

Holy Trinity, Bickerstaffe November 2019



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

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.

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Letter from Andrew Housley

Dear Friends,

The other day I came across an article about national anthems. Within the article was a list of the first word of national anthems. Below are a few.

France Arise
Germany Germany
Rep. of Ireland Soldiers
Italy Brothers
UK God

The article mentioned that the UK national anthem was a prayer and so starts with the word 'God'. A reminder that the UK is not a secular state. Our laws and values are a reflection of our Christian heritage, as is our hospitality and respect of those of other faiths.

Another reminder of our Christian heritage is that most national events and commemorations are usually marked by a service of prayer and worship. The most notable of course being Remembrance Sunday, which is well supported each year. The hymns sung and the poems read each year are familiar and associated with the special day as much as carols are associated with Christmas. And of course, the service is concluded with 'God Save the Queen'. Remembrance Sunday is not about triumphalism but remembrance, and committing ourselves to work and pray for peace in honour of those who died in war.

Below is a new prayer written for the special day of Remembrance Sunday.

God of justice and peace,
we pray for those who have been injured
or disabled through war.
For those who have lost homes
and security through conflict;
for those who have lost loved relatives in wars;
for those who face danger and take risks for peace;
for all those, especially children, caught up in current conflicts;
for refugees and all those in need of aid and other help.
God of encouragement
and Saviour of the despairing,
comfort those who remember past sacrifices
and guide us in building
a just and peaceful community for all.
Amen.

Andrew

Services in November

	St Michael, Aughton	Holy Trinity, Bickerstaffe
3rd November	8.15am Andrew	10.45am Andrew
4th before Advent		Service of Baptism
Green	10.30am Alec	
Isaiah 1:10-18	McMinn	
2 Thessalonians 1:1-	Matins	
12	10.30am Hall Service	
Luke 19:1-10		
	4pm Andrew	
	Holy Communion	

		1
10th November	8.15am Andrew	10.45am Judith
Remembrance	Holy Communion	Service of
Sunday		Remembrance
Red	10.30am Andrew	
Job 19:23-27a	Service of	
2 Thessalonians 2:1-	Remembrance with	
5, 13- end	Parade	
Luke 20:27-38		
	4pm Andrew	
	Commemoration of	
	the Departed	
17th November	8.15am Andrew	10.45am Mark
2nd before Advent	Holy Communion	Morning Praise
Green		
Malachi 4:1-2a	10.30am Andrew	
2 Thessalonians 3:6-	Holy Communion	
13		
Luke 21:5-19	4pm Andrew	
	Holy Communion	
24th November	8.15am Andrew	10.45am Sylvia
Christ the King	Holy Communion	Holy Communion
White		
Jeremiah 23:1-6	10.30am Andrew	
Colossians 1:11-20	Service of Baptism	
Luke 23:33-43		
	4pm Christchurch	
	Evening Service	

Worship & Learning



3rd November: Something to boast about *2 Thessalonians 1.1-4,11-12*

The authors tell the Christians in Thessalonica that their love for each other

and their faithfulness to God is something to boast about, and pray that God's power will enable them to remain faithful to their calling.

A personal prayer

Lord, in my life today, I pray that you would increase the love I have for you and for others, that I might live a life worthy of your call, so that the name of Jesus might be glorified in me. In Jesus' name. Amen.

10th November: Don't be shaken

2 Thessalonians 2.1-5,13-17

The Thessalonians have been shaken by a message that 'the day of the Lord is already here', so they are reminded of the good news. Jesus will return at the right time, and for now he is strengthening them in word and deed.

A personal prayer
God of the living, live in me.
Through your Holy Spirit,
give me the ability
to discern fact from fiction,
to recognise truth when I see it,
and to weigh all things carefully.
Grant me wisdom and guidance,
and lead me into all truth.
In the precious name of Jesus. Amen.

17th November: Pull your weight

2 Thessalonians 3.6-13

Some of the assembly at Thessalonica have given up working for their living and have become 'busybodies'. Paul says all should follow his example of being self-supporting, and those who refuse to work should not be admitted to the shared meals of the community.

A personal prayer

O God, sometimes my days feel so unproductive – tasks can feel repetitive and uninspiring.
Refresh me in my daily work,
in the things I do for you and for others.
Make me strong in love and compassion,
that I may reflect your glory,
even in the smallest pieces of my life.
In Jesus' name.
Amen.

