone is

invited to come along and join in and see what the amazing choir have been doing during the day.



## Friendship Group for those with Dementia



Thu 18 Apr, 2pm-4pm Parish Centre  
A group for those with dementia and their carers. Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday each month. Tea/coffee and cake and a very warm welcome. Come and join us. Info from Joan 01204 840180.

## Belgium Mission Trip by Gabriel

Gabriel is joining a team from S.Africa for a mission trip to Belgium during the Easter holidays. The team is partnering with Jesus Revolution, Ichthus Campus Ministry, Lifeline Cheirut (prostitution ministry) and local churches for mission to youth, students, and young adults. Please pray for him and if you'd like to support him visit: <https://gofund.me/3f33a5d8>



## Passion for Bolton Creed

Rev Alan shared with you details of a leader's retreat morning at BWFC a couple of weeks ago and a video has just been released with



leaders each saying a line of the Nicene Creed, including a number of our team, you can watch it on YouTube here: <https://youtu.be/tdKrgxPsP4>.

## Looking Forward

### Ignite Children's Club

**Ignite:** Lucy Hargraves is recruiting volunteers for Ignite – a new parish-wide weekly children's club aimed at KS2 children (primary school junior ages), contact: [lucyhargraves@manchester.anglican.org](mailto:lucyhargraves@manchester.anglican.org)

### Quinta Progressive Meal 2024

Sat 6 Apr, 6.30pm. Start at Parish Centre then each course at different homes. Optional donation £15 per person, proceeds towards Quinta Parish Weekend. Contact Rachel or Stephen Brierley 01204 433810 / [thebrierleys@proton.me](mailto:thebrierleys@proton.me) Sign up here: <https://forms.gle/Dx6PMcm85L62T8SHA>

### Out and About Walk

Sat 6 Apr, 9.30am. Meet opposite St Peter's. It starts at Greenfield in Peak District, around Dovestone, Yeoman Hey and Greenfield reservoirs, 8 miles, reasonably flat. Bring packed lunch. Info from Rick/Jane Heath 07472 926650.

### St Andrew's 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

**Events postponed.** New dates to be advised very soon. The celebrations will not take place over the weekend of 27-28 Apr as originally advertised.

## PRAYER by Sam Wolstencroft, CAP Centre Manager

Christ Jesus, Lord Almighty, this Easter Sunday we remember how you changed the world when you rose from the grave. We thank you for the gift of eternal life that you have given us, made possible through your great sacrifice on the cross. Thank you for the peace we have with our heavenly Father through you and that you are with us in our everyday places.

Help us to be your witnesses and bring the gospel of peace to the places you have called us. Today we remember those for whom life is difficult because they are trapped in debt and poverty. We pray for our CAP Debt Centre as they reach out with love and compassion to new clients. We pray particularly for those battling addictions and poor mental health. Would you bring your healing and wholeness upon each one. We ask for your favour, too, for those facing homelessness through eviction. We pray you will bring peace and hope where it is needed most.

We love, honour and glorify you, God.

Amen



## Coming up this week

**Activities are paused for the Easter break unless stated below**

Date & Times	Activity	Details	Location
<b>Mon 8 Apr</b>			
9.30am-12pm 6pm-7.30pm	Age UK Strength & Balance Classes Weight Management Programme	FULL. .Contact <a href="mailto:office@stpetersparish.info">office@stpetersparish.info</a> Sign up at <a href="http://ybolton.co.uk">ybolton.co.uk</a> /01204 205090	Parish Centre
<b>Wed 10 Apr</b>			
9am – 1pm 8pm-9pm	Hub at the Hope Prayer Zone	Drop-in community session Prayer and worship	St Andrew's
8pm-9pm	Alpha Course	<a href="mailto:office@stpetersparish.info">office@stpetersparish.info</a>	Parish Centre
<b>Thu 11 Apr</b>			
10.30am-12pm	Oasis Coffee Morning and Service	Refreshments from 10.30am, service 11.30am	St Peter's
<b>Fri 12 Apr</b>			
10am-12pm 10.30am 8pm	Watercolours Class Friday Life Group Stressbusters	Lucinda 07977 821119 <a href="mailto:denis.collier@gmail.com">denis.collier@gmail.com</a> Geoff 07835 388732	Parish Centre

## Keep Connected

<b>General Enquiries</b>	E: <a href="mailto:office@stpetersparish.info">office@stpetersparish.info</a> / P: 01204 599900
<b>Parish Business Manager:</b> Amanda Blease	E: <a href="mailto:amanda@stpetersparish.info">amanda@stpetersparish.info</a>
<b>Vicar:</b> Rev Alan Saunders	E: <a href="mailto:alan@stpetersparish.info">alan@stpetersparish.info</a> / M: 07767 643444 / P: 01204 848624
<b>Wardens:</b> Elian Winstanley and Phil Weaver	E: <a href="mailto:wardens@stpetersparish.info">wardens@stpetersparish.info</a>
<b>CAP Debt Centre Manager:</b> Sam Wolstencroft	E: <a href="mailto:samwolstencroft@capuk.org">samwolstencroft@capuk.org</a> / M: 07934 716509
<b>Caretaker:</b> David Park	E: <a href="mailto:david@stpetersparish.info">david@stpetersparish.info</a>
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