

**Bible verse for 2019**

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

1 Corinthians 13:4-7

Liverpool Diocesan Prayer

Loving Father, by your grace
we long to see more people knowing Jesus,
and more justice in your world.
Help us to live as your disciples
in the power of the Spirit
and to work to your praise and glory.
Amen.

Contact Details

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VICAR

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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,

On 3rd June 2009 I was licensed to the newly formed benefice of St Michael, Aughton and Holy Trinity, Bickerstaffe. The ten years have past quickly. Like you would expect, there have been times of challenge as well as times of celebration. But throughout all I have had two very supportive congregations who I have shared much laughter with.

At a recent service at St Michael's, we prayed the following prayer;

Dear Father,

Today I thank you for my church.

While some might think of doors and windows,
I'm praising you for spirits and hearts.

I can't praise you enough for the unique way
you've blended the talents of individuals
into my church family.

May we appreciate one another to the fullest
and be a sign of your love in the world.

Amen.

The prayer reminds us that the church is not a building, but a people who are committed to being Christ's body on earth. As a church, we worship together, share friendship and respond to the needs of our community with both pastoral and evangelistic ministry. Each one of us make a unique contribution to church life and ministry and add to the character of our church.

An important part of church life is the welcome and hospitality we offer those who visit. In both churches over the past years, I have known people to stay and become committed members of the congregation

due to the welcome and friendship they have received. Our church is transient. There are sad times when we say goodbye to members of our church but also times of joy when we get to know new members.

Over the next few years, we will face new challenges and celebrations as a living church. Each one of us will have our part to play and I look forward to getting new members who I haven't yet met.

Andrew

Services in June

	<p>St Michael, Aughton</p>	<p>Holy Trinity, Bickerstaffe</p>
<p>2nd June <i>The Sunday after Ascension Day</i> White Acts 16.16-34; Revelation 22.12- 14,16-17,20-21; John 17.20-26</p>	<p>8.15am Andrew Holy Communion</p> <p>10.30am Bill Matins 10.30am Hall Service</p> <p>4pm Andrew Holy Communion</p>	<p>10.45am Andrew Holy Communion</p>

9th June <i>Pentecost</i> Red Acts 2.1-21; Romans 8.14-17; John 14.8-17,(25-27)	8.15am Andrew Holy Communion 10.30am David Towler Holy Communion	10.45am Andrew Pentecost Praise
16th June <i>Trinity Sunday</i> White Proverbs 8.1-4,22-31; Romans 5.1-5; John 16.12-15	8.15am Andrew Holy Communion 10.30am Andrew Fathers' Day Service 4pm Andrew Holy Communion	10.45am Mark Morning Praise
23rd June <i>Trinity 1</i> Green Isaiah 65.1-9; Galatians 3.23-29; Luke 8.26-39	8.15am Andrew Holy Communion 10.30am Andrew Holy Communion	10.45am Peter Goodrich Holy Communion
30th June <i>Trinity 2</i> Green 1 Kings 19.15-16,19-21; Galatians 5.1,13-25; Luke 9.51-62	8.15am Andrew Holy Communion 10.30am Judith Family Communion	10.45am Andrew Holy Communion

Worship & Learning



2nd June: Dramatic release

Acts 16.16-34

In the name of Jesus, Paul releases a slave from a disturbing spirit, only to find himself imprisoned with Silas as a result. Their dramatic release later that night leads to the baptism of the jailer and his whole family.

A personal prayer

Lord Jesus, sometimes I feel so trapped.
Hope is trapped by past disappointments.
Confidence is trapped by past criticism or failures.
Trust is trapped by past betrayals.
Joy is trapped by past sadnesses.
Faith is trapped by past complacency.
Release me from all that traps me.
Free me to sing out the words of my life
to the music of your love.
Amen.

9th June: Starting with the Spirit

Acts 2.1-21

At Pentecost, Jesus' disciples experience being filled dramatically with God's Holy Spirit, the culmination of many centuries of waiting for the fulfilment of God's promise, made known through Old Testament prophets.

