

St Peter's Church Magazine  
March 2017

LENT



# St Peter's Social Committee Presents...

## PERCY FRENCH TRIBUTE CONCERT St Peter's Parish Hall, Paradise Lane, Formby St Patrick's Day 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2017 at 7pm

Born on Mayday 1854 (William) Percy French was, in his time, one of Ireland's greatest entertainers. He travelled the world with his sketches, songs and poems. He often visited Formby and would stay with his cousin, Canon John Richardson, of Holy Trinity Church, sometimes performing on stage to raise funds for the church. Breaking his journey home to Ireland in January, 1920, he again visited his cousin but this time suffering from pneumonia. He died on 24<sup>th</sup> January, 1920 and is buried in St Luke's Churchyard, Formby. The Percy French Society, in Ireland, keeps his memory alive, publishing a quarterly magazine, and members often visit his grave.

On Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March, St Patrick's Day, a Formby folk-singing trio will pay tribute to this famous son of Ireland with a concert of his better-known songs including, 'The Mountains of Mourne', 'Abdul Abulbul Amir', 'Phil the Fluter's Ball' and 'Eileen Oge'. Local actor, David (Edward) Davies (see photo), will appear as French himself, narrating 'Willie's' life story, interspersed with the songs and a pictorial presentation of paintings, cartoons and photos. Also appearing are local actor David (Frank) Davies, and Ian Clark a well-known Yorkshire folk-singer, guitarist and entertainer.



David Davies as  
Percy French

The concert, which will be staged in the Parish Hall, starts at 7pm. to be followed with refreshments including a glass of wine.

There will be a retiring collection in aid of St Peter's Lent Appeal

*St Peter's Church was originally "The Ancient Chapelry of Formby, St Peter Apostle and Martyr." It dates from the 12<sup>th</sup> century and was situated very close to the sea. St Peter's was part of the Parish of Walton, which is why the Rector of Walton is still our Patron. This chapel became "ruinous" and a new church, on the present site, was built in 1746 and consecrated on 19<sup>th</sup> July 1747.*

# From the Editorial Team

No sooner have we put Christmas and Epiphany behind us than Lent is upon us – and what a crowded programme that entails, with “Lenten Tuesdays” in the Bier House and “In His Steps” in the Old School Room on Wednesdays.

It is encouraging to see that Altcar and Formby’s Anglican churches are joining together for the evening service on Ash Wednesday (see page 5 for details).

On page 27, Martha has a dig at the tyranny of Health and Safety; but she also draws attention to the small numbers attending the Candlemas Service, and Choral Evensong could also do with greater support. It’s very much a traditional prayer-book service with excellent music. If you haven’t joined us for Evensong recently, you may be pleasantly surprised!

Please read about the Electoral Roll (page 9); then check that your details are correctly entered. Or apply to join the Electoral Roll. But then attend the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on Sunday 9th April. On average, only about 25% of the electorate attends; it’s our church and we should do better!

**The Editorial Team**



*Please note that the deadline for the April 2017 edition of the magazine is **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2017**. Contributions to [alisonwhiffing@aol.com](mailto:alisonwhiffing@aol.com)*

## Dear Friends,

Ash Wednesday this year falls on 1<sup>st</sup> March and Lent is another time for great resolutions. By the time Lent comes we have forgotten all about the resolutions we made for the New Year! So we say (again!), *“I’ll exercise more, eat less, give up sweet things, give up alcohol etc. etc.”*



But here’s a simple resolution for this year’s Lent. One that will really make a big difference to those we come across. ***Listen More.***

I’m writing this having attended some seminars for Training Incumbents who are awaiting the arrival of a Curate. There was one recurring theme through all the talks – the need for, and the healing and beneficial effect, of *active listening*.

There’s a well-known passage in Ecclesiastes which begins, *“For everything there is a season...”* and near the end it lists *“a time to keep silence and a time to speak.”*

Someone once said that God gave us two ears and only one mouth so that we could listen twice as much as we speak!

And listening is something we all have to make a conscious effort to do. The temptation is always to jump in with advice, and explanations and solutions!

In the Old Testament, Job, in spite of what the old proverb says, was far from being patient. He suffered a series of tragedies and for most of the book he argues with, and rails against, God.

He had three so-called friends who, after each outburst, preached at Job, offering glib and pious explanations for what he has suffered.

In the end Job exploded, *“Ah, if only you would be silent and let silence be your wisdom...Listen to me, do but listen and let that be the comfort you offer me.”*

So, even if we only attempt one thing this Lent, let it be to listen, remembering that an understanding ear is worth far more than a mouthful of advice.

A wise person once wrote, *“You can’t change people by talking to them. You change them by listening and letting them talk to you.”*

Seneca was a Roman philosopher who was born around the same time as Jesus. He wrote, *“Who is there in all the world who listens to us...To whom can I say, ‘Here I am – this is me...with my wounds, my secret grief, my despair, my pain which I can’t express’ Oh, listen to me...”*

***Listen More This Lent***

But as well as listening there are other possibilities for having a really positive Lent.

**Lent Series** – this year the five week course each Wednesday evening is entitled ‘**In His Steps**’ - looking at significant events in the life of Jesus to build up our faith.

**Lent Bible Study** – a new venture this year is a Tuesday morning Bible study.

You will find all the details for Lent on the next two pages.

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**Life in St Peter’s is busy and here is some news to keep you all up-to-date.**

- **TSP School Governor** – we thank David Brooks for his many years’ service as a School Governor and I know his wisdom and guidance has been very much appreciated. David has retired from the post and we are very pleased to say that Paul McHenry has been appointed by the P.C.C. as the new School Governor.
- **Ash Wednesday** - at 11am we will have our Eucharist & Imposition of Ashes. This year in the evening St Luke’s, Holy Trinity, St Michael’s and St Peter’s are joining together for an evening service at 7.30pm in St Luke’s Church. It is hoped this will be an annual joint service and will move around the churches each year.
- **Confirmation Meeting** – I have had several people express an interest in being confirmed this May. There will be a meeting for those interested immediately after the 10am Eucharist on **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> March** to discuss the details and a suitable time for the group to meet.
- **The Bier House** – since our last magazine the faculty giving permission for the extension to go ahead has arrived so it is full steam ahead and we plan that the work will be completed for the autumn.
- **Pew Cushions** – I promise the sermons won’t get any longer! But the P.C.C., after consultation, has agreed that we should have pew cushions so these have been measured and will be in place around Easter.



