



Diocese of
Liverpool

Holy Trinity, Bickerstaffe
February 2020



Bible Verse for 2020

"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." Hebrews 13:8

Prayer for 2020

God, grant me the Serenity
to accept the things I cannot change...
Courage to change the things I can,
and Wisdom to know the difference.

Reinhold Neibuhr

Contact Details

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

VICAR

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Letter from Andrew Housley

Dear Friends,


It won't be too long before the darkness of winter will give way to light of spring and we will be surrounded by new life in the nature which surrounds us. The church season which oversees this change is of course, Lent, which means lengthen due to the lengthening of the day. Lent is also a season when we are encouraged to prepare spiritually for the celebration of Easter.

Since ancient times, this season has been celebrated as light defeating the darkness of winter. The Christian Church used the season to celebrate Jesus defeating the temptation of the enemy in the wilderness. As part of our Christian journey, during the weeks of Lent we are encouraged to allow God's light to shine in all areas of our lives. One way of doing this is reflecting upon scripture.

In recent years both St Michael's and Holy Trinity have hosted Lent groups as a way of helping us in our Lenten preparation. This year we are leading a course based on the film, 'The Greatest Showman'. It is always hoped that new people will join us for these meetings. If you haven't joined us in the past, then please come along as part of your Lent preparation. There is more information about the course in this magazine.

Andrew

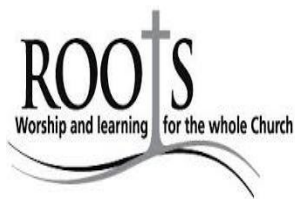
Services & Rotas in February

	St Michael, Aughton	Holy Trinity, Bickerstaffe
2nd February <i>Presentation of Christ</i> White Micah 6.1-8; 1 Corinthians 1.18-31; Matthew 5.1-12	8.15am Holy Communion Andrew Housley 10.30am Matins Bill Glennon Bible readings Pat Richards Intercessions 10.30am Hall Service 4pm Holy Communion Andrew Housley	10.45am Holy Communion Andrew Housley
9th February <i>3rd before Lent</i> Green Isaiah 58.1-9a,(9b-12); 1 Corinthians 2.1-12; Matthew 5.13-20	8.15am Holy Communion Andrew Housley 10.30am Family Communion Judith Ball OT & Epistle Adrian Ball Intercessions Jo Housley	10.45am Family Service with Baptism Andrew Housley
16th February <i>2nd before Lent</i> Green Deuteronomy 30.15-20; 1 Corinthians 3.1-9; Matthew 5.21-37	8.15am Holy Communion Andrew Housley 10.30am The Choir Songs of Praise 4pm Holy Communion Andrew Housley	10.45am Morning Praise Mark Hudson

23rd February <i>Sunday next before Lent</i> Green Exodus 24.12-18; 2 Peter 1.16-21; Matthew 17.1-9	8.15am Holy Communion Andrew Housley 10.30am Family Communion & GIFT DAY Andrew Housley OT & Epistle James Parsons Intercessions Pam O'Brien	10.45am Holy Communion Judith Ball
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Please join us in 2020!

Worship & Learning



2nd February: God's values, our values

1 Corinthians 1.18-31

Paul tells us that the message of the cross is foolish to the wise of this world, but it is the power and wisdom of God. God has chosen what is despised in the world to be saved.

A personal prayer

Loving God,
so often I feel like the weakest link –
at home, at church, at work.
Others seem so strong, so sure, so wise.
Thank you for the gift of Scripture that draws me back to you –
to your strength, your wisdom, your truth –
and renews my confidence and gladdens my heart.
Amen.

9th February: Taught by the Spirit

1 Corinthians 2.1-12,(13-16)

Paul does not offer grand words but demonstrations of God's power. He speaks of God's wisdom, but only spiritual people can discern what the Spirit of God says to them.

A personal prayer

Holy Spirit,
you know me through and through.
Help me to know myself better –
my strengths and my weaknesses;
my gifts and my frailties;
my passions and my prejudices –
that I may better serve you and those around me,
better pray for my church and my community,
and better witness to your power and your glory.
Amen.

