
COMING UP THIS WEEK...

Sunday 11th October

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

Wednesday 14th October

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

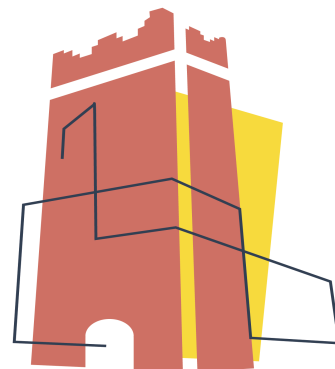
Thursday 15th October

10:00am Tiny Tots (hall)
11:30am Thursday Working Lunch (hall)

Sunday 18th October

9:30am Musicians' Rehearsal (church)
10:00am Team Prayer Meeting (church)
10:15am SPK Registration (church)
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 11th October 2026



St Peter's

COLCHESTER

NAMES & CONTACT DETAILS

Mark Wallace – Vicar of St Peter's

on annual leave this coming week

Lizzie Wallace – Church Administrator

07947 136 048 | office@stpeterscolchester.org

Clare Reid – Parish Safeguarding Officer

07946 071 246 | safeguarding@stpeterscolchester.org

Amanda Knight – Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser

01245294457 | safeguarding@chelmsford.anglican.org

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

A NOTE FROM THE VICAR

Dear Friends,

I am away this weekend, but I am very glad that Revd Stuart Hull, who is part of our church family, will be preaching for us. Stuart's main ministry is as an Army chaplain with the Parachute Regiment, and he has recently been granted Permission to Officiate in the Diocese of Chelmsford, enabling him to serve more fully here at St Peter's too. He has also only recently returned from exercises – so do ask him about his experiences of gospel ministry in the jungle!

This Sunday we return to Acts 14, where Paul and Barnabas continue to make Christ known in the face of both encouragement and opposition. It is a vivid and exciting passage, reminding us that the gospel advances because God is at work through his word and his people.

I hope it is a really good Sunday, and I look forward to being back with everyone next weekend.

With best wishes,

Mark

STEWARDSHIP SURVEY – STILL TIME TO RESPOND

Thank you very much to the 33 people who have responded so far to our Annual Stewardship Survey. The responses have already been extremely helpful as we begin to think and plan for 2027.

We would, though, really like to hear from as many people as possible across the St Peter's church family. The survey is intended to give everyone an opportunity to reflect on their part in the life of the church, and to help the PCC understand more clearly our gifts, capacity, ideas, needs and financial position.

We are therefore keeping the survey open for a further two weeks. If you have not yet responded, please do take the opportunity to do so. You can complete it [online here](#). There are also plenty of paper copies available in church on Sunday, so please do pick one up. Even if your response is simply that you expect broadly to continue as you are, it is still genuinely useful for us to know. We are very grateful for everyone who takes the time to respond.

RIDE & STRIDE – THANK YOU

A huge thank you to everyone who took part in this year's Ride & Stride, and to everyone who sponsored them. We hope those who rode and strode enjoyed the day and the time together. Together you raised a fantastic £538.50. Combined with the money raised through our Heritage Open Days, that takes the total to almost £1,000. We are really grateful to everyone who contributed – by taking part, sponsoring, welcoming visitors or helping behind the scenes.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD – SHOEBOX APPEAL 2026

This autumn we are once again supporting Operation Christmas Child, run by Samaritan's Purse. There are two simple ways to take part: you can pack a shoebox for a child overseas, or make a financial contribution towards the costs of collecting, processing and transporting the boxes – or, of course, do both.

Flat-pack shoeboxes are available in church from this Sunday. Please fill your box with a mixture of fun, useful and practical gifts, and return it to St Peter's by Sunday 1st November. Please do not seal the box shut, as it will need to be checked before it is sent. If you would prefer to contribute financially, our card reader will include options to give £5, £20 or another amount. We will combine these contributions and pass them on to Operation Christmas Child.

Full guidance about what to include – and what not to include – is available with the shoebox materials in church. Please do take part if you can, and pray for the child who will eventually receive your gift.

NEWS, NOTICES & REMINDERS...

- We are hoping to take a group of young people aged 14-18 to Sorted 2026 at Westminster Chapel in London on Saturday 7th November. Sorted brings together hundreds of teenagers and youth leaders for a day of Bible teaching, worship and encouragement; this year's theme is *Indestructible*, with teaching from John's Gospel. If you might be interested in coming, please let the Church Office know via 07947 136 048.
 - We are hoping to have a choir again this year to help lead the singing at both our Advent Carol Service and Christmas Carol Service. We are still in the early stages of planning and arranging rehearsals, but we would love to hear now from anyone who might be interested in taking part. If you would like to be involved, please let the Church Office know (07947 136 048), or speak directly to Richard Lawn.
 - The Prayer Pointers for October are now available at the back of church.
 - Bible Study Group notes are available at the back of church and on the website.
 - Please note there will be no 9:00am BCP Service this Sunday (11th). The next 9:00am Communion will be on 25th October.
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TEST EVERYTHING; HOLD FAST WHAT IS GOOD

We hear many different voices speaking about Christianity, and not everything that uses Christian language is faithful to the gospel. The Bible calls us to discernment: *"Test everything; hold fast what is good."* Our Vicar, Mark, has written a fuller letter about street preaching, prosperity teaching, other religious groups, and discernment within the wider Church. Please pick up a paper copy from the back of church on Sunday, or [read it online](#).