



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

Website www.holytrinitybickerstaffe.co.uk. **Twitter** @HolyTrinityBick

VICAR

Reverend Captain Andrew Housley, CA 10 Church Lane, Aughton, Ormskirk L396SB.
Tel: 01695 423204. Mob: 07788 256 776, E-mail: andrew.housley67@gmail.com.

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.

CHURCH WARDENS

Mrs Irene McCarthy. Taylor's Cottage, Back Lane, L39 0EN. Tel: 01695 421800,
Mob: 07818 205 597. E-mail: irenebickerstaffe@hotmail.co.uk.
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Mrs Ann Ashburner & Mr Jon Ashburner. Telephone 01695 721795.

Letter from Andrew Housley

Dear friends,



'There are one million caravans in Britain and more than 400 caravan clubs. The mobile holiday homes have never been more popular—the industry is currently worth £6b to the UK economy, and they are seeing some of their fastest growth among holidaymakers in their 20s and 30s. So get ready to meet Britain's fun-seeking, slow lane-hogging "carafans".'

The above paragraph was written to advertise a recent Channel 5 documentary about caravaners or 'carafans'. Needless to say, Jo and I brewed up and for the first time in many years, switched from the BBC to Channel 5. The documentary confirmed what we already knew, the fun that can only be found on a caravan holiday! The programme also confirmed the diverse spectrum of carafans who 'toot, toot, wave' to one another as they tow. The caravaner community is alive and well.

There are many privileges of being a member of a church, one of them is the sense of belonging to a community. The church community is a wonderfully diverse group of people with her own traditions and values. By our nature, we have a bias towards the weak and a spirituality of hospitality to all.

Recently, I read the challenging parable of the Vineyard Workers (Matthew 20:1-16). In the parable, Jesus says that any "labourer" who accepts the invitation to the work in the vineyard (said by Jesus to represent the Kingdom of Heaven), no matter how late in the day, will receive an equal reward with those who have been faithful the longest.



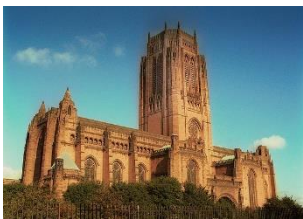
Like many of Jesus' parables, we are challenged to behave in a different way to that of the world. Our sense of justice and fairness is stretched towards those who we may think don't deserve it, but it's by living by the teaching of Jesus that we point others towards Christ. The conscience decision to live a life by

Jesus' values is challenging, but is of benefit to us and to those we meet in our daily lives. Likewise, the peace we share in the communion service needs to be symbolic of the peace with share with all people throughout our lives.

So may you all have a wonderful summer of sharing peace with those you may meet on your holidays and, if you see the Housley's towing their caravan, remember to 'toot, toot, wave.'

Andrew

Liverpool Cathedral News:




Brighten your school holidays with free family fun at the Cathedral each week.

Join us at the Cathedral every Wednesday from July 29th through to August 26th when we will be offering a wide range of activities based on a summer theme to suit all families, including arts and crafts, and photography workshops (11am and 1pm each time).

Bring your own camera and take pictures around the Cathedral with advice from our photographer. Further information is available online via www.liverpoolcathedral.org.uk or contact Jackie tel. 0151 702 7210.

Source: www.liverpoolcathedral.org.uk

Services in August

	St Michael Aughton	Holy Trinity Bickerstaffe
2nd August <i>Trinity 9</i> Green Exodus 16.2-4,9-15 Ephesians 4.1-16 John 6.24-35	8.15am Andrew Holy Communion 10.30am Bill Matins 10.30am Chris Hall Service	10.45am Andrew & Martin Bickerstock Songs of Praise
9th August <i>Trinity 10</i> Green 1 Kings 19.48 Ephesians 4.25-5.2; John 6.35,45-51	8.15am Judith Holy Communion 10.30am Judith Holy Communion	10.45am Mark Morning Prayer
16th August <i>Trinity 11</i> Green Proverbs 9.1-6; Ephesians 5.15-20; John 6.51-58	8.15am Peter G Holy Communion 10.30am Jeff Smith Morning Prayer	10.45am Mark Morning Prayer
23rd August <i>Trinity 12</i> Green Joshua 24.1-2a,14-18; Ephesians 6.10-20; John 6.56-69	8.15am Andrew Holy Communion 10.30am Andrew Holy Communion	10.45am Judith Holy Communion
30th August <i>Trinity 13</i> Green Deuteronomy 4.1-2,6-9; James 1.17-27; Mark 7.1-8,14-15,21-23	8.15am Andrew Holy Communion 10.30am Ross Holy Communion Andrew and Ross will pulpit swap for the 10.30am, Andrew will be at Christchurch	10.45am Mike S Holy Communion

Worship and Learning

Sunday 2nd August: The work of God

John 6.24-35: Summary

- * The crowd pursue Jesus to Capernaum.
- * They are confused and ask Jesus many questions, but do not understand his answers.
- * Jesus sums up his responses, saying, 'I am the bread of life.'

