

# St Peter's Church Magazine

## May 2017



# 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

# Primetime

***Primetime ladies group meets monthly  
on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month 7.30 - 9.30pm***

*in the Old School Room at the Parish Hall, Paradise Lane.*

*We do something different at each meeting, but you can take part as much  
or as little as you like - whatever we do we enjoy ourselves!*

***Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May.***

*We always welcome new ladies....why not join us?*

*Call Sonia, Elaine or Ali*

*on 833781 / 874635 / 879976 for further details.*

*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

Are you sitting comfortably? If you've been to a church service recently, you'll have appreciated the new pew cushions, funded by generous legacy (see Page 4). And they blend in so well – note the curved ends, matching the pews precisely!

Where has the time gone? Already Lent and Easter are behind us – and how well they went, with the weekly talks in the Old School Room, the Holy Week services culminating in the Churches Together Good Friday service at Formby Pool; and Easter Day itself with our excellent Easter Garden (see back cover). A big thank-you to all who helped to make the period so memorable.

When you pause to think about it, so much that happens at St Peter's is down to teamwork; groups of people working together to make things happen. Why not try making a list of things that depend on groups of church members working together? Do **you** belong to one of these groups? What could **you** contribute?

With apologies to JF Kennedy, "Ask not what your church can do for you, ask what you can do for your church."

**The Editorial Team**

 <p>Southport <b>foodbank</b></p>	<p>We are advised by the Foodbank they have plenty of supplies of soup and beans – but they are in desperate need of the following: - <b>long life milk; fruit juice; jam; tinned cold meat.</b> Donations can be left in the boxes in the church porch or the Bier House.</p> <p>Thank You for your continued support.</p>
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*Please note that the deadline for the June 2017 edition of the magazine is **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2017.** Contributions to [alisonwhiffing@aol.com](mailto:alisonwhiffing@aol.com)*

## Dear Friends,

As you will be aware from previous magazines the P.C.C. has been planning an extension for the Bier House. With a growing congregation it is now too small for the Sunday Club which uses the Bier House and this is a valuable part of our church's ministry. It is also too small for coffee after church and other parish social activities. The Bier House also has better parking than our Parish Hall and some of our groups find access much easier. The newly extended Bier House will be a valuable asset to our ministry.



The news is that the builder has been appointed and the date set – JJ Kelly Builders will be starting work on 22<sup>nd</sup> May and will be finished by the end of August. So the new Bier House will be ready for the new season of activities. We will do the best we can to re-locate those who use the Bier House to the Parish Hall during the construction period.

So an exciting project is just about to begin, and we thank the Fabric Committee, and their chairperson Steve Edwards, for all the hard work in making it possible.

I know by the time you read this letter that, while we are still in the season of Easter, both Holy Week and Easter Day will be several weeks ago but I would like to say thank you.



Thank You to –

our organist Graham & the choir for making our services so special; to Nick Philpott & Ted Woods for designing and building the Easter Garden; to our Sacristans for looking after extra services; the church decorators; to the Easter Egg Hunt team and Lisa for Sunday Club on Easter Day. Holy Week and Easter was a very special time and I hope spiritually revived and refreshed all who journeyed with us.

A new addition in time for Holy Week was new pew cushions. These were paid for by a small portion of a legacy left to St Peter's by Bob & Dorothy Habgood. Dorothy's brother Eric and his wife Pat were delighted that we had used some of the legacy in this way and felt Bob & Dorothy would have approved.



Looking ahead we are planning to start a **Toddler Group** on a Friday morning. Leah Wilson has kindly offered to head this up but will need help.

Can you volunteer to join a group who could run this new venture? If so we would love to hear from you.

During May in the same week we have both Christian Aid Week and Dementia Awareness/Prayer Week. During Holy Week we focused on people on the edge and during this week in May we focus again on those who can feel on the edge of life. Carers and those who suffer with dementia can experience isolation and feel on the edge. And in Christian Aid Week we pray for the 65 million people who are displaced, forced to leave their homes because of war or disaster. In both campaigns we pray that as individuals and as a church we do all that we can to relieve isolation and suffering.



