



# Parish News

July 2021

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**St Peter's Day 2021**

Dear friends,

I know that people often say that a holiday begins with the journey, but I'm sure that if, like, me, you've been at a crowded airport or queuing on congested motorways, that's hard to believe! For about twenty years, I have had had at least one holiday break each year in Northumberland. It is a beautiful part of the country, one which I never tire of visiting and, importantly, the journey from here to there is a joy as well.

To fill you in with a bit of the geography, the shortest route to the north east of England is probably cross country – M62 and A1, but not a route that even an optimist like me would describe as remotely picturesque. A far better route is up the M6 (stay with me, it gets better!) to Carlisle then cross country on the A69 and B6318 following Hadrian's Wall to just north of Newcastle. The scenery is glorious and the long Roman road, not surprisingly is straight; and it's quiet.

I last travelled this route about a month ago and was thinking along the way of how things have changed over the years that I've driven that journey. At first it was as a family of four with two boys who, at different times were 'doing Romans' at school and so we had obligatory stops at Roman forts, of which there are several along the way. Later, it was just two of us and the priority then was finding the very nice tea shops (there are several) and places to stop and enjoy the scenery.

For the past eight years, travelling alone, the tea shops still figure prominently in my planning but I also find myself diverting along

the way as I see signs for those places that I've heard of and thought 'one day, I'll go and see...'.

Why this reflection on holiday journeys? Like many of us, I think more frequently as I get older about how things change, for better and for worse, and therefore about what stays the same. On my journey, family circumstances have changed over the years I've been travelling, some landmarks (though not many) have changed as businesses close and others open, notably huge visitors' centres at some of the Roman forts, and the roads themselves have become safer. Yet this route, first laid down by the Romans almost two thousand years ago, remains much as it has always been, as does the surrounding terrain.

Our life of faith is not dissimilar and it is interesting to reflect on the landmarks in our own journeys of faith. Who have been the significant people along the way? What have been key events? How has the way our faith is expressed changed over the years? What are the constants, the unchanging components of our story? My answers to these questions are mine and apply only to me; yours are similarly personal. We all have a story to tell – or at least to recognise - which is that rich blend of development and change alongside constancy. It is an important part of our lives and, like my holiday journey to Northumberland, leads in due time, to a

Chris

## High Sheriff of Greater Manchester

At the time of writing (Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> July), we have just held a service of Celebration and Thanksgiving upon the installation of Diane Hawkins JP DL LLB as the High Sheriff of Greater Manchester.

We are delighted that Diane is to serve as High Sheriff and that she has asked the Vicar to be her chaplain for her year in office.



The office of the High Sheriff is the oldest secular office after the Crown, and can be trace back more than a thousand years to the reign of the Saxon King Ethelred the Unready (978 – 1016).

High Sheriffs were appointed to act as the sovereign's agent in their county, historically referred to as a Sheriffrick, where they wielded great power. They made the laws, sat in judgement at trials and were responsible for the general law and order of the county. They could even raise a 'posse' in pursuit of criminals and gather soldiers in case the king wanted to go to war.

One of the more unpalatable duties of the High Sheriffs was to organise, attend and ensure that public executions were properly performed. That responsibility was in force until the abolition of the death penalty in 1965.

The High Sheriff's powers also included responsibility for raising and collecting taxes for the Court of Exchequer in London.

High Sheriffs were so important that they are mentioned in 27 out of 63 clauses of Magna Carta (1215) and by the end of the 13th century, they were fundamental to the running of their counties.

However, the role of the High Sheriff has gradually changed over the centuries and it is now essentially symbolic, ceremonial and unpaid. Many of their former duties are now vested in Lord Lieutenants, High Court judges, coroners, magistrates, the police and local authorities. The modern role of the High Sheriff is defined by guiding principles



and key objectives which are:

- To uphold and lend active support to the principal organs of the Constitution, the Royal Family, the judiciary, the police and other law enforcement agencies, the emergency services, local authorities and all recognised church and faith groups.
- To assure the welfare of all visiting High Court judges; to attend on them and to offer them hospitality.
- To support and encourage the voluntary sector.
- To support the Lord Lieutenant on royal visits and on other occasions as appropriate.

In England, Wales and Northern Ireland, the High Sheriff is the titular head of the legal and judicial systems in their county.

