

**Bible verse and prayer for 2015**

But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed?  
And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard?  
And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him?  
And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent?  
As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

*Romans 10:14-15 New Revised Standard Version*

God of Mission,  
Who alone brings growth to your Church.  
Send your Holy Spirit to bring  
Vision to our planning,  
Wisdom to our actions,  
Faith to our lives,  
Hope to our communities,  
And love to our hearts.  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen

*Going for Growth Prayer, Diocese of Blackburn*

## **Contact Details**

### **VICAR**

Reverend Captain Andrew Housley, CA

10 Church Lane, Aughton, Ormskirk L396SB. Tel: 01695 423204.

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Requests for weddings and baptisms should in the first instance, be made to the Vicar at the end of the Family Service. Arrangements for funerals and interments may be made with the Vicar by telephone.

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## Letter from Andrew Housley

Dear friends,



What influences you when choosing a pub for lunch, a car dealer, a utility provider, a holiday resort, or any other place where we spend our money? TV adverts can grab our attention, star ratings on online review sites are helpful, but what may influence us most, is a recommendation by a trusted friend.

‘Word of mouth’ is believed to be the most effective way to attract new customers to a business or members to a club. If a client has a positive experience they are more likely to return to the business and recommend it to friends. If they have a negative experience, then they won’t recommend the business to a friend.

The church has always held marketing at the centre of what it means to be church, but we don’t call it marketing, instead we call it ‘mission’. The mission of the church is the promotion of Jesus Christ in our society and the growth of the church follows. We have all been called to be a part of the mission of the church. Jesus entrusted the mission of the church to us when he said, ‘as the Father sent me, so I have sent you’ (John 20:21). The 2015 benefice bible verse has been chosen as a reminder of our call to mission,

But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed?  
And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard?  
And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him?  
15 And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent?  
As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

*Romans 10:14-15 New Revised Standard Version*

St Paul reminds us that people will only know about the Christian message if we tell them. Our personal faith is intended to be 'passed on' by word of mouth, and the life of the church needs to build a positive experience in people's lives so that people 'pass on' their positive experience.

The Shared Ministry Team has produced a leaflet for 2015 which lists the special services and events at Holy Trinity. Please take a leaflet and pass it on to a friend with a personal invitation to join us. Please also regularly say the prayer on the front of the magazine. Let us all work and pray towards being the church where people like to visit and stay, in the knowledge of God's love for them.

Andrew

## **Holy Trinity Dates & News**

### **Dates for your diary**


|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| 5th January   | SMT Meeting from 7.30pm.                       |
| 11th January  | SMT Licensing at the 10.45am service.          |
| 21st January  | Book Club in the Derby Arms pub from 8pm.      |
| 24th January  | Men's Breakfast from 9am at St Michael's hall. |
| 1st February  | Gift Day.                                      |
| 8th February  | Family Service with Baptism.                   |
| 17th February | Pancake Party.                                 |

### **Gift Day**

Holy Trinity's Gift Day is on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February. The increasing costs of running Holy Trinity Church is not matched by an increasing income, and so we would like to invite members of the church and community to give a one off gift in appreciation for the friendship and ministry they receive from Holy Trinity Church. Gift Aid envelopes will be available nearer the time. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Andrew

## Services in January

|    | St Michael<br>Aughton  | Holy Trinity<br>Bickerstaffe                           |
|---|--|--|
| <b>4th January</b><br><i>1st Sunday of Christmas</i><br>White<br><br>Jeremiah 37:7-14<br>Ephesians 1:3-14<br>John 1:10-18 | 8.15am Andrew<br>Holy Communion<br><br>10.30am Bill<br>Matins<br>10.30am<br>Hall Service<br><br>4pm Andrew<br>Holy Communion | 10.45am Andrew<br>Holy Communion                       |
| <b>11th January</b><br><i>Baptism of Christ</i><br>White<br><br>Genesis 1:1-5<br>Acts 19:1-7<br>Mark 1:4-11               | 8.15am Judith<br>Holy Communion<br><br>10.30am Judith<br>Holy Communion  | 10.45am Andrew<br>Licensing of Shared<br>Ministry Team |
| <b>18th January</b><br><i>Epiphany 2</i><br>White<br><br>1 Samuel 3:1-10<br>Revelation 5:1-10<br>John 1:43-51             | 8.15am Andrew<br>Holy Communion<br><br>10.30am Andrew<br>Parade Service<br><br>4pm Andrew<br>Holy Communion                  | 10.45am Mark<br>Morning Prayer                         |
| <b>25th January</b><br><i>Conversion of Paul</i><br>White<br><br>Jeremiah 1:4-10<br>Acts 9:1-22<br>Matthew 19:27-end      | 8.15am Andrew<br>Holy Communion<br><br>10.30am Andrew<br>Baptism   | 10.45am Judith<br>Holy Communion                       |

## Benefice News

### Holy Communion in the Community



The Holy Communion Services in Stockley Crescent, St Michael's Hall and Bickerstaffe School are a wonderful opportunity for outreach. Please invite friends!!

