
THE CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday 2nd November

9:30am Musicians' Rehearsal (*church*)
10:00am Team Prayer Meeting (*church*)
10:15am SPK Registration (*hall*)
10:30am Communion Service (*church*)

Monday 3rd November

12 noon Church Prayer Meeting (*vicarage*)
8:00pm Church Prayer Meeting (*online*)

Tuesday 4th November

7:45pm Drury Road Group

Wednesday 5th November

10:15am Coffee & Chat (*mercury theatre café*)
1:45pm Cranmere Court Group

Thursday 6th November

10:00am Tiny Tots (*hall*)
7:30pm Christianity Explored (*vicarage*)

Sunday 9th November

9:00am BCP Communion (*church*)
9:30am Musicians' Rehearsal (*church*)
10:00am Team Prayer Meeting (*church*)
10:15am SPK Registration (*hall*)
10:30am Morning Service (*church*)
7:00pm Ignite (*hall*)

NAMES & CONTACT DETAILS

Mark Wallace – Vicar of St Peter's

[day off this week: Saturday]

07772 615378 | mark.wallace@stpeterscolchester.org

Lizzie Wallace – Church Administrator

[Monday-Thursday, 8:30am-4:30pm; Friday, 8:30am-12:30pm]

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Trevor Froude – Churchwarden

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John Hartwell – Churchwarden

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Ed Bradley – PCC Treasurer

07828 414 450 | stpeterscol.treasurer@yahoo.co.uk

Clare Reid – Parish Safeguarding Officer

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Amanda Knight – Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser

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St Peter's Update

Sunday 2nd November 2025

A NOTE FROM THE VICAR

Dear Friends,

The recent statement about *Living in Love and Faith* from the House of Bishops marks a significant moment. The bishops have recognised that the theological and legal barriers prevent any move towards standalone services of blessing or clergy same-sex marriage without full General Synod processes. We can be thankful for this clarification – and for the persistence of many, including CEEC and the Alliance, who have faithfully called for this outcome over recent years.

Yet we must also remember that this news has caused deep disappointment for many. While we continue to hold firmly to the biblical and historic teaching on marriage, we are called to respond with grace, compassion, and humility – seeking to bear others' burdens rather than to celebrate their disappointment.

The LLF label may now fade, but the wider debate is far from over. Please continue to pray for CEEC, for our orthodox bishops, and for the Alliance leadership as they discern the next faithful steps. Above all, let us fix our eyes on Christ, who calls His Church to truth, love, and patient endurance.

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

CHURCH PRAYER MEETINGS

We'd love you to join us as we pray together this term. Our next meetings are on Monday 3rd November:

- 12 noon in church (meeting at the Vicarage, in Balkerne Close)
- 8pm on Zoom (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87622420468?pwd=OYSVImwldseusdDEsldQwJyIxc8slv.1>)

Each meeting lasts about 35 minutes, and is an opportunity to pray for the work of the church and for those in need. Future dates: Mon 1 Dec, Mon 19 Jan, Mon 2 Feb, Mon 16 Feb, Mon 2 Mar, Mon 16 Mar and Mon 30 Mar. Everyone is warmly welcome.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY - 9th November

We look forward to welcoming Lee McDade to preach on Remembrance Sunday. Lee serves with the Soldiers' and Airmen's Scripture Readers Association (SASRA), which shares the good news of Jesus with men and women in the British Armed Forces. Based at Colchester Baptist Church, and having served for many years as a Scripture Reader with the Army, he's passionate about bringing the hope of Christ to soldiers, their families, and all who cross his path. He will be preaching on John 15.

LOOKING AHEAD TO CHRISTMAS...

Advent and Christmas offer many of the best opportunities to invite friend and family to church, to celebrate with us and to hear the good news of Jesus. With Advent only a few weeks away, you might like to have these opportunities in your diary:

- the **Advent Carol Service**, on Sunday 30th November at 10:30am
- **'Messy Church goes all Christmassy'**, on Sunday 14th December at 10:30am
- the **Christmas Carol Service**, on Sunday 14th December, at 6:30pm
- our Christmas Eve **Christingle Services** at 2:30pm and 5pm (two services this year, to allow for larger numbers)
- our **Christmas Day Family Communion Service**, at the slightly earlier time of 10:00am.

Meanwhile, here is an invitation to join our Christmas Choir and be part of the festive music! We'll be singing at both the Advent Carol Service and the Christmas Carol Service (but don't worry if you can only make one of those two). Rehearsals start on Wednesday 12th November at 7:30pm, in the Church Hall. Any questions? Do please chat with Richard Lawn.

'FAITH IN KIDS' - TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

We are delighted to partner with *Faith in Kids* to bring training opportunities for those involved in *St Peter's Kids* and *Tiny Tots*. Whatever your context, age or level of experience, we have something to help you.

For those involved in *Tiny Tots*, the next *Energise* session is on Monday 10th November, at 7pm, at the Vicarage.

For those involved in *St Peter's Kids*, the next *Equip* session is on Monday 2nd March, at 7pm, in (tbc) the Church Hall.

Further information is available via www.faithinkids.org/training/

NEWS, NOTICES & REMINDERS...

- The rotas for December, January & February will be being published soon. If you are part of a Ministry Team, please let Lizzie know of any 'unavailability' (either via ChurchSuite, or directly to the Office) to avoid any unnecessary clashes.
- The deadline for the Shoebox Appeal is next Sunday (9th November). Thank you to everyone who has contributed!
- Small Groups are a wonderful way to get to know others, grow in faith, and make our large church feel like family. Everyone is welcome! If you'd like to find out more or join a Small Group, please get in touch with the Vicar.
- At St Peter's, we don't take a collection during the service, but a card reader is available at the back of church for those who wish to give. More importantly, we encourage everyone who considers themselves part of our church family to consider regular giving to support the ongoing mission and ministry of the church. This can be done by Standing Order, or through *MyChurchsuite's MyGiving* section. Wherever possible, please use Gift Aid to increase the value of your gift at no extra cost. Regular giving helps the church plan wisely, and helps us join together in the work God is doing.