So a busy time ahead but may we not let our busyness intrude on making Lent a really positive and spiritually refreshing time for each us as we journey towards Easter.

*Anne*



# Ash Wednesday

1<sup>st</sup> March 2017

11am ~ Eucharist & Imposition of Ashes with music –  
St Peter's Church

7.30pm ~ A Joint Ash Wednesday Service in St Luke's, Formby  
The people of St Peter's, St Luke's, Holy Trinity & St Michael's  
Churches worshipping together as we begin the journey of Lent.

## *In His Steps*



*A 5 week course looking at significant events  
in the life of Jesus to build up our faith.*

On the Wednesdays of Lent at 7.30pm in the Old School Room  
of the Parish Hall. All very welcome.

**F** 'Forgiveness & Reconciliation' led by Peter Davies -  
Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March

**A** 'Actions speak louder than words' led by Pete Hawkins & Ted  
Woods - Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March

**I** 'The Inclusion of all' led by Michael & Jane Pitts -  
Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March

**T** 'Temptation: Choosing between what is easy and what is right'  
led by Ted Woods - Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March

**H** 'Healing Life's Hurts' led by Alison Woodhouse & Pete Hawkins  
- Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April

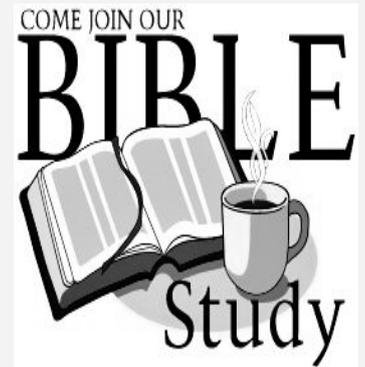
# Lenten Tuesdays

We plan to develop bible study groups in the parish. No one would need expert knowledge, just an interest in scripture and a desire to learn how God's word can enrich our lives. We would also like to encourage people to make use of the Church Library that is situated in the Bier House.

Putting all these thoughts together there is a plan for Tuesday mornings in Lent! The structure of each morning is as follows and you are welcome to come for part or all of the morning. Also you are welcome to come on whichever Tuesdays you are available.

Lenten Tuesdays will be held in the Bier House.

- 9.00am**     **Morning Prayer** – using a service from the Iona Community.
- 9.30am**     **Coffee**
- 10.00am**    **Bible Study: “Receiving Christ”**
- 11.00am**    **Quiet time** for reading and access to the church library



## “Receiving Christ in Five Different Ways” Bible Study

- 7<sup>th</sup> March     Receiving Christ as Children of God
- 14<sup>th</sup> March    Receiving Christ in the Stranger and the Needy
- 21<sup>st</sup> March    Receiving Christ in Holy Communion
- 28<sup>th</sup> March    Receiving Christ through Prayer and Fellowship
- 4<sup>th</sup> April      Christ in You the Hope of Glory



**Lent:** a season in the Liturgical Year of the church, beginning on Ash Wednesday and ending on the Saturday before Easter. It's a 40-day period because Sundays are not counted as a part of the season. Often used as a time for focused reflection or spiritual discipline.

# St Peter's On Tour!

## St Margaret of Antioch, Toxteth



St Peter's has had a long-standing link with the Church of St Margaret of Antioch in Toxteth.

A link that has recently been re-established when Canon Bob Lewis preached at Canon Raymond Lee's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his ordination.

**We will be visiting St Margaret's on  
Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> March for the 6pm Sung Eucharist.**

As well as our Vicar preaching we will have our organist and choir as well – so St Peter's on tour! There will be cars leaving St Peter's at 5pm so **please do join us**. The choir and friends will be leaving at 4.30pm so they can rehearse. There will be no evening service in St Peter's.

St Margaret's is the church of the University's Anglican Chaplaincy, and during the university term provides an additional Sunday Evening service, often sung, to which all are welcome and which we are attending.

The church was built in 1868 and designed by G. E. Street. It was paid for by Robert Horsfall, a local stockbroker. The church became "the centre of Anglo-Catholicism in 19<sup>th</sup> century Liverpool".

In 1924–26 the Jesus Chapel, designed by Hubert B. Adderley, was added to the north of the church. The architectural style of the church is decorated neo-Gothic.



Inside the church are six-bay arcades carried on marble piers with bands of alternating colours. The pulpit is in gilded wood, and is decorated with busts of five saints, including St Margaret and St Jerome. There is much painted decoration on the walls, most of it by Maddox and Pearce.

There is a video tour of this unique church on YouTube.

# Electoral Roll –

One of the many great strengths of the Church of England is its system of governance, from the parish level to General Synod. At the parish level, the Electoral Roll ensures that members of a church can shape the local mission and ministry by electing the officers necessary to do that hard work.

Every parish must have an Electoral Roll, which must be available for inspection by bona fide inquirers. The Electoral Roll is the register of electors for a parish. In the same way that being on the civic Electoral Roll allows members of that roll to vote in parliamentary and local elections and referenda, joining the Church Electoral Roll means that people can vote on Church matters, attend the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) and stand for election to the Parochial Church Council (PCC). Being on the Electoral Roll does not make a person a member of the Church; simply regarding a particular parish church as one's spiritual home does that. In fact, a condition of joining a Church Electoral Roll is that the person is already a member of that Church.

The Electoral Roll for St Peter's is open for revision until 12th March. Please check that your details are correctly recorded in the copy available on the cabinet adjacent to the Lectern.

