

# The Messenger

The Church Magazine of  
St Peter's Church, Darwen

*All are welcome in this place*



*Adam's ALM Licensing Service  
at the Cathedral, 6<sup>th</sup> September 2025*

*October 2025    Price £1 (unless prepaid)*

**ST PETER'S CHURCH DARWEN**  
**BANK STREET, DARWEN BB3 3HE**

**VICAR**

Rev Alison Mitchell  
The Vicarage (also known as the Rectory)  
2 St Peter's Close  
Darwen BB3 2EA  
[rev.alison@stpeterschurchdarwen.org](mailto:rev.alison@stpeterschurchdarwen.org)  
07540 792409

**PARISH OFFICE**

Tel. 01254 703929  
(Phone messages are currently picked up  
on Sundays, Wednesdays, and some  
Saturdays, but e-mail messages to  
[stpeterschurch829@btinternet.com](mailto:stpeterschurch829@btinternet.com)  
are checked daily)

**SERVICES**

**SUNDAY**

10.00am Sung Eucharist

**WEDNESDAY**

10.00am Eucharist

We welcome visitors to our Church - Church is open:

**SUN:** Church open from 9.00am to 11.30am  
Refreshments are usually served after the services

**WED:** Church open 8.45am - 11.30am  
9.00am Morning Prayers 10.00am Eucharist  
Refreshments are usually served after the service

**(At Christmas and Easter and on some other occasions alterations  
to these times may occur)**

**Details of additional services, events and activities at church each  
week can be found in our weekly Notice sheet, on 'A Church Near  
You', and also on our Facebook page, which has a daily update.**

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### Church Charity for October -



With over 45 years' experience the Alzheimer's Society is uniquely placed to provide support to those who need it, fund ground-breaking research and campaign to make dementia a priority.

To contact them -

Phone - 0333 150 3456

or visit the website - [alzheimers.org.uk](http://alzheimers.org.uk)



## Diary for October 2025

- |                  |             |   |
|------------------|-------------|---|
| 1 <sup>st</sup>  | 9.00am      | Morning Prayer in church                              |
|                  | 10.00am     | Eucharist with St Peter's and Holy Trinity<br>Year 6s |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup>  | 9.00am      | Morning Prayer on Facebook                            |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | 9.00am      | Morning Prayer on Facebook                            |
| 5 <sup>th</sup>  |             | <b>The Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity</b>             |
|                  | 10.00am     | Sung Eucharist with Junior Church                     |
| 6 <sup>th</sup>  | 9.00am      | Morning Prayer on Facebook                            |
|                  | 4.00-8.00pm | Darwen Food Share                                     |
| 7 <sup>th</sup>  | 9.00am      | Morning Prayer on Facebook                            |
|                  | 12.00pm     | Bible Study   |
|                  | 6.30pm      | Bible Study and Eucharist                             |
| 8 <sup>th</sup>  | 9.00am      | Morning Prayer in church                              |
|                  | 10.00am     | Eucharist   |
| 9 <sup>th</sup>  | 9.00am      | Morning Prayer on Facebook                            |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> | 9.00am      | Morning Prayer on Facebook                            |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> |             | <b>The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity -</b>         |
|                  | 10.00am     | Sung Eucharist with Junior Church                     |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> | 9.00am      | Morning Prayer on Facebook                            |
|                  | 4.00-8.00pm | Darwen Food Share                                     |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> | 9.00am      | Morning Prayer on Facebook                            |
|                  | 12.00pm     | Bible Study   |
|                  | 6.30pm      | Bible Study and Eucharist                             |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> | 9.00am      | Morning Prayer in church                              |
|                  | 10.00am     | Eucharist   |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> | 9.00am      | Morning Prayer on Facebook                            |