16th February: God-given growth

1 Corinthians 3.1-9

The Corinthian Christians are not yet spiritual people, which is shown by their quarrelling. Yet they are God's field, which Paul planted, and Apollos watered – but God alone gives the growth.

A personal prayer

Loving God,
there have been many seeds planted in the garden of my life.
Some have died, some have flourished.
Some have brought joy, some pain.
Some I have cherished, and some I have neglected.
Some I have valued, and some I have taken for granted.
As I look back, and as I go forward,
may I learn from mistakes and embrace new challenges –
to your glory.
Amen.

23rd February: Glimpses of God

Matthew 17.1-9

Jesus takes Peter, James and John up a mountain where they see a vision of Jesus' heavenly glory, in the presence of Moses and Elijah, and hear a voice that confirms Jesus' identity as God's Son.

A personal prayer

God of my life's journey,
of the ups and downs, of the highs and the lows:
when my footsteps take me to the mountain tops,
may I immerse myself in your mystery,
and turn my face towards your glory,
so that when the valley calls and my world goes dark,
I may be enabled to dig deep
and call upon the richness of that encounter
and stay strong,
even through doubt and fear and aching. 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

- ❖ Four Lane Ends Mission 5th February 11am (then soup lunch)
- ❖ St Michael's Hall 12th and 26th February, both at 11am
- ❖ Bickerstaffe School 28th February 9.15am

Women's World Day of Prayer 2020



This year the service will take place at Cottage Lane Mission Church on Friday 6th March at 7.30pm. The service has been prepared by the Christian Women of Zimbabwe who call us to 'Rise! Take your mat and walk.'

I do hope that worshippers from St Michael's and Holy Trinity will support this special service. Please contact me if you need a lift or wish to car share. Thank you.

Margaret Ellams

Ormskirk World Day of Prayer Committee

St Michael's Rep

Ladies' Breakfast



In honour of Mothering Sunday, there will be a Ladies' Breakfast on Saturday 21st March from 9am at St Michael's Hall. No charge, but donations welcome. We are able to provide a full English breakfast for 35 (20 from St Michael's, 15 from Bickerstaffe). Sign-up sheets will be at the back of church. Following the breakfast there will be a speaker.

Pancake Party

There will be a Pancake Party for all ages at four Lane Ends Mission, Bickerstaffe on Shrove Tuesday from 6pm. Admission free.

Ash Wednesday Holy Communion

There will be a service of Holy Communion with ashing at 11am at St Michael's Church Hall.

Coffee Morning at Primrose Cottage



The annual coffee morning at Primrose Cottage, 4 Hall Lane, Bickerstaffe will be on Tuesday 17th March from 10am – 12pm. There will be home-made cakes to buy and a raffle. All proceeds to Holy Trinity, Bickerstaffe. Admission £1. Donations of home-made cakes will be very much appreciated.

Lent Group

The Lent Groups will start to meet the week beginning 2nd March at 7.30pm. They will be held on Tuesday evenings at Bickerstaffe Hall and on Wednesday evenings in St Michael's Church Hall. The course this year will be 'From Now On & The Greatest Showman Lent Study'. Below is a description of the course. Please sign up at the back of church.

The 2018 Golden Globe-nominated movie starring Hugh Jackman, about the founder and stars of the Barnum & Bailey Circus, is ideal for Lenten study of Christian themes of hope, redemption, and new life.

The five-week course offers discussion points, biblical reflections and prayers based on short excerpts from the film. The themes are:

- (1) 'A Million Dreams', exploring what liberation and hope might look like for an 'outsider' in the world;
- (2) 'Come Alive', exploring how the family of faith can bring hope and purpose;
- (3) 'Rewrite the stars', asks what forms of resistance can be placed in the way of salvation;
- (4) 'Never Enough', questions the temptations of false fulfilment that can lead us to betrayal;
- (5) 'The Greatest Show', shows how redemption is found when we discover 'the circus is our home'.

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 – sadly, the need never diminishes. 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.

Book Club

The next meeting is arranged for 18th March, 8pm start at the Derby Arms Pub. The book was chosen by Peter Garrett this time and is: 'The Familiars' by Stacey Halls. *To save her child, she will trust a stranger. To protect a secret, she must risk her life.* New members most welcome! Please join us.