A personal prayer

Gracious God, equip me with
Power,
Energy,

Newness,
Trust,
Eagerness,
Confidence,
Opportunity,
Strength, and
Truth –
that I may serve you in your world today.
Amen.

16th June: Revealing God

John 16.12-15

Jesus speaks to his disciples and, in just a few words, describes the experience of God that flows from the coming of the Spirit, highlighting the threefold – or trinitarian – shape of God's revelation.

A personal prayer

God of all,
on my own I can't manage – but with others and with you, I can!
On my own I won't get far – but with others and with you, I will!
On my own I might fail – but with you and with others, I must try.
On my own I am empty – but with others and with you,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit, I am full!
Amen.

23rd June: Clothed in Christ

Galatians 3.23-29

Paul contrasts life before and after Christ. In the former, the Law was like someone who watched over us and kept us in check. But now we are all equal heirs and children of God – whatever our social status – and free to live the life of faith.

A personal prayer

Loving God, I entrust to you those times when I feel I have nothing to put on except loneliness and disappointment, frustration and staleness, sadness and anger, brokenness and failure. Draw me back to your Word, your Son, your grace, that I may find new confidence, wear new colours, try new styles, and be most fully myself – to your glory! Amen.

30th June: Moments of decision

Galatians 5.1,13-25

Paul boldly declares that Christ has set us free and urges us to use our freedom to serve one another. In this way, though we are freed from the Law, we fulfil it through loving our neighbours as ourselves.

A personal prayer

Help me be a slave to others, Lord:
Supportive to those on the edge;
Loving to those who are hurting;
Available to those who need time;
Vociferous for those who need justice;
Encouraging to those who are low. Amen.

Benefice News

Communion in the Community



The Holy Communion Services in St Michael's Hall, Bickerstaffe School, and Four Lane Ends Mission 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

- ❖ St Michael's Hall on 12 June and 26th June, both at 11am
- ❖ **NEW SERVICE!!!!** Four Lane Ends Mission 5th June at 11am followed by a soup lunch
- ❖ Bickerstaffe School 26th June at 9am.

Charity Collections

A reminder that we continue to collect good quality **children's clothes** and other school items such as football boots, and goggles, which will be donated to Litherland Moss School.

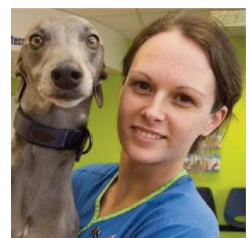
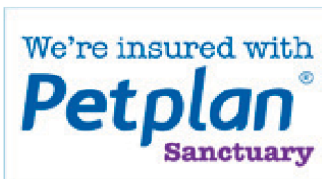
Gift of **men's clothes** will be forwarded to Bootle Salvation Army, and the Skelmersdale **Food Bank** remains as important as ever. Non-perishable food items are therefore very much appreciated. Please leave any items at the back of church. Thank you so much for your ongoing support.



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Confirmation

This year's Confirmation service will be at Christchurch, Aughton on Sunday 27th October at 3pm. Starting in September, there will be two confirmation classes, one for adults and the other for young people in school year 9. If you would like to be Confirmed this year, then please speak to Andrew.

Men's Breakfast



The next breakfast will be on Saturday 14th September 9am at St Michael's Hall. If you are able to help with the cooking, please speak to Andrew. We especially need more volunteers to arrive early to set up (about 8am) and also stay behind to tidy up and mop the floor in the kitchen. 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.

Book Club

'Conclave' by Robert Harris

The Pope is dead. Behind the locked doors of the Sistine Chapel, one hundred and eighteen cardinals from all over the globe will cast their votes in the world's most secretive election.

They are holy men. But they have ambition. And they have rivals. Over the next seventy-two hours one of them will become the most powerful spiritual figure on earth.

Please join us at The Derby Arms Pub, Aughton on 14th June from 8pm. All welcome.



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Bickerstaffe News and Dates

Pastoral Visits

If you know of anyone who would like a pastoral visit, then please speak to Irene or Andrew.

Children's Fun Sheets

Children's Fun Sheets and crayons are available at the back of church, plus fun bags. If you see any children in the service, please make sure they have a sheet and a bag.