New entries and alterations can be made during the revision period. The revised roll will be on display from Monday 13th March; no further entries may be made until after the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on Sunday 9th April.

## Electoral Roll



**Belong**



**Participate**



**Contribute**

## Where are they now ..... update

Kevin Eastell who was vicar at St Peter's from 1976 to 1983, and who is the Chaplain to English-speaking people in the Catholic Diocese of Angers, France, has written to advise us that he has applied for and has been given permission to extend his ministry for a further period, with a possible review in 5 years time when he will be 80 years of age!

He tells us that his wife, Ann, who is undergoing a new immunotherapy treatment course, is taking it very well and thanks us for our prayers.

They shortly leave for a month's break in Malta to enjoy some warm sun.

Peter Deyes



**REFUGEE AID** We have put a collecting tin in the Bier House.

Why? because money donated can be used to buy clothing for the refugee centre that we support through Revd Peter Paine.

Your small change would be very welcome, it would buy warm clothing for people who really need it.

I do hope you will be able to support us.

Phone Sue Jacques 879643 if you would like to know more.

## **THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)**

Formby Quiet Time based on the Quaker tradition of silent worship

**1<sup>st</sup> TUESDAY OF THE MONTH 10.30am to 11am**

The meeting is open to everyone, of faith or no faith, who would like to come and share half an hour of peace and reflection.

Refreshments provided afterwards.

Venue: 15 Sandringham Road, Formby

Tel: 876208

**ELIJAH** - Felix Mendelssohn's interpretation of one of the Bible's strongest stories is the latest of **Formby Choral Society's** joint ventures with Birkenhead Choral Society and Merchant Taylors' Boys School to be performed at the Philharmonic Hall on **Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm.**



Full of great choruses, packed with both drama and melody, and sung in English, it is a concert favourite with many choir members and promises a performance not to be missed.

Tickets are available via the society, MTS or directly from the Phil tel: 0151 709 3789 or online at [www.liverpoolphil.com](http://www.liverpoolphil.com)



## LENT BOOKS IN THE CHURCH LIBRARY

Lent is a time to reflect on our faith journey and to be refreshed and this can be greatly helped by reading one of the Lent books in our library.

***From Dust to Glory*** by David Runcorn. There is a meditation for each day of Lent dealing with the whole business of living and believing where the questions are as important as the answers.

***Lent FOR Everyone – Matthew*** by Tom Wright. Each passage is followed by a reflection and a prayer that will help readers to ponder the relevance of Matthew's Gospel for their own lives.

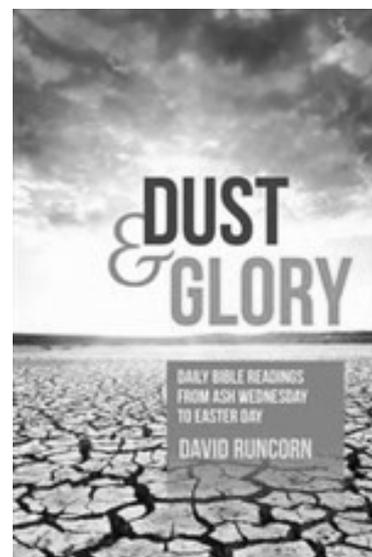
***Wisely Pray the Psalms*** by Ambrose Tinsley offers "a prayerful companion to reading the psalms." He deals with personalities we discover in the psalms. His style is conversational and enthusiastic.

***Lent is for Loving*** by Sheila Cassidy. Expanding on the words Love, Empathy, No and Thankfulness this book for LENT helps the reader to re-focus on the disciplines that lead to a more fulfilled life.

***Reflections for Lent*** a meditation a day written by some of today's leading writers on spirituality

***40 Days, 40 Prayers, 40 Words*** by Bruce Reyes-Chow exploring blessings and burdens in a concise, lively manner.

If you would like to borrow a book or DVD please write your name in the book provided. The Library is situated in the Bier House. We hope this will be a useful resource for all ages.



# A tranquil space

The old cathedral of Salamanca was built in the twelfth century. It stands at the top of a hill dominating the city; alongside the ancient university, it makes a striking centre for faith and learning. The interior is, to put it mildly, stunning. The eye is drawn to a beautifully proportioned reredos above the altar. Three centuries later it was decided this little masterpiece was too small. Spain had become a powerful nation unified under a single monarch and wanted to demonstrate the success of the



Catholic Church in the re-conquest of Spain from Muslim rule. A new cathedral was built many times bigger and although more dramatic it did not have the striking intensity of the original one. Sitting in the old medieval cathedral looking at the doorway to the new one there rose the question “why build the new building?” or even why a cathedral?

Clearly Oliver Cromwell saw no religious use for them as he stabled his army’s horses in Ely Cathedral. One clergyman after attending an important service in Lincoln Cathedral, having seen a long formal procession, came to the conclusion the design of the cathedral was to provide space for the clergy, choir and others to process..

Over the last hundred years or so there have been several new cathedrals, usually to be part of a new diocese such as Liverpool. To many they mark a centre for all the parishes linked together as well as place to mark major events but the question arises “what is the limit for events?”

We have become used to cathedrals holding such events as ‘The Antiques Roadshow’. The camera slowly concentrates on the face of the person waiting to hear the value of an object and then the picture grows showing the majestic gothic interior of a cathedral. The BBC has the lovely images it needs as background and presumably the church authorities gain financially. Recently a promotion for cars was undertaken within a cathedral. Does this undermine the true purpose of the building?

Our cathedrals have rightly become tourist attractions, which presents an opportunity for missionary work; and as they are so expensive to run, some have introduced an entry charge, common in most cathedrals in Europe. Yet these buildings were put up as places of worship. Perhaps the saddest development over the years has been the introduction of a

side chapel set aside for private worship. Surely the whole of a cathedral is meant for worship?

The whole is a balance. Father Brown once said in one of his stories that he would be willing to tear down any ecclesiastical building to get to the truth. Gone are the days, not so long ago, when a visitor to a cathedral precinct would have seen the bishop, canons and dean walking about in gaiters and stringed hats. Yet cathedrals are still important. They provide a centre for the church fully to display the beauty of a place of worship and where the larger formal services can be held.

