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## COMING UP THIS WEEK...

### Sunday 21st June

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

### Monday 22nd June

- all day Ebbsfleet Regional Conference (cambridge)

### Tuesday 23rd June

- 7:45pm Drury Road Group

### Wednesday 24th June

- 10:15am Coffee & Chat (mercury cafe)
- 11:00am Freda Gunton Lodge Communion
- 1:30pm Cranmere Court Group

### Thursday 25th June

- 10:00am Tiny Tots (hall)
- 7:45pm Crosslands Training (vicarage)

### Saturday 27th June

- 9:30am Working Party (church & churchyard)
- 9:40am First Aid Course (hall)

### Sunday 28th June

- 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)

*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

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### Lizzie Wallace – Church Administrator

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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 21st June 2026

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### A NOTE FROM THE VICAR

Dear Friends,

The World Cup has begun, and it is easy to see why football captures so many hearts. It gives people a sense of drama, hope, belonging, and joy. For a little while, strangers become friends, a match feels hugely important, and everyone longs for glory.

But even the best sporting moments do not last. The final whistle blows, the trophy is lifted, and life soon returns to normal. That does not mean the joy is false; it means it is too small to carry our deepest hopes.

The gospel tells us that we were made for something deeper: not just passing excitement, but life with God; not just belonging to a crowd, but being welcomed into Christ's people; not just a temporary victory, but the lasting hope of resurrection life in the Lord Jesus.

So as people talk about football over the coming weeks, perhaps we can gently help them ask the bigger questions: What are we really longing for? Where can lasting joy be found? And what if the answer is not a thing to win, but a Saviour who gives himself for us?

With best wishes,



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## COULD YOU HELP US WELCOME AND CARE FOR PEOPLE WELL?

Over the coming months we will be looking at how we can strengthen our stewarding and welcome arrangements at Sunday services and larger events. This is partly about good practical care: helping people find their way, noticing visitors, supporting those who may need assistance, and making sure we are well prepared if something unexpected happens.

We want St Peter's to be a church where people are warmly welcomed, thoughtfully cared for, and able to gather safely and confidently. Good stewarding is a simple but important part of that. It does not require special expertise, but it does call for people who are willing to be attentive, calm, friendly, and practical.

We hope to offer some straightforward training later in the year, covering both welcome and basic emergency arrangements. We would also love to hear from anyone who might be willing to help, or who has relevant experience or suggestions. Please speak to Mark (our Vicar), one of the Churchwardens, or contact the Church Office if you would like to know more.

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## NEWS, NOTICES & REMINDERS...

- Motjaba's baptism: On Sunday 28th June, we look forward to Motjaba's baptism during the Morning Service. Motjaba came to the UK after fleeing persecution in Iran, first arriving in Folkestone and now settling in Colchester. It will be a joy to hear something of his testimony and to give thanks for the Lord's grace and faithfulness in his life.
  - Ministry Support Fund: Thank you to those who have already returned response forms; the responses so far have been very encouraging. Please do remember to return forms by 30th June, either to John Hartwell, David Whittington, or Richard Lawn. Blank copies of the letter and response form are available at the back of church, and John, David, or Richard would be very happy to speak with anyone who has questions.
  - The Bishop of Ebbsfleet's June Newsletter is now available. This edition includes a helpful reflection from Bishop Rob on the Trinity, and how the love of Father, Son and Holy Spirit shapes the life of the church as a family of different members serving together in unity. You can read the newsletter [here](#), and printed copies are at the back of church.
  - We are sad to report that the Colchester Good Shepherd Church will soon be moving their Sunday services from our Church Hall to Lifehouse in Lexden. Their final Sunday with us will be 28th June. We are very grateful for the fellowship we have shared, and do pray that the Lord will continue to bless Victor, Queenie, and the church family in this next step.
  - Please note that the 9am BCP Communion services will pause during July and August, and resume in September.
  - Coffee & Chat: A group from St Peter's meets each Wednesday at the Mercury Theatre café from 10.15-11.45am for coffee and conversation. All are very welcome. Please speak to Di King or Derek Drew if you would like to know more.
  - Please join us for a Church & Churchyard Working Party this Saturday, 27th June, from 9.30am. There will be plenty to do inside and outside as we care for the church and grounds together, and all help would be very welcome.
  - Don't forget that short sermon summaries and Bible Study Group notes are available on [the Sermons page](#) of the website. These are there to help us keep listening to God's word through the week, whether catching up, revisiting a passage, or preparing for Bible Study Group.
  - The next planned 'First Sunday Picnic' is after the Morning Service on Sunday 5th July, in the Vicarage Garden, weather permitting. Bring your own lunch, and a chair or picnic rug if you can.
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## RIDE & STRIDE – Saturday 12th September

St Peter's will be taking part in Ride and Stride again this year, on Saturday 12th September. This is the annual event organised by the Friends of Essex Churches Trust, raising money to support historic church buildings across the county, including our own.

The idea is simple: people are sponsored to visit as many churches as they can during the day, either by cycling, walking, or another suitable method. Half of the money raised by St Peter's participants comes back to St Peter's, with the other half supporting the wider work of the Trust. Please do save the date. More details will follow, but it would be good to have a strong St Peter's team, of all ages and stages, taking part again this year.

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## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN ST PETER'S KIDS THIS SUNDAY?

Thank you to all our wonderful *St Peter's Kids* leaders and helpers! Here's what's going on in SPK this Sunday...

- Spark (in the Vestry) are continuing their '*Bible Overview*' series, looking this week at '*From Division to Exile*';
- Diggers and Seekers (meeting together in the Hall) continue their new series in the letter to the Philippians;
- Bible Tots (in the Church Lounge) will be looking at Jesus' Passover Meal.

Do please pray for all our children and young people, and for all those leading, teaching and caring for them.