

St Peter's, Hale

Newsletter, April 2024



April Services

Wednesday 3rd April

10am **Holy Communion
with Book of
Common Prayer**

Friday 5th April

12pm **Funeral of the late
Leslie 'Terry' Panton
(service at Altrincham
Crematorium)**

Sunday 7th April

Second Sunday of Easter

8.30am **Contemporary Praise**
10am **Holy Communion
with Common
Worship**

*Readings: Acts 4.32-35;
John 20.19-end*

Tuesday 9th April

2pm **Funeral of the late
Linda Marriott**

Wednesday 10th April

10am **Holy Communion
with Book of
Common Prayer**

Friday 12th April

11am **Funeral of the late
Richard Mullard**

Sunday 14th April

Third Sunday of Easter

8.30am **Holy Communion
with Book of
Common Prayer**
10am **Holy Communion
with Junior Church**

*Readings: Acts 3.12-19;
Luke 24.36b-48*

6.30pm **Choral Evensong**
Readings: Psalm 56.1-8; John 21

Wednesday 17th April

10am **Holy Communion
with Book of
Common Prayer**

Sunday 21st April

Fourth Sunday of Easter

8.30am **Holy Communion
with Book of
Common Prayer**

10am **Holy Communion
with Common
Worship and Baptism**

Readings: Acts 4.5-12; John 10.11-18
3pm **Messy Church**

Wednesday 24th April

10am **Holy Communion
with Book of
Common Prayer**

Sunday 28th April

Fifth Sunday of Easter

8.30am **Holy Communion
with Book of
Common Prayer**

10am **Holy Communion
with Junior Church**

Readings: Acts 8.26-end; John 15.1-8

Team Holidays

Alex Masters will be away from **Good Friday (29th March)** and back in the office on **Monday 8th April**.

For any pastoral emergencies, please contact Michael and Margaret Moore on the office mobile 07955 151 728 (which will be lightly monitored) or email michael@stpetershale.org.uk.

Rev'd Kaz Stanton will be away from **Monday 8th April to Monday 22nd April**.

An end and a new beginning

Rev'd Kaz reflects on her ministry and how Easter might prepare us for new seasons ahead



By now, most of you will have heard my news, but it was announced in church on Sunday 10th March that after 20 years of ordained ministry, I will be retiring on Sunday 30th June 2024. This decision has not been easy. There has been a lot of prayer and soul-searching and wrestling with God, but it is the best way forward for my health, and for St Peter's and St Elizabeth's. I was really hoping to make it to 70 (just shy at 69!), but it is important to know when to leave, and to leave well. By the time I retire in June, it will mark five years of my ministry here.

It is difficult to summarise over 20 years of ordained ministry in a nutshell; longer if I take into account my ministry before training. We are all called by God to ministry, not just clergy. My calling started the moment I gave my life to Jesus at 30. We have overcome so much as a church over the last five years. Can you believe that four years ago we were going through a pandemic? It all feels so recent, yet also so long ago. We had to find new and creative ways of being the church. We saw our church undergo a massive project in getting our services online so that we could worship together. It was never going to be the same as attending in person, but we made the best of it and it was a source of comfort for many. In spite of the hangover effect of COVID, we have seen real fruit in our outreach to schools, and to young families with Messy Church and the legacy left by Melissa Wearden, and also with the introduction of Contemporary Praise. It has been such a joy to see older generations welcome new generations - that is what discipleship is all about. We also officially became an Inclusive Church, which sends an important message that all will find a warm welcome here, whoever they are.