24th November: A criminal king

Luke 23.33-43

On the cross, Jesus is mocked as a false messiah by Jewish leaders, Roman soldiers and one of the criminals dying beside him. He forgives those who are crucifying him and welcomes 'the penitent thief' into paradise.

A personal prayer
Jesus, you alone are above all things
and in you all things hold together.
In you I find my peace, my hope, my joy.
When my eyes grow dim

and my life gets cluttered by other things, restore my vision.

Remind me that you are bigger than all the 'stuff' my life feels made of, and that I can depend on you.

Thank you, Lord. 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: 13th November at 11am (when we also welcome our friends from St Philip, Litherland), and 27th November at 11am
- ❖ Four Lane Ends Mission: 6th November at 11am (soup lunch following the service)
- Bickerstaffe School: 29th November at 9am

Men's Breakfast

The next breakfast will be Saturday 23rd November 9am at Bickerstaffe School. If you would 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.



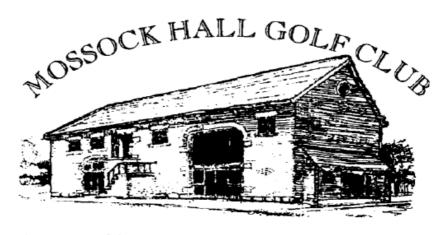
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Ormskirk & District Historical Society

We welcome new members, visitors, and students alike.

Please see our website for information or telephone 01704 631191. Meetings 7.30pm at Four Lane Ends Mission.

4/11/19 at 7.30pm: 'The Building of Paddy's Wigwam'.

18/11/19 at 7.30pm: 'The Battle of The Atlantic'.

www.ormskirkhistoricalsociety.co.uk

HARDMAN MEMORIALS



Marlborough House, Witham Road, Skelmersdale. Tel: (01695) 723252

Advent Groups

This year during Advent, we will be studying 'The Bible Course' which is produced by the Bible Society. It is an eight week course and is for those who are new to the Bible as well as for those who want to go deeper. The eight sessions cover the following.

- Introducing the Bible
- Creation & Covenant
- Exodus & Promised Land
- Judges & Kings
- Exile & Prophets
- Jesus & the Gospels
- Acts & the Church
- Revelation & Review

If you haven't attended an Advent group before, you will be very welcome! The course book will be £4.99 (please pass on to Andrew). If you would like to join a group, then please sign up and pay your £4.99 no later than Sunday 17th November.

Bickerstaffe Hall Tuesday's from 7.30pm: November 26th, December 3rd, 10th, 17th, then January 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th.

St Michael's Hall (back room) Wednesday's from 7.30pm November 27th, December 4rd, 11th, 18th, then January 8th, 15th, 22st, 29th.

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, particularly in the school holidays when families need to find extra meals. 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.

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.

Dates for your diary and special services

10th November Remembrance Service

11th November Acts of Remembrance from 10.30am.

23rd November Men's Breakfast

30th November Christmas Fair and Christmas Tree Festival 6th December Christingle making in school from 1.15pm

8th December Christingle

12th January Star Wars Service

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.

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.

Christmas Fair with Christmas Tree Festival



This year, the Christmas Fair will run alongside a Christmas Tree Festival in the church on Saturday 30th November from 12pm – 2pm.

* Various stalls * Food * Cakes * Grand raffle AND Father Christmas has been asked to visit!

If you would like to run a stall or activity, please speak to Irene or Hilary.

WE NEED YOU!

We would like to invite groups, clubs and businesses to provide a tree. The festival is an opportunity to show off all that contributes towards community life in Bickerstaffe. A trophy will be presented to the best decorated tree!!!

Christmas Tree guidelines

- ✓ Christmas Trees must be imitation and no taller that 3ft.
- ✓ Tree lights must me battery operated.
- ✓ Each tree should be decorated in a way that represents your group, club or business.
- ✓ The church will be open for you to decorate your trees on the Thursday or Friday before the Festival from 6pm.

If you would like to provide a tree, then please speak Andrew or one of the Wardens. Thank you!

Posada

'Posada' in Spanish means lodging. It is used as a title for a Mexican tradition of dramatizing the nativity story. In recent years, churches have used the term for a way to involve a community in getting ready for Christmas. In Bickerstaffe, starting in Advent, models of Mary and Joseph will be taken from home to home within the parish and then be brought back to church for the Crib Service on Christmas Eve. If you would like to host Mary and Joseph, there will be a form to sign.