There will be a full article about the service (with photos) next month.

### **Altar Frontals**



Pictured above is the first of our four new altar frontals. Thank you for the generous donations to this project received so far. We would still welcome further donations. If you would like to contribute towards the frontals project, please let the Vicar, Lecturer or one of the Churchwardens know.



**URBAN  
OUTREACH**  
BOLTON

**BL**

Bolton Lunches

## Volunteers Needed!

**What:** The summer is approaching and Bolton Lunches is going ahead—bigger than ever before! We need people each morning over the summer holidays to make sandwiches and pack the lunches.

**When:** Monday 26th July—3rd September (not including 30th August for the bank holiday). The doors will open at 6.45am for you to get ready and we will start the session at 7am. This will run until 8.30am.

**Where:** The Food Hub Unit 4 (formally Office Outlet), Trinity Retail Park, Springfield, Bolton, BL2 1HY.

**How:** You MUST book in by emailing [admin@urbanoutreach.co.uk](mailto:admin@urbanoutreach.co.uk) or calling 01204 385848 and letting us know which sessions you will be attending.

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*Working alongside churches and community groups to ensure no child goes hungry this summer.*

## Sermon for St Peter's Day 2021

Revd Canon Prof. Kenneth Newport

Today we are celebrating St Peter's Day, and later this morning there will be a major celebration of the founding of this Church some 150 years ago.

St Peter. What do we say about St Peter? Well I suppose in the eyes of many he was a real hero. After all, in the reading we know so well that we have just had from St Matthew he certainly appears to be a foundational figure in the story of Christianity. Peter is the 'Rock' upon which, it seems, Jesus will build his Church. He has the keys, and the church that will be built will be able to withstand the forces of hell itself. Quite a picture. No wonder down through the Christian centuries Peter has been portrayed as something of a giant of the faith.

So, what sort of person do we think of when we think of St Peter I wonder?

- The Rock<sup>1</sup> upon which Christ builds his church?
- The one whom Jesus chose to lead the Church; to 'feed the lambs' and 'tend the sheep' after his departure as it says at the end of St John's gospel?
- The one who died for the faith and did so in a quite horrific way. Crucified upside down.
- The one who, in Matthew 16, confessed Jesus as 'the Christ' when others seemed to be struggling to understand who he was?

Well of course these things *are* part of the story of St Peter, but they are not the whole. And I have to confess that it is the bits of the story of St Peter that we so often leave out that I find most appealing about this character.

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<sup>1</sup> A bit of Greek and Aramaic: the disciple we know as 'Peter' was actually called 'Simon' (see Matthew 4.18), but Jesus renamed him 'Cephas' as we know from St Paul (see Galatians 2.11 for example). In Aramaic, the language of Jesus, 'Cephas' means 'rock'. In Greek, the language in which the New Testament was written, the word for 'rock' is 'petros' which we put into English as 'Peter'. So, Jesus actually called St Peter 'Rocky'.

### St Peter in John's Gospel

Think for a moment about another picture of St Peter that emerges -



especially in St John's gospel. Here we meet a rather shy Peter who is somewhat in the background of the story. In particular, of course, we meet here the story of St Peter's denial of Jesus in John 18. Listen to what it says there:

- Peter is in the courtyard and Jesus has been arrested. A woman comes to Peter and says, "are not also one of this man's disciples ... ?" He said, "I am not."
- A little later he is asked by some other people "are not also one of his disciples" And he again denied Jesus and said, "I am not."
- Then one of the slaves of the high priest said to Peter "Did I not see you in the garden with him?" and again Peter denied it in forceful words 'I don't know this man'
- And at that moment the cock crowed.

Peter was devastated. He went out and 'wept bitterly' it says in Luke 22. Where now is this heroic Peter, the giant of the faith, we might ask? Is this man reduced to tears having denied Jesus three times really the great champion of the faith that he is so often made out to be?

Well yes, he is. Because we are not at the end of the story yet are we? There is more to come. And it comes in John 21. It is a story of great redemption. A powerful story of God's reacceptance of those who turn their backs on him. I can do nothing with the words of that story that would have any greater impact than simply to read them to you again. Listen to the love of God, the forgiveness of God, the grace of God, in action. This is Peter who has denied Christ three times, who has sworn that he knows not Jesus and has left Jesus to go to the cross alone, deserted, even by those who have been closest to him. Three times Peter has denied him. How many times will Jesus give Peter the opportunity to cancel out those denials? Hear what the gospel says! Hear the voice the risen Lord:

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third

time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. ... After this he said to him, "Follow me."

