
COMING UP THIS WEEK...

Sunday 18th October

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

Monday 19th October

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

Tuesday 20th October

8:00pm Jericho Road Group

Wednesday 21st October

10:15am Coffee & Chat (mercury cafe)
1:30pm Cranmere Court Group
7:30pm EQUIP session (online)

Thursday 22nd October

10:00am Tiny Tots (hall)
11:30am Thursday Working Lunch (hall)
2:00pm EQUIP session (online)
7:30pm EQUIP session (online)

Sunday 25th October

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

NAMES & CONTACT DETAILS

Mark Wallace – Vicar of St Peter's

07772 615378 | mark.wallace@stpeterscolchester.org

Lizzie Wallace – Church Administrator

07947 136 048 | office@stpeterscolchester.org

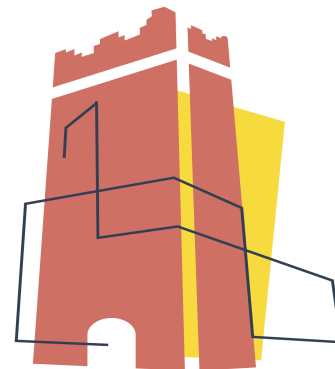
Clare Reid – Parish Safeguarding Officer

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).*



St Peter's Update

Sunday 18th October 2026

A NOTE FROM THE VICAR

Dear Friends,

Over the next couple of weeks, we are once again taking part in the Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Appeal, run by Samaritan's Purse.

It is a simple way of showing practical generosity to children overseas. You can take part by packing a shoebox, by making a financial contribution towards the costs of collecting, processing and transporting the boxes, or by doing both.

Flat-pack shoeboxes and full guidance are available in church. If you are filling a box, please return it to St Peter's by Sunday 1st November, and please do not seal it shut, as the contents need to be checked before it is sent. Financial contributions can be made through the church card reader.

As you prepare a box, please do also pray for the child who will eventually receive it. We may never know their name or circumstances, but this is an opportunity to give thoughtfully, generously and prayerfully.

Thank you to everyone who is able to take part.

With best wishes,

Mark

CHURCH PRAYER MEETINGS – this Monday

Our next Church Prayer Meetings are this Monday (19th October):

- **in-person:** 12.00 noon at the Vicarage (NB, not in church)
- **online:** 8.00pm via Zoom (log-in details will be shared on the Church WhatsApp group, or [click here](#))

Prayer is not an optional extra to the life of the church. It is one of the chief ways in which we express our dependence on God – asking him to work among us, to sustain our ministries, to save people, to guide us, and to do what only he can do. There is much to pray for at St Peter's at present, and we would really encourage you to join us if you possibly can. Whether you come regularly or have never joined one of these meetings before, you would be very welcome.

NEWS FROM THE BISHOP OF EBBSFLEET

The latest edition of *Ebbsfleet News* is now available, bringing news, reflections and encouragement from Bishop Rob Munro and the wider network of churches he serves. The October edition includes Bishop Rob's reflections on the challenges facing the Church of England, news from the Ebbsfleet team, and information about opportunities for fellowship, encouragement and Christian ministry. The newsletter has recently moved to a new online format, rather than the printable PDF we have previously made available at the back of church. We would encourage members of the church family to sign up to receive it directly by email. You can find details at www.bishopofebbsfleet.org, or speak to Mark if you would like help accessing it.

ARE YOU ON THE CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL?

If St Peter's is your church home and you are eligible, we'd warmly encourage you to consider joining our Church Electoral Roll if you are not already on it. The Electoral Roll is the Church of England's official record of those who belong to a local church and wish to take part in its life and governance.

Being on the Roll enables you to vote at our Annual Church Meetings, which next year will take place on Tuesday 27th April 2027, and to take part in elections for a number of church roles. For some elected roles, including membership of the PCC, you normally need to have been on the Electoral Roll for at least six months beforehand, so it is worth looking at this now rather than waiting until next spring. If you are baptised, aged 16 or over, and meet the relevant membership or attendance requirements, you may be eligible to join. [Apply to join the Electoral Roll online](#). If you are unsure whether you are already on the Roll, whether you are eligible, or have any other questions, please speak to Mark.

NEWS, NOTICES & REMINDERS...

- Thank you to all those who have responded to our recent Stewardship Survey. The responses are already proving very helpful as the PCC plans for 2027. If you have not yet replied, please do take the opportunity to do so – [complete it online here](#), or pick up a paper copy in church on Sunday.
- A huge thank you to everyone who took part or sponsored this year's Ride & Stride event. Together you raised £538.50; combined with our Heritage Open Days, that brings the total raised to almost £1,000.
- We are taking our Ignite youth group (ages 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.
- Exploring a call to ordained ministry? If you have ever wondered whether God might be calling you to ordained ministry, do speak to Mark. You do not need to have everything worked out; exploring a possible call often begins with a simple conversation. There is also a Diocese of Chelmsford event on Saturday 7th November for those wanting to explore ordination further.
- "*Test everything; hold fast what is good*": Not everything using Christian language is faithful to the gospel, so we need discernment. Mark, our Vicar, has written a fuller letter on street preaching, prosperity teaching, other religious groups, and discernment within the wider Church. Pick up a paper copy on Sunday, or [read it online](#).
- 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 available at the back of church.