As Hugh Montefiore wrote, "We need a symbol of the sacred in the midst of the secular to remind us that all is sacred and that we all have souls. The Church is a symbol of celebration and joy and leisure and privacy, a sigh of transcendence, a pointer of silence and tranquillity; a church is sacred space symbolizing to us the sacredness of all space."

**Rod Jacques**



**Our steps are slow,  
Our breathing ragged,  
Our burdens heavy.  
This walk to the cross,  
It is not easy,  
Yet Christ walked it for us.  
For the joy  
that was set before him,  
He despised the shame,  
He bore our blame,  
And shared our pain,  
Now let us build on the rock,  
That is Christ.  
Let us walk the way of the cross  
together,  
Moving forward without fear,  
Into God's eternal purposes.  
For Christ himself is with us,  
every step of the way.  
Let us trust in God alone,  
And find the joy that Christ did,  
Obedience to our loving God.**



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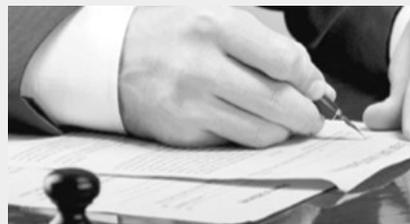
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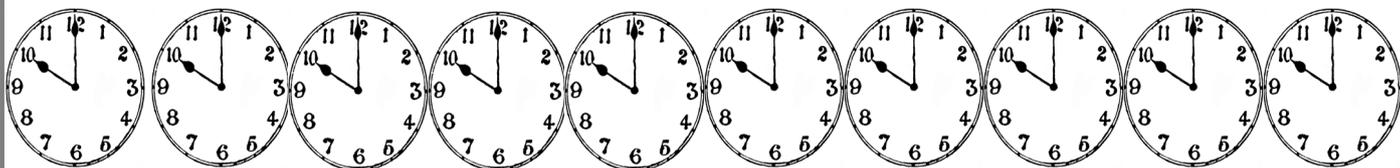
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# Primetime

Last year we set up a new ladies group 'Primetime' with the hope of encouraging ladies to join us for a monthly get-together.

We would be interested to hear from anyone who would like to talk to the group or has an interesting story to share.

We meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 7.30 – 9.30pm.

**Our next meeting will be on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2017.**

**Why not join us?**

Please ring for details of where meeting will be held this month.

Call Sonia, Elaine or Ali on 833781 / 874635 / 879976 for further details.

# A STORY OF HOPE from HOPE+

*If you have wondered why we ask for clothing (especially men's) and toiletries for asylum seekers please read the following story sent by Nadine Daniel, the Bishop of Liverpool's Adviser on Interfaith Matters and coordinator of HOPE+.*

We are often asked, and indeed ask ourselves; how does what we do help? How can some bags of food, some second hand clothing, basic toiletries really make a difference?

This week we had the latest in a long line of answers from a former guest. More than two years ago a young woman came to our St Bride's pantry. The young woman was memorable for her dishevelled state; she was filthy, her clothing was torn in places, even her hijab was dirty. She was very scared, terrified really. She spoke no English, her ID said she was Syrian, so we tried to introduce her to one of our (male) Arabic interpreters, but she was too scared to talk to him. Our female volunteers leapt into action, taking her into our clothing store to find clean and appropriate clothing, making sure she had the right food, toiletries, extra milk as she was visibly pregnant. They smiled at her, we told her in our basic Arabic that she was welcome and safe.

Last Monday our Project Manager was watching a toddler running around Tesco in the uninhibited joyous way that only toddlers can. She smiled at his mum, who came across and asked if she could speak with her. "You won't remember me" she said in very fluent English "But you saved my life, and you saved his too" she nodded towards the exuberant toddler. "when I came to you I was dirty, I was hungry, I was terrified, I spoke no English, I was alone, my husband had been killed in Aleppo trying to rescue people from a bombed house, and I wanted to kill myself. I had no reason to live. You smiled at me, everyone smiled, you all had beautiful smiles, you made me understand that I was safe and you would care for me, you even gave me a clean hijab. Please, I have waited so long for this, please may I give you a hug? Please can you tell your friends thank you from me and my son".

For helping Hope+ give hope to those who need it; thank you.

Nadine Daniel, Liverpool Cathedral and leader of HOPE+

*A big THANK YOU to everyone who has contributed generously to the clothes appeal for refugees. Items that are always needed include: Toiletries e.g. shower gel/toothbrush/toothpaste/sanitary towels/soap. Good quality second-hand clothes, new underwear (boxer shorts for men) and socks.*

# TOUR OF NORTH CYPRUS

Peter and Carol Paine are arranging a tour of **North Cyprus** from  
9<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> October 2017.

We fly from Manchester and land at Larnaca, crossing the Greek/Turkish border by coach. Cyprus was the home of Barnabas (Acts 4:36). It was also the first port of call on Paul's first missionary journey where he preached at Salamis (Day 2, Acts 13:5) and to which Barnabas and John Mark returned (Acts 15:39).

We will stay in the picturesque port of Kyrenia and visit sites of Neolithic, Roman, Byzantine, Phoenician (Christian) and Islamic interest which are situated on the coast and in the mountains. There will be time for relaxation and refreshment.

If you would like a full brochure and booking information please contact Peter on [peterspaine@gmail.com](mailto:peterspaine@gmail.com) or ring 01704 809517 or look on the *Worldwide*

*Christian Travel* website: [www.christian-travel.com](http://www.christian-travel.com)

We hope you will be able to join us.



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# Unusual view of our Parade Service on 29th January 2017

Photos Sonia Greenyer



## 'Sunday Club need an extension!'

Photo Judith Aspinwall



Not often we see Revd Anne with a blue scarf!