Three denials, three affirmations. The one who has turned his back on God is now accepted back.

Speaking personally, I have to confess that I find this part of the story of Peter to be the most powerful. Yes, I appreciate the other parts of the story and yes, I think St Peter is central to the story of the birth and early progress of Christianity. But we ought not to get too carried away with this as we remember our Patron Saint on this our Patronal day. Peter was a man. He was a fallen man. He was a weak man, who, when the going got tough gave up on his Lord.

But it was not to remain thus. The overflowing love of God, the forgiveness of God, the power of God to pull back to the centre that which has gone astray, overcomes. And that same God entrusts. So as we think of St Peter today and as we remember the words 'You are Peter' and 'you are the rock upon which I will build my church' etc. let us not forget the weakness of Peter, his denial of Christ and his need of forgiveness and repentance. As God said to Paul he may well have said to Peter and he says this morning to you and to me. Hear the scripture:

My grace is sufficient for you, [says the Lord] for [my] power is made perfect in [your] weakness (2 Cor 12.9)

**Amen**

### **The Collect**

#### **St Peter's Day**

O Almighty God, who by thy Son Jesus Christ didst give to thy Apostle Saint Peter many excellent gifts, and commandedst him earnestly to feed thy flock: Make, we beseech thee, all Bishops and Pastors diligently to preach thy holy Word, and the people obediently to follow the same, that they may receive the crown of everlasting glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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## From the Organ Console

A casualty of the national situation has been the series of Tuesday Lunchtime and Saturday Morning concerts. The enforced cancellation of the concert season is a terrific loss to our church life. However, in view of the improving situation, the clergy, wardens and I are able to announce that there will be a short series of lunchtime concerts to be held this September/October to make up for the loss of the usual Spring and Summer season. It gives me great pleasure to let you know about the concerts listed below – we have lost so much of the music of the church, and I hope that this will go some small way towards moving back to some sort of “normal”.

*MICHAEL PAIN.*

### TUESDAY LUNCHTIME CONCERTS 2021

**1.15 – 1.50 p.m.**

#### **September**

- Tues 7            **PAUL GREENHALGH** *piano*
- Tues 14          **VIVIEN CHASEY** *violin*  
                      with **Robin Bowman** *piano*  
                      and **Claire Bowman** *soprano*
- Tues 21          **REBEKHAH OKPOTI** *organ*  
                      (St. Lawrence with St. Paul's, Longridge)
- Tues 28          **MICHAEL PAIN** *organ*  
                      (Bolton Parish Church)

#### **October**

- Tues 5            **JOHN POWELL** *baritone*



# St Peter's Day and Gift Day 2021

## Sermon

### Matthew 16:13-19

Revd Canon Dr. Chris Bracegirdle

It is to state the obvious that for the past 18 months our lives have been overshadowed by Covid. This has happened in such a way that lives have been lost, as have livelihoods, education has been disrupted in a way that will impact for years to come, social events and lives have been a thing of the past, and learning to recognise those whose faces are half covered by masks has become a new skill we all have needed to acquire.

These, and so many other expressions of the pandemic have touched the life of the church in a significant way, not least through the complete closure of church buildings for 14 weeks last spring and for closure for public worship, for a further 4 weeks in the autumn. In that first period of closure, none of us were even allowed into our buildings except to do safety checks. Such a closure hadn't happened in this country for just over 800 years when, on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 1208 - coincidentally, the same day in 2020 that the government imposed a lockdown on the UK - under instructions from Pope Innocent the third, the English bishops suspended the celebration of mass throughout the kingdom. Then, the suspension went on for six long years, though the reason was one to do with ecclesiastical politics, not disease.

## FOUNDATION OF THE CHURCH

It was easy last year to feel that the heart had been ripped out of our spiritual lives with no opportunity to celebrate the sacraments or to pray in our church buildings; no opportunity to hear God's word read and preached and no opportunity to be together as the Body of Christ. Would we be able to come back from it all? And now, though we are together in church and some – but not all - of those vital expressions of our faith are restored in whole or in part, we might still ask the question in the present tense – *will* we be able to come back from it all? We look forward with anticipation and hope to 19<sup>th</sup> July but restoration is more than reaching a date in a calendar, and there is much that needs to be done.

