Diocese of Liverpool

Holy Trinity, Bickerstaffe
March 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

50p

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 WARDEN Mr Mike Emmott 07419 825818 emmott548@btinternet.com

CHURCH WARDEN Mr Edward McCarthy 07971 299606

TREASURER Mr Stan Barnes (including. Magazine Finance) 07923 928863

CHURCH WARDEN EMERITUS Mr Merrick Rimmer. Tel: 01695 727848.

CHURCH TREASURER EMERITUS Mrs Hilary Rosbotham

READER EMERITUS Mr Colin Johnson

MAGAZINE & WEB

Mrs Jo Housley (Mag. Editor) 01695 423204. bickerstaffechurchmagazine@yahoo.co.uk.

Mr Edward McCarthy (Webmaster) 07971 299606 westlancsedward@btinternet.com

PCC SECRETARY Ms Anne Rosbotham-Williams. Telephone 01695 722034.

Letter from Andrew Housley

Dear Friends,

For the first time the other Sunday, I watched the film 'The Greatest Showman' in preparation for this year's Lent Course. As members of both St Michael's and Holy Trinity arrived to watch the film in the Church Hall, I was surprised how many had already watched the film, some multiple times! The music in the film is very good as it the message of the film.

P.T. Barnum is inspired to develop his museum of oddities into a live variety show. He advertises for 'unique persons' to join him and is joined by a number of people who felt they were not accepted or valued by society. Those who responded to the advertisement included an abnormally tall man and a bearded woman. In the film, Barnum is a person who values those who have been overlooked. He gives them a purpose, an opportunity to perform, and also a family. I've no doubt that there is a lot of artistic license in the film, but the message is a good one.

In the book of Romans 13:8-10 it is written:

Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery," "You shall not murder," "You shall not steal," "You shall not covet," and whatever other command there may be, are summed up in this one command: "Love your neighbour as yourself." Love does no harm to a neighbour. Therefore love is the fulfilment of the law.

Throughout Jesus' ministry, he served those who had been pushed out of society. The religious leaders sneered at Jesus because of those he

chose to spend his time with. Christ-like love, is a love that embraces all people including those who have been overlooked. A Christ-like church is a church that is inclusive and welcomes all people into her family.

Later on in the magazine there is further information about this year's Lent Course, which is based upon 'The Greatest Showman'. We especially want new people to join us this year from both St Michael's and Holy Trinity. If you haven't joined a Lent group before, please give it some thought so we can all grow in faith knowing God has a purpose for us all.

Andrew

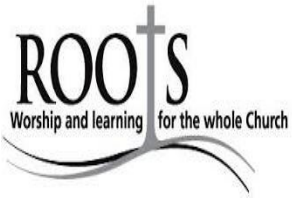
Services & Rotas in March

1st March *Lent 1* Purple Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7 Romans 5:12-19 Matthew 4:1-11	**8.15am Holy Communion** Priest: Andrew **10.30am Matins** Leaders: Brenda G & Jo Bible readings: Brenda G Intercessions: Sylvia R **10.30am Hall Service** **4pm Holy Communion** Priest: Andrew	<u>Gift Day</u> **10.45am Holy Communion** Andrew
8th March *Lent 2* Purple Genesis 12:1-4a Romans 4:1-5, 13-17 John 3:1-17	**8.15am Holy Communion** Priest: Andrew **10.30am Holy Communion** Priest: Judith OT & Epistle: Brian de V Intercessions: Graham W	**10.45am Family Service** Andrew

15th March *Lent 3* Purple Exodus 17:1-7 Romans 5:1-11 John 4:5-42	**8.15am Holy Communion** Priest: Andrew **10.30am Morning Prayer** Priest: Andrew Bible reading: Chris T Intercessions: Maureen T **4pm Holy Communion** Andrew	**10.45am** **Morning Prayer** Leader: Mark
22nd March *Mothering Sunday* Purple Exodus 2:1-10 2 Corinthians 1:3-7 Luke 2:33-35	**8.15am Holy Communion** Priest: Judith **10.30am Mothering Sunday Celebration** Priest: Judith Bible reading: Annabel A Intercessions: Roberts Family	**10.45am** **Mothering Sunday Celebration** Priest: Andrew
29th March *Lent 5* Purple Ezekiel 37:1-14 Romans 8:6-11 John 11:1-45	**8.15am Holy Communion** Andrew **10.30am Baptism Service** Priest: Andrew OT & Epistle: Maureen T Intercessions: Margaret E	**10.45am** **Songs of Praise** The Choir

Everyone is welcome! Please join us!