A personal prayer *based on Ephesians 4*

Lord, I am both obedient and disobedient, believing and unbelieving.
Help me to lead a life worthy of all you have called me to.
Bless me with humility and gentleness,
with patience, tolerance and grace,
that I may proclaim with hope, integrity and joy my belief in you,
who are God and Father of us all. Amen.

Sunday 9th August: Bread from heaven

John 6.35,41-51: Summary

- * Jesus says, 'I am the bread of life.'
- * The Jewish leaders complain about him.
- * He explains his claim to be the bread of life.

A personal prayer *based on Ephesians 4.25–5.2*

Lord, help me to make these words of Scripture my own:
'Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another,
as God in Christ has forgiven you.
Be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love,
as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us.'
Amen.

Sunday 16th August: Eternal life

John 6.51-58: Summary

- * Jesus describes himself as the living bread and invites us to eat his flesh.
- * His hearers find this contentious.
- * Jesus makes the link between eating his flesh and receiving eternal life.

A personal prayer

Lord, help me to reflect more deeply on the Eucharist,
as I gather with my brothers and sisters around your table.
May I reflect on how what I take into me shapes and forms my identity.

May I never be ashamed to proclaim you as my Saviour,
as I reach out my hands to receive your flesh and blood.
May the reality of what you went through
deepen my thankfulness to you and my compassion for others. Amen.

Sunday 23rd August: The Holy One of God

John 6.56-69: Summary

- * The disciples find Jesus' teaching difficult.
- * Jesus challenges his disciples to 'abide' in him.
- * Though many turn away, Simon Peter stands firm, acknowledging him as the Holy One of God.

A personal prayer

May I stand up for my faith when it is challenged;
stand firm in my faith when life is difficult;
stand alongside others with compassion when they are struggling;
stand aside with grace when it is time for me to take a back seat,
and stand down with dignity when my life's race is run.
I ask this in your name, Jesus. Amen.

Sunday 30th August: Worship from the heart

Mark 7.1-8,14-15,21-23: Summary

- * Some of the scribes and Pharisees criticise Jesus' disciples for not observing the laws of ritual purity.
- * Jesus says that worship from the heart matters more than mere words.
- * We are defiled by what comes out of us, not what goes into us.

A personal prayer

Lord, your disciples were hands-on
but not necessarily clean hands-on.
They were fishermen, tax collectors,
more in the world of work than of religion.

Help me to use my hands for you.
May they carry other people's burdens.
May they comfort,
and serve those in need.
And though they be dirty from work,
may they be clean enough
to hold out in thankfulness to receive you.

For without your grace,
nothing is clean, nothing is holy. Amen.



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Benefice News

Book Club

The next book is 'A Man Called Ove' by Fredrik Backman which will be discussed at the Derby Arms on the 16th September from 8pm.

In this bestselling and delightfully quirky debut novel from Sweden, a grumpy yet loveable man finds his solitary world turned on its head when a boisterous young family moves in next door.

Meet Ove. He's a curmudgeon, the kind of man who points at people he dislikes as if they were burglars caught outside his bedroom window. He has staunch principles, strict routines, and a short fuse. People call him *the bitter neighbor from hell*, but must Ove be bitter just because he doesn't walk around with a smile plastered to his face all the time?

Behind the cranky exterior there is a story and a sadness. So when one November morning a chatty young couple with two chatty young daughters move in next door and accidentally flatten Ove's mailbox, it is the lead-in to a comical and heartwarming tale of unkempt cats, unexpected friendship, and the ancient art of backing up a U-Haul. All of which will change one cranky old man and a local residents' association to their very foundations.

A feel-good story in the spirit of *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry* and *Major Pettigrew's Last Stand*, Fredrik Backman's novel about the angry old man next door is a thoughtful and charming exploration of the profound impact one life has on countless others.

Men's Breakfast



The next Men's Breakfast will be at Bickerstaffe School at 9am on Saturday 4th July £3.50. New members welcome!

If you have good quality men's clothes, then please bring them to be taken to the Salvation Army in Bootle. Thank you.

Confirmation



If you are a Year 9 pupil or above or an adult and would like to be confirmed, then please speak to Andrew. A Confirmation Class will start in September. The Confirmation Service this year will be at the Cathedral on Monday 16th November at 7.30pm.

Benefice Pool Party



This year's Pool Party for the children who attend the Sunday groups, will be on Sunday 13th September at Meadows in Maghull. We have use of the pool between 3.15pm – 4.15pm and then the function room for a bring-and-share supper following the swim. Please email a list of children to Andrew. Thank you.