## TODAY'S GOSPEL

The task might seem huge, the future uncertain and the journey from one to the other a long one, but it will be achieved because the church's foundation task, as the gospel today reminds us, is to live and make known the good news of Jesus Christ. Peter's answer to the question from Jesus '*who do you say that I am?*' is met with Peter's immediate acknowledgment that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God. '*You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church*' is the Lord's reply and so it all began.

The church is built upon the rock of an ordinary person who has made the great confession about Jesus, and it is here that we find the distinctive thing that the church has to say and for which it exists. We exist today as we did on the day that this building was consecrated for that self-same reason – to bear witness to the reality of Jesus Christ, the same, yesterday, today and forever.

Of course the church has presented itself to the world in different ways in every generation – from a welfare organisation, to a night club, to a political arm of various parties. In our generation and indeed in our diocese, there are more and more new expressions of church that on the surface seem light years away from where we are here. Please be assured that I am not intending to be disparaging about those congregations – far from it. However, When we lose sight of or focus on the call to bear distinctive testimony to the good news of Jesus, then we are in danger for no one else will do this crucial job for us. It was the calling of Peter at Caesarea Philippi, it was the calling of Canon Henry Powell and his congregation here on consecration day 1871 and it is ours now.

## INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE

We are here because of the generosity of God – that is a fundamental belief and the key part of our foundation – if it wasn't for God, we wouldn't exist. Throughout the years, God has translated his generosity into the generosity of his people and that again is why we are here in this building today. Peter Ormrod generously provided £47,000 – almost £6 million in today's money – to meet the cost of building this church. Why did he do it? - At the time, Peter Ormrod wrote of his willingness to

respond to this *“rare opportunity afforded me of testifying my gratitude to Almighty God for his unnumbered mercies”*. In other words, Ormrod gave in response to what God had given him and in our generation we are called to do no less.

Today is our gift day and that special opportunity to respond to the generosity of God with a gift over and about that which we normally offer weekly, monthly or whenever. That gift helps us to ensure that we are true to the calling first given by Jesus to Peter to be the rock on which his church is built.

I am enormously grateful for the generosity of so many people here who give not only of their financial resources but of their time and talents in the service of God and on this 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary year gift day, I ask you to do the same. Many of you will already have done so, but it's never too late – we have gift day envelopes and our contactless giving machine at the ready after the service! We can't all be Peter Ormrods but we can be people who seek to invest in the future of the work of God in this place so that those who come after us might enjoy the benefits that we have received.

### CONCLUSION

Peter – flawed, impetuous, fickle Peter – must have been awestruck when told that he was the rock on which the church was to be built. But Jesus knew what he was doing and since that time, flawed, impetuous and fickle people like me and you have been charged with the gift of the church in our generation.

As the 33<sup>rd</sup> vicar since the reformation I am enormously proud to be Vicar of Bolton, charged with the leadership of this part of God's church – a church first entrusted by Jesus himself to Peter. I am proud and privileged to share in the life of this church with you and with so many other and I pray that when those who come after us look back to our watch, they will be thankful – thankful that we continued to be a generous church but thankful too that we lived and worked and prayed as a community that lived and breathed the great truth that the church's one foundation – the only one – is Jesus Christ her Lord.

Amen.

**Welcome**  
to  
**Grace**  
our new Curate,  
who joins us on 11th July

**150 years between them!**

A recent conversation revealed that Doreen Fort and Alan Bailey have each been attending Bolton Parish Church for 75 years – exactly half of the 150 years we are celebrating.

