Diocese of Liverpool

Holy Trinity, Bickerstaffe
June 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. Amen.
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.

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Letter from Andrew Housley

Dear Friends,

At some point in our lives, we have made a big purchase. It could have been the time we bought a car, or the time we bought a house or the time we bought a holiday. When we walked into the showroom, estate agent or travel agent I have no doubt that we received a good welcome. The salesperson would have made a bit of fuss of us and tried their best to make our time with them as enjoyable as possible. If they didn't, then no doubt we wouldn't return, and they would lose our business. Even in these strange times, the church is in the business of mission and we hope to give people a positive experience of what we do.

It has been a blessing to have so many join in our YouTube church services and to view the services online. At times we have felt shy about inviting people to a church service in a building, but we seem happy to tell our friends, neighbours, and family about our online services. My hope is that when we return to our buildings, some of those who have joined us online will join us in the pews and feel a part of their local church family.

The church is in a period of transition and we need to be prepared to change so we can face the challenges ahead of us. Each of us have a part to play and inviting people to view our online services and be prepared to join us in the future is a good place to start.

If you are spiritually weary and in search of rest,
if you are mourning and you long for comfort;
if you are struggling and you desire victory;
if you recognize that you are a sinner and need a Saviour—
God welcomes you here in the name of Christ.
To the stranger in need of fellowship,
to those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
and to whoever will come—
this congregation opens wide her doors
and welcomes all in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

ANON.

Andrew

Worship & Learning

7th June: Worship and witness
Matthew 28.16-20
Jesus has summoned his disciples to a mountain in Galilee. He tells them that all authority is his and that they should make disciples all over the world, baptizing them and teaching them to obey his commandments. He promises to be with them always.

Personal prayer
Dear God, may I
Live
In
Faith
Eternally.

14th June: Call to action

Matthew 9.35-10.8(9-23)

Matthew gives an overview of Jesus' ministry – teaching, proclaiming the gospel and healing people. Then Jesus gives his disciples the commission and authority to replicate and extend this ministry more widely.

Personal prayer

Lord, may I know your guidance as I seek to be a faithful disciple in the places to which you send me. Amen.

21st June: When the going gets tough

Matthew 10.24-39

Matthew continues Jesus' teaching on mission to the world. Jesus points out that the disciples must expect some opposition, including possibly from their own families, since Jesus himself has been opposed and called names. He reminds them that God loves and values them as a father.

A personal prayer

Praise God who made me.
Praise Jesus who has called me.
Praise the Spirit who empowers me. Amen.

28th June: In the name of…..

Matthew 10.40-42

Jesus concludes his teaching on mission by stressing the close identification between Father God, Jesus himself, those who go in his name, and those who receive his followers in the right spirit.

A personal prayer

Lord, thank you for all the welcomes I receive.
Help me always to be welcoming. Amen.

Benefice News

Pastoral Visits
If you know of anyone who would like a pastoral phone call, then please speak to Irene or Andrew.

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.

The Skelmersdale **Food Bank** remains a vital service for members of the community. Non-perishable food items are therefore very much appreciated. **Please leave any items at your local supermarket**. Thank you so much for your ongoing support.

Free dial-in worship phone line



The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, has launched a free national phone line as a simple new way to bring worship and prayer into people's homes while church buildings are closed because of the coronavirus.

Daily Hope, which is available from today, offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line.

The line – which is available 24 hours a day on **0800 804 8044** – has been set up particularly with those unable to join online church services during the period of restrictions in mind.

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Bickersplatts

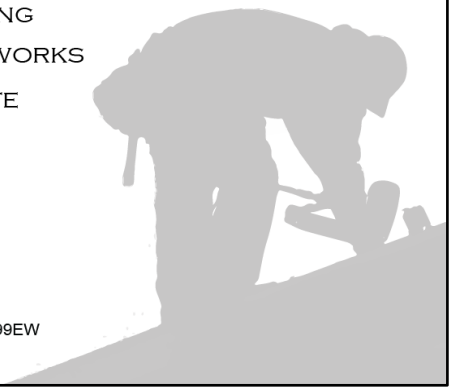
Home of **Fledglings Pre School & Nursery** – Places available for children from 6 months old. We have free early education places for eligible 2 & 3 year olds.
Home of **Bickersplatts**, Breakfast, After School & Holiday Club for children 6 months to 11 year olds.

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.