We congratulate the Dean of Liverpool, Pete Wilcox, as he is appointed the new Bishop of Sheffield and wish him every happiness in his new post. A previous Dean of Liverpool, Archbishop Justin Welby, has called us all to dedicate the days between Ascension and Pentecost as a time of prayer. More details on page 13.

The theme of May is indeed prayer and building which I believe go hand in hand. We pray that God will continually build his kingdom amongst us as we reach out to those he is calling us to serve.

And last but not least Alison Woodhouse and Peter Paine have volunteered to lead bible study groups. This will be alongside the groups being led by Michael Pitts and Ken Ward. Bible study is a very important foundation for our growth in faith.

If you are interested in joining one of the groups please let me know or speak to those involved. No theology or specialist knowledge is needed, just a willingness to learn together.

The month of May is going to be busy and we look forward to all that it will bring.



*Anne*

#### **APCM Review**

At the annual Parish Council Meeting we report on the events of the past year and look forward to the future. We also make appointments and this year the following were elected –

Churchwardens: Steve Edwards & Andrew Greenyer

Deanery Synod Reps (to serve for 3 years): Michael Pitts, John Ryan & Cliff Cotsworth.

PCC Members (to serve for 3 years): Shena Edwards, Sarah Gorman, Rod Jacques, John Medley, Nick Philpott, Irvine Rawcliffe & Wendy Thorpe.

*Each year seven are elected to serve on the PCC for a three year term.*

# Confirmation

The Confirmation Service in St Peter's will be held at 3pm on **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May**. We have four candidates being confirmed but there is still time if you want to be included. Those who wish to be confirmed need to contact the Vicar ASAP. The Confirmation Service is for the Deanery and for all ages.

Below are the dates for the preparation sessions for young people when we will discuss different topics concerned with Confirmation and young people can ask any questions they might have regarding their faith or the church. For adults there will be a different time to meet to discuss the decision to be confirmed.

So whatever age you are, if you are interested in being confirmed or if you have further questions please do contact me –

Rev Anne Taylor 872824 [revannetaylor@gmail.com](mailto:revannetaylor@gmail.com)

## Dates for Young People wanting to be prepared for Confirmation with St Peter's

Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May	6.30pm – 7.30pm	Parish Hall, Paradise Lane
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> May	6.30pm – 7.30pm	meet in St Peter's Church (incl. rehearsal)
Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup> May	3pm	Confirmation Service St Peter's
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> May	6.30pm – 7.30pm	Parish Hall, Paradise Lane
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	6.30pm – 7.30pm	Parish Hall, Paradise Lane

*Following the terror attack on the Coptic Churches in Egypt on Palm Sunday, I found this prayer.*  
Arthur Siddall

**Disperse the fantasies of the adversaries.**

**Still the tempest.**

**Walk with us and calm our terror.**

**Quench our thirst, kindle the flame of thy love in our hearts.**

**Abide with us, for the day is far spent, and accompany us until daybreak.**

**For thou art our goal and our happiness, thou alone, O Lord, for ever.**

**Amen.**



The Christian Aid Service this year will be on  
Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May at 6.30pm  
in the United Reformed Church.  
As well as house collections, envelopes will be  
available in church. [www.christianaid.org.uk](http://www.christianaid.org.uk)



## Breakfast Church & Christian Aid Join Forces!

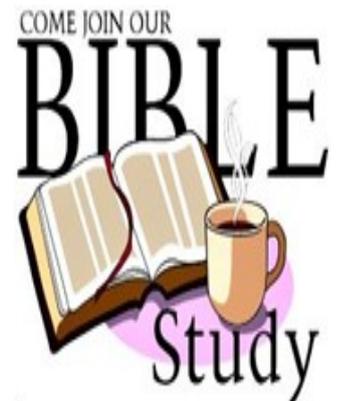
Throughout the Bible we see people  
coming together to share food  
and take action.



Jesus' passion for justice inspired Christians to get together to support the most vulnerable. At the May Breakfast Church we will pray for those most in need of justice and while sharing toast/pancakes together donate to the work of Christian Aid. Join us at Breakfast Church on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May at 9am in the Bier House. You will be very welcome.

## Tuesday Bible Study Group

As in Lent but with a new course: “**Handing on the Torch**” Sacred Words for a Secular World. The bible study group meets at 10am and new-comers are always welcome. There is also time to browse the Parish Library or stay for a coffee afterwards. For further information contact Herbert Blundell or Ken Ward.