Bickerstaffe Primary School's 175th Birthday



School look forward to celebrating 175th birthday by hosting an Afternoon Tea on Friday 14th June from 2-5.00. The Bishop of Liverpool and Mayor will be in attendance. All welcome.

Thank you

I would like to thank everyone for their kindness, cards and words of comfort given to me and my family on the death of Allan. It has been wonderful to know that we have so many dear friends who mean so much to us. Every blessing to you.

Muriel & Family

Friends of Holy Trinity, Bickerstaffe

If you need to renew your annual subscription, then please complete a renewal form, which you can pick up in church.

Bickerstaffe Treat Day



The Treat Day will be held on the Parish Field on Saturday 8th June 2019 2pm-4pm. Come and be part of our annual community event! The first Treat Day took place in 1877. This is a fantastic event for all the community.

The afternoon begins with the Morris Dancing procession from school to Church and then onto the field. The next event is Maypole dancing then afterwards there are races for children of all ages.

After the races, refreshments (including the Ice Cream van) can be purchased and then everybody can enjoy the fair provided by Silcocks, who have been attending for many years. This is an opportunity to meet with new and old friends and regular supporters of this event. During the afternoon the Skelmersdale Prize Brass band will be playing and also entertainer Mr Stix will be providing added entertainment between 3pm-4pm.

Dates for your diary and special services

6th June	Shared Ministry Team
8th June	Treat Day
9th June	Family Pentecost Service
14th June	Bickerstaffe School 175th Anniversary Afternoon Tea
14th July	Civic Service
8th September	Family Service
13th October	Harvest Thanksgiving
10th November	Remembrance Service
8th December	Christingle

Fundraising for The Walton Centre

By the time you read this, Joan Wilson's sponsored Sky Dive mentioned in the May Magazine should have taken place (weather permitting). If you would still like to sponsor her in aid of The Walton Centre, please telephone her on 07584 928219. Joan funded the cost of the skydive herself (£250) and so all monies raised will go directly to the Walton Centre. Many thanks.

Welcome to the Lord's Table

On Friday 28th June at 9am, some of the children from Bickerstaffe School will be receiving their First Communion. Please support the families who come to support their children and remember them in your prayers.

Civic Service and walk of witness

On Sunday 14th July, we will meet as usual at Heyes Croft at 10.30am to parade to church. This year there will be a civic service, so please let Andrew know if there is a community group or representative which he can send a letter of invitation to.

Prayer Time



Breathe in me O Holy Spirit
that my thoughts may all be holy;
Act in me O Holy Spirit
that my works, too, may be holy;
Draw my heart O Holy Spirit
that I love but what is holy;
Strengthen me O Holy Spirit
to defend that is holy;
Guard me then O Holy Spirit
that I always may be holy.

St. Augustine of Hippo (AD 354-430)



We light a candle, and enjoy the flickering light,
the fragrance and warmth it creates.
But without the spark that ignites,
there will be no flame.
Without the wax, the source of power,
the wick will not burn.
Without the flame, there will be no fragrance,
no warmth, no light.
And so with us, Lord.
You are the catalyst that ignites us,
and the fuel that sustains us.
You fill us with your fragrance
as you enter our lives.
You empower us
to carry your flame in our hearts,
to be the fragrance, warmth,
and light of your love, in this dark world.

Church Rotas

Cleaning Rota

7th June	Team 6	M Clarke, V Heyes
14 June	Team 1	E Short, B Bell, F Brownbill
21 June	Team 2	I McCarthy, Susan Kenny 28 June
5 July	Team 3	A Banks, G Banks, N Rimmer
12 July	Team 4	B Fairclough, B Winstanley, C Taylor
19th July	Team 5	F Brownbill, S Prentice

If you can spare a little time to go on the rota and help keep our church beautifully clean, that would be wonderful. Please speak to a warden for further information. Thank you.

Church Flowers

Easter Flowers

A big 'Thank You' to all who gave so generously with donations, flowers and their time to decorate our church for the Easter celebrations. Many people said that they had never seen the church look so beautifully decorated - a real compliment! Sincere thanks to all ladies and gentlemen for your help.