**Sunday 25th July 6.30 p.m.**

**Choral Evensong (Book of Common Prayer)**

Responses: Smith

Psalm 74

Canticles: Stanford in C

Anthem: Turn Back, O Man – Gustav Holst

Hymns:

Stand up and Bless the Lord

Blest are the Pure in Heart

The Day Thou Gavest, Lord, is Ended



## Answers to the Towns Quiz

Original quiz can be found in the May magazine online

- |                       |                   |                  |
|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| 1 REDRUTH             | 33 GATESHEAD      | 65 PICKERING     |
| 2 ACTON               | 34 GLOUCESTER     | 66 PLYMOUTH      |
| 3 ASHBOURNE           | 35. GRANTHAM      | 67 POOLE         |
| 4 AXBRIDGE            | 36 HASTINGS       | 68 PRESTON       |
| 5 AYLESBURY           | 37 HEREFORD       | 69 RAMSGATE      |
| 6 BAKEWELL            | 38 HEYSHAM        | 70 READING       |
| 7 BARROW (IN FURNESS) | 39 HOLMES CHAPEL  | 71 REDCAR        |
| 8 BATH                | 40 HOLT           | 72 RIPON         |
| 9 BLACKPOOL           | 41 HULL /KEELE    | 73 RUGBY         |
| 10 BOLTON             | 42 KENDAL         | 74 RUNCORN       |
| 11 BOX                | 43. KIDDERMINSTER | 75 SALE          |
| 12 BRIGHTON           | 44 KNUTSFORD      | 76 SALISBURY     |
| 13 BURY               | 45 LACOCK         | 77 SANDBACH      |
| 14 BURY ST EDMUNDS    | 46 LEEDS          | 78 SANDWICH      |
| 15 CANTERBURY         | 47 LINCOLN        | 79 SHEFFIELD     |
| 16 CARLISLE           | 48 LIVERPOOL      | 80 SOUTHAMPTON   |
| 17 CHESTER            | 49 MAIDEN BRADLEY | 81 ST ALBANS     |
| 18 CHESTERFIELD       | 50 MANCHESTER     | 82 STOCKPORT     |
| 19 CHICHESTER         | 51 MARGATE        | 83 STOCKTON      |
| 20. COVENTRY          | 52 NAILSEA        | 84 STREET        |
| 21 CREWE              | 53 NANTWICH       | 85 SWANAGE       |
| 22 CROMER             | 54 NEWARK         | 86 TAUNTON       |
| 23 CHRISTCHURCH       | 55 NEWCASTLE      | 87 VENTNOR       |
| 24 DARLINGTON         | 56 NEWBURY        | 88 VICARS CROSS  |
| 25 DERBY              | 57 NEWPORT        | 89 WETHERBY      |
| 26 DOVER              | 58 NORTHAMPTON    | 90 WHITEHAVEN    |
| 27 DURHAM             | 59 NORWICH        | 91 WIGAN         |
| 28 ETON               | 60 NUNEATON       | 92 WINCHESTER    |
| 29 EVESHAM            | 61 OLDHAM         | 93 WINSFORD      |
| 30. EXETER            | 62 OXFORD         | 94 WOLVERHAMPTON |
| 31 FELIXTOWE          | 63 PADSTOW        | 95 WOODSTOCK     |
| 32 FROME              | 64 PATERDALE      |                  |

# Confirmation Service 20th June

with the Bishop of Bolton

Anthem: If ye love Me by Thomas Tallis

If ye love me, keep my commandments, and I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another comforter, that he may bide with you forever, e'en the spirit of truth.

Our confirmation candidates were:

Owen Tatman, Holly Kinsella, Oliver Wiggans, Harry Twist and Imogen Morris





### **Something to look out for!**

From the end of June, we will have for sale a range of Bolton Parish Church merchandise including:

An Anniversary Brochure  
Pens and pencils;  
Postcards and notelets;  
Trolley coins;  
Fridge magnets;  
Mugs ..... and maybe more to come!

Apart from the brochure, we have not made the branding 2021-specific, so that the items will not appear out of date before we've finished using them. Purchasers will be able to use our newly-installed card payment machine if they wish. We are also refreshing the guide to the church that we have had available for some years.

A selection of the items can be found on the next page.





## **Parish Church Schools**

Canon Slade School, Bradshaw Brow BL2 3BP

Headteacher: Karen Sudworth

Tel: 01204 33343

Bishop Bridgeman Primary School, Rupert Street BL3 6PY

Executive Principal: Canon Jill Pilling

Headteacher: Hafsha Hafeji

Bolton Parish Church Primary School, Chadwick Street BL2 1JN

Headteacher: Angela Worthington

Tel: 01204 333433

### **Support for others in need**

The Covid-19 pandemic has not removed the need for support for others – if anything, it has heightened it. Some things can be recycled to support various charities so please continue to save and bring to church the following items:

- Used postage stamps – Christmas is the best time to collect these.
- Unwanted spectacles.
- Old working mobile phones, tablets and laptops.