2<sup>nd</sup> May Book Reviews - come and tell us about a book you have read that inspired you. *This session will be in the Parish Hall.*

9<sup>th</sup> May A Christian Country? Micah 6:6-8 Bier House

16<sup>th</sup> May A Secular Society? 1 Peter 2:13-25 Bier House

23<sup>rd</sup> May A Beleaguered Church? Revelation 3:14-22 Parish Hall

6<sup>th</sup> June Competing Creeds? Colossians 3:12-17 Parish Hall

13<sup>th</sup> June Handing on the Torch Philippians 2:1-11 Parish Hall

# Volunteering

When I left my full time job in Preston in 2014, one of the things I wanted to do with the extra time I would gain from no longer commuting (apart from get more sleep!) was to volunteer. I just wasn't sure in what form. I'd been doing 'goodly works' since a very young age when, as a junior member of the NSPCC, I would hold garden fetes for my friends and neighbours, with all proceeds safely lodged in my official blue egg collecting box (does anyone else remember those?). This was something that I strongly felt that I wanted to come back to.

One thing that I've always felt sad about is loneliness. We live in a busy world full of busy people and yet so many people are lonely. We tend not to realise it when we are young with hectic lives, surrounded by family, but as people get older, family move away and maybe health problems make it harder to get out and socialise, it's easy to get isolated.

A chance meeting in the swimming pool with a very persuasive lady led me to find out more about and then volunteer for The Formby Project, now renamed The Formby Befriending Scheme and a registered charity in its own right. The more I found out about the scheme the more I admired what it set out to do. It was set up in November 2013 to address the problem of social isolation amongst older people in the local area by matching volunteers to older people who might benefit from the regular companionship of a 'befriender'. Volunteers visit for a minimum of an hour a week and sometimes take befriendees out or accompany them to appointments or local events.

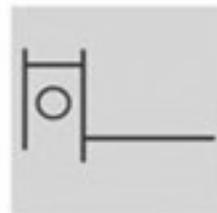
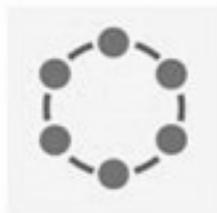


The Scheme also runs a monthly Coffee Club at the Methodist Church, Elbow Lane, which provides a regular meeting place for people involved in the scheme and others who perhaps live alone or want to make new friends. Volunteers help out with transport, setting up, making drinks and most importantly welcoming and chatting to people who attend. There's always a lovely friendly atmosphere.

I currently sit on the Steering Group, where I also take minutes and help out with admin tasks such as updating the Facebook page and the new website at [www.formbybefriendingscheme.org.uk](http://www.formbybefriendingscheme.org.uk). I try to get along to the monthly Coffee Club whenever possible and love chatting to the people I meet there, who all seem to have such interesting stories to tell.

Volunteers are always needed for befriending and help at the Coffee Club and we are always on the lookout for donations and new sources of funding. If you think you might be interested in helping or indeed know anyone who might benefit from a befriender please see the website or let me know.

**Sonia Greenyer Tel: 833781**



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[www.liverpool.anglican.org/parishgivingscheme](http://www.liverpool.anglican.org/parishgivingscheme)

Or contact St Peter's Stewardship Team  
who will be happy to discuss the scheme.

Mike Fletcher 07808 310834

email: [stewardshipstpeter@gmail.com](mailto:stewardshipstpeter@gmail.com)



## TIMEOUT

The members of TIMEOUT went 'on tour' for their April meeting – all the way to Waterloo!

The usual venue of The Grapes was exchanged for the Liverpool Seafarers Centre where the Chief Executive, John Wilson, gave us a fascinating and informative account not only of the Centre and its work, but also of the life of seafarers. 95% of all we import comes by sea.

We also had the opportunity to meet with some of the seafarers who use the Centre and among them were those from the Philippines, China and Russia, all of whom spoke English which is the 'lingua franca' of the sea.

John has promised to write an article for our magazine to coincide with Sea Sunday in July, and will suggest ways in which we can help – by providing books, magazines, CDs and DVDs, and also by knitting woolly hats!



Thanks to the Scouts for the use of their minibus and to Anne, our driver on the night!