Worship & Learning



1st March: On course. ***Matthew 4.1-11***
As he prepares to begin his ministry, Jesus is tested. Where will he put his faith? What will he trust? Where do his deepest loyalties lie?

A personal prayer
Read Psalm 32, slowly, once, twice or three times; then say:

Thank you, Lord, that you are a hiding place for me.
You preserve me from trouble.
You surround me with glad cries of deliverance. Amen.

8th March: Going public. ***John 3.1-17***
Jesus' late-night conversation with Nicodemus challenges him, and others like him in the synagogue, to be courageous enough to bring their curiosity about Jesus into the open. They will find this challenging, but the disturbance it causes will be like being born over again.

A personal prayer
Lord Jesus, help me to remember
that I belong to you, and you belong to me –
through the gift of eternal life. Amen.

15th March: Water of life. ***John 4.5-42***
While sitting beside a well in Samaria, Jesus' conversation with a Samaritan woman draws her, and her community, into the new family of faith – those who know that Jesus is 'the Saviour of the world'.

A personal prayer
Open my eyes, Lord,
open my heart, Lord,
open my mouth, Lord,
to your life-changing Spirit,
that all around me might see you in me. Amen.

22nd March: Sight and insight. ***John 9.1-41***
Jesus gives sight to a man born blind, who comes to 'see' him for who he truly is. But Jesus' critics refuse to see as the man sees, and their attitudes reveal a more sinister kind of blindness.

A personal prayer
Read Psalm 23 aloud slowly (with quiet reflective music playing, if you wish). Read it several times, perhaps from different translations. Make this your prayer for the week, and let your soul be restored.

29th March: If only. ***John 11.1-45***
Jesus raises his dear friend Lazarus to life and restores the faith of Lazarus' sisters Martha and Mary. But in Bethany, only two miles from Jerusalem, Jesus' own life is increasingly at risk from the authorities there.

A personal prayer
God of hope,
heal me and restore me,
that I might know your resurrection power in my life. Amen.

God of hope,
heal me and restore me,
that I might know your resurrection power in my life. 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 4th March 11am (with soup)
- St Michael's Hall 11th, 25th March 11am
- Bickerstaffe School 27th March 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, St Michael's Rep

Wigan Ukulele Band

A wonderful evening of entertainment is planned on 28 March at St Michael's Church. £6 tickets including light refreshments from St Michael's Social Group. A warm welcome to everyone!

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.

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.

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. New members most welcome! Please join us.

'To save her child, she will trust a stranger. To protect a secret, she must risk her life.'

Mothering Sunday

Remember to invite members of your family to the Mothering Sunday Service this year on Sunday 22nd March. Flowers will be given to all ladies who attend.

Lent Prayer



Come, all who are thirsty
says Jesus, our Lord,
come, all who are weak,
taste the living water
that I shall give.
Dip your hands in the stream,
refresh body and soul,
drink from it,
depend on it,
for this water
will never run dry.
Come, all who are thirsty
says Jesus, our Lord.

© John Birch www.faithandworship.com

Coronavirus

The Diocese of Liverpool has advised the following.

1 Priests and chalice bearers are advised to use hand sanitizers when preparing to administer Holy Communion.

2 The practice of intinction (dipping the wafer in the wine) is to be avoided. Our hands are more likely to be the source of contagious pathogens than our lips. It is Anglican teaching that to receive the sacrament in one kind only is to receive the sacrament in its entirety. If a communicant does not want to drink from the chalice then they should receive the bread alone.
3 Further more to intinction, some members of the congregation may be vulnerable to certain allergic reactions like gluten intolerance and so dipping the bread in the wine may increase risk.