Sheila Beeby

Flower Rota for June



2nd June	Mr Edward Mercer
9th June	Mrs Barbara Bell
16th June	Mrs Anne Webster
23rd June	Mrs Kim O'Brian
30th June	Miss Hilda Rawsthorne
7th July	Mrs Ida Smith

Smile Time: Barbecued Husband

When the man volunteers to do the barbecue, the following chain of events is set in motion:

The woman buys the food. The woman cleans the salad, prepares the dips and makes the dessert. The woman prepares the meat for cooking, places it on a tray along with the necessary cooking utensils and takes it to the man who is waiting beside the grill - beer in hand. The woman pours herself a large glass of wine.

Here comes the important part - the man places the meat on the grill. He brandishes the tongs in a manly fashion. Everything about his posture says "This cooking lark is a doddle".

The woman goes inside to organise plates and cutlery. The woman comes out to tell the man that the meat is burning. He thanks her and asks for another beer while he deals with the situation. Another important part - the man takes the meat off the grill and hands it to the woman.

Inside the woman cannot find a clean glass and starts drinking wine from the bottle. She scrapes the burnt bits off the steaks, and from the oven produces some M&S kebabs which she has bought *just in case!* The woman prepares the plates, salad, bread, cutlery, napkins and sauces and brings them out to the table.

After eating, the woman clears the table and clears away the dishes. Everyone praises the man and thanks him for his cooking efforts. The man asks the woman how she enjoyed her night off. Woman grips barbecue skewer tightly. Says nothing!

Supplied by Linda Weaver

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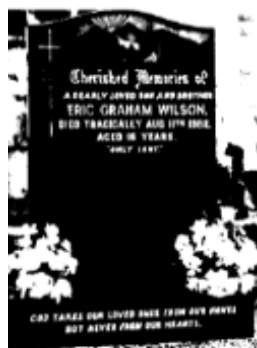
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The Dancing Years By Owen Taylor

‘May I have this dance please?’ This was the first phrase a young lad learned before his introduction to the local dance-halls of the 1940s and 50s.

Ballroom dancing was the favourite pastime during the era, deemed an ideal social asset for the boys and girls to equip themselves with in their teenage years. Once mastered, it led to many hours of enjoyment and provided a friendly environment for meeting people from all walks of life.

Each weekend quite a number of local lads travelled to Prescot Road, St. Helens, for lessons at Miss Peets School of Dancing. On their way back, they would call at Rainford Village Hall and try out the new steps learned, sometimes with favourable comments and sometimes not!

Usually, the girls sat on one side of the room and the boys on the other. Once the music struck up, the girls waited anxiously, hoping that the boy they fancied asked them to dance.

Three of the main dances were the Quickstep, the Slow-Foxtrot and the Waltz. Novelty dances were also very popular and everyone joined in the Palais-Glide.

Another dance introduced in the latter war years, was the ‘Excuse Me’, where an onlooker could approach a couple and request an exchange of partner. But, perhaps the dance that out-shone the rest in the popularity stakes was the ‘Paul Jones’, devised by a Jersey Musician in 1934. The dance involved two large circles, one of boys and the other of girls, walking in the tempo of the music, in opposite directions and when the music stopped, your new partner was facing you. Famous Band-

