

The Messenger

The Church Magazine of
St Peter's Church, Darwen

All are welcome in this place



August 2026 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
07540 792409

PARISH OFFICE

Tel. 01254 703929
(Phone messages are currently picked up
on Sundays and Wednesdays but e-mail
messages to
stpeterschurch829@btinternet.com
are checked frequently)

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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Diocesan Centenary Prayer



Heavenly Father,
in our Centenary year
we rededicate ourselves and our Diocese to you.
Send the Holy Spirit to give us
confidence in our witness,
generosity in our service,
and love for our neighbours,
that your Church may be renewed
and many come home to you,
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Diary for August

- 2nd **The Ninth Sunday after Trinity**
9.00am Morning Prayers in the Lady Chapel
10.00am Parish Eucharist with Junior Church
12.00pm Holy Baptisms - Adina, Xavier, Elijah and Emily
- 3rd 9.00am Morning Prayer on Facebook
4.00-8.00pm Darwen Food Share
- 4th 9.00am Morning Prayer on Facebook
12.45pm Bible Study
- 5th 9.00am Morning Prayers in church
10.00am Eucharist
- 6th **The Transfiguration of the Lord**
9.00am Morning Prayer on Facebook
- 7th 9.00am Morning Prayer on Facebook
- 9th **The Tenth Sunday after Trinity**
9.00am Morning Prayers in church
10.00am Sung Eucharist with Junior Church
12.00pm Wedding - Dominic and Joanne
- 10th 9.00am Morning Prayer on Facebook
4.00-8.00pm Darwen Food Share
- 11th 9.00am Morning Prayer on Facebook
12.45pm Bible Study
- 12th 9.00am Morning Prayers in church
10.00am Eucharist

- 13th 9.00am Morning Prayer on Facebook
- 14th 9.00am Morning Prayers on Facebook
- 16th **The 11th Sunday after Trinity**
 9.00am Morning Prayers on Facebook
 10.00am Sung Eucharist - with Junior Church
- 17th 9.00am Morning Prayers on Facebook
 4.00-8.00pm Darwen Food Share
- 18th 9.00am Morning Prayers on Facebook
 12.45pm Bible Study
- 19th 9.00am Morning Prayers in church
 10.00am Eucharist
- 20th 9.00am Morning Prayer on Facebook
- 21st 9.00am Morning Prayers on Facebook
- 23rd **The 12th Sunday after Trinity**
 9.00am Morning Prayers in church
 10.00am Sung Eucharist with Junior Church
 12.00pm Holy Baptism - Maya and Chloe
- 24th 9.00am Morning Prayers on Facebook
 4.00-8.00pm Darwen Food Share
- 25th 9.00am Morning Prayers on Facebook
 12.45pm Bible Study
- 26th 9.00am Morning Prayers in church
 10.00am Eucharist
- 27th 9.00am Morning Prayer on Facebook

- 28th 9.00am Morning Prayers on Facebook
- 30th **The 13th Sunday after Trinity**
9.00am Morning Prayers in church
10.00am Family Eucharist - NO Junior Church
- 31st 9.00am Morning Prayers on Facebook
4.00-8.00pm Darwen Food Share

September

- 1st 9.00am Morning Prayers on Facebook
12.45pm Bible Study
- 2nd 9.00am Morning Prayers in church
10.00am Eucharist
- 3rd 9.00am Morning Prayer on Facebook
- 4th 9.00am Morning Prayers on Facebook
- 6th **The 14th Sunday after Trinity**
9.00am Morning Prayers in church
10.00am Sung Eucharist with Junior Church
-

Rev Alison's letter for August

Dear Friends,

Last month, July, was a very busy month for us here at St Peter's, ending with our Mission Weekend. From afternoon teas, to a tour of the church, to afternoon games, the Eden singers and finally the Pet Service, we had a weekend to remember. A huge thank you to everyone who played their part in some way.

For now, we turn to the month of the August. And with it we find that the pace of parish life shifts, the diary breathes a little, as schools are closed, and many of us find ourselves stepping into that welcome space called summer holidays. Whether we travel far or stay close to home, this holiday month invites us to pause, rest, and receive again the gift of God's renewing presence.