Star Wars Themed Family Service



On Sunday 12th January we had a Star Wars themed Family Service at 10:45am. People brought memorabilia and came dressed as their favourite characters. We had a quiz, special music and more. Thanks to everyone who came and everyone who helped!

Edward McCarthy

Photo: Two wannabee Jedi Knights with blue tip lightsabres! 😊

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Ormskirk & District Historical Society

We welcome new members, visitors,
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website for information or telephone
01704 631191. Meetings 7.30pm at
Four Lane Ends Mission.

3 February 2020

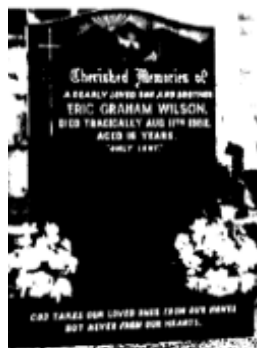
Past times in the Cartmel Vale

17 February 2020:

Quaker burial grounds

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Bickerstaffe News and Dates

Dates

13th February	Deanery Synod
10th March	Parochial Church Council meeting
28th April	Annual General Meeting

Pastoral Visits

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

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.

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

Baptism



On 1st December 2019 **Freddie Harrison**, son of Bethany and Les, was baptised

Funerals



The funeral service for the late **Harry Winstanley**, aged 92 and formally of Altys Lane, Aughton aged 92 took place on 12 December 2019.

May White passed away on 24 December 2019 aged 92. Her funeral service took place on January 14th followed by committal in the Churchyard.

Thank you - Harry Winstanley

Deborah and the family would like to sincerely thank Bickerstaffe Church and Community for the wonderful support of Harry Winstanley over many years and the many that attended the Celebration of his Life, on 12 December 2019, following his passing.

He enjoyed a wonderful life in and around Bickerstaffe and we are very blessed and grateful. Thank you also for the messages of care and support. Much appreciated.

Church Cleaning Rota

31st January	Team 2	I McCarthy, S Kenny
7th February	Team 3	A Banks, G Banks, N Rimmer
14th February	Team 4	B Fairclough, B Winstanley
21st February	Team 5	The Ashburner Family
28th February	Team 6	M Clarke, V Heyes
6th March	Team 1	C Fisher, F Brownbill

Flower Rota

Mrs Renee Forster has kindly taken over the flower rota. If you would like to volunteer to help, particularly when there are known vacancies, please do get in touch. Thank you.

2nd February	Mrs Sheila Beeby
9th February	Vacant
16th February	Mrs Renee Forster
23rd February	Mrs Freda Brownbill
1st March	Miss Hilda Rawsthorne
8th March	Mrs Gladys Gardner
15th March	Mrs Anne Webster
22nd March	Mothering Sunday
29th March	Vacant



Bickerstaffe Lodge
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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.

Easter Bingo at Four Lane Ends Mission



April 3rd at 7.30pm. Please bring drinks and nibbles if required but tea/coffee and cake included. Please pay on the night.

Prayer Time



I call to you, Lord
 at the dawn of this new day,
 place into your hands
 family and friends,
 work to be done,
 decisions I shall make,
 obstacles I encounter,
 strangers who pass my way,
 the service I shall offer.

I call to you, Lord
 at the dawn of this new day,
 my rock and my fortress,
 my strength and deliverer,
 for all I am is yours,
 each moment of this day
 gifted to me by grace,
 and offered in your name,
 my offering of praise.



Through the dark hours of this night

protect and surround us
Father, Son and Spirit, Three

Forgive the ill that we have done
Forgive the pride that we have shown
Forgive the words that have caused harm
that we might sleep peaceably
and rise refreshed to do your will

Through the dark hours of this night
protect and surround us
Father, Son and Spirit, Three



It was not

to the rich and famous,
the powerful, intellectual, or influential
that you came to earth
and entrusted your Word,
but to fishermen,
outcasts and sinners,
ordinary people.

And to ordinary people like *us*
you have revealed
the things of heaven
that we might become the
bearers of Good News!
So we praise you, Lord
for revelation
and the message
of Salvation.