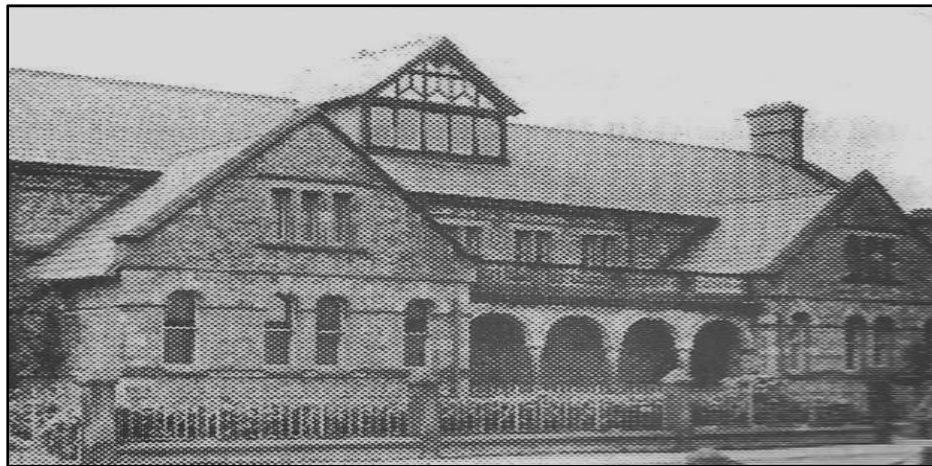
Leader 'Joe Loss', once remarked that lots of happy marriages resulted from this dance.



Rainford Village Hall – Dances held weekly in the 1950s.

Nearly every town and village catered for the dancing public. At Ormskirk, the Drill Hall and Working Men's Institute were in constant use, whilst in Skelmersdale, a good night out could be had at the Co-op or Majestic. In most cases, local dance bands performed at their own venue. Rainford Village Hall was Tommy Turton's favourite haunt. His son played on drums and the talented alto-saxophonist Horace Iddon, would croon all the sentimental songs.

Knowsley Village Hall, engaged Jack Rimmer's accordion band, he was born at Barrow Nook and later moved to Kirkby. People would come from far and wide, to hear his unique style of playing.



Knowsley Village Hall – Noted for its highly polished dance floor.



Jack Rimmer's 'Starlight' Accordion Band -
Stage Name 'Rivers' (Far Left)

A young singer, who would climb on stage and give her rendition of popular songs, was Gladys Ambrose, who subsequently starred in T.V's Brookside, as Julia Brogan.

Two other bands that could make the dancers 'trip the light fantastic' were Kirkby's Noel Powell and Skelmersdale's Bill Gregson. Both of these Band-leaders conducted larger concerns and were called upon for party dances, including Farmers' Dances and Police Balls.

With no Parish Hall, Bickerstaffe dancers relied on the boy's classroom at the C of E School.



A 1936 School Staff Dance held in the Boys Classroom
at Bickerstaffe C.E School

The celebrated New Year's Eve Ball had a praiseworthy reputation. Beginning back in 1870 and by 1957, singing Auld Lang Syne, as the clock chimed midnight. In the final years, Skelmersdale Coal Merchant, Harry Simmonds, brought his seven-piece dance band to entertain the revellers. Local Farmer, Ted Ashcroft, was voluntary doorman for many

years and after refreshments, he cleared up and collected any left-overs to take home for his pigs!

The advent of Rock and Roll, signalled the demise of the local dance halls and most weekly dances had ended by the 1960s.

Acknowledgements:

Memories of Knowsley Village – Stan Rushden

Angela Chaderton

Owen Taylor

The Women's Institute



The next meeting is on Monday, June 24th at 7.30pm in the Mission. We welcome our secretary Elanor's dad, Mr. John Ryan, who is coming to talk to us about a very fascinating subject, Computers through the Ages.

Please join us for what promises to be a very interesting evening. As usual visitors and new members will be very welcome. For more information please contact Margaret Fairclough on 01695 729161.

The Friends of Bickerstaffe Church: Auberge at The Anchorage

Fancy a beautiful nine course meal that won't break the piggy bank? Gather up a group of fourteen friends, ring Renee on 01695 726161 and we fix a date. For the meal we suggest a minimum donation of £35 per person. Diners do not need to be churchgoers, what's not to like? We look forward to your booking.

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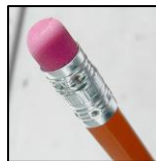
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And Finally....

May the love of the Father,
the tenderness of the Son,
and the presence of the Spirit,
gladden your heart
and bring peace to your soul,
this day and all days,
Amen.

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www.faithandworship.com

Editorial News



The deadline for the
July magazine is
Friday 21 June.

As always, please pass articles to
myself or e-mail it to
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