Christmas Bingo Evening



'Eyes down' for another fantastic evening of Bingo and fellowship on Friday 22nd November 7.30pm at Four Lane Ends Mission. Light refreshments will be included, but please remember to bring your drinks and glasses. Please pay at the door. All welcome!

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?

Parish Register

Funeral

The funeral took place October 22nd of Rita Mary Appleton aged 86 of Stanley Farm, Bickerstaffe followed by burial in the Churchyard.

Please continue to keep the family in your prayers. Thank you.

Prayer Time



We pray for our communities that snapshot of humanity with all ages, backgrounds, education, employment status, politics and religious viewpoint who are our neighbours in the streets where we live. We pray for all of them; not only those we know by name and chat to through the day, but also less familiar faces about whom we know so little and pass by with just a smile. Bless their homes and families, and let your love and peace so shine within this community that smiles turn to conversations, and strangers become friends. We pray this through Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace. Amen

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Knowing you are with us

in the ebbs and flows of our everyday lives, your Spirit's presence within our hearts, your gentle whisper guiding our steps, your warm embrace when times are hard, your hands held out each time we fall. Knowing you are with us in our everyday lives is blessing enough for today.

We pray for all whose lives have been touched by tragedy,

whether by accident or a deliberate act.
For those who mourn, immerse them in your love and lead them through this darkness into your arms, and light.
For those who comfort, be in both the words they use and all that's left unspoken; fill each heart with love.
We ask this through Jesus Christ, whose own suffering brought us life, here and for eternity. Amen

Both prayers © John Birch www.faithandworship.com

Church Rotas

Church Cleaning Rota

1st November	Team 2	I McCarthy, S Kenny
8th November	Team 3	A Banks, G Banks, N Rimmer
15th November	Team 4	B Fairclough, B Winstanley
22nd November	Team 5	The Ashburner Family
29th November	Team 6	M Clarke, V Heyes
6th December	Team 1	E Short, B Bell, F Brownbill

November Flower Rota

4th November Mrs Suzanne Marsh

Remembrance Day Vacant *

18th November Mrs Audrey Banks25th November Mrs Joan Girling

^{*} Please speak to Sheila Beeby if you can help. Thank you.



Bickerstaffe Lodge Open 8am to 6pm



Home of Fledglings Pre School & Nursery - Places available for children from 6 months old. We have free early education places for eligible 2 & 3 year olds.

Home of **Bickersplatts**, Breakfast, After School & Holiday Club for children 6 months to 11 year olds.

Bickerstaffe Lodge is operated by Bickerstaffe Children's Services Ltd, a not for profit social enterprise. For all enquiries, please e-mail bickerstaffelodge@yahoo.co.uk, tel 01695 720238, or call to have a look around

Bickerstaffe Lodge News

Well it's been a while since we last reported on our activities here at Bickerstaffe Lodge, but hopefully now we will keeping you updated with regular reports on the education and fun activities that we have going on.

September has been a busy month (and we can't believe it's nearly half term) settling in all our children new and old, and introducing them to a few new activities and routines. The children have been enjoying outdoor play as much as possible, especially the 'Mud Kitchen'. Our new window bird feeder is proving very popular as the children get quite excited when our feathered friends appear at the window for a snack. They have bird reference books to look at as well as some binoculars and a camera for further investigation.

We recently held a Macmillan Coffee Morning and enjoyed some lovely homemade cakes and biscuits including ones baked by our children. We raised £28.50 for this very worthy cause. We have also recently had a fruitful collection of bags of unwanted clothing, which has helped us to raise further funding for new educational resources. Empty bags are available at The Lodge if you would like to contribute for our next collection.

We are looking forward to a few more children joining us over the next few months, however we still have a few places available so if you or anyone you know may be interested please get in touch. Just a short report for now but we will be back next month with more news.

Take care everyone, and best wishes to you all from everyone at Bickerstaffe Lodge.



