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## COMING UP THIS WEEK...

### 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)

### Monday 29th June

12 noon Church Prayer Meeting (church)  
2:30pm Seniors' Afternoon Tea (vicarage)  
8:00pm Church Prayer Meeting (online)

### Tuesday 30th June

7:45pm Drury Road Group

### Wednesday 1st July

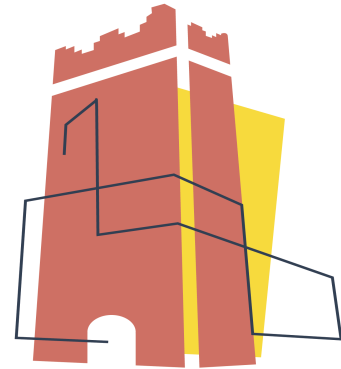
10:15am Coffee & Chat (mercury cafe)  
1:30pm Cranmere Court Group

### Thursday 2nd July

10:00am Tiny Tots Summer Party (vicarage)

### Sunday 5th July

9:30am Musicians' Rehearsal (church)  
10:00am Team Prayer Meeting (church)  
10:15am SPK Registration (hall)  
10:30am Communion Service (church)  
12 noon 'First Sunday' Picnic (vicarage)



## St Peter's Update

Sunday 28th June 2026

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

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 Sunday we come to Acts 12, where the church is weak, opposed, and praying – and yet the Lord is wonderfully at work. Herod seems powerful. The church seems vulnerable. But by the end of the chapter, Herod is gone, Peter is free, and “the word of God increased and multiplied.”

That is a wonderfully fitting passage for GAFCON Sunday. Across the world, many Anglican Christians know what it means to follow Jesus under pressure, opposition, uncertainty, or real cost. Yet the gospel is not weak. Christ is building his Church, often in places and through people the world would easily overlook.

And it is a wonderfully fitting Sunday for Motjaba's baptism. Motjaba came to the UK after fleeing persecution in Iran, first arriving in Folkestone and now settling in Colchester. As we hear something of his testimony and welcome him in baptism, we are being reminded that the Lord Jesus is still gathering his people from every nation.

So this Sunday is not mainly about church politics, global networks, or even our own local life. It is about Christ: the risen Lord who hears the prayers of his people, sustains his Church under pressure, and brings men and women from death to life.

Do join us, as we rejoice, pray, and give thanks.

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal stroke.

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## GAFCON SUNDAY

This Sunday is GAFCON Sunday, when Anglican churches across the world are being encouraged to pray for and support the work of GAFCON: a global Anglican movement seeking to keep the Bible at the heart of the Anglican Communion.

For St Peter's, GAFCON matters not because we want to be defined by church controversy, but because we want to stand in joyful gospel partnership with faithful Anglican Christians across the world. It reminds us that Anglicanism is bigger than the Church of England, and that churches like ours are not isolated as we seek to remain faithful to Jesus Christ, confident in the Scriptures, committed to the gospel, and united with brothers and sisters across many nations.

Our Vicar has prepared a fuller reflection explaining more about GAFCON, why it matters, and how it relates to St Peter's. Please do read that if you are able. But most of all, please pray: for faithful Anglican churches across the world, for courage and clarity in the gospel, and for St Peter's to continue faithfully in the work God has given us here in Colchester.

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## SENIORS' AFTERNOON TEA – Monday 29th June, 2:30pm

We are looking forward to our Seniors' Afternoon Tea on Monday 29th June, from 2.30pm until 4.30pm, in the Vicarage Garden. This will be a chance to mark our Patronal Festival together, enjoy some time with one another, and give thanks for God's goodness to us as a church family.

All seniors are very welcome. Thank you to everyone who is helping with the afternoon, whether by preparing, serving, providing food, or helping on the day. Please do pray that it will be a joyful and encouraging occasion. If there are any doubts about the weather, please ring 07947 136 048 on Monday.

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## FUNDING FOR ORDAINED MINISTRY AT ST PETER'S

Thank you to all who have already returned response forms following the recent letter from the Churchwardens about the Ministry Support Fund. The response so far has been very encouraging, and we are grateful for the prayerful thought people are giving to this. **The deadline for responses is this coming Tuesday (30th June).** If you are able to return your form before then, please do so, as this will help the PCC have a clearer sense of what support may be possible for the next three years.

Response forms can be returned to John Hartwell or David Whittington (our Churchwardens), or to Richard Lawn (our Interim Finance Lead). Blank copies of the letter and response form are available at the back of church for anyone who still needs one. If you have any questions, please do speak to John, David, or Richard.

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## TINY TOTS

This Thursday (2nd July), Tiny Tots will have its summer party, bringing another encouraging year to a close. We are very thankful for all who have served on the team, and for the many children, parents, grandparents, and carers who have come through the doors week by week. Tiny Tots will then pause for the summer and, God willing, return in September. As we look ahead, we do need to strengthen the team. Several people have stepped back over recent months, and we will need more helpers if Tiny Tots is to continue well in the autumn.

Please do pray for this important ministry to local families, and consider whether you might be able to help. Anyone interested should speak to Lizzie Wallace, who can explain what is involved and begin the safer recruitment process.

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## NEWS, NOTICES & REMINDERS...

- 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.
- Don't forget that short sermon summaries and Bible Study Group notes are available on [the Sermons page](#) of the website. Printed copies of the Bible Study Group notes are also available at the back of church.
- 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.