# SCOUT GROUP NEWS



In my other role as ADC Scouts for Formby District I took 7 Scouts (6 from the 9<sup>th</sup> Formby) to the Merseyside County Scouts, Leadership Camp on the last weekend of January. The idea of the weekend is to help the Scouts become better Patrol Leaders to help run their Troops. The Scouts stayed in indoor accommodation at Bispham Hall Scout Hostel near Wigan along with 25 other Scouts from across Merseyside. They took part in a number of bases developing Leadership skills as well as activities including archery, a night hike, movie night and a County Forum.

The forum was part of a National Scout Initiative called #YouShape which earned the Scouts a Badge and wrist band ahead of the rest of the Troop. The Scouts all had a great time and learnt a lot about being a Patrol Leader.



**Mark Sheil - ASL 9th Formby Scouts**

# ST PETER'S SOCIAL COMMITTEE

## 'Blind Wine Tasting Quiz'

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2017

Yet another most enjoyable evening at the Cricket Club, this year in the form of a John Nelson blind wine tasting quiz.

This not only involved tasting wine but rather a lot of singing and dancing too, as we recall. Many thanks to John and his wife, Julia, for all their efforts which raised £ 513.



# Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families

The Annual General Meeting was held on Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2017. As there were no new candidates, the present officers and committee members were confirmed.

The AGM was followed by a successful Bring and Buy which raised much-needed funds for the branch.

Copies of the blue membership cards containing details of this year's programme are available in the Church Porch and there is one copy on the notice board. If you are thinking about joining the MU, please take a copy. For more information, telephone Eleanor (874112). All are welcome.

Our next meeting is on Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> March, at 2.00 pm in the *Parish Hall* when Joan Rimmer, Steve Gerrard and Nic Dickson will present 'Our Formby'. (*Please note venue.*) You may remember this was to have been presented last year but had to be postponed and we are delighted to be able to re-schedule it. Described as 'an entertaining and informative stroll through Formby's past, with slides, songs, conversation and humour', it has proved highly popular. St Peter's parishioners and visitors are welcome. Entrance: £2.00 including tea and biscuits.

The inter-denominational Women's World Day of Prayer service for churches within Sefton will take place at 2.00 pm on Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March, at St Anne's, Timms Lane, Formby. This international service is held around the world on the first Friday of March.

The April branch meeting will be on Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup> April, when Nick Philpott will speak on 'Mr Bradshaw comes to Liverpool'.

Reminder: MU Corporate Communion is held at 11.00 am on the second Wednesday of every month in church.

**Eleanor**



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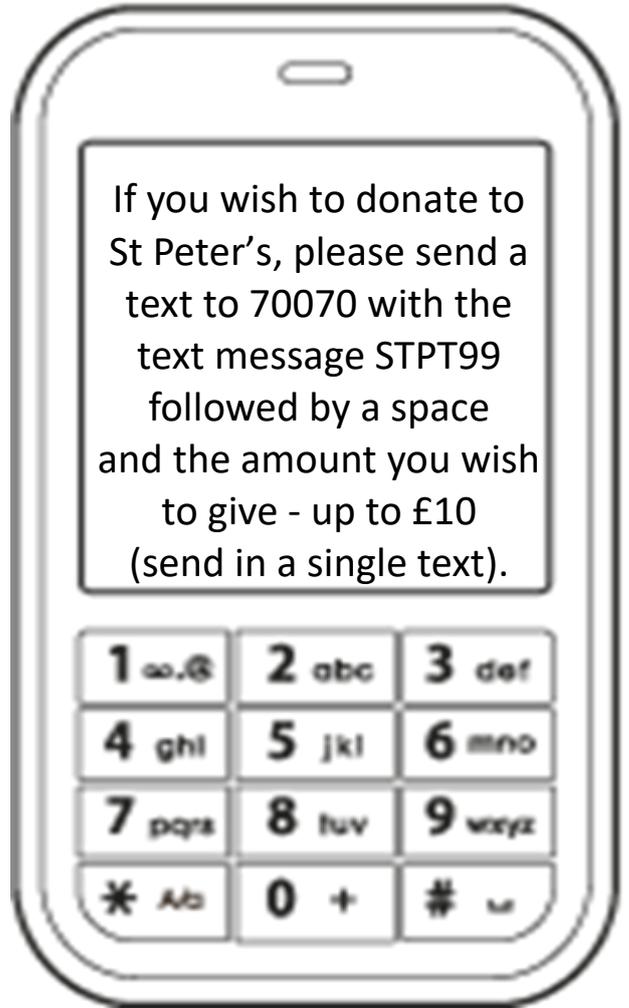
**Tel: 01704 831220**

*45, Piercefield Road,*

*Formby L37 7DG*

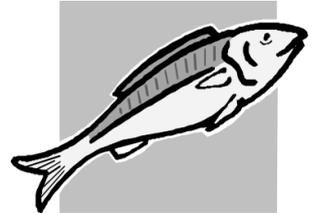
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Below is a copy of the letter I recently received from the Whitechapel Centre in Liverpool, who were the recipients of the Christmas blue envelope collections. It gives a good indication of the worthwhile work that they do.

David Poole

**Mr David Poole  
St Peter's Church**



**17 January 2017**

**Dear David,**

On behalf of The Whitechapel Centre I would like to thank you for your recent donation of £717.80. We are very grateful to you for thinking of us.

The Whitechapel Centre is the leading homeless and housing charity for the Liverpool region. We work with people who are rough sleeping, living in hostels or struggling to manage their accommodation. We are committed to help people find and maintain a home and learn the life skills essential for independent living.

During the last year we prepared over 8,500 breakfasts for rough sleepers; supported 1,174 homeless people into the right accommodation, and prevented a further 948 from becoming homeless. We gave out 4,000 day travel passes to allow people to get to accommodation meetings and medical appointments. Over the last 5 years we have seen a 52% increase in the number people accessing our services for support, placing increasing strain on our services.

We offer long-term, lasting solutions by providing support, advice and opportunities. We don't just sort out our client's housing problem. We help people work through the underlying issues too, like substance misuse, mental health problems or relationship breakdowns.