*"For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes."*

*1 Corinthians 11:26*

- The service of Holy Communion at Stockley Crescent will be on 6th January at 1pm;
- St Michael's Hall, on Wednesday 14th January at 11am (with soup lunch), and 28<sup>th</sup> January.
- Holy Communion at Bickerstaffe School will take place on Friday 30th January at 2.40pm. Everyone welcome.

### Book Club

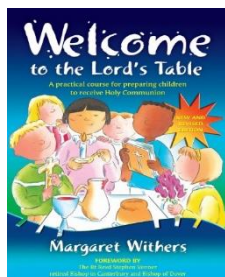
The next book is "The Mission Song" by John le Carre. The meeting is scheduled for the 21st January 2015 from 8pm at the Derby Arms pub. *All welcome.*

### Men's Breakfast



The next Men's Breakfast will be at St Michael's Church Hall at 9am on Saturday 24th January. New members welcome!

## Welcome to the Lord's Table



At a Passover meal, the youngest child asks “what is so special about a night like this?” the host of the meal will answer by telling the guests about the time Israel was led from slavery to the promised land. Holy Communion evolved from the Passover meal and reminds us that we were saved from the slavery of sin to benefit from new life in Christ.

The Welcome to the Lord's Table course is for children in Y4+ who would like to learn more about the Christian faith and join with the church family in the special act of worship and remembrance by taking Holy Communion. Any children from St Michael's wanting to join the course this year please speak to Margaret Ellams. Any children from Bickerstaffe, please speak to Andrew.

## Bickerstaffe Shared Ministry Team (SMT)

On Sunday 11th January at 10.45am, the new SMT at Bickerstaffe will be licensed at the 10.45am service by the Ven. Peter Bradley, the Archdeacon of Warrington. **Please pray** for the team as they work to develop the ministry and mission at Bickerstaffe church. A warm invitation is extended to all members of the parish of Bickerstaffe and also to members of St Michael's Church.

## Smile Time: New Year Resolutions for Internet Junkies

1. I will stop sending e-mail to my wife.
2. I will spend less than one hour a day on the Internet.
3. I will answer my snail mail with the same enthusiasm with which I answer my e-mail.
4. I resolve to back up my 10GB hard drive daily...well, once a week...okay, monthly then...or maybe...

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## Prayer Time



The Lord is close to everyone who prays to him, to all who truly pray to him.

Psalm 145:18

The Spirit is here to help us... when we don't know what to pray for, the Spirit prays for us in ways that cannot be put into words.

Romans 8:26

### A prayer from Taizé

Holy Spirit, you know our deep longing,  
and you want this to make us not sad but joyful.  
And so you make us understand that  
in God there is a still more ardent wish  
to be in communion with us.

### A Collect for the New Year

God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
whose years never fail  
and whose mercies are new each returning day:  
let the radiance of your Spirit renew our lives,  
warming our hearts and giving light to our minds;  
that we may pass the coming year  
in joyful obedience and firm faith;  
through him who is the beginning and the end,  
your Son, Christ our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
Amen.

Common Worship

### **A New Year Prayer**

For all the possibilities ahead in this new year,  
make us thankful, O Lord.

Give us wisdom, courage and discernment  
in the face of so much chaos, despair and fear.

Help us to see how, in our circumstances,  
we can contribute towards peace, faith and love;  
and give us the will to translate our desires into actions.

Brother John Charles SSF  
The Book of a Thousand Prayers, Compiled by A Ashwin

### **BENEFACT FAMILY WEEKEND**



**Cloverley Hall, Shropshire, 4th – 6th September 2015**

Please pencil this date into your new diaries for 2015.

Booking forms will be available in the New Year  
when we have received the new costs for Cloverley Hall in 2015.

Janet Glennon

### **Stamp Collections**

Thank you to everyone who collects used postage stamps for me throughout the year. These are put to good use by charities. Please remember to save your Christmas card stamps which can be left in the box at the back of church. Thank you.

