COMING UP THIS WEEK...

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

Monday 16th November
12 noon Church Prayer Meeting (vicarage)
8:00pm Church Prayer Meeting (online)

Tuesday 17th November
8:00pm Jericho Road Group

Wednesday 18th November
10:15am Coffee & Chat (mercury cafe)
1:30pm Cranmere Court Group
7:30pm EQUIP session (online)

Thursday 19th November
10:00am Tiny Tots (hall)
11:30am Thursday Working Lunch (hall)
2:00pm EQUIP session (online)
7:30pm EQUIP session (online)

Sunday 22nd 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 15th November 2026

A NOTE FROM THE VICAR

Dear Friends,

At our PCC meeting last Monday, we agreed that we will continue with our current Sunday pattern for regular services while we keep working on a longer-term solution to the heating problems in church.

That means we will continue as we are through the early part of December, and then return to the same pattern again after Christmas. For the main Christmas services themselves, however, we are making special arrangements which should enable us to worship in church for the Christingle Service, the Carol Service, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

I am very glad that we should be able to gather in church for those important Christmas services, while at the same time avoiding the need to move our regular Sunday pattern backwards and forwards unnecessarily.

Thank you again for your patience and flexibility. We know these arrangements are not ideal, but we want to make them work as well as possible while we continue to explore the best way forward with the heating.

With best wishes,

Mark

CHRISTMAS AT ST PETER'S – ways to get involved...

As we look ahead to Advent and Christmas, there are lots of ways to help us prepare well, welcome people warmly and encourage others to come and hear the good news of Jesus.

- Join our Christmas Prep Session! Come along on Sunday 29th November, 7.00–9.00pm in the Hall, to help decorate, prepare and tackle some practical Christmas jobs together. There will be music and refreshments, and all ages and abilities are welcome. Find out more and sign up here.
- Donate some mince pies! We'll be sharing mince pies after our Christingle and Carol services. If you can contribute a box or two of shop-bought mince pies, please choose those with a best-before date after 25th December and leave them at the back of church or in the Church Lounge in the Hall.
- Help deliver Christmas invitations! We hope to put invitations through letterboxes locally, helping as many people as possible know about our Christmas services. If you could help with a round, please speak to Lizzie in the Church Office.
- Share the invitation personally! Please take invitations for friends, neighbours and family, and think prayerfully about who you might encourage to come. A personal invitation can make a real difference.

Thank you for helping us make Christmas at St Peter's welcoming, joyful and outward-looking.

SUPPORTING THE MINISTRY OF ST PETER'S

It costs around £2,300 each week to sustain the ordinary ministry and running costs of St Peter's. That includes our Parish Share, ministry and staffing, children's work, buildings and utilities, administration, mission giving, insurance and the many practical costs involved in our life together.

We are very grateful to everyone whose giving helps sustain the ministry of St Peter's. Christian giving is part of our response to God's generosity to us: *"Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand"* (1 Chronicles 29:14). We therefore encourage each of us to consider prayerfully what faithful and generous giving looks like in our own circumstances.

If you would like to support St Peter's, you can make a one-off gift using the QR code shown here, or you can click on this link to give to St Peter's online.

For regular giving, Standing Order is preferred. It is simple to set up, easy to change if your circumstances change, helps the PCC plan responsibly by providing a more predictable regular income, and avoids card-processing fees so that the full amount of your gift reaches St Peter's.

Account name: St Peter's PCC | Bank: Santander
Sort code: 09-01-54 | Account number: 36051087

If you are a UK taxpayer, Gift Aid can normally increase the value of your giving by 25% at no additional cost to you. Please contact the Church Office if you would like any help with beginning or changing your regular giving, or with Gift Aid.

NEWS, NOTICES & REMINDERS...

- Rotas and availability: We will be preparing new rotas shortly, including the Christmas period and into the New Year. If you know you will be away or unavailable, please let the Church Office know as soon as possible, or – preferably – update your availability in ChurchSuite. This is especially helpful over Christmas, when a number of our usual patterns will be different.
- Christmas cards: If you bring cards for friends at St Peter's, please give them directly to the person concerned rather than leaving them at church for collection. If they are not there, please take the card home and try again another Sunday. Thank you for helping us make sure everyone's Christmas greetings reach the right person.
- My ChurchSuite: If you are not yet using My ChurchSuite, or need help accessing it, please contact the Church Office. It is the easiest way to keep track of rotas, availability, events and your own contact details.

EQUIP – NEW GROUPS IN JANUARY

In January we hope to begin a new EQUIP cohort, with the choice of Bible Overview or Christian Discipleship. EQUIP is designed to help us grow in understanding the Bible and the Christian faith in a flexible way, with opportunities to learn, talk, ask questions and pray with others. If you would like to strengthen the foundations of your faith, understand the Bible better, or simply be more intentional about growing as a Christian, this could be a really good opportunity. Details and dates will follow, but if you might be interested, please speak to Mark or let the Church Office know.