Charity Collections

If you plan to sort through your children's wardrobes over the summer, we would be grateful to receive good quality **children's clothes** and other school items such as football boots, and goggles, which will be donated to Litherland Moss School.

We continue to collect **men's clothes** for Bootle Salvation Army, and the Skelmersdale Food Bank remains as important as ever during the school break when there are no free school meals available to needy families. Non-perishable **food items** are therefore very much appreciated. Please leave any items at the back of church. Thank you so much for your ongoing support.

Musical Events

Cantique in Concert at St Michael's Church

Friday 11th September at 7.30pm

£5 per ticket, in aid of the friends of St Michael's.

Choral Evensong at St Michael's Church

On Sunday 27th September from 6.30pm, there will be a Choral Evensong to celebrate St Michael and All Angels. Nearer the time, Martin will lead choir practice for those from both churches who would like to join the choir for this special service.

Prayer Time



Throughout the summer holidays, let's continue to pray for all children who attend our local nurseries, schools, and colleges. Please pray for all school staff and governors as they enjoy a rest and prepare for the new academic year. Let us remember in prayer all those who are expecting important exam results, especially those who plan to go to university or start work for the first time.

We pray for all students and staff at Edge Hill; particularly for the new starters from the UK and overseas, and all recent graduates. Amen.

Bickerstaffe School Prayer

O Lord, Bless our School,

That working together and playing together,

We may learn to serve you and to serve one another.

Amen

Holy Trinity Dates & News

Dates for your diary

31st July – 2nd Aug	Bickerstock.
1st September	Church Wardens' meeting at the Rectory 7.30pm.
3rd September	Shared Ministry Team meeting.
5th September	Churchyard tidy.
8th September	PCC.
11th September	Cantique in concert at St Michael's Church from 7.30pm.
13th September	Pool Party.
25th September	Wigan Ukulele Band at Holy Trinity Church.
26th September	Men's Breakfast at St Michael's.
27th September	Choral Evensong at St Michael's.
11th October	Harvest Thanksgiving.
16th October	Quiz Night with Hotpot supper.
16th November	Confirmation in the Cathedral.

Bickerstock Songs of Praise



On Sunday the 2nd August, Martin Adams will lead a *Songs of Praise* with support from some of the Bickerstock performers. Please support what is always a wonderful service.

Churchyard tidy up

On Saturday 5th September from 10am, there will be another church yard tidy up. Please bring your own tools! We especially need trimmers/bush cutters. All help welcome! Thank you.

Andrew



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Church Fundraising Events



Wigan Ukulele Band in Concert

We are delighted to announce that on Friday 25th September at 7.30pm, we will be entertained by Wigan Ukulele Band. £5 including drink and nibbles (proceeds for Church funds).

Quiz night with Hotpot Supper: Advanced notice!

We are already looking forward to an evening of fun and fellowship on Friday 16th October at 7.30pm in the Mission, when we will enjoy a quiz night and a lovely Bickerstaffe Hotpot Supper.

To book your place, please contact Sheila Prentice (tel. 01695 727613) by October 2nd, or add your name/s on list held in Church by the same date. Teams of up to six people please and tickets are £7 each. All welcome. Thank you.



Summer Fair on Saturday 11th July

A huge 'thank you' to everyone who was involved in the planning and preparation of the Summer Fair. Thanks are also offered to all those who gave their time and talents on the day, and to everyone who gave donations to the lovely stalls.

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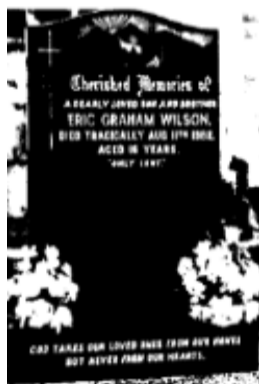
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'Notable Events' By Owen Taylor

Throughout the centuries many notable events in and around Bickerstaffe have been documented. Understandably, the weather is often mentioned.

The rare Gibson's Cavaliers Note-Book tells of a severe hail-storm in August 1662, 'that killed pigeons, spoiled crops of wheat and split the boughs of trees'. Nathaniel Heywood, Vicar of Ormskirk, wrote, 'Hailstones were as big as apples, some up to nine inches in circumference'.

Recorded too, are the 'great freezes that occurred in the latter years of George III reign. On February 2nd 1795, Bickerstaffe farmer Henry Jenkinson, reported, 'The stock of wheat will be consumed, if not assisted from abroad, by the time the new lot comes to market, or before....Potatoes are also expected to be dearer through damage and severe frost.'

Also in 1881, temperatures dropped so low that ships had to battle through thick ice on the River Mersey. The same scenario happened again in 1895, when the frozen shores of the Mersey were captured in a painting by local artist, Frederik Yorke, whose family later gave permission for it to be used on a Christmas card.