Fred Tyrer

## **Bickerstaffe Football Club Celebrations**



This year marks Bickerstaffe Football Club's 50th year as an Amateur Football Club. Many readers will be aware that the club started as a Young Peoples' Club and now enjoys its present day status as a Liverpool FA Chartered Standard Club.

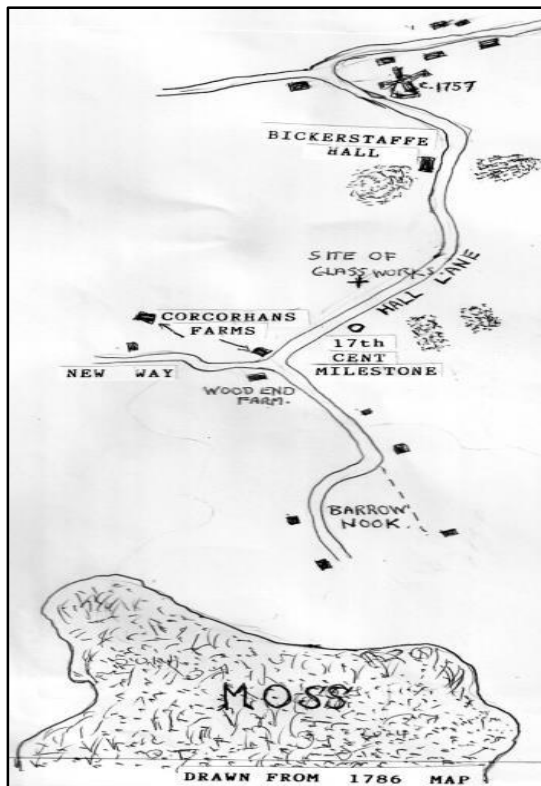
As part of the celebrations BFC are holding a special Race Night on Saturday 7th February from 7.30pm at the Rainford Junction Pub. Everyone welcome! The BFC Celebration Dinner will be held on Friday 17th April 2015 at Skelmersdale AFC social club. Dinner tickets are £30 each and can be purchased via myself, (Alan Fairclough tel 07871 775 554) or via Mike Woods, our Club Secretary (tel. 07759 124 967).

Alan Fairclough  
Bickerstaffe Football Club

## **Tudor Glassworks** By Owen Taylor

Prior to the publication of the 'William Yates Map' of 1786, very little was known about the local topographical features of our landscape. Most information gathered originated from old church records, legal documents and place names.

A typical example was an obscure entry discovered during the spring of 1968 in the Ormskirk Parish Registers. It became a vital clue in the discovery of a small 'Glassworks' at Bickerstaffe. The entry, dated 10th December 1600, reads, 'A stranger slayne by one of the glassmen beinge a ffrenchman then working at Bycerstaff.' The site was located in a Bickerstaffe Hall field, known as Glass Hey, to the West of Hall Lane.



*Map showing the site of the Glassworks*

For generations, local Teamsmen had uncovered fragments of green glass and glazed pottery in the area, not knowing their significance.

In 1968, an excavation was carried out by the staff of the Pilkington Museum, led by local Curator, Miss Ruth Hurst, who suggested at the time, 'the green tinted vessel glass was typical of the products made by French Huguenot Glassmakers, who emigrated to England in the 1560's.'



Pilkington Museum Staff examine base of a glass melting-pot – June 1968



Scattered Hearth-Stones at the site of the Glass Furnace Excavation in 1968

After the removal of top-soil and many tons of red burnt earth, a large oblong platform was exposed. The stone used was similar to that once quarried at the old Melling Delph. More digging revealed the base of a melting-pot, about one-foot in diameter, known as 'crucibles'. Also, a substantial quantity of charcoal debris was found near the foundation of the furnace.

It was big news for local newspapers, who carried photographs and stories of the event. Moreover, Lord Pilkington invited the Parish Council to view the historical site, which resulted in a full turn out of members one Sunday afternoon. A later analysis revealed that about 50% of the wood burned was Hazel, then quite common in the near-by woodlands. An entry in the Elizabethan Quarter Sessions, endorses this review and reads, 'Edward Mercer, labourer of Kirkbie, on 14th Jan. 1598, entered a Bickerstath wood and cut sown 42 young hassel, worth 12 pence, the property of Henry Stanley, Esq'.