As we approach Easter, we are reminded of the events of Good Friday, of the moments that led to Jesus' death. For the disciples this was the end of all they had known. They thought it was over. Their master, their leader and friend was dead. In their despair they could not see the bigger picture of what Jesus was preparing them for; they did not understand what Jesus would accomplish on the cross. And so what was thought as the end, was in fact the germination of a new beginning, out of which the Church would scatter and multiply. Jesus said to his disciples: "I tell you the truth, a grain of wheat must fall to the ground and die to make many seeds. But if it never dies, it remains only a single seed" (John 12.24). Three days after Jesus' death, on Easter Sunday, Jesus would appear to his disciples alive. He had risen. He would then spend 40 days with them before ascending into Heaven (Acts 1). The promised Holy Spirit would come and empower the disciples (Acts 2), and thus the Church was born. In order for something new to happen, something needs to end. This is the way of the Kingdom of God. My ministry here is no different, much like the ministry of my predecessors. Although I'm retiring as vicar, I know my ministry will continue in new and unexpected ways.

I am sad to be leaving such good friends and co-labourers in Christ, but I have faith that good things await St Peter's and St Elizabeth's. I will be praying for you as you enter into this new season, please also pray for me as I enter into mine. Thankfully, I still have a few months left, so you're not rid of me just yet! I will be having a farewell party on Sunday 30th June, after the 10am service in the Assembly Rooms. More details to follow.

This Easter I hope you will discover afresh God's love for you through Christ crucified. Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Rev'd Kaz

Notices

Saturday Lunch

Saturday 6th April, 12pm

Main Hall, Assembly Rooms

Hosted by Salford Kitchen Boxes. Lunch with homemade cakes and a raffle. £8 per person (accompanied children under 10 - free). In support of the work of Salford Kitchen Boxes.

CWF Meeting

Monday 8th April, 7.15pm

Veranda Room, St Peter's House

Matthew Lepp will be talking about soap making. A small selection of beautiful soaps will be available for sale.

Salford Van Collection

Sunday 14th April, before 1pm

Behind the Assembly Rooms

Music Train with Full House and Chester Folk Festival Friends

Wednesday 10th April

Songs and tunes, ancient and modern, from the Cheshire plains and beyond - on guitar, flute and octave mandola.

Trains leave Altrincham at 6.36pm (to be early) or 7.36 (to arrive 7.58pm). Return trains leave Plumley at 9.35pm and 10.37pm arriving back at Altrincham for 9.57pm or 10.58pm.

If you are interested, please make your own arrangements.

Hale Tidy-Up

Sunday 14th April, 2pm

Meet outside St Peter's House

Please bring your own protective gloves. All other equipment will be provided.

Refreshments will be provided after the litter pick at St Peter's House.

Daily Prayer

Tuesdays and Thursdays,

9.30am,

St Peter's House Chapel

Join us on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9.30am in St Peter's House Chapel for Daily Prayer.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Sunday 12th May, after the 10am St Peter's Church

Formal notice will be given in due course, including updating the Electoral Roll.

Rev'd Kaz's Farewell Party

Sunday 30th June, after the 10am, Assembly Rooms, Cecil Road

Save the date. More details to follow.

Ministry to Children and Families

Contemporary Praise

First Sunday of the Month
8.30am, St Peter's Church

Junior Church

2nd and 4th Sunday of the Month
10am, Garden Room, St Peter's House

Messy Church

3rd Sunday of the Month, 3pm
Veranda Room, St Peter's House

St Peter's Parent, Baby, & Toddler Group and Bumps 2 Babies

Mondays, 10am,
Veranda Room, St Peter's House
(During Term-time)

Bowdon Church School Admissions 2025

We have Attendance Cards for Bowdon Church School September 2025 Admissions. These are available at our 8.30am and 10am Sunday services. We require all families needing an Attendance Card to also complete a Connect Card, which can be found at the back of church.

If you are already collecting stamps, don't forget to get your Attendance Card stamped at each service you attend. This can include Messy Church.

Please refer to Bowdon Church School for questions regarding admissions and their criteria.

Earth Day 2024

Did you take part in The Big Plastic Count, where for one week in March, thousands of schools, households, community groups and businesses come together to count their plastic waste, or the Church of England's call to action and Lent Plastic Challenge? Whilst we await the Big Plastic Count results in mid to late April, this month also marks Earth Day on Monday 22nd April. The global theme for Earth Day 2024 is Planet vs Plastics, uniting students, parents, businesses, governments, churches, unions, individuals and NGOs to demand a 60% reduction in the production of plastics by 2040, and ultimately to build a plastic-free future for generations to come.