Salad Days of a Prime Minister By Owen Taylor

Much has been written about Richard John Seddon, Victorian Premier of New Zealand, but almost nothing has been revealed about his childhood visits and two year stay at Barrow Nook Hall Farm. Fortunately, former local Carpenter, John Pennington, who was a great admirer of the Premier, jotted down many of the stories his father imparted to him about his boyhood friendship with Richard John.

It appears the first visit to his Grandfather's farm began at an early age. He made the journey by rail from St Helens to Rainford Junction, accompanied by his father. On reaching Moss Lane, after a two mile walk, they called for pies at his Uncle's newly acquired provision shop. It was from this location that Edward Pennington and another local farmer's son, Richard Stockley, became acquainted with Richard John. The threesome became friends, an attachment that lasted many years.



Barrow Nook Hall Farm – The 1851 Census names 'Richard John Seddon' as a Tenant Farmer, the New Zealand Premier's Grandfather.

Memories of this period were never forgotten. He often recalled being a witness to the vivid spectacle of the 13th Earl of Derby's funeral and the profound effect it had on him as a six-year old. On this occasion, about 400 of his Lordship's tenantry, all seated on horseback, stretched from Four Lane Ends to Stanley Gate, many of whom had been encamped in temporary stables overnight. They joined the funeral cortege at 11am, on July 2nd 1851. One of the pall-bearers was the Reverend T.E. Abraham, the first Vicar of Bickerstaffe.



*Photo: Richard John
Seddon at the age of 25.*

Richard John's school teacher father was very disappointed with his son's lackadaisical attitude towards education. He left school at the age of twelve, not knowing what he would like to become. His mother a strong-willed woman, decided it was time for her to take charge, so she packed him off to Bickerstaffe hoping a bit of honest farm-work would help to straighten him out. Grandfather Seddon didn't welcome him with open-arms because he knew he could be quite a handful at times.

To be continued

Acknowledgements:
John Pennington
New Zealand Mail
Angela Chaderton

Owen Taylor

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The Women's Institute



The next meeting of the Bickerstaffe W.I. will be the 700th. We will celebrate this with the annual birthday meal which will take place at the local Sandpiper Inn on Monday, 24th February at 7.00pm for 7.30pm. For more information please contact Margaret Fairclough on 01695 729161.

Mothers' Union

On 15th of January our meeting was a service of Holy Communion officiated by Rev. Les Moss. We had fifteen members present and Marjorie kindly played the organ for us.

Rev. Les also enrolled Carol Fisher as a member so welcome to Carol. New members would be most welcome.

Irene McCarthy

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Liverpool Cathedral News

Bishop of Liverpool, Rt Revd Paul Bayes will explore themes from his book "The Table". Each evening focuses on a different chapter.

The Table has been described as a radical new vision of the Church as a table, built by Jesus the carpenter and stretching down every street and into every home. It reflects much of Bishop Paul's thinking since he has been in the Diocese of Liverpool.

In the book, the bishop argues that "At this table, everyone sits, eats, worships, agrees and disagrees together, as equals." The conversations will take place in the Lady Chapel at 7:30 pm.

Wednesday 13th March: Jesus the table maker

Wednesday 20th March: Meeting at the table

Wednesday 27th March: Drinking from the fountain – how we learn from scripture, creeds and liturgy

Thursday 3rd April: Watching in the moment

Wednesday 10th April: Stretching for the kingdom

Thursday 18th April: Holy Week. All welcome at the table (invite to Maundy Thursday/Christm Eucharist)

Extract from the news section of the Cathedral website. See also http://www.liverpoolcathedral.org.uk/43/section.aspx/37/examining_the_table_lent_conversations_with_bishop_paul for an interview with Bishop Paul and further information on the sessions.

Book details:

'The Table: Knowing Jesus: Prayer, Friendship, Justice' Paperback by Paul Bayes. ISBN-10: 0232533725 ISBN-13: 978-0232533729



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And Finally....

Be thou a bright flame before me,

Be thou a guiding star above me,

Be thou a smooth path below me,

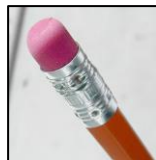
Be thou a kindly shepherd
behind me,

Today - tonight - and for ever

--- Columba (?521-597)

Source: John Birch,
www.faithandworship.com

Editorial News



The deadline for the
March magazine is
Friday 21 February.

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