Where the Glassmen lived is unknown. At that period of the 17th Century, there were few farmsteads in the Southern part of the Township due to the extent of un-drained moss-land. Two small farms situated within a quarter of a mile of the glass site, were recorded in the

Victorian era. Both were occupied by the Corcorhan family. The one in Hall Lane was demolished in 1911, while the other, off New Way, met a similar fate in the mid-1960s.



Farmer Betty Corcorhan, looking attentive as her lodger, Gamekeeper Sid Chater, walks towards the Hall Lane exit.

It was near to this location during the 1980s, that a metal detector enthusiast found two French coins. Both were well worn and the dates were indiscernible.

What happened to the French Glassmen is not recorded. Court Registers omit any mention of an arrest or prosecution for the felony reported in December 1600, so it seems they packed up and skedaddled very quickly, realising that if caught, they would be executed.

Opposite the discovered glassworks, stood an ancient mile-stone, which unfortunately was stolen in May 2000. Some Bickerstaffe elders reckoned it measured a four mile distance to the old market-cross in Ormskirk.

#### Acknowledgements:

Pilkington News 1968; Ormskirk Advertiser; Quarter Sessions 16th century; William Yates Map of Lancashire 1786.

Owen Taylor

## News from Bickerstaffe Church of England School

***“The distinctiveness and effectiveness of Bickerstaffe Primary School as a Church of England school are outstanding”***

(Diocesan Inspection Report, November 2014)

These are the opening lines of our recent school inspection which reaffirmed the excellent practice at Bickerstaffe School that we are all so proud of. You can read the full report on our website: [www.bickerstaffe.lancs.sch.uk](http://www.bickerstaffe.lancs.sch.uk) and a copy will be placed on the church noticeboard.

School is looking particularly festive at the moment, and there is an excitement in the air; I am sure you can all imagine why! The children are currently doing their dress rehearsal in preparation for the performances later this week, and there are many angels, shepherds, kings, and assorted broadcasters and narrators in school! But, it is particularly heart-warming at such an exciting time when a child brings in a poem that she has found, and made personal to herself:

### **If I was.....**

If I was a king, my crown I would give to Him,  
If I was a caroller, I would sing to Him my greatest hymns,  
If I was a shepherd, the best lamb I would bring,  
If I was an angel, I would give Him my wings.

If I was a wise man, I would give Him all my strength,  
But I am only a poor little girl, with nothing much to give,  
If I could, I would give Him my little hands and my little feet,

I am just a little girl today,  
I will do bigger things for Him one day,

I will give Him my life, my all,  
My all to the One who is called Jesus Christ.  
Who was born to set us free  
And, THIS IS WHAT CHRISTMAS MEANS TO ME!

Selected by Charlotte Latimer

Joy is our Christian value of the month in school, and as we look forward to celebrating the birth of Christ, it was with great joy that we heard the news that Bickerstaffe School and Holy Trinity Church will together sponsor a 7 year old boy from Bangladesh. His name is Dipok, Babu Roy and a message has arrived to thank us for 'changing his life'.

As we look forward to 2015 with hope for a good year, we can only imagine what joy Dipok is experiencing, and what a difference our sponsorship will make. Together we have given him hope for a brighter future. If anyone would like to send Dipok a message, or pledge sponsorship for a month, please see the details at the back of church, or contact school on 01695 722957.

***Happy New Year Everyone!***

Jeanne Hall & All Staff at Bickerstaffe School



Bickerstaffe Church of England Primary School,  
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### CARD MAKING AT FOUR LANE ENDS MISSION

Last Friday in the month,

6.30pm to 8.30pm.

Please call either

Margaret 01695 421548 or

June 01695 722778 for further

information.

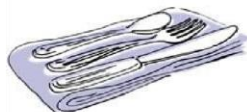


### NEW DINERS ARE WELCOME

Bickerstaffe Luncheon Club meet every alternate Thursday, at 12 noon in Four Lane Ends Mission.

For just £4 we enjoy a lovely hot cooked meal and pudding, followed by tea and a fun quiz. We usually end at 2.30pm.

If you would like to come along to boost our numbers and **enjoy a good meal and a laugh**, please ring Sheila Prentice on 727613.