August offers a gentle reminder that rest is not a luxury but also a Christian discipline. Just think of all those times where Jesus himself withdrew to quiet places, seeking stillness and communion with the Father. It was in those moments that he modelled a truth we often forget: **renewal begins with stopping**. When we allow ourselves to slow down, we create room for God to restore what everyday busyness wears away.

Rest, for each of us, looks different. For some, it's time away with family; for others, a quiet garden chair, a favourite book, or a walk along the coast. What matters is not the activity but the chance to slow down and rest. Holidays give us permission to lay down responsibilities, breathe deeply, and rediscover the simple joys that remind us we are held, loved, and sustained.

This season also offers a chance to reflect. As we step back from routines, we often see life more clearly. We notice what has blessed us, what has drained us, and where God might be nudging us next. Rest becomes not only restorative but formative. It prepares us to return to our ministries, workplaces, and communities with renewed energy and clearer purpose.

My prayer for you this August is that you find moments of true refreshment. May your days be marked by peace, laughter, and the quiet assurance of God's presence.

And as we return to the busy months ahead, may we carry with us the strength and joy that come from being re-energised in body, mind, and spirit.

Enjoy the month of August.

Blessings, Alison.

CHURCH FLOWERS

Donations towards the cost of flowers for church are always very welcome – if you can put your donation in one of the yellow envelopes in church and put your details on the envelope we will be able to claim back an additional 25% from HRMC!
Many thanks. Esther

(And I'm sure I'm speaking for everyone at church when I say many thanks, Esther, for all the work you and you friends in the Flower Guild do to ensure our church has lovely flowers appropriate to every season. Anne.)

FOOD LARDER - AUGUST

Toothpaste, soap, shower gel and shampoo

We are, fortunately, still in the position of having a (mostly) well-stocked Food Larder at this moment in time, so the above items would be gratefully received to supplement our parcels.

Thank you, Esther.

Anniversaries we remember in August



	1 st	Brian Martin
3 rd	Hazel Flegg	Fiona McNeill
	4 th	Keith Jennings
	6 th	Alexander Wilson
9 th	Jean Kershaw	Peter Munro-Scott
		John Baines
	10 th	Nora Holden
	12 th	Irene Mitchell
	13 th	Donna Walsh Edna Emery
14 th	Margaret Mitchell	Beryl Neale
	15 th	William Watson
	20 th	Ivy Woodcock
24 th	Harry Wardley	John Kay
	25 th	Joyce Bell
26 th	Brian Tomlinson	Ron Ainsworth
		Eileen King
27 th	Florence Vaughan	John Ollerton
	28 th	Shaun Whitehead
	29 th	Ellen Counce
	31 st	Scarlette Straughton

Church of England publishes major teaching document on care for creation as Synod approves new annual festival

At the Church of England's annual General Synod which met in York last month Synod Members considered a major new teaching document from the House of Bishops and approved a new annual Festival of Creation in Christ.

At the heart of the discussions was Hope for All Creation: A Theological Response to the Environmental Crises, a landmark teaching document authored by the Faith and Order Commission and adopted by the House of Bishops. The document sets out a Christian understanding of the environmental crises facing the world, rooting care for creation in the biblical story of creation, redemption and renewal, structured around the themes See, Reflect, Respond.

The document argues that care for creation is not an optional concern but a core part of Christian discipleship and mission. It presents environmental action as an expression of hope rooted in God's purposes for creation, highlighting the Church's role in responding to ecological crises alongside people of good will across society and around the world.

Alongside the publication of Hope for All Creation, Synod gave final approval to a new annual Festival of Creation in Christ, to be celebrated in Church of England churches on the first Sunday in September. The new Festival is one of the fruits of a growing ecumenical movement across churches worldwide and offers an opportunity for Christians to give thanks for God's creation and redemption of the world, reflect on humanity's responsibility to care for the natural world and pray for its renewal.

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, 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.
via a message to our church e-mail address 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 Recorder	Elliott
Gift Aid	Allison L
Under 18's and Vulnerable Adults Safeguarding Officer	Susan Toms e-mail - safeguarding@stpeterschurchdarwen.org
Pastoral Assistants	Zillah, Lynne and Susan P
Organist and Choir Director	(vacancy)
PCC Secretary	Anne Carus
Data Protection Lead, Electoral Roll Officer and Parish Magazine Editor	



stpeterschurch829@btinternet.com

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