We continue to collect items of food for the grub tub, supporting the work of Urban Outreach.

Please send copy for the August  
issue by 20 July to  
[sigridjcp@gmail.com](mailto:sigridjcp@gmail.com)  
or

[admin@boltonparishchurch.co.uk](mailto:admin@boltonparishchurch.co.uk)

As we normally publish on the last Sunday of the month, the deadline is particularly important.

## **Miles in Their Shoes**

Building on last year's success, this fund-raising initiative is back.

I have joined a team of people attempting to collectively walk, run and cycle 5,567 miles (the distance of a real route from Birmingham, UK to Kampala, Uganda) over the 10 weeks from 27<sup>th</sup> June to 5<sup>th</sup> September.

Another Covid lockdown in Uganda is continuing to affect many people, so Kids Club Kampala is providing more direct family help to relieve hunger alongside its usual work supporting children in the slums.

You can read more about this work here

<https://www.kidsclubkampala.org/recovery>

Please visit my JustGiving page at

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/trevor-whillas-2021>

to give any donation you can.

If you prefer I can accept your donation and add it to the online fund for you.

Thank you,

Trevor

## **Picture Quiz**

The answers to the picture quiz will be given in the August issue.

There is still time to have a walk around the church and complete the quiz (which is available in the May issue of the magazine on the website).

## **Flower News**

The last week in May saw the removal of the angels of hope displays and the stunning Sunday school Pentecost decorations.

Altar flowers for Trinity Sunday were arrangements of white carnations and three chrysanthemums with three white, curled sticks. The pedestal arrangement in the nave was created using white carnations, chrysanthemums, roses and groupings of three curled sticks.

There was some excitement for the flower team on 11<sup>th</sup> June when creating the altar displays had to be organised around the filming of a scene from a forthcoming BBC series.

A meeting (the first possible since early 2020) has been held by the design team for the 2022 Flower festival. It was good to meet up in socially distanced reality and review and make plans.

At the time of writing, the flower order for St Peter's Day and the Service of Celebration and Thanksgiving for the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the consecration of the building is about to be delivered. It will be a very special privilege to be arranging the flowers for these two services.

With grateful thanks for donations for church flowers received during June.

Flower team

### **2021 anniversary prayer**

Gracious God, as we celebrate the 150th anniversary of the consecration of this church, we give thanks for all who have made it a house of prayer. May we, like St Peter, proclaim with confidence, that Jesus Christ is the Messiah, the Saviour of the world. Bless the ongoing work of Bolton Parish Church, as we give thanks for the past, live fully in the present and look with hope to the future. Amen

**If you DON'T use any or all of the Internet, Facebook or Twitter, this article is for YOU...**

Approximately 78% of the population of the United Kingdom uses some kind of Social Media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram etc.) and 95% of the population uses the internet. Accepting that it is usually an individual's choice not to engage with others in these ways, we cannot get away from the fact that the first point of contact with any individual or organisation is via a website, Facebook page or other similar medium.

With that in mind, it would be very helpful to the mission and ministry of Bolton Parish Church if you would share the following information with your family friends, colleagues etc. – in fact anyone who uses social media.

Our Church has a website **[www.boltonparishchurch.co.uk](http://www.boltonparishchurch.co.uk)** It contains lots of information about the church and its activities, and is kept up to date with things that are happening. The weekly notice sheet and this monthly church magazine can be found there.

We have a Facebook page **@boltonparishchurch** We use this to share news, forthcoming events and videos of services either live or recorded.

Our Twitter account **@stpeterbolton** is another channel through which we can share news, comment and information about the life of our parish.

All you need to do please, is to pass on these details to everyone you know who uses the internet, Facebook or Twitter...they'll do the rest!

**If you DO use any or all of the Internet, Facebook or Twitter,** this article is for you too! Please ensure that you 'follow', 'like' and 'friend' as appropriate so as to ensure that we get the breadth and diversity of coverage we need.

