



**ST PETER'S  
HOUSE**

CURIOSITY | ENCOUNTER | GIFT

June 17

Dear members and friends of ALLOUT,

It's a privilege to be given the opportunity to write and express a warm welcome to you on behalf of St. Peter's House Chaplaincy. St. Peter's House Chaplaincy is for people of all faiths and none and we're fully committed to welcoming LGBTQ people within the life of our community; but it's more than that, we want to celebrate alongside you all that LGBTQ people bring to life of this University and of our city.

I recognise that the Church has, and continues to fail the LGBTQ community. For that I am deeply sorry, and as a person with LGBTQ friends I often find myself apologising to them on behalf of the Church. Our welcome should be unequivocal and whilst I have little influence over the wider Church, I can guarantee you that the welcome at St. Peter's House will be unequivocal. The central truth of the Christian faith is that God is love and that love is generous, expansive and inclusive. All are welcome.

As an expression of our welcome we've recently appointed a new Associate Chaplain with a particular remit to work alongside the ALLOUT community of the University. He is a gay man who has journeyed through the perceived complexities of being both gay and Christian. He works for the University, but is also licensed to Manchester Diocese to preach and lead services, and so if you'd like to chat through matters relating to faith and sexuality then he'd be a good place to start. Alongside this we have a married Gay man as part of our core team of Chaplains at St. Peter's House, so please be assured of a very warm welcome here.

St. Peter's House has been going through significant transition in the past year. One thing that hasn't change, and will not change, is our welcome to LGBTQ people, so please drop in for a brew or send me an email to say hello.

Kind Regards

Revd Ben Edson

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