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'The Wartime Vicar' By Owen Taylor



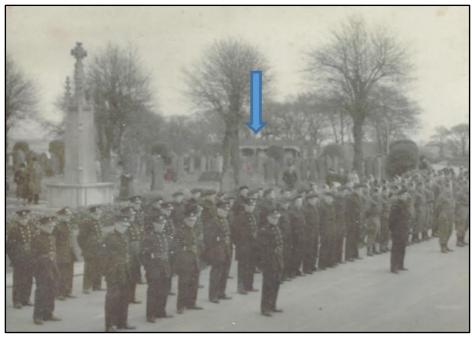
For almost a century, Parishioners, young and old, have stood in silence at the War Memorial in remembrance of the Bickerstaffe Fallen, in two World Wars. The unveiling ceremony took place on Monday, 21st March, 1921 and was dedicated by Archdeacon

Spooner, after which a 'Firing Party' from Seaforth Barracks, fired three volleys. The service ended as the 'Last Post' was sounded by a Bugler from the Skelmersdale Prize Band.

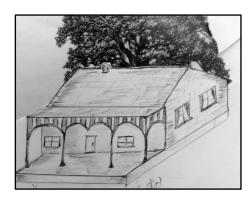
The same year saw the arrival of Revd. Bertram Watts to the incumbency. He soon became involved in giving help and advice to Bickerstaffe's 150 ex-servicemen. He realised the carnage the combatants had witnessed, after a recent tour of the Battlefields. His knowledge was beneficial when British Legion members were building a 'Recreational Hut', in 1924.



The Revd. Canon. Watts – he brought the Wooden Cross to Bickerstaffe Church from Flanders, (now in the North Isle) after a Battlefield Pilgrimage in 1921.



The Auxiliary Fire Service, Air Raid Wardens and Home Guard attending a Church Parade. The British Legion Hut is arrowed in the background.



Artists impression of the Recreational Hut built near the Church in 1924.

Within months of the outbreak of World War 2, the Reverend joined the Home Guard and the Rank of 'Acting Chaplain' was bestowed on him. His Chauffeur often remarked how he would always want to travel somewhere when an 'Air in progress. Raid' was When visiting Home Guard Headquarters at Bickerstaffe School, the guard on duty would warn his comrades that the Vicar had arrived, by pulling hidden string, fastened to a tin-can, with a marble inside.



Revd. Watts as Acting Chaplain in Home Guard – 2nd Right, front row. As you can see, he is wearing his clergy collar.

Perhaps the Revd. Watts wrote the most moving words in the Parish Magazine, after the surrender of Japan was announced by Emperor Hirohito, on the 15th August 1945, thus bringing the hostilities of W.W.2 to an end

'August 1945 will be an outstanding date in the history of the world and especially of our own Empire and country. Peace was obtained far more rapidly than any of us imagined and indeed, before we were prepared for it.'

Suddenly at midnight, the new Prime Minister announced the good news and the following two days were a time for rejoicing. In spite of the short notice, a large number gathered in the Church at 7 o'clock. Gatherings throughout the parish had their rejoicing and the countryside was scattered with bonfires, while the sky was alive with streams of light. It was more a relief from great peril, than a rejoicing of victory.



The London Cenotaph unveiled 11th November 1920.

'The dawn has come from the horrid nightmare of terrors, let us gird ourselves for the high endeavour, to bring peace to every heart.'

In June 1947, the Reverend Cannon Watts announced he was retiring from church-living after 39 years, the last 29 of which, had been in Bickerstaffe.

His last words in the Parish Magazine were, 'I leave with great regret, but with a host of friends of the years of peace and war.'

Acknowledgements:

Bickerstaffe Church Magazines 1945-1947, Ralf Smith, William Taylor, Angela Chaderton

Owen Taylor

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The Women's Institute



The next meeting of the Women's Institute is the AGM. This will take place on Monday, November 25th at Four Lane Ends Mission starting at 7.30pm.

INSPIRING WOMEN Members are asked if they will kindly donate one or more new toys which will be given to children of underprivileged families in the local area at Christmas. For more information please contact Margaret Fairclough on 01695 729161.

Margaret Fairclough

The Mothers' Union



Our October meeting comprised of our Harvest service. This was followed by a lovely ploughman's lunch, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all the members.

New members are always welcome. Please get in touch for further information.

Irene McCarthy



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And Finally....

God's love surround you, God's Spirit guide you, God's whisper cheer you, God's peace calm you, God's shield protect you, God's wisdom arm you, wherever God may lead you.

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Editorial News



The deadline for the December magazine is **Friday 22nd November**

As always, please pass articles to myself or e-mail it to jo.housley@gmail.com.

I will do my best to publish articles when space and copyright allows.

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