

Prayers By Nigel Clarke on behalf of Smithills Fellowship

Philippians 4vs 4

'Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!'

Heavenly Father,

This third week of Advent, let us remember that the good news of Jesus' birth has the power to bring us great joy this Christmas season. Our joy isn't dependent on what is going on in our life, in our world, or the people that we are with. It doesn't depend on the gifts we give or the gifts we find under the tree. No earthly thing can ever give us complete joy. Our joy comes from you. That joy that flooded the hearts of the shepherds, the angels, the wise men, the hosts of heaven, and Mary and Joseph is the joy that still has the power to overwhelm our hearts with rejoicing.

Father, you offer that same joy to us now if we know you and recognize Jesus as our Saviour and Lord. You gave us a reason to celebrate when you gave us the unspeakable gift of Jesus Christ. You came to dwell among us. You went to Calvary's cross for us. You overcame death and rose from the dead for us. You forgive our sins and give us eternal life when we believe in you.

Our joy doesn't come from our jobs, our family, our relationships, our finances, or our success. Our joy doesn't come from what we have on earth or who we are with. Our joy is a gift. It is the gift that you gave us that first Christmas in Jesus Christ. Our joy is encompassed in our Saviour, King Jesus. Flood our heart with joy this Advent season as we reflect on the good news of Jesus' birth. In Jesus' precious name we pray.

Amen

Please pray for: (no names at present) E-mail 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 /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
Rev. 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

St Peter's Halliwell



[stpetershalliwell](https://www.instagram.com/stpetershalliwell)

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 11th December 2022

Rev Alan Saunders writes... Not even the England game deterred many from coming to last Sunday's parish-wide 6.30pm and the band and worship were so fantastic I even forgot I was missing the match! I spoke on **Kingdom Integrity** which you can watch on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rQqj7Rm6eHg>. Tonight the series continues with Keith Forrester speaking on **Kingdom Relationships** from Matthew 5:38-48.

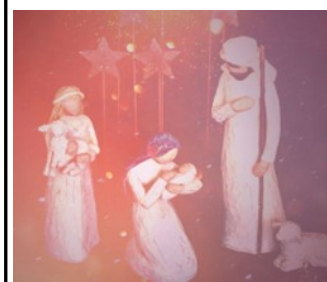


KINGDOM VALUES

Pais Team Update – A huge thank you to those who have responded to my appeal for hosts. I am in the process of following up on the offers which look really promising, I'll keep you updated on progress and would appreciate prayer as we finalise selection of team members and applications for travel visas. We plan to have a special Christmas offering to help fund this exciting opportunity to reach out to young people, you can find out more about Pais here: <https://paismovement.com/>.



Season of Return – With a whole host of cracking Christmas services and events coming up over the next couple of weeks, there are loads of opportunities to invite people to return to church. Today we have flyers and posters available to hand out.



Services: Today is the Third Sunday in Advent.
St. Peter's Church: 8.30am Service of the Word with Communion; **10.30am** The Awesome Mix Nativity Livestream: <https://youtu.be/QBkDBDiQ6vg>; **6.30pm** Theme: (See above). **Our sister churches: 10am Smithills Fellowship:** Nativity at Smithills Farm; **10.30am Barrow Bridge:** Nativity service and **10.30am St. Andrew's:** Café Church.



PrayerZone- worship. pray. seek: Our next session is at **8pm TOMORROW (12th)** in St. Peter's Church (NB: **not the Parish Centre**). Please join us for an hour of dynamic prayer. *Everybody welcome.*

General activities this week at St. Peter's Parish Centre:

Monday 12th: 10am-12noon The Coffee Room. This cafe is *open to everyone*; 10.30am Strength and Balance class (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.

Thursday 15th: 10am Aerobics. All welcome. Contact Paula on 07913 408141; 1pm-2.45pm The Well Toddler Group. All welcome. Contact Jane on 07472 926650/janeheath@heathnet.plus.com; 1.30pm-4pm Friendship Group for those with dementia and their carers (see opposite).

Friday 16th: 10.30am Friday Life. All welcome. Contact denis.collier@gmail.com; 8pm Stressbusters. All 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: 9am-1pm The Hub. Drop-in session. A warm welcome awaits and friendly conversation, refreshments and fun activities.



Church supplementary form signing for primary school admissions 2023:

This will take place on **Thursday 12th January 2023 from 6.30pm in St. Peter's Parish Centre**. Book your slot by contacting office@stpetersparish.info/ 599900 with this info: child's name, church attended and parent name and contact details.

Bible Reading Notes 2023: If you would like to receive these for next year, Kathleen Nuttall (tel. 840128) is happy to help choose and order these for you.

Christmas Bookstall in St. Peter's Church: Cards, books and small gifts from Isaiah 53 (your local Christian bookshop) will be available **TODAY (11th) and again NEXT Sunday (18th)**. Please support this and take a look. Thanks.

Carol Service in Smithills Chapel: You are invited to the Friends of Smithills Hall carol service in Smithills Chapel, **7pm NEXT Thursday (15th)**. Mulled wine and mince pies in the Hall afterwards. *All welcome.*

Friendship Group for those with Dementia and their Carers:

Our Christmas party will take place **NEXT Thursday (15th) from 1.30pm until 4pm** in the Parish Centre. Join us for party food, tea/coffee, a music surprise, carols and games - and a very warm welcome. Contact Joan on 01204 840180 for info.



A Barrel of Carols: Taking place **NEXT Thursday (15th)** at 7.30pm at The Finishers Arms (487 Church Road, Bolton, BL1 5RE). Come along to enjoy a St. Peter's Parish - led and spirit-filled Christmas singalong with plenty of your favourite carols. *Everybody welcome.*

CAP Christmas: We need you! If you would like to help wrap presents **NEXT Wednesday (14th) at 8pm** in the Parish Centre or deliver gifts to clients on the morning of Friday 23rd December, let Sam know ASAP. Thanks. (samwolstencroft@capuk.org / 599903 / 07934 71650).



Acts 435: Join the Acts 435 email address to help our CAP clients requesting various items, offers of lifts etc in times of urgent need. Email acts435@stpetersparish.info. Thanks for your support.

Christmas Services across the Parish: Flyers and posters are available in all our churches with details of our Christmas events and services—why not pick some up to give to your friends and neighbours? These are next Sunday's services:

Sunday 18th December

10:00_{am} - Carol Service at Smithills Fellowship

10:30_{am} - All Age Advent Service at St. Peter's Church

10:30_{am} - Carol Service at Barrow Bridge Mission

10:30_{am} - Carol Service at St. Andrew's (Hope Centre)

7:00_{pm} - Candlelit 9 Lessons and Carols at St. Peter's Church

Out and About Annual Church Treasure Hunt: How about a 4-5 mile flat, gentle walk in the Knutsford and Tatton Park area? Our popular Treasure Hunt will take place on **Saturday 7th January 2023** and we will meet at 9am outside St. Peter's Church. Have fun solving the clues, enjoy a cafe stop halfway and then even have lunch and shopping in beautiful Knutsford afterwards. Suitable for all members of the family. *C'mon, you know you want to do it!!!* Contact David Moffoot on 01204 770994 for info.