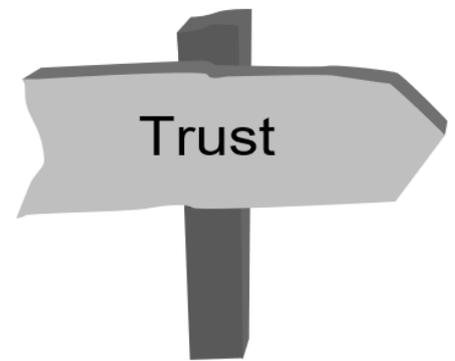
**Photos from Palm Sunday  
and The Passion Play**



# Trust

In the 18<sup>th</sup> century a young and yet to be famous poet was seeking a patron. He sent a copy of his work to an influential aristocrat who, sadly, returned the work saying that it was not good enough and needed revision. Distraught, the young man contacted Samuel Johnson for advice. Johnson suggested that after a period of time the poet should submit the book unaltered, to the same aristocrat. This time the would- be patron accepted the supposedly revised poetry and gave it his patronage. In our own time a middle manager decided to do the same when told to improve a project he had submitted. The unaltered paper was accepted by the senior man.

Similarly an organisation had to recruit four trainees for an engineering course. The interviewer knew nothing about welding but his companion did, welding was a necessary component of the course. None of the four answered an important technical question correctly but the four were accepted on the course and became very skilled.



The link between both these examples is 'trust'. The poet was trusted to have honestly revised his work, the engineers would be trusted to check their work even if their technical knowledge was not spot on in the early stage.

Today there is great emphasis on scientific proof; if there is no scientific proof then there can be no trust. But much of our action is based on trust. A letter to the paper looked at the issue in regards to faith, stating 'The secularisation narrative, that humanity is no longer ignorant, fearful and living in an enchanted world, but has now come of age is rational, scientific and does not need religious faith, seems to have been swallowed whole.' So much behaviour is based on trust which is not linked to scientific understanding.

Wolhart Pannanberg a German theologian wrote, 'Faith as the fulfilment of life is really the same thing as trust. And trust is one of the fundamental aspects of life for every human existence .... Only trust allows the soul room to breathe.'

Rod Jacques



**The Archbishop of Canterbury is encouraging Christians of all denominations to #Pledge2Pray as part of global prayer movement Thy Kingdom Come.**

In May 2016 more than 100,000 people took up the invitation of the Archbishops of Canterbury and York to set aside the days leading up to Pentecost

Sunday to pray for the renewing and empowering presence of the Holy Spirit to **'make Christ real in our midst, for the flourishing of all'**.

The Archbishops have written again this year to every serving parish priest in the Church of England expressing their longing "to see a great wave of prayer across our land, from Ascension Day, 25<sup>th</sup> May, to Pentecost, 4<sup>th</sup> June 2017.

**The aim of 'Thy Kingdom Come 2017' is simple and threefold:**

- To join with the whole family of God the Father
- To pray for the empowering of God the Holy Spirit
- That we may be effective witnesses to God the Son Jesus Christ

In St Peter's we will begin with a Eucharist on Ascension Day at 7pm. There will be Morning Prayer each morning and the church will be open from 9am to 12noon. Also during the week there will be the 11am Wednesday Eucharist, 6.30pm First Friday Eucharist and 9am Breakfast Church on Saturday. The campaign finishes with Pentecost Sunday. Do make time during the week in join us in prayer.

**We do need volunteers** to help keep our church open so that it is available for personal prayer and reflection. If you could give some time to volunteer to church sit please let the Vicar or Parish Office know and there will be a rota in church.

There will also be prayer resources available.

*[www.thykingdomcome.global](http://www.thykingdomcome.global)*

Almighty God, who called your Church to witness that you were in Christ reconciling the world to yourself: help us to proclaim the good news of your love, that all who hear it may be drawn to you; through him who was lifted up on the cross, and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God, now and for ever. Amen.



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# 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.**

# "THANK YOU" from the Refugee Support Group



The Refugee Support Group supplemented by additional helpers welcomed a further group of asylum seekers to Formby on 27th March. We were also able to deliver clothing and toiletries which had been collected since the beginning of the year to Asylum Link Merseyside. They are always extremely grateful for these donations.