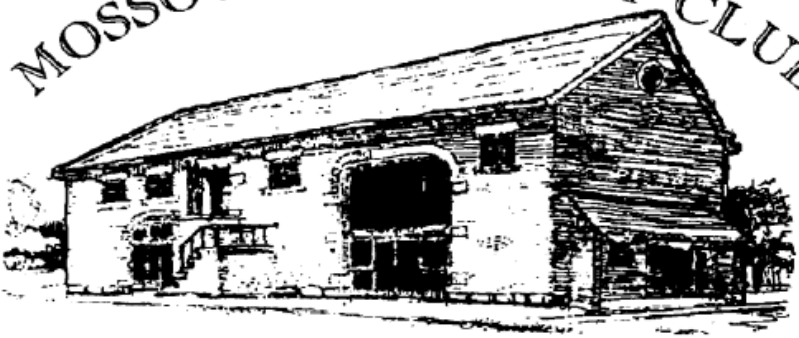
4 In welcoming people to church and in the practice of sharing the Peace we often shake hands. There is not need to stop this practice, but we need to wash our hands regularly to avoid spreading infection.

5 Pastoral visitors should observe all advice and use hand sanitizers.

The church minsters to vulnerable people and so it is important that everyone observes the advice.

A copy of the letter from Bishop Paul living the above advice is on the church noticeboard in the porch.

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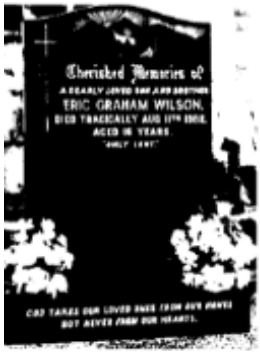
We welcome new members, visitors, and students alike. Please see our website for information or telephone 01704 631191. Meetings 7.30pm at Four Lane Ends Mission.

2 March 2020: The Crystal Palace and the Great Exhibition

16 March 2020: Annual General Meeting

www.ormskirkhistoricalsociety.co.uk

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Bickerstaffe News and Dates

Dates

10th March	Parochial Church Council meeting
21st April	Annual General Meeting
7th May	Archdeacons Visitation

Special services

1st March	Gift Day
22nd March	Mothering Sunday
29th March	Songs of Praise
10th May	Bereavement Service
17th May	Rogation Sunday
14th June	Civic Service

Gift Day

Gift Day is on Sunday 1st March. This is an opportunity to give a one off gift to the church in appreciation for the ministry and fellowship we receive.

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?

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.

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 Fund



A donation for the flower fund was gratefully received from Fred Tyrer in memory of his beloved Mother.

Stan Barnes, Treasurer

Easter Flowers
If you would like to make a donation to the Easter Flowers, donations would be gratefully received by the Wardens or Stan Barnes. Thank you.

Flower Rota
If you would like to volunteer to help, particularly when there are known vacancies, please do get in touch with Mrs Renee Forster. Thank you.

1st March	Miss Hilda Rawsthorne
8th March	Mrs Gladys Gardner
15th March	Mrs Anne Webster
22nd March	Mothering Sunday
29th March	Vacant

Parish Registers



Please continue to pray for the families and friends of the following:

Funerals
The funeral took place on January 29th of **Tom Oliver** of Graveyard Farm aged 83 with burial in the Churchyard.

The funeral took place on February 7th of **Wendy Ashcroft** of The Paddock, Liverpool Road, aged 63 with burial in the Churchyard.

The funeral service took place for **Florence Owen** aged 95 of Brookfield Farm, Simonswood on February 24th, followed by Cremation at West Lancs Crematorium.

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.

Salad Days of a Prime Minister - Part 2 By Owen Taylor

Continued from last month…

Richard John was a strong, robust character, but he soon found the agricultural life monotonous and would slink off if the opportunity arose, spending lots of time around the ponds in 'Seddon's Plantation', climbing trees and hanging upside down from the branches, a favourite stunt mastered during his stay here. Some days he was described as a 'rum-un' by Grandfather Seddon, especially if caught riding on cart-horses, mounting the backs of cows, or throwing stones at ducks.

At weekends, his friends would join him gudgeon fishing in local brooks, a popular pastime for country lads at the time. No nets or lines needed, just a pair of steady hands cupped, with the index finger relaxed, to ripple the water under the fish and gently lift it out.

Soon after his fourteenth birthday, Richard John, got 'itchy feet' and was ready to move on. His parents were relieved when he was awarded an apprenticeship at the St Helens based, Daglish Engineering Company, where he stayed in for three years. The last job he held in Britain was spent at the Vauxhall Foundry, Liverpool, where he gained his 'Board of Trade' Engineers Certificate.

The lure of gold probably explains why the young Seddon decided to emigrate to Australia in September 1863. He later recalled, 'A restlessness to get away to see new broad lands seized me'. He left Liverpool on the sailing-ship 'Star of England' and was at sea for three months before landing at Victoria. A message received by his friends said 'I've a good heart, square shoulders and determination to make my way in the world'.