*Further details of Bolton Parish Church's media presence can be found on the next page.*

## **Online Organ Concerts at Bolton Parish Church**

Although we are unable to hold concerts in Church at the moment, here is a chance to watch a superb recital, given on our organ by Jonathan Scott. The concert also includes stunning shots of the inside of Church.

The programme is shown below and the concert can be viewed on the following link: <https://youtu.be/Xc3r326g8jQ>

A few years ago, the Scott Brothers came to Bolton Parish Church and played Hungarian Rhapsody No. 2 by Liszt, arranged by Jonathan for organ and piano. This is still available.

(Link: <http://youtu.be/orneY4K9YtQ> )

### **Bolton Parish Church Online**

**Email:** [admin@boltonparishchurch.co.uk](mailto:admin@boltonparishchurch.co.uk)

**Website:** [www.boltonparishchurch.co.uk](http://www.boltonparishchurch.co.uk)

Details of services, events, newsletters, magazines, important updates etc.

**Facebook:**

**[www.facebook.com/boltonparishchurch](https://www.facebook.com/boltonparishchurch)**

Official Church Facebook page, with news, photos, and archive of online services and prayers

**[www.facebook.com/MusicAtBoltonParishChurch](https://www.facebook.com/MusicAtBoltonParishChurch)**

News about music, with photos, details of musical events and videos of choir and organ

**Twitter:** [@StPeterBolton](https://twitter.com/StPeterBolton)

**Instagram:** [boltonparishchurchimages](https://www.instagram.com/boltonparishchurchimages)

Photos of Bolton Parish Church

# **150th Anniversary Service**

**Tuesday 29 June**

Preacher: The Very Revd Matt Thompson, Dean of Birmingham























## The Last Word

*A new monthly feature where we get to know each other a little better through a series of questions.*

This month: our new Curate Grace Hart

*Do you come from Bolton?*

I was born in Wigan, so not too far from Bolton! Having said this, I'd never been to Bolton until last August when it was offered to me as a potential curacy parish. During my visit I remember finding the town warm (not just in temperature!) and it seemed an interesting place to be. My family are all from the North West, so I'm looking forward to returning to be closer to home soon.

*What will you be doing on a typical Monday?*

All being well, I'll be ordained on 4th July this year and will begin my curacy at Bolton Parish on the Monday following. I have no idea what a typical Monday looks like yet and imagine it will vary (variety is one of the things I love about parish ministry), but I am reliably informed that the meetings with the clergy team and church wardens will involve cake.

*What's your favourite hymn?*

It changes, but at the moment it's one called 'Forever' by Kari Jobe. I tend to listen to contemporary worship music in my own personal quiet time, but I was brought up in a traditional Anglican church, so I have a deep appreciation for traditional

hymns, especially during corporate worship.

***Who inspires you?***

My sister (Ruby) and my brother (Fred). Ruby inspires me in so many ways, especially in her strength of character and vulnerability, both of which I find admirable. Fred is a person of deep integrity, gentleness and care.

***Who have been the key people in your past who have encouraged your journey of faith?***

My parents. They are able to help me to see the love and grace of God in ways that I can't always do on my own. Countless others have encouraged me in my faith since I was young, including peers at Cranmer Hall in Durham where I've just completed my training. Over the past 3 years I have been blessed by having a prayer partner, Tariro. She's originally from Zimbabwe and will be serving her curacy in Birmingham, and she has been my rock and a great source of strength during my time in Durham.

***Is there a passage of scripture or liturgy which you keep coming back to, which encourages you?***

Psalm 27 has been a particularly poignant passage for me during my journey towards ordination. During difficult moments I would read it over and over as something to hold on to. The words have followed me around since, and came up in the liturgy for our leaver's service in the final week at college.

## BOLTON PARISH CHURCH CONTACTS

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Associate Priest:	Revd Barrie Gaskell	07512782297
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	Evelyn Weston	01204 594123
Deputy Wardens:	Mr Graham C Burrows      Mr David Eckersley Mr Alan Forrester          Mr Andrew J Mitchell Mr David F Morlidge        Mr Trevor J Whillas Miss Esther Gelling	
PCC Secretary:	Mr Ian Darbyshire	
Treasurer:	Mr Andrew J Mitchell	01204 840633
Director of Music:	Mr Michael Pain michaelpain18@gmail.com	01204 491827
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## ST PHILIP'S CONTACTS

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