We welcomed a full minibus of fourteen asylum seekers to St Peter's Church Hall where we gave them a hot meal and then took them to the beach where they enjoyed the spaciousness of the sand, dunes and sea as well as playing an unorthodox form of cricket.

Thanks to your generosity we were able to give them each a small bag of toiletries to take back to Liverpool. As new arrivals will be coming to Liverpool and Bootle we will always be in need of your donations so please keep up the gifts of toiletries, new pants, socks and other clothes of good quality.

With much gratitude Peter Paine.

*Do you know what to do with strange emails?*

*Do you know how to protect your personal data online?*



*Andrew Greenyer will be giving a talk on Online Safety in the Old School Room, Parish Hall, Paradise Lane, Formby L37 7EH*

**at 8pm Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May**

*All welcome.*

*No charge but donations accepted for the Formby Befriending Scheme.*



## The Micah Lecture

**“More justice in the world - impact, thrive and buzz” explores social justice and urban ministry.**

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June 7pm to 9pm in The Lady Chapel, Liverpool Cathedral**

Formerly known as the Urban Lecture and based on the verse from Micah 6.8, “*God has shown you what is good...and what does the Lord require of you? To act justly, love mercy and walk humbly with your God;*” the annual Micah Lectures will build on the foundations of exploring social justice and urban ministry.

You’re invited to see how we are being the hands and feet of Christ in the world: building God’s Kingdom, comforting the stranger, being good neighbours, loving the “unlovable”, healing the sick and bringing new life.

In this, the first of the Micah Lectures - ‘**More justice in the world - impact, thrive and buzz**’; Bishop Paul will explore how we as Christians in the community, are called to change the world for the better and make a bigger difference. This will inspire us to think about the impact of the generosity of our service in Christ, how this creates thriving attractive communities that buzz with life.



In March, Holy Trinity Bowling Club hosted a 'bowls familiarisation' session with St Peter's Scouts. Together with their leaders, 27 scouts were introduced to Crown Green Bowling. Under the watchful eye of the club's own qualified coach, aided by experienced league players, the scouts were taught the basic skills of Crown Green Bowling. Organised into groups of four, they quickly entered into the spirit of the game and the general conclusion was that the evening had been a great success. Several young scouts, both boys and girls, quickly adapted to the challenges of the game. Some demonstrated a natural ability marking them out as potential future club bowlers.

Thank you to Holy Trinity Bowling Club for their time and welcome.





The Great Escape is a challenging competition for Scouts requiring teamwork, leadership, and initiative.



# Learning for Living - 2017 Prize Winning Essay

*Reproduced below is a second essay from the Learning for Living competition held each year between pupils of all the Formby schools, both primary and secondary. It is based on a scheme set up by the John Templeton Foundation (Templeton was an internationally prominent financier and philanthropist).*



*St Peter's Educational Trust has financially supported the competition for some years together with Southport Soroptimists. Shirley Potter is one of the representative judges.*

*An awards ceremony was held in March, when certificates and monetary prizes were awarded to all the winners, from over 400 entries to the competition.*

*Peter Deyes*

## Two Hours That Changed My Life

A magical thing happens when we give our time and talents to people who really need them.

By giving something back, we receive amazing things in return, such as new skills, experiences, and most of all, a boost in confidence. Look at me. I began volunteering at the Thursday Club, while I was sitting happily in my Mum's tummy.

An organisation called THE THURSDAY CLUB is an inspiration to me. It is a social club for adults with learning difficulties and it meets for two hours every Thursday evening. These two hours have changed my life over the past twelve years (bearing in mind some of the time I was in my Mum's tummy). The Club has helped me understand that everyone has special needs. However, some people's needs are more special than others. I have enjoyed pushing the members' wheelchairs, playing fun games, spending time listening to their stories and going on holiday together as a big, happy, extended family.

Sometimes in life, things do not go to plan. Two of my friends at the Thursday Club, called Debbie and Alex, both sadly passed away due to poor health. It left me devastated and knocked me, but I got back up and realised that if I lived my life with fun, positivity and generosity, like they had, then their spirit would never die, and would live on in me. The world is on our fingertips through iPads, telephones, gadgets and technology, but we truly touch the world when we hug, help and hold people with our own two hands and arms.