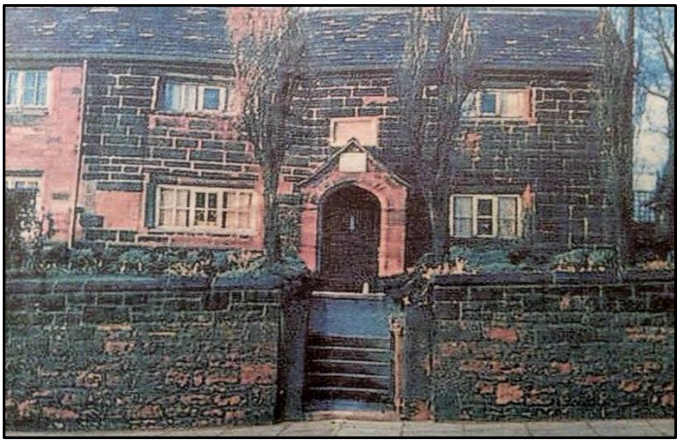


Only a couple of ponds and a few trees remain of the 'Seddon Plantation', most of it having been reclaimed for agricultural use, during the First World War. According to the 1843 O.S. Map, the original size covered an area of three acres.

It wasn't long before he was on his way to the Bendigo gold-fields, but it appears that his arrival was too late, as most of the rich seams had

been worked-out. News of another gold rush at Waimea Creek on the South Island of New Zealand set him off to try his luck again. He sailed to the port Hokitika on the steamer, SS Alambra, in 1866. The rough and tumble of the gold-diggers existence was an ideal environment for young men of Richard John's calibre to make their mark on society.

In time his engineering expertise helped him to gain favour with fellow workers who encouraged him to convey his skills into the water-race ventures conventional to the region.



Richard John Seddon's Birthplace, 1845
Prescot Road, Eccleston Hill.

To be continued…

Acknowledgements:
New Zealand Mail
John Pennington
St Helens Star
Angela Chaderton

Owen Taylor

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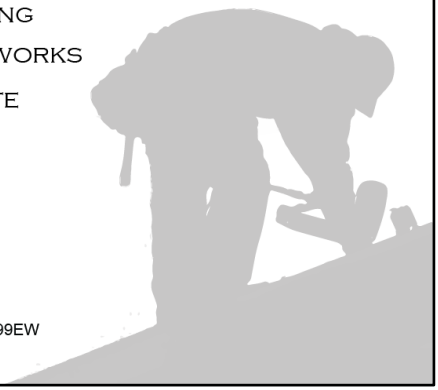
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The Women's Institute

The next meeting of the Bickerstaffe W.I. will take place on Monday 23rd March at Four Lane Ends Mission starting at 7.30pm. This will be a power point presentation by Liz Gould of The Woodland Animal Rescue Centre at nearby Holmeswood. Liz will tell us about the different creatures which are cared for at the centre. These include ponies, donkeys, goats, sheep, guinea pigs, rabbits, hedgehogs, ducks, geese and a rare leopard tortoise which Liz is hoping to bring to the meeting.

Do join us for what promises to be a very interesting and entertaining evening. Visitors and new members are always welcome. For more information please contact Margaret Fairclough on 01695 729161.

Mothers' Union

Our February meeting was a talk by Mark Hudson about his work with the Street Pastors and School Pastors. Mark told us about his nights in Ormskirk on a Friday and Saturday and how his group helped all sorts of people.

Next month is Yvonne Taylor talking about her Mother's life in Poland in WW2. We are visiting Hotters Shoes in April and will have some places available for non-members.

Irene McCarthy

The Mothers' Union Prayer

Loving Lord,
We thank you for your love so freely given to us all.
We pray for families around the world.
Bless the work of the Mothers' Union
as we seek to share your love through the encouragement,
strengthening and support of marriage and family life.
Empowered by your Spirit,
may we be united in prayer and worship,
and in love and service
reach out as your hands across the world.
In Jesus' name. Amen

Source: https://www.mothersunion.org/what-we-do/faith-and-prayer

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be in your heart
The grace of God
be in your words
The love of God
be in your hands
The joy of God
be in your soul
and in the song
that your life sings.

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Editorial News



The deadline for the April magazine is **Friday 20 March.**

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.
Thank you for all your support.

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