### Church Cleaning Rota



|              |        |                                     |
|--------------|--------|-------------------------------------|
| 2nd January  | Team 3 | A Banks, N Rimmer, H Rosbotham      |
| 9th January  | Team 4 | J Hodgson, B Winstanley             |
| 16th January | Team 5 | F Brownbill, S Prentice, M Prentice |
| 23rd January | Team 6 | V Heyes, B Morris                   |
| 30th January | Team 1 | E Short, P Walton, B Bell           |
| 6th February | Team 2 | I McCarthy, M Johnson               |

## **Bickerstaffe Mothers' Union News**



Members were invited to a deanery Carol Service at St. Paul's Skelmersdale and enjoyed a lovely service with them and afterwards we enjoyed refreshments and fellowship with them.

This month, we have two members with special Birthdays. Mrs. Gladys Berry was 95 on 8<sup>th</sup> December and Mrs. Muriel Powell was 90 on the 15th our love and best wishes to them.

It is a dark December afternoon as I write and we are a few days away from our Christmas Carol Service and traditional tea. This is always a very special service as we have the opportunity to sing our favourite carols and reminisce on past Christmases with friends. May I take this opportunity to wish all our members, their families, and friends a healthy and Happy Christmas.

Irene McCarthy

## **Skelmersdale Foodbank**



We are still collecting for the Foodbank. We have been advised that they particularly need sugar, tinned potatoes or processed potatoes, although all items are put to great use and are much appreciated. The collection box is located at the back of church.

## **Children's clothes collection**

If you are having a 'clear out' of good quality children's clothes over the New Year period, please consider passing them into the back of church for the community at Litherland Moss School. Your donations really do make a difference to local families experiencing great need. Thank you.

### **Website & Twitter news**

Have you visited our new website [www.holytrinitybickerstaffe.co.uk](http://www.holytrinitybickerstaffe.co.uk) ? Here you will find a wealth of information about our church and community. Our webmaster Edward McCarthy, works tirelessly to ensure users are kept up to date and enjoy their virtual visit. It is also possible to view this magazine online too! For any Tweeters out there, our Twitter hashtag is @HolyTrinityBick.

### **Subscription Time**



Please would you pass your £5 subscription to Hilary Rosbotham at your earliest convenience? If you prefer to have your copy posted by Royal Mail, please ensure Audrey Banks has your correct details, and send £11 (which includes 12 issues and 2<sup>nd</sup> class postal delivery).

### **Editorial News: A big ‘thank you!’**

I would like to start the New Year by thanking everyone who works so hard to ensure the magazine is collected from the printer and delivered to people’s homes each month. These are wonderful, quiet vocations that make such a difference. Thank you, everyone.

Of course, there would be no magazine without the great contributions we receive from members of the church community and our broader community. Thank you all, so much. I am also really grateful to all our advertisers, whose important sponsorship subsidises the magazine costs.

The deadline for the February magazine is **18th January**. As always, kindly pass articles to myself or e-mail it to either [jo.housley@gmail.com](mailto:jo.housley@gmail.com) or [bickerstaffechurchmagazine@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:bickerstaffechurchmagazine@yahoo.co.uk). I will do my best to publish articles when space and copyright allows.

Jo Housley, Editor

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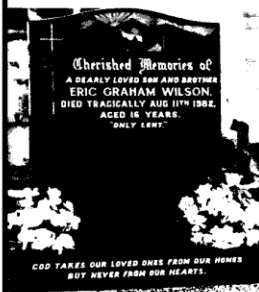
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God, Bless our year  
giving us  
time for the task  
peace for the pathway  
wisdom for the work  
friends for the fireside  
love to the last.

The Mothers' Union Anthology of Public Prayers, quoted in 'The Book of a Thousand Prayers' compiled by A Ahswin.

**NEW STANDING ORDER INSTRUCTION**

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Account number \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

Account holding branch Sort Code \_ \_ - \_ - -

**2. Payee Details**

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Payment Ref: Gift Aid

Sort Code: 20-80-33 Account Number: 50116599

**3. About the Payment**

How often are the payments to be made:

Monthly ☐      Quarterly ☐      Yearly ☐

Amount details until further notice

Date and amount of first payment: 05 / \_ \_ / 2015    £ \_\_\_\_\_

Date and amount of on-going payments: 5th Monthly    £ \_\_\_\_\_

**4. Confirmation**

Customer Signature(s) .....

.....

Date.....



# *Welcome to Holy Trinity Church Bickerstaffe*

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday      10.45am Holy Communion**

 **2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday      8am Holy Communion  
10.45am Family Service**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday      10.45am Morning Prayer**

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday      10.45am Holy Communion**

**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday      10.45am Various Services**

**The Sunday Club for children  
meets during the morning services**

**Requests for Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals  
should be made to the Vicar**