It is so easy to connect with someone else thousands of miles away through the press of a button, but how often do we press the doorbell of an elderly neighbour who may be sad or lonely? We all have a responsibility to make the world a better place, but sometimes we don't take it. Many of us make excuses such as; "I'm too busy, it's not my job, " or, "I've got something else better to do!"

All of us can afford to help each other by giving two hours each week to a cause we are passionate about. And remember my story. Those two hours had a massive impact on my life, and I really wish this happens to you as well.

***Matthew Hawkins from Trinity St Peter's Primary School  
(son of Peter and Helen Hawkins)***



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On Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April Nick Philpot talked to us about the Liverpool - Leeds Canal, familiar to many for its wooded and open country and historic waterside pubs on the Maghull to Parbold stretch. Nick outlined its history, from its conception in the early eighteenth century when it was needed to transport the coal and textile products of the burgeoning industrial revolution that the often impassable roads of the day could not cope with, its construction, heavy usage in its nineteenth century heyday and the life of the barge families who worked and lived on it, to its decline and degeneration in the twentieth century, followed by re-birth as a haven for the fishermen and leisure cruisers of today. Nick then showed an impressive photographic record of his own cycle journey along its route. Thank you, Nick, for what was an interesting and enjoyable afternoon.

On Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> May, as our annual outing, we are having lunch at Clouds Restaurant, Southport College. Please arrive promptly for lunch at 12.00.

This year we are hosting the Sefton Deanery Festival at St Peter's at 2.00 pm on Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> May. This is the annual service for all the Mothers' Union branches in the Deanery: St Philip's Litherland, St Luke's Crosby, St Michael's Blundellsands, Holy Trinity and St Peter's, Formby. Revd. Anne will lead the service.

On Tuesday, 27<sup>th</sup> May, at 2.00 pm we are invited to our President Beverley Boden's garden party in aid of the Children's Society at her home at 40 Spinney Crescent, Blundellsands.

The Strawberry Tea and Bring-and-Buy will take place at 2.00 pm in the Parish Hall, Paradise Lane, on Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> June. Entrance: £1.50. Please bring any saleable items you can to the bring-and-buy, on which we depend for funding the branch.

The Diocese has suggested we may wish to support a project to provide caravan holidays for families who would otherwise not be able to afford a holiday. There will be a yellow bucket available at branch meetings into which members can put unwanted loose cash.

We look forward to seeing you at the above events, to which all are always welcome.

***Eleanor***

*As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you.*

*John Ch:15 v9*

Lord, thank you  
for your presence  
this moment,  
holding us in your love.

Help us to share  
your love with those who live  
among us with dementia,  
that we may see  
your beauty in them.

Amen.

## Sefton Dementia Action Alliance (Formby)

### Please come and join us for our **Dementia Awareness Session**

Elim Pentecostal Church,  
Church Road, Formby  
17<sup>th</sup> May, 7-9pm

No charge.  
Includes light refreshments.  
All welcome.

(For enquiries ring Sally Nicol  
on 01704 877655)

**DAA** Dementia  
Action Alliance

**LET'S UNITE FOR DEMENTIA  
AWARENESS WEEK**  
14-20 MAY 2017

# MEMORY WALK

## Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2017 10.30am

Join Formby Library and the Alzheimer's Society for a memory walk around Formby village to mark Dementia Awareness Week 2017. We will be walking via sites of historical interest in the local area.

This is an ideal activity for those living with dementia and those who care for them, but is also a must for anyone with an interest in local history, or anyone simply nostalgic for days gone by.

- ◆ Walk lasts for no more than 40 minutes, taken at a leisurely pace.
- ◆ All are welcome to return to Formby library for a reviving cup of tea or coffee and biscuits afterwards.