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Coronavirus Church Closures

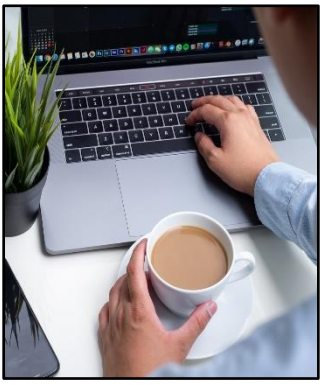
Sadly, St Michael's, Aughton and Holy Trinity are closed for public worship, but that doesn't mean that we can't meet God in worship and prayer. There are regular worship programmes on the radio, please follow the links.

- Thought for the day – BBC Radio 4 at 07.45am
- Daily Service – BBC Radio 4 Long Wave at 09.45am
- Pause for thought – BBC Radio 2 at 05.45am and 09.20am
- The Sunday Service – BBC Radio 4 at 08.10am

Each Sunday you will also be able to watch a pre-recorded service and we're sure you'll recognize a few faces. Please tune in by visiting our website or by using the following link:

https://tinyurl.com/RevAndrewTV

Online Prayer Meeting



Each Wednesday at 2pm please join us for our online prayer meeting. We start with a tea and chat, then we have a period of prayer. Please join us by following the following link (which is also available on the church website).

https://tinyurl.com/RevAndrewPrayer

Prayer Chain
Please contact me on 01695 423204 if you would like to be on our prayer chain at St Michael, Aughton and Holy Trinity Bickerstaffe.

We have a central list of names and phones numbers and each person is given the number of the person next to them on the list. They phone that person each day for a chat, and to say a prayer from the prayer sheet (on both church websites or by e-mail). Each person should then speak to two people each day. If you don't hear from one of those two, please let me know.

A prayer chain prayer sheet can be downloaded from the websites or emailed or posted on request. Andrew

Holy Trinity News

- A **Benefice Facebook group** has been created for day to day chat, prayers and news: https://www.facebook.com/groups/2587699874882494

- The **website** is being regularly updated by Edward: www.holytrinitybickerstaffe.co.uk.

- The **magazine** is being uploaded each month onto the website and onto Facebook. There will be no printed copies until further notice.

Andrew

Churchyard
We are not able to organize a churchyard work party, but feel free to pop along to the church yard in your own time to do a bit of gardening. We especially need help in doing the front area of the church.

Finances

Due to the church building closing, **Holy Trinity's cash flow is critical**. We are not receiving funeral fees or monies from the open plate, which includes the envelope scheme.

Giving

We would appreciate that people with weekly envelopes, send a cheque with the number of the envelopes to Andrew or Stan on a regular basis or set up a standing order with their bank (please see the form at the end of this magazine). Cheques or standing orders are also welcome from people who don't have weekly envelopes. Thank you for your support.

Prayer Time



In the darker moments,
when clouds gather
and the heaviness we feel
seems overwhelming,
remind us of your love,
carrying the weight
of so much in that cross,
embracing the world
with arms outstretched
that we might know
freedom from the chains
which now constrain us.
Bring us to your light,
release our burdens
and from despair bring hope.

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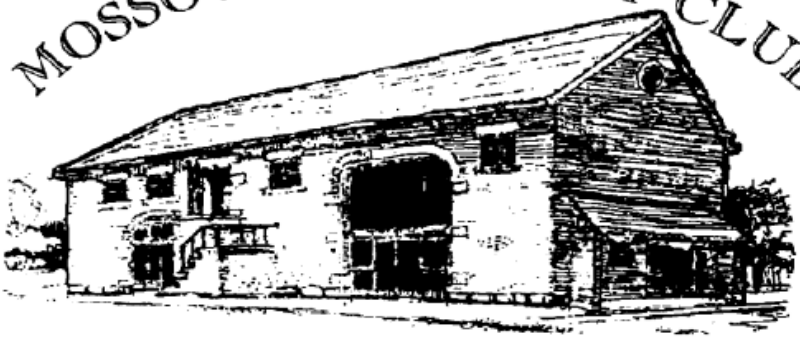
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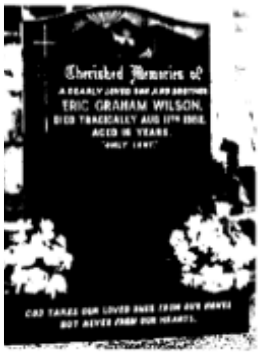
We welcome new members, visitors and students alike.

Please see our website for up-to-date information.

Meetings (when held) are at 7.30pm at Four Lane Ends Mission. Further info. via 01704 631191.

www.ormskirkhistoricalsociety.co.uk

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And Finally….

May peace flow
as a gentle stream
through your soul,
love's pure warmth
soften your heart,
and joy in the Lord
shine in your face
and all your words.

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Editorial News



The deadline for the June magazine is **Friday 19th June.** 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.

Please note we will only publish online during the Pandemic. Thank you.

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