- 17<sup>th</sup> 9.00am Morning Prayer on Facebook
- 19<sup>th</sup> **The Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity**  
10.00am Sung Eucharist with Junior Church
- 20<sup>th</sup> 9.00am Morning Prayer on Facebook  
4.00-8.00pm Darwen Food Share
- 21<sup>st</sup> 9.00am Morning Prayer on Facebook  
12.00pm Bible Study  
6.30pm Bible Study and Eucharist
- 22<sup>nd</sup> 9.00am Morning Prayer in church  
10.00am Eucharist  
2.30pm Holy Trinity School Harvest Festival
- 23<sup>rd</sup> 9.00am Morning Prayer on Facebook
- 24<sup>th</sup> 9.00am Morning Prayer on Facebook  
9.00am St Peter's School Harvest Festival
- 26<sup>th</sup> **The Last Sunday after Trinity - Harvest Festival**  
10.00am - Sung Eucharist - Family Service
- 27<sup>th</sup> 9.00am Morning Prayer on Facebook  
4.00-8.00pm Darwen Food Share
- 28<sup>th</sup> 9.00am Morning Prayer on Facebook  
12.00pm Bible Study  
6.30pm Bible Study and Eucharist
- 29<sup>th</sup> 9.00am Morning Prayer in church  
10.00am Eucharist  
7.00pm PCC meeting
- 30<sup>th</sup> 9.00am Morning Prayer on Facebook

### November

- 2<sup>nd</sup> **All Saints Sunday**  
10.00am Sung Eucharist with Junior Church

## Rev Alison's letter for October

Dear Friends,

Autumn is well upon us now. The landscape has changed its colours. The leaves have fallen from the trees. Our thoughts turn to Harvest. Harvest memories will vary for each one of us, according to our geography and background. Harvest growing up in East Manchester was probably much different to Harvest here, in Darwen!

Throughout the years, our understanding of Harvest has changed. Yet, Harvest was, and still is, a time of hard work. It involves bringing in the crops that have been carefully tended throughout the summer. And then celebrating this with a church service. For those who still live in rural areas, or work in agriculture, and to an extent those who grow produce in their gardens or on an allotment, Harvest will continue to mean much the same. Growing produce is not easy. There are many challenges; the right weather, good soil, and careful timing are all needed to yield a successful crop.

*We plough the fields and scatter the good seed on the land,  
But it is fed and watered by God's almighty hand.  
He sends the snow in winter, the warmth to swell the grain,  
The breezes and the sunshine, and soft refreshing rain.*

A bountiful harvest is a true cause for celebrating and thanksgiving. For both the work of the farmers and the providence of God.

For those of us who may be less connected to how our food is grown and produced, harvest will be experienced differently. Food is generally bought from a shop, with little knowledge of those energies needed to produce it. And with the ability to ship produce across the world, we are not always aware of

what foods are in season, and whether or not the weather has been kind this year.

But, no matter where we might be, Harvest festivals are a time for us all to consciously take time to pause and give thanks for the food. Food which we share and those who have worked to produce it. In recent years, the emphasis at Harvest has turned to bringing non-perishable packets and tinned food. And then the food is distributed to those in need. Which with the cost of living constantly rising now, this is more important than ever. Our foods donated at St Peter's will be donated to the Food Larder.

Yet the principle remains the same, to give thanks, to all who have produced it and to God.

*We thank You, our Creator, for all things bright and good:  
The seedtime and the harvest, our life, our health, our food.*

*Accept the gifts we offer for all Your love imparts;  
Accept what You most welcome: our humble, thankful hearts!*

The Harvest festival in church, may seem quite late - it is **Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> October**. It follows on from Harvest festivals, in church, for both Holy Trinity and St Peter's school. It will also be a family service, so more accessible for our younger people to join in with us.

So, let us sing ...

*All good gifts around us are sent from heav'n above.  
Then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord for all His love.*

Please do your best to join us and give thanks for the harvest this year.

Because ...

*Much more to us, His children, He gives our daily bread.*

Blessings, Alison.

