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## COMING UP THIS WEEK...

### Sunday 12th April

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)

### Monday 13th April

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

### Tuesday 14th April

7:45pm Drury Road Group  
8:00pm Jericho Road Group

### Wednesday 15th April

1:30pm Cranmere Court Group

### Thursday 16th April

10:00am Craft Prep Session (hall)

### Sunday 19th April

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

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)

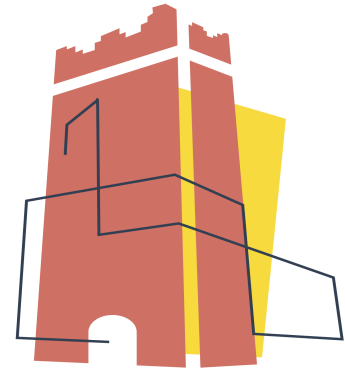
### Clare Reid – Parish Safeguarding Officer

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

### Amanda Knight – Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser

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



## St Peter's Update

Sunday 12th April 2026

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### A NOTE FROM THE VICAR

Dear Friends,

This week, as we return to the book of Acts, we have the great joy of seeing again the work of the risen Lord Jesus in and through his people. Acts is not simply a record of the early church; it is a testimony to the fact that Jesus is alive, reigning, and continuing his saving work by his Spirit.

This gives us every reason to be joyful. The same Lord who called, equipped, and sustained his first disciples has not changed. He still builds his church. He still opens hearts to hear his word. He still strengthens his people for witness, service, and perseverance. And he still works in ways that often exceed our expectations.

As we read Acts together over these coming weeks, I hope we shall be encouraged not only by what the Lord did then, but by what he continues to do now. In a world that can often seem uncertain or discouraging, Acts reminds us that the gospel is not fragile, and that the purposes of God do not fail. Christ is risen, his Spirit is at work, and his kingdom continues to grow.

So let's return to this wonderful book with expectation, gratitude, and confidence. May the Lord give us eyes to see his hand at work among us, hearts full of thankfulness for his grace, and a renewed eagerness to play our part in his service.

With best wishes,

*Mark*

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## GIVING TOWARDS 'CONTAGIOUS' BURSARIES

Each year, a number of our young people go to Contagious, with some of our church leaders going too in order to serve and support them. It is a wonderful opportunity for young people to enjoy friendship and fun, hear excellent Bible teaching, and be encouraged to live wholeheartedly for Christ.

Again and again, weeks like these can be of real and lasting spiritual value. They give space for young people to listen carefully to God's word, deepen Christian friendships, ask important questions, and grow in confidence in the Lord Jesus. We are very thankful for the opportunity Contagious provides, and we would love as many as possible from St Peter's to be able to go.

For that reason, St Peter's aims to offer bursaries to help with the cost of attending. These church bursaries supplement a similar bursary scheme offered by Contagious itself.

If you are in a position to support this church bursary scheme, donations can be made online (reference: *Contagious*) or via the card reader. Please do pray for all those who will be attending this summer, both young people and leaders, and please consider giving if you are able. If you would like to know more about Contagious, please talk to Lizzie Wallace (07947 136 048). Thank you very much for any support you may be able to offer.

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## WHAT MIGHT YOUR NEXT STEP BE, NEXT TERM?

Looking ahead, we would love to encourage everyone to think about taking a next step in church life. That next step will look different for each of us, because we are all at different stages. Whether you are exploring the Christian faith, wanting to feel more connected in church life, or hoping to grow in confidence as you follow Jesus, we hope there is something here for you.

- **Exploring?** If you are asking questions about the Christian faith, or would simply value a relaxed space to think and talk, why not try *Life Explored*? Starting on Tuesday 21st April at 7:30pm, this course offers an opportunity to explore life's big questions in a warm and welcoming setting. Through video and discussion, it helps us reflect on what we are really living for and how our deepest longings are ultimately met in Jesus Christ.
- **Engaging?** If you are looking to feel more at home in church life and grow alongside others, one of our Bible Study Groups would be a wonderful next step. These groups are a great way to build friendships, encourage one another, and deepen our understanding of God's word together. For some, *Life Explored* may also be a helpful place to begin, especially if you are still thinking through some of the foundations of the Christian faith.
- **Equipping?** If you are hoping to be better equipped for living for Jesus and serving his people, we are offering modules from the Crosslands Training Course: *Reading & Understanding the Bible* and *Bible Overview*, both of which are designed to help us grow in confidence in reading Scripture and to see more clearly how the whole Bible fits together. The course is based around Thursday evenings, but is very flexible, so we would not necessarily meet every week. There is a financial cost, but the church would be very glad to cover this for church members who would like to study in this way.

For more information about any of these opportunities, please contact the Church Office or speak to the Vicar.

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## NEWS, NOTICES & REMINDERS...

- Our Church Prayer Meetings continue on Monday 13th April. Join us "in-person" at noon, or [online via Zoom](#) at 8:00pm.
- Please note that our Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held on Monday 18th May, and that the Electoral Roll is now being revised in preparation for it. If this is your church home and you are not yet on the Electoral Roll, please return an application form to the Church Office by Thursday 30th April. Forms are available in church and from the Church Office.
- Help Needed to prepare crafts for Tiny Tots. Please join us if you can to help colour, cut, and stick! This Thursday morning from 9:30-11am in the Church Hall. Tea and biscuits and friendly chat will be provided! Absolutely no artistic skill required!
- The latest newsletter from the Bishop of Ebbsfleet is now available at the back of church ([available online here](#)).
- The Church Library has recently been refreshed. Do take a look – all borrowing is free of charge...
- The latest letter from Richard, our sponsored child in Brazil, is [available to view online](#), or on request from the Office. If you would like to write a letter or card to either Richard or Mary (in the Philippines), Lizzie in the Office would be happy to assist.
- St Peter's is seeking a new Church Treasurer. You do not need to be a professional accountant, but some confidence with numbers is important, and there will be a full handover and support. Please prayerfully consider whether you (or someone you know) could help, and contact the Vicar or Churchwardens as soon as possible.
- 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. Please also consider Gift Aid, which increases your gift at no extra cost to you.