We provide free and confidential housing and welfare rights advice, deal with eviction proceedings, link with medical treatment, manage debts and work with landlords to resolve disputes. We help people prepare for the move into permanent accommodation and all the responsibilities that come with it.

We know that there are so many more people in Liverpool who still need our help, and your donation will be used to ensure we remain open 365 days every year to meet the needs of homeless people. Thank you.

**Yours sincerely,**

**Ruth McCaughley  
Fundraising Manager  
0151 207 8639 / 07795 616717  
[ruth.mccaughley@whitechapelcentre.co.uk](mailto:ruth.mccaughley@whitechapelcentre.co.uk)**

# Where does Time go to?

It was Candlemas last Sunday and I attended the lovely evening service. As I entered the church I was given a small candle to hold during the first part of the service and there were many small candles lit around the window sills. It looked warm and inviting but there was room for many more people than attended the service. A pity, as they did not know what they were missing!

I could not believe that it was forty days since Christmas. Where had those forty days gone? They say that time flies, but as I get older it has a booster on it.



Forty seems to be a favourite number in the bible, as we hear it a lot. Moses wandered in the wilderness for forty years, then, Jesus went into the wilderness for forty days to fast and argue with the Devil. Maybe in older days they were not as good at counting as we are now, or maybe time did not matter as much as it does, with life becoming faster all the time.

I know how it feels to be always in a rush as when I was teaching the handicapped children in their homes, I only had fifteen minutes in which to travel to my next pupil who might be at the other end of the city. I had to gather up the work they were to do and get out the lessons that they had done and which I had marked for them, then drive miles to get there.

It was all GO I can tell you, but I was never too tired in those days. Now, time passing tires me. I get up in the morning and go to bed at night and I think "What have I done today? Where has it gone, and have I achieved anything?" Not a lot I tell myself.

I bought a pair of shoes last week and as I have to have one raised with an extra two centimetres I have to go to the cobbler to have it done. Now, wait for this - - - the cobbler is not allowed to do it anymore. I was horrified, what am I to do now? If I limp it will throw out my good-ish knee so I really need that extra height. "It is because of Health and Safety," the man told me. I argued, pleaded and almost threatened him but he would not be moved. I now have to go to the doctor and ask him to write to the hospital to get me an appointment to see the department which deals with appliances and get them to measure me and then see what can be done about it. I am "spitting feathers."

Health and Safety, I don't believe the man, but to blame it on Health and Safety! It beggars belief how the world has survived since time began without it. We had kettles on hobs by the fire to ensure that there was always hot water for cups of tea or washing up. When we had heavy snowfalls, we ploughed our way to work through it and the buses ran, albeit not on schedule, and the trains never stopped for leaves on the line. I don't remember many train crashes.

It makes me wonder what rules we broke last Sunday, with each of us holding a lighted candle as we sang our hymns. Please never let it be that we hold Candlemas with a torch instead of a candle!

*Martha*



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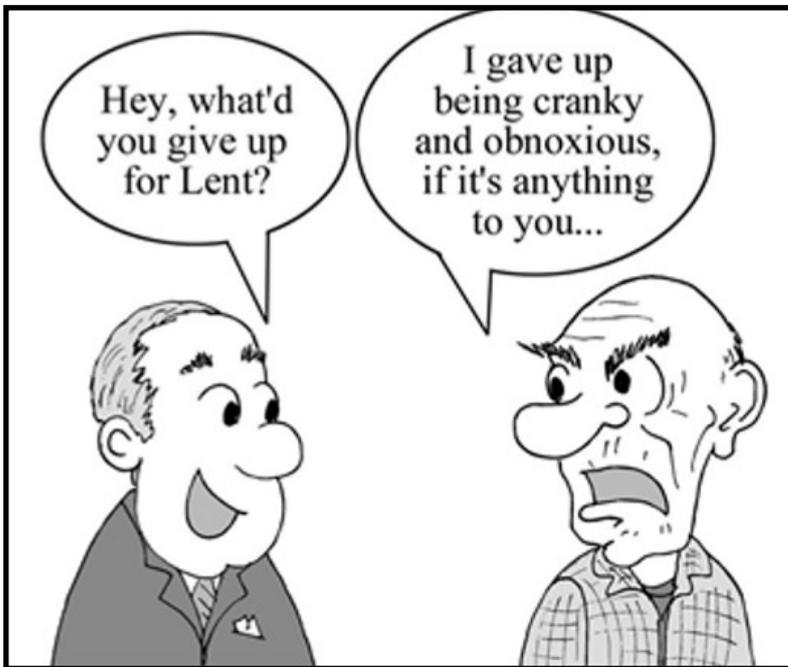
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## EMAIL DIRECTORY

We have a parish email directory which is used once or twice a month to send out dates for the month and also when a special event is coming up. If you would like to be added to the email list please send an email to [revannetaylor@gmail.com](mailto:revannetaylor@gmail.com). Email addresses will only be used by St Peter's. This is a way to help us keep in touch.