## **CHURCH FLOWERS**

**September 28<sup>th</sup>** *'In loving memory of Albert and Irene Wood' -  
- Linda and the family*

**October 4<sup>th</sup>** *'In loving memory of Margaret Rigby,  
from her family*

**October 30<sup>th</sup>** *'Birthday memories of my loving husband  
John Squelch - Father, Grandfather and  
Father-in-Law -*

*'Happy Birthday Darling - we will always love  
you'.*

*Donations towards the cost of flowers and other produce for  
our **Harvest Festival** on 26<sup>th</sup> **October** will be very much  
appreciated.*

*Esther*

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## **FOOD LARDER - OCTOBER**

We will be very grateful for all the donations of food for our Harvest Festival services, which will be promptly passed on to the Food Larder and others in need.



Whilst we have a lot of bottles of conditioner in our store, we have very few bottles of ordinary shampoo! Any donations of ordinary shampoo will be much appreciated.



## Anniversaries we remember in October



2<sup>nd</sup> Daniel French

3<sup>rd</sup> Derek West

4<sup>th</sup> Margaret Rigby

10<sup>th</sup> Nellie Wardley

11<sup>th</sup> Russell Dutson

12<sup>th</sup> Derek Walsh

14<sup>th</sup> Mavis Dickinson      George Tattersall

15<sup>th</sup> John Bowker      Dorothy Dixon

16<sup>th</sup> Albert Crompton

17<sup>th</sup> Frances Griffiths

19<sup>th</sup> Andrew Moore

20<sup>th</sup> Alexander Rothery

22<sup>nd</sup> Dennis Wong

28<sup>th</sup> Norman Adcroft      James Cooper  
Jean Redwood

29<sup>th</sup> Thomas Walsh      Sylvia Beckett  
Edith Baton      Megan Clark

30<sup>th</sup> James Bolton      Jack Fisher  
Jack Corran

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# ENQUIRIES

## BAPTISM

Those who live in the Parish, and who can with any integrity make the affirmations of faith required within the Baptism Service, may have their child baptised at St Peter's. Baptisms are normally held by arrangement, but are usually on the second Sunday of the month at 12.30pm.

If you would like to arrange a baptism, please make contact with Rev Alison via [rev.alison@stpeterschurchdarwen.org](mailto:rev.alison@stpeterschurchdarwen.org), or phone 07540 792409. Messages left for Alison on the office phone 01254 703929 will be passed on.

## MARRIAGE

Those who live in the Parish, or are on the Electoral Roll of the Parish, are entitled to be married at St Peter's.

Anyone who would like to arrange a wedding, or the calling of Banns at St Peter's, is asked to make contact with the Vicar, Rev Alison.

## CARE OF THE SICK

If you or a loved one are unable to be present at our Church services and would like to receive Communion at home, or if you want us to include someone's name on our sick list, please contact Rev Alison.

Rev Alison can be contacted in the following ways:

- by sending a message to her e-mail address [rev.alison@stpeterschurchdarwen.org](mailto:rev.alison@stpeterschurchdarwen.org).  
via a message to our church e-mail address [stpeterschurch829@btinternet.com](mailto:stpeterschurch829@btinternet.com)
- by phoning 07540 792409, or the Parish Office on 01254 702939 - any messages left will be passed on to her; or
- by speaking with her at church after one of our services.



Parish Office	01254 703929
Churchwarden	Elliott Walsh
Deputy Churchwarden	Tony Rivron
Authorised Lay Minister (ALM)	Adam Conley
Treasurer	Ian Riley
Stewardship Recorders	Alison and David
Gift Aid	Allison L
Under 18's and Vulnerable Adults Safeguarding Officer	Susan Toms e-mail - <a href="mailto:safeguarding@stpeterschurchdarwen.org">safeguarding@stpeterschurchdarwen.org</a>
Pastoral Assistants	Zillah and Lynne
Organist and Choir Director	(vacancy)
Admin Assistant PCC Secretary Data Protection Lead and Electoral Roll Officer	Anne Carus



[stpeterschurch829@btinternet.com](mailto:stpeterschurch829@btinternet.com)

*A Church Near You – [achurchnearyou.com/St-Peters-Darwen](http://achurchnearyou.com/St-Peters-Darwen)*