Building on the momentum from last month or if you weren't able to get involved, fear not you've not missed your chance to help us all work towards ending plastic pollution. Actions this month you may like to get involved in are:

- Signing the **Global Plastics Treaty**, a petition calling on action from the United Nations and governments (www.action.earthday.org)
- Buy, sell or volunteer at the incredibly popular biannual **St Peter's Good As New Sale on Saturday 20th April 10am-12pm** at the Assembly Rooms.
- Take part in **The Great Global Cleanup**.
- Come along to our **Hale Tidy-Up on Sunday 14th April at 2pm**. Meet outside St Peter's House, coffee and cake provided post litter pick and family friendly!



You might have seen this banner on Ash Lane, recently put up to commemorate the upcoming anniversary of beloved Keith Neal's passing and his legacy of keeping Hale and surrounding areas clean.

As part of Earth Day, we are also invited to take our own Act of Green. Now that spring has sprung and we're starting to see sunnier days, I'm looking forward to finding out what I can grow in my new allotment, teaching my young children that food comes from the ground not from a plastic pack from the supermarket and reconnecting with nature.

March is also a perfect time to set to work in the garden as it is on the allotment. This year why not focus on the wildlife in our green spaces, helping to provide insects and birds with food, shelter and water. Planting for every season is important, as is providing access to water, which could be as simple as a tray filled with water (rainwater is best) with a few stones to give pollinators a safe place to drink from. You can offer year-round food for some bee species with common herbs such as marjoram in spring, chives in summer, sage in autumn and rosemary in winter. And did you know that some plants are more strongly scented at night, specifically to attract moths which are also incredibly important pollinators, like honeysuckle and nicotiana? Furthermore, there are plenty of ideas online for bee hotels which are a great way to engage children, grandchildren or nieces/nephews with the natural world, e.g. by the National Botanic Garden of Wales, the RSPB and Friends of the Earth. Just be sure to sand and smooth off any rough edges which can otherwise harm bees.

However you may choose to attract wildlife to your garden, the beauty of gardening is that we each have our own personal styles and preferences, and it is the rich tapestry and patchwork nature of gardens that offer a haven to the widest range of wildlife. What will be your Act of Green? **Rhian Parsons**



ST PETER'S GOOD AS NEW

BABY & CHILDREN'S SALE

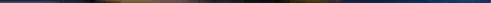
TOP BRANDS AT LOW PRICES

BABY EQUIPMENT, CLOTHES, SHOES,
TOYS & GAMES FOR 0-10 YEAR OLDS

SATURDAY 20 APRIL 2024
10AM - 12NOON

ST PETER'S ASSEMBLY ROOMS,
136 CECIL ROAD, HALE, WA15 9NU

£2 CASH ENTRY
CARD PAYMENT ONLY FOR ITEMS



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breast cancer**


Manchester Foundation
Trust Charity
**prevent
breast
cancer**

St Peter's, Hale

Registered Charity in England and Wales 1120528



Prayers

Unwell: Linda Rutherford, Rev'd Tom Ryan, HM the King, HRH Princess of Wales, Susan Wood (Caroline Holme's daughter)

Those who have departed this life: Linda Marriott, Leslie 'Terry' Panton, Richard Mullard

If you or a loved one is in need of prayer, please let the office know and we will add your/their name to the Prayer List. This list is read out as part of our intercessions in the service. We also pray for those who have recently departed this life.

Regular Collections

A reminder of the various organisations we collect for at the back of church:

Tree of Life Centre, Wythenshawe *Clean clothing in any condition*

The Hope Centre, Partington *Tinned and dried goods*

Salford Boxes *Kitchen utensils (please see list at back of church)*

Embrace Middle East *Used stamps (box in north porch of church)*

Get in Touch

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