COMING UP THIS WEEK...

Sunday 8th November
9:00am BCP Communion (church)
9:45am Morning Prayer (hall)
10:45am Coffee (hall)
11:15am 'Rock Solid' with SPK (hall)

Monday 9th November
7:30pm PCC (hall)

Wednesday 11th November
10:15am Coffee & Chat (mercury cafe)
10:55am Freda Gunton Lodge Communion Service
1:30pm Cranmere Court Group
7:00pm EQUIP session (online)

Thursday 12th November
10:00am Tiny Tots (hall)
11:30am Thursday Working Lunch (hall)
2:00pm EQUIP session (online)
5:00pm EQUIP session (online)

Sunday 15th November
9:00am BCP Communion (church)
9:45am Morning Prayer (hall)
10:45am Coffee (hall)
11:15am 'Rock Solid' with SPK (hall)

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 8th November 2026

A NOTE FROM THE VICAR

Dear Friends,

This Sunday is Remembrance Sunday. At 11:00am, during our coffee time between the two Hall services, we will pause together for the two-minute silence. Please do join us if you can.

Remembrance rightly calls us to gratitude for those who served and sacrificed, sorrow for the cost of war, and a renewed longing for peace. Jesus says, *"Blessed are the peacemakers"*, and Christians should never be casual about the work of seeking peace, reconciliation and justice.

But Remembrance also points us beyond even the best of human efforts. The Bible says of Jesus, *"He himself is our peace."* The deepest peace we need is peace with God, won for us through the cross; and the lasting peace for which our world longs will finally be found only in him.

So as we remember, give thanks and pray for peace, let us also hold fast to Christ – our peace, and our hope.

With best wishes,

Mark

ROTAS – THANK YOU, AND HELP NEEDED!

Thank you for bearing with us as we have had to rework the rotas around the new Sunday service pattern. The rotas are now available on ChurchSuite through to the end of November.

Please do take responsibility for checking when you are serving. If you become unavailable, please either arrange a swap or let us know as soon as you can – ideally by the Tuesday of the preceding week at the latest. There may also be some errors as we settle into the new pattern, particularly where someone has been rostered for 9.45am rather than 11.15am, or vice versa. If you spot one, please tell us!

We particularly need help in two areas:

- **9:00am stewarding** – helping from about 8:40am until about 9:40am on a Sunday morning.
- **Hall set-up** – either on Saturday evening or early Sunday morning (to be completed by 9:15am). Two people working together could probably do this in about half an hour.

These are new needs for us, and extra volunteers would make a real difference. If you could help occasionally, or have another idea for how this might work, please speak to Mark or contact the Church Office. If you need help accessing or using ChurchSuite, we are very happy to help with that too.

CHRISTMAS PREP SESSION - Sunday 29th November, 7–9pm

Join us for a festive evening getting our Church Hall ready for Christmas – decking it with boughs of holly, tinsel and baubles, and tackling a few other seasonal jobs together. There will be music, refreshments, and a chance simply to enjoy doing some practical church-family things together. All ages and abilities are very welcome; children will need to come with a responsible adult. Find out more and sign up here.

'EQUIP' – NEW GROUPS IN JANUARY

In January we hope to begin a new EQUIP cohort, offering the choice of Bible Overview or Christian Discipleship. EQUIP is designed to help us grow in our understanding of the Christian faith in a flexible way – learning at a pace that fits around ordinary life, but with opportunities to talk, ask questions, pray and learn alongside others. If you have been thinking that you would like to understand the Bible better, strengthen the foundations of your faith, or simply be more intentional about growing as a Christian, this could be a really good opportunity. Details will follow, but if you might be interested, please speak to Mark.

ARE YOU USING 'MY CHURCHSUITE'?

If St Peter's is your church home, *My ChurchSuite* is one of the easiest ways to keep up with church life. You can use it to see your upcoming rota commitments, record when you are unavailable, arrange swaps, sign up for events, keep your own contact details up to date, and find information about groups and activities. You can access *My ChurchSuite* through a web browser or the free ChurchSuite app. You also control which of your basic contact details, if any, are visible to other members. If you already have access but have not used it for a while, this would be a good time to take another look. If you are unsure how to log in, need an invitation, or need help getting started, please contact the Church Office.

NEWS, NOTICES & REMINDERS...

- The November Prayer Pointers are now available in church, in the Hall, and via the church WhatsApp group.
- Parochial Church Council: Our next PCC meeting is on Monday 9th November. The agenda, reports and other papers are available on the PCC Resources page of the church website for anyone who would like to read them.
- The Diocese of Chelmsford and Chelmsford Cathedral will undergo an independent safeguarding audit early next year. As part of the process, INEQE Safeguarding Group is inviting people across our church communities to complete a confidential and anonymous online survey about their experiences and perspectives. The survey is open until 11.30pm on 1st December. Find out more and take part in the survey here.
- Christmas cards: We know many of us enjoy exchanging Christmas cards with friends at St Peter's. To help make sure they actually reach the right person, please give cards directly to the recipient rather than leaving them at church for collection. If the people are not there, please take the card home and try again another Sunday. If you would prefer to post a card, contact details may be available through ChurchSuite, where people have chosen to make them visible. Thank you for helping us make sure everyone's Christmas greetings reach their destination.