The heaviest snow-fall in living memory struck the neighbourhood and surrounding districts on January 21st -22nd 1940, causing many difficulties for Parishioners, both young and old. Snow-drifts, 12ft deep, reached bedroom windows at Barrow Nook. Construction company, Holloway Bros, who were employed by the M.O.D at Kirkby, despatched every available bulldozer to clear the roads, by the following weekend, all thoroughfares were declared open. There were no reports in the local press due to war-time secrecy.



Snow-Drifts at Barrow Nook in January 1940

Crime and Public disorders are often mentioned. There were Colliery riots at Skelmersdale in 1881, in which Bickerstaffe miners were involved. A further, widespread strike took place in 1912, when coal production was halted for a week or so.



Bickerstaffe Colliery Strike, 1912, Boiler Men holding Fire Rakes

On December 17th 1901, John Harrison was executed at Kirkdale Prison, for the murder of Ann Wright of Bickerstaffe. The crime took place in an abode known as Rose Cottage, near a footpath from Gorsey Bank to Skelmersdale Road. During the sentence, he interrupted the Judge, with the words, 'I am not guilty Sir'.

Early aviation feats captured public imagination. A flight by Italian Balloonist, Vincent Lunardi, was described as a 'wondrous enterprise'. Adventurous Lunardi landed in a Simonswood field on May 17th 1785, after an ascent from the old Fort at Liverpool. On May 22nd 1930, a local diarist recorded flight over the Parish of the giant Air-ship, R.100 and in October 1944, a captured German Heinkel 115 sea-plane was observed flying over Barrow Nook at low altitude, being escorted towards Liverpool by one of our fighter planes. The enemies' insignia had been concealed with white paint.

Perhaps the most unnerving event took place on September 7th 1940, a few days after Premier Churchill had inspired the nation with the words 'Let us go forward together'. The scare arose after a message was



Bickerstaffe Home Guard Officers - Four served in the First World War

received at Home Guard Command, that the invasion of Britain was imminent. This spurred the local Battalion into immediate action. Runners were ordered to contact all members and inform them to report to Headquarters at Bickerstaffe School and be at the ready for operational duty. Church bells were rung in many parts of the country, but not locally. Later Government Officials tried to find out why the alarm was given and who sanctioned it, but seemingly no-one was ever censured for the action.

Acknowledgements:

Ormskirk Advertiser, Liverpool Echo, Kirkby Reporter, Transactions Lancs & Cheshire Historical Society, Angela Chaderton

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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



7th August	Team 4 J Hodgson, B Winstanley
14th August	Team 5 F Brownbill, S Prentice, M Prentice
21st August	Team 6 M Clarke, V Heyes, B Morris
28th August	Team 1 E Short, B Bell, F Brownbill
4th Sept	Team 2 I McCarthy, M Johnson
11th Sept	Team 3 A Banks, G Banks, N Rimmer

Flower Rota



2nd August	Mrs Linda Weaver
9th August	Mrs Barbara Fairclough
16th August	Mrs Margaret Fairhurst
23rd August	Mrs Audrey Banks
30th August	Mrs Irene McCarthy
6th Sept	Mrs Violet Heyes

Bickerstaffe Mothers' Union News



In July our meeting was the traditional *Members' Choice* when we welcomed our friends from Melling. Next month we are having a change and instead of the outing, we shall be having a speaker instead. In September we will be visiting the Courtyard Restaurant in Tarleton with the opportunity to purchase from the retail area.

Irene McCarthy

Bickerstaffe Women's Institute



The August meeting of the Bickerstaffe W.I. is entitled, 'Belly Dance, Styles and Costuming' and will be presented by Sarah Garrish. This will take place on Monday, August 24th at 7.30pm at Four Lane Ends Mission.

Visitors and new members are always welcome. Further details are available from me, Margaret Fairclough, tel. 01695 729161.

Margaret Fairclough

Editorial News

The deadline for the July magazine is **Friday 21st August**. As always, please pass articles to myself or e-mail it to either jo.housley@gmail.com or bickerstaffechurchmagazine@yahoo.co.uk. I will do my best to publish articles when space and copyright allows. Thank you for all your support.


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Smile Time: Pancakes

A mother was preparing pancakes for her sons, Kevin 5, and Ryan 3.

The boys began to argue over who would get the first pancake. Their mother saw the opportunity for a moral, "If Jesus were sitting here, He would say, 'Let my brother have the first pancake, I can wait.' Kevin turned to his younger brother and said, "Ryan, you be Jesus!"

Welcome to Holy Trinity Church Bickerstaffe

1st Sunday 10.45am Holy Communion

 **2nd Sunday 8am Holy Communion
10.45am Family Service**

3rd Sunday 10.45am Morning Prayer

4th Sunday 10.45am Holy Communion

5th 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**