## ON THE ROAD TO EASTER WORD SEARCH



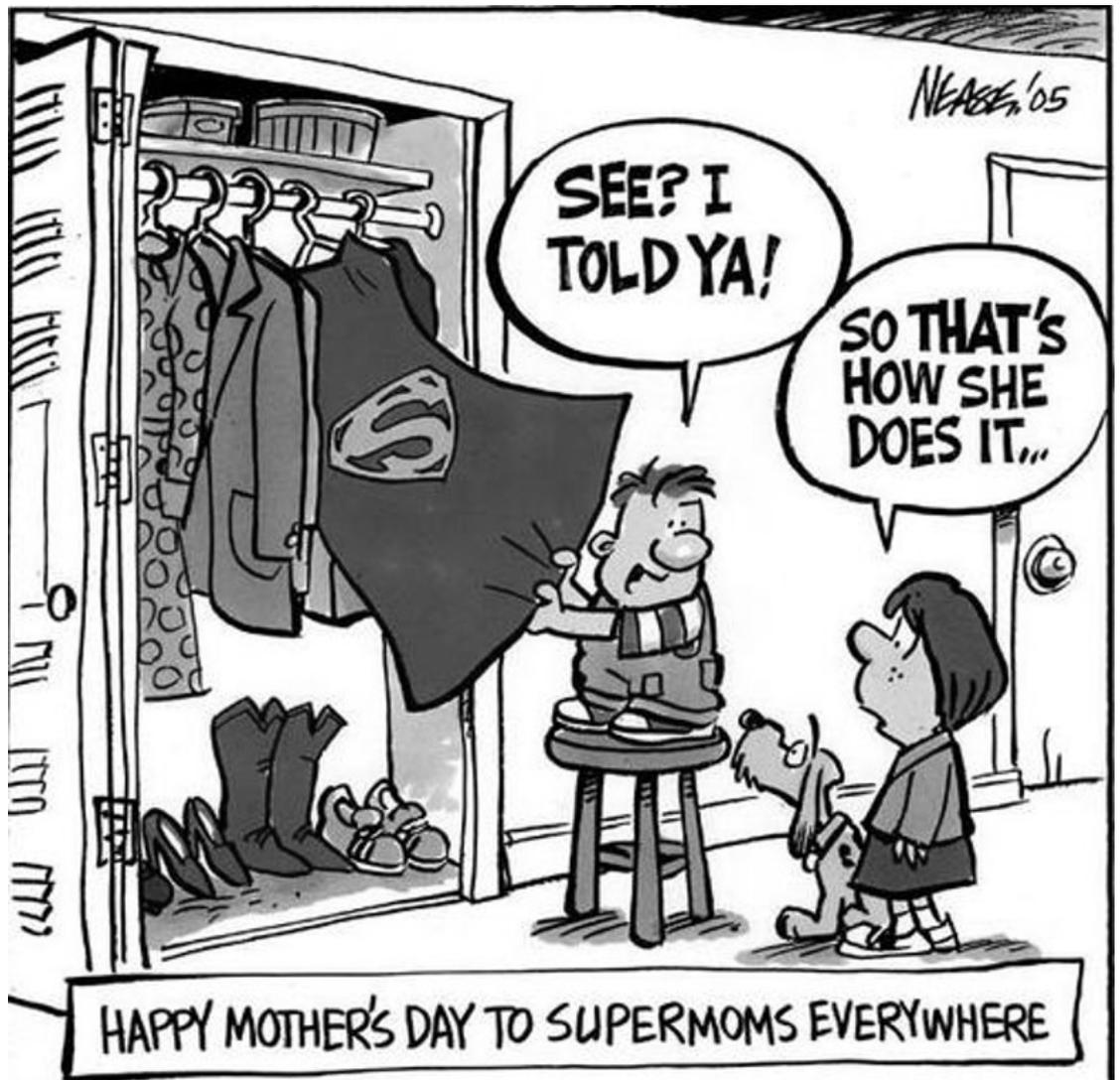
Ash	Holy Week	Palm Branch
Wednesday	Holy Thursday	Forty Days
Sacrifice	Good Friday	Jesus
Almsgiving	Holy Saturday	Passover
Prayer	Easter	Foot Washing
Fasting	Palm Sunday	Resurrection
Lent	Purple	Love





HAPPY   
MOTHER'S  
DAY! 

Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them. **Mt 19:14** and you have **The Toddler Two-Toed Takedown!**





## From the Back Pew Ted Woods

### “ARE YOU STILL ON THE PHONE?”

Two recent conversations with two clergy friends are the source for this month's column. We have been friends for years, and when in Ireland we regularly met for chats and moans as we put the world and the church to right!

One of them, Cecil, has just written a book and he rang to ask if I would write the Foreword. I must say I was very flattered, but it also meant that I would have to read the whole manuscript!

He has called his book, “Journeying in Faith” (it is still to be published), and in it he observes that “many people are on the ‘edge’ of belief today. Some find it difficult to relate the Christian faith to the world they experience around them and are puzzled by the situations they face.” He offers the book to help establish a connection. He says that it is written by a “septuagenarian who continues to wrestle with the meaning of faith.”

He introduces the book by emphasising that there is more to life than daily living. “There are moments in life when this registers with us and we recognise the need for something deeper; we realise that we are more than just physical beings.” In other words, there is more to life than meets the eye.

But he also recognises that faith is difficult and we have to work at it. Faith, for Cecil, is not just about answers but is as much about questioning. Faith, he says, is not certainty; “doubt is very much a part of faith.”

As faith is also a living and developing process, he stresses that we adults must use our minds to find a faith in God that is meaningful and that really works for us. We can't just rely on a childhood understanding of God in the face of so many complex problems today, and he makes a plea for adults to keep on growing and learning and questioning. His book is written to help that process.

The second conversation was with Alastair. In mid-ministry Alastair took time out to work for the HSE (the Irish equivalent of the NHS) as a project consultant and advisor. Five years ago he went back into parish ministry and took on a parish in the midlands of Ireland that was dying on its feet. They were down to their last eleven, but he felt that it had a great deal of

potential that needed to be unlocked and released. He was right in his assessment for now that parish is bursting with life with regular congregations of 150 and more.

As well as good liturgy and good pastoral care – and dynamic leadership – Alastair’s concern is to try and understand what he calls “the beat on the street”. In other words, what are the particular concerns and anxieties and priorities of the people he serves in that midland town, and how can the church begin to help and resource them with the issues they face in daily life. How can the church highlight the spiritual aspect of life which will help his people make sense of, and give perspective to, the complex and demanding lives they live?

Conversations with my two friends are never short!

In our most recent chat, Alastair’s diocese was recommending a Lent Course which he felt would not meet people where they were. He felt it was going to be irrelevant and too “dry”.

So our conversation got round to St Peter’s Lent Course for this year, about which you can read on page 6.

