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## COMING UP THIS WEEK...

### Sunday 8th February

- 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)

### Tuesday 10th February

*no Discipleship Explored this week*

- 7:45pm Drury Road Group

### Wednesday 11th February

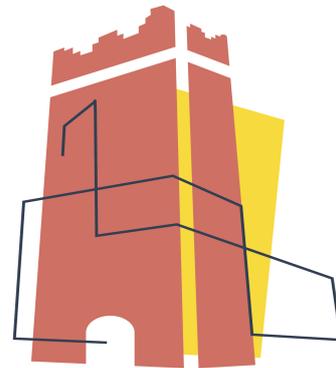
- 1:30pm Cranmere Court Group

### Thursday 12th February

- 10:00am Tiny Tots (hall)

### Sunday 15th February

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



The full church calendar, with further details of locations etc, may be viewed online [via the website](#) or via ChurchSuite.

## St Peter's Update

Sunday 8th February 2026



# St Peter's

COLCHESTER

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## NAMES & CONTACT DETAILS

### Mark Wallace – Vicar of St Peter's

07772 615378 | [mark.wallace@stpeterscolchester.org](mailto:mark.wallace@stpeterscolchester.org)

### Lizzie Wallace – Church Administrator

07947 136 048 | [office@stpeterscolchester.org](mailto:office@stpeterscolchester.org)

### Clare Reid – Parish Safeguarding Officer

07946 071 246 | [safeguarding@stpeterscolchester.org](mailto:safeguarding@stpeterscolchester.org)

### Amanda Knight – Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser

01245294457 | [safeguarding@chelmsford.anglican.org](mailto:safeguarding@chelmsford.anglican.org)

Churchwardens and other office-holders at St Peter's may be contacted via the Office ([office@stpeterscolchester.org](mailto:office@stpeterscolchester.org)).

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## A NOTE FROM THE VICAR

Dear Friends,

This week I shall be away (Monday 9th to Friday 13th) attending the General Synod in London. Synod matters because decisions taken there shape the Church of England's common life and public witness, and they directly affect parish churches like St Peter's – our safeguarding practice, our discipline and accountability, and how we hold together faithfully as we seek to proclaim Christ.

This week General Synod will be addressing issues including safeguarding independence, the ongoing *Living in Love and Faith* proposals, and legislation relating to clergy conduct and discipline.

Please do pray for wisdom, charity, and clarity in our deliberations – and please accept my apologies that I shall be away all week.

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

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## LOOKING AHEAD – LEADERSHIP POSITIONS AT ST PETER'S

At our Annual Church Meetings in May, we will be electing and appointing church members to several important roles in the life of St Peter's. These are vital to our worship, mission, and witness, and they are roles for prayerful, steady, mature disciples – people who can work well with others, and serve the church with wisdom and grace.

Please do prayerfully consider whether God may be calling you to offer yourself, or whether you might encourage someone else who would be well-suited. *NB Eligibility to stand for election is ordinarily dependent on being on the Electoral Roll (subject to the relevant rules). Please contact the Vicar or Churchwardens for guidance.*

- **Churchwardens.** Each year we elect two Churchwardens – lay officers of the parish, working closely with the Vicar and PCC to support the worshipping life of the church and the practical care of our buildings, fabric, and day-to-day functioning. They are key pastoral and leadership figures, helping to hold things together calmly and faithfully. *We will need at least one new Churchwarden, as Trevor Froude has indicated he does not intend to stand for election again.*
- **Treasurer.** The Treasurer helps the PCC oversee the church's finances, enabling our ministry and mission to be properly resourced and accountable. You don't need to be a professional accountant, but some confidence with numbers, good judgement, and a careful approach are important. *Since Ed Bradley will be stepping down, please prayerfully consider whether you (or someone you know) could serve in this role, and contact the Vicar or Churchwardens as soon as possible.*
- **PCC members.** We expect at least three vacancies for elected PCC members. The PCC shares responsibility for supporting the church's mission and priorities, overseeing the governance of the church's life (inc. areas such as buildings, finance, HR & remuneration, risk & compliance, and safeguarding). PCC members don't have to be experts, but they do need to be committed, thoughtful, and willing to ask questions, contribute to discussions, and share responsibility as part of a team.
- **Deanery Synod members.** We will also be electing two Deanery Synod representatives, who help represent St Peter's in the wider life and mission of the deanery and diocese. *If you are interested, please speak to the Vicar.*

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## NEWS, NOTICES & REMINDERS...

- Would you like to receive this Update by email (usually on a Friday afternoon)? Just email or message the Church Office!
- The Prayer Pointers for February are now available, either on the Church WhatsApp group or from the back of church.
- Serving on a Sunday team is one of the best ways to belong at St Peter's – sharing the load, using your gifts, and helping our services run smoothly so people can hear the gospel and feel warmly welcomed. With the new rotas due out very soon, please update your unavailability in ChurchSuite as soon as you can (ideally by adding dates directly). If that's not possible, just let Lizzie in the Office know and she will gladly update it for you—thank you.
- We do not take up a collection during services, but a card reader is available at the back of church for Sunday donations. If you consider St Peter's your church family, we warmly encourage you to consider regular giving, which enables the church to plan wisely and support our ongoing mission and ministry. You can give regularly by Standing Order, via a paper form (available at the back of church), or through MyChurchSuite (MyGiving). Where possible, please also consider Gift Aid, which increases your gift at no extra cost to you.
- Do join us for our Ash Wednesday Holy Communion on 18th February at 7.00pm. All are very welcome, whether you've come before or it's your first time. Ash Wednesday marks the start of Lent – a refocus on Jesus as we journey towards Easter. We'd be grateful for a few volunteers to steward at the service; please contact Lizzie in the Office if you can help.
- The next Church & Churchyard Working Party is being organised for Saturday 28th February (start: 9:30am). All help with sweeping, dusting, raking and cleaning very much appreciated! You can register [here](#) or directly via ChurchSuite.
- Join us for our Church Fundraiser Ceilidh on Saturday 7th March 2026, 7.00-8.30pm, at St Peter's Church Hall – music, dancing (or happily watching!), with a caller so no experience needed (ages 10-110). Tickets: £10 for adults / £5 ages for 10-18s; refreshments and raffle. All proceeds support roof repairs and improved disabled access. See the leaflets in church for further details, including how to buy your ticket, or contact Lizzie in the Church Office for help.
- If English is not your first language, the free Microsoft Translator app can provide live translation of the sermon and the spoken parts of the service. It is simple, uses little data, and works best if you sit near the front to hear the speaker clearly.

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## ADVANCE NOTICE: "MAKE A MOTHER'S DAY!"

Every year at St Peter's, on Mothering Sunday, we seek to continue our church's sponsorship of two young people – Mary in the Philippines, and Richard in Brazil – through Compassion UK's initiative to "Make a Mother's Day". This year, Mothering Sunday is on 15th March, and further information will be available in the coming weeks...