Prayers by Carolyn Rigby, Barrow Bridge Mission

Prayers for our Church Leadership

You may or may not realise that it was a year last weekend that Alan and Ruth moved into The Vicarage, off Harpers Lane. What a blessing they have been to our parish!

Today we are remembering all our Church Leaders in our prayers. 1 Kings 3:12 says "I will give you a wise and discerning heart, so that there will never have been anyone like you, nor will there ever be." Solomon requested wisdom from the Lord to be a good king. Pleased at Solomon's request God gave Solomon even more.

Lord, we ask that you bless those on the Leadership Teams of all four worship centres, the PCC, the Wardens, Alan and the Church Staff with Godly wisdom and special blessings of discernment of what your will is for our parish. We pray that our Church leaders listen to God's commands and that they have bold qualities as they share your word with our congregations and in the wider community.

Lord, there are many requests that come before our leadership. Often the burden is heavy to carry and delegate. Grant our leaders patience, peace and joy as they carry out your work. We pray that our leaders will be able to fix their eyes on God and His leading rather than all the things and situations going on around them. We pray that they would be refreshed by the Holy Spirit and not become weary. We pray against discouragement and downheartedness. We ask these prayers in Your name. Amen.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f2us61f-4Ak

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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 24th September 2023

Rev. Alan writes... Jesus' Family on Jesus' Mission

We had a wonderful parish weekend away at Quinta. I was hugely encouraged by the ease with which everyone got on together, a real sense that we are one parish family. The key phrase I emphasized through my talk* was that we are Jesus' Family on Jesus' Mission. I'll be unpacking a little more about what this means at this Sunday's 6.30pm parish-wide service at St. Peter's and hope that we will



hear some inspirational stories from a few of us. If you were there and you want to share a story, please let me know. The passage is Romans 12:1-2 and the theme 'Committing Your All to Jesus'. (*Watch the Quinta talks at https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLMX-dsoDpn8Evu9ZDKnlZNVxetaQqiWER&si=FVidHRttmlfgynzD)



We launch Alpha this coming Thursday (28th), 8pm-9.30pm at the Parish Centre. It promises to be a fun course and a great opportunity to explore the Christian faith in a friendly, relaxed environment. Be sure to join us and encourage your friends and family, even if only to check it out on the first week before committing to come regularly.

Finally, just a reminder to let Amanda know if you can host a member of the Ugandan AYF band and choir mission team, they are with us from Monday 16th October to the morning of Thursday 26th October. Thanks so much!

<u>Do Lunch, Do Life:</u> Following the 10:30am service in **St. Peter's Church TODAY (24th).** All welcome. Food provided, suggested donation £1 per person. We'd love to see you so please come along and join us if you can!

Church Services today in the Parish: St. Peter's Church: 8.30am Service of the Word; 10.30am Morning service. Livestream https://youtube.com/live/ IveXyJw5Md8; 6.30pm Worship and teaching with Communion. Livestream of reading and talk https://youtube.com/live/f1waAnSOSF4. Our sister churches: 10am Smithills Fellowship; 10.30am Barrow Bridge and 10.30am St. Andrew's.



ASIS Midweek service on Thursday 28th in St. Peter's Church: Oasis. Refreshments from 10.30. Service from 11.30am-12noon. All welcome.

General Activities at St. Peter's Parish Centre:

Monday 25th: 10am-12noon The Coffee Room. This cafe is open to everyone; Age UK's Strength and Balance classes are closed until 2nd October; Tuesday 26th: 10am-11.30am Little Wiggles. welcome: 7.30pm-9pm TREAD. Youth group for years 7+. Contact Ben on 07512 753201. Wednesday 27th: 10am-11.30am Open Door. All ladies welcome. Diocese of Manchester Transformation Programme —Daniel Caffrey. Contact Sandra on 846490.

Thursday 28th: 10am Aerobics. Contact Paula on 07913 408141; 1pm-2.45pm The Well Toddler Group. Contact office@stpetersparish.info/599900; 8pm-9.30pm Alpha Course. Contact office@stpetersparish.info/599900.

Friday 29th: **10.30am Friday Life**. Everyone welcome. Contact denis.collier@gmail.com; 10am-12noon Watercolour Classes (see opposite). 8pm Stressbusters. Badminton. Everyone welcome. Contact Geoff Barlow on 561760 / 07835 388732.

Saturday 23rd: 12.30pm-2pm Home for Good (see opposite).

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



Tuesday 26th: 9.45am-11.30am TOTS Parent and Toddler Group. Contact Julie on 07835 014470 for details.

Wednesday 27th: From 9am The Hub. Drop-in session. A warm welcome, friendly conversation, refreshments and fun activities awaits.



The National Day of Prayer for Schools 2023: This takes place NEXT Friday (29th).



Our PAIS team, Gleise and Michelle, will lead a prayer meeting in St. Peter's Parish Centre from 8pm - 9pm. PAIS recognise that whilst 95% of young people in the UK are not actively engaged in their local church, 99% of young people are involved in mainstream education, so to shape the nation we need to learn how to serve schools. All welcome, please come along and join us!

Baptisms: Please pray for **Hudson KIRKMAN** and **Heidi DICKINSON** who are being baptised TODAY (24th) at 2pm in St. Peter's Church. We thank God for the gift of these children and for their parents, godparents, family and friends on this special occasion.



New Watercolour Classes: Starting in St. Peter's Parish Centre NEXT Friday (29th) from 10am-12noon. 4 week course for £36. For details, please contact Lucinda 07977 821119/ lucysembroidery@gmail.com. Professional tuition (over 20 years teaching experience). Learn new skills and meet new people. All welcome.

Bolton Home for Good Support Group: This group for adopters, foster and kinship carers and their families meet NEXT Saturday (30th) from 12.30pm - 2pm in St. Peter's Parish Centre. All welcome for a bring and share lunch, Part of the **Home for Good** chill out or chat and supervised activities. (Fiona 07786 844141) network

World Focus Sunday: NEXT Sunday (1st October) Allister du Plessis from Release International will be speaking at the 10.30am and 6pm services in St. Peter's Church. NIM will also be launching an exciting new edition of this booklet which summarises the work of all our Mission Partners and also provides an opportunity for us to reflect on the part we might play for mission. All welcome.

Lewis and Susan Banister: They are finally (!) leaving for Australia and are having a farewell do for those who would like to come and say goodbye to them. Taking place in St. Peter's Parish Centre NEXT Sunday (1st October) from 1pm - 4pm. All invited.



PrayerZone—worship. pray. seek: The next session will take place on Wednesday 4th October at 8pm in St. Peter's Parish Centre. Please join us for an hour of dynamic prayer. Everybody welcome.

Café on the Green: Taking place in St. Peter's Primary School on Saturday 7th October from 9.30am - 2pm. All welcome. Join us for delicious food and good company. Proceeds to Operation Smile.



Curry Nights this week: 7.30pm at Achari (near Sainsburys), 148—152 Crook Street, Bolton, BL3 6AS. Ladies Curry Night on Monday (25th)— contact Nicola on 07753 427329 ASAP and Blokes Curry Night on Tuesday (26th)—contact Jonathon on 07753 427329 / blokescurrynight@outlook.com ASAP. (The Way Church, Bolton)

Church High School Form Signings (2024 Admissions): Wednesday 11th October in St. Peter's Parish Centre from 6.30pm-9.30pm. To attend, you must book a timed slot by contacting the Parish Office—office@stpetersparish.info/ 599900.