We’re calling this year’s course “In His Steps”, and our logo is a pair of sandals bought from Rev Sheilagh Williamson when she spoke about a possible project for the parish in Uganda.

Taking some of the events in Jesus’ life we want to see how they relate to us today and we hope that the topics they touch on will be relevant to most – topics like forgiveness and reconciliation, choosing what is right rather than what is easy, do our actions speak louder than words and how inclusive are we as a church? How can we bring healing to the knocks and blows we receive in life?

The organising group hope that they have listened to the “beat on the street” in daily living and that in asking the right questions we may be able to find some answers and, in the process, build up our faith.

In a sense, this year’s Lent Course brings together my conversations with Cecil and Alastair, and I hope you will find it as interesting and constructive as the recent chats I have had with them even if I’m asked (in desperation) ‘Are you still on phone?’!



## Keystone 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference

### Living in a Strange World

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2017 9.30am to 4pm

### Penny Garner - Founder of the Contented Dementia Trust

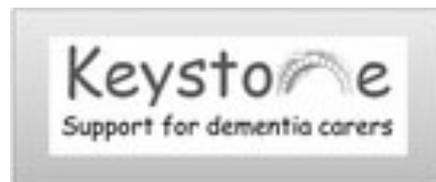
St Luke's Church, Crosby

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# Memory Cafes in Sefton

Leading the fight  
against dementia

**Alzheimer's  
Society**

Memory cafes are informal drop in groups where people living with dementia and their carers can get together to share and talk about things that are important to them. Alzheimer's Society staff will be on hand to give information and support and there are often guest speakers covering a range of topics.

There is no need to book, just come along on the day and you will be made very welcome.

**FORMBY** – Methodist Church, Elbow Lane – 2pm to 4pm – 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month (**next date 9<sup>th</sup> March**)

**SOUTHPORT** – the Salvation Army, 57-63 Shakespeare St., PR8 5AJ – 1.30pm to 3.30pm - 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday each month (**next date 16<sup>th</sup> March**)

**CROSBY** – Crossroads Café (car park of St Luke's Church) – 10am to 12noon - 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month (**1<sup>st</sup> March**)

# From the Church Registers

## Funerals

13<sup>th</sup> Feb Gwen Masterson

## Interment of Ashes

30<sup>th</sup> Jan Edwin Castle

31<sup>st</sup> Jan William Aindow



We would like to include the announcement of births, engagements and special anniversaries etc. **so please let us know—[alisonwhiffing@aol.com](mailto:alisonwhiffing@aol.com)**



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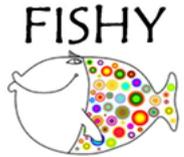
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# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY – MARCH 2017



1 <sup>st</sup> Weds	11.00am 2.00pm 3.15pm 7.30pm	<b>Ash Wednesday</b> Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes WOW service for pre-school children in Church <i>followed by refreshments in the Bier House</i> Fishy Club (after school) in the Parish Hall Joint Service in St Luke's, Formby	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Thurs	2.00pm	Mothers' Union – in the Old School Room, Parish Hall "Our Formby" in poems, song and music	
3 <sup>rd</sup> Friday	2.00pm 6.30pm	Women's World Day of Prayer Service in St Anne's Church First Friday Eucharist	
4 <sup>th</sup> Sat	9.00am	Breakfast Church in the Bier House	
5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	10.00am 12 noon 6.00pm	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent</b> Sunday Club Baptisms Evening Service in St Margaret's Antioch, Toxteth. Meet at 5pm at St Peter's to share lifts.	
7 <sup>th</sup> Tues	10.00am	Bible Study in the Bier House	
8 <sup>th</sup> Weds	3.15pm 7.30pm	Fishy Club in the Parish Hall Lent Series in Old School Room, Parish Hall	
12 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	10.00am	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent</b> Sunday Club	
14 <sup>th</sup> Tues	10.00am	Bible Study in the Bier House	
15 <sup>th</sup> Weds	3.15pm 7.30pm	Fishy Club in the Parish Hall Lent Series in Old School Room, Parish Hall Primetime (please see details on page 19)	
17 <sup>th</sup> Friday	7.00pm	Percy French - Tribute Concert in the Church Hall	
19 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	12 noon	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent</b> Hot Dog Children's Service <i>followed by Hot Dogs in the Bier House</i>	

21 <sup>st</sup> Tues	10.00am	Bible Study in the Bier House
22 <sup>nd</sup> Weds	3.15pm	Fishy Club in the Parish Hall
	7.30pm	Lent Series in Old School Room, Parish Hall
<b>26<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b>		<b>Mothering Sunday</b>
	10.00am	All-Age Parade Service <b>PARADE</b>
28 <sup>th</sup> Tues	10.00am	Bible Study in the Bier House
29 <sup>th</sup> Weds	2.00pm	WOW for Easter <i>- followed by refreshments in the Bier House</i>
	3.15pm	Fishy Club in the Parish Hall
	7.30pm	Lent Series in Old School Room, Parish Hall



## The Women's World Day of Prayer Service

In March over 5,000 services will be held in the British Isles on the theme of 'Am I Being Unfair to You?' The Christian women of the Philippines wrote the service and it has been translated into 1,000 different languages and dialects, to be used, throughout the whole world.

The Day of Prayer is not just for women and everyone is welcome to attend the service. To find out further information [www.wwdp.org.uk](http://www.wwdp.org.uk)

In Formby this international and ecumenical service will be held on

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March at 2pm**

in St Anne's Church,  
Timms Lane, Formby  
L37 7DW.

All are very welcome.





# LENT

## Church Services

### Sundays

- 8.00 am Holy Communion (1662)
- 10.00 am Parish Eucharist (Coffee afterwards)
- 12.00 noon Baptisms (as arranged)
- 6.30 pm Choral Evensong
- 6.30 pm Service of Wholeness – Last Sunday of month

### Weekdays

- 9.00 am Morning Prayer  
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday
- 11.00 am Wednesday Eucharist (Coffee afterwards)
- 6.30 pm Eucharist 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of each month