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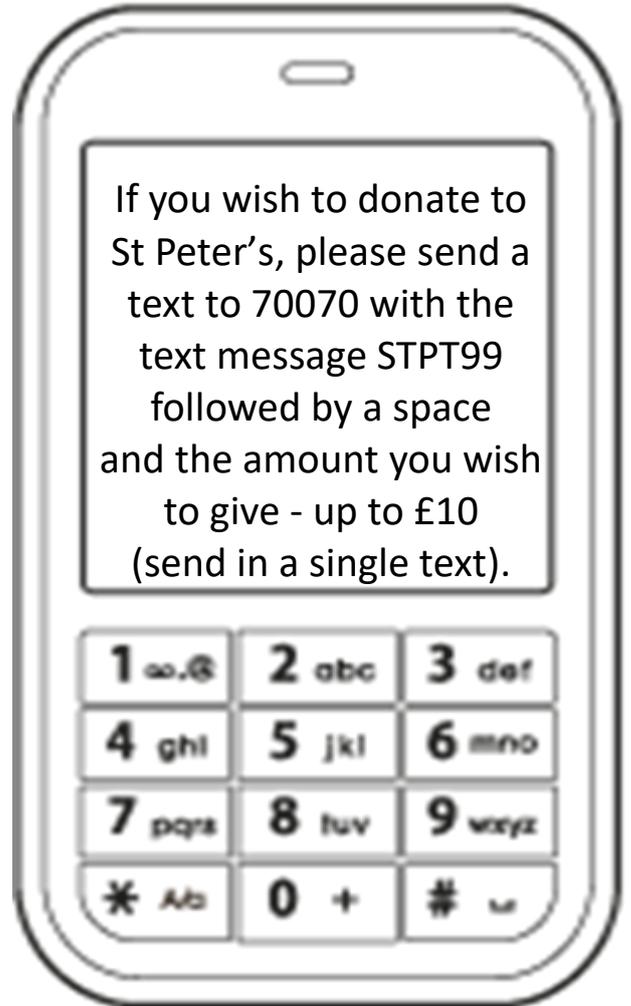
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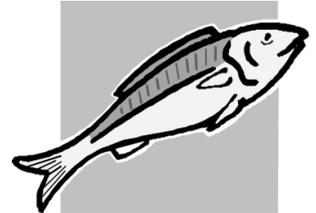
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# Traditions.

Easter has been and gone and we are now on the way to Whitsuntide. I was thinking last week about all the old traditions that have disappeared over the last few years and wondering why.

At Easter, we still keep some of the old ways with the Easter Egg Hunts and Egg Rolling, (in hillier places than Formby). There used to be the Easter Parade, when all the ladies wore Easter Bonnets and had prizes for the most elaborate hat. That has gone. Hats seem to be worn at weddings and on very cold days, but apart from that hats are out of fashion and the old tradition has gone by the board.



Then we had May Day. The May Queen was chosen from all the village girls and in 1937 I was chosen to be the May Queen in our village. My Mother made me a beautiful long dress with a train and a crown. The crown was made up of all the spring flowers and was very intricate and beautiful. Needless to say, that by the end of the day it was in tatters!

The May Queen, followed by all her retainers, walked from the School, around the village and ended up at the Recreation Ground, where we had tea and buns and riotous times on the swings and roundabouts. It was tradition, and I don't know when it stopped in my village. We had a Maypole too which was erected by the menfolk, and all who could were encouraged to dance round it after the tea and buns had been cleared away. It was quite intricate, and was a great laugh when we got it wrong and all ended up in a tangled mess on the grass----Happy days! We were innocent and naive, but that disappeared along with tradition!

At Whitsuntide, we had new clothes. The winter clothes were washed and put away until next winter, or passed down to younger children, and light-weight dresses and short pants were the "in thing", whatever the weather once Whitsuntide came. It was tradition to go to our neighbours and show them our new clothes and they would put a penny or a halfpenny into our new pockets. That was exciting, as our Saturday Penny did not go far even in those days, so any extra was a great benefit to a young person.

When Rogation Tide came, the congregation followed the vicar round the farmers' fields, singing hymns as the vicar blessed the crops. It was a bit messy underfoot on a wet Sunday, but it was tradition and the thing to do.

After the crops were gathered in, there was the Harvest Supper. That was a feast to end all feasts, as the farmer gave his workers a supper in the barn and there was plenty of food and drink and dancing afterwards. The old Country Dancers had a great time and everyone had a chance to dance with one another. It was great fun and very tiring, and we children fell asleep easily that night.

The pheasant shoot began in August and many of the village men became beaters for the local landlord. They reared the poor pheasants and then spent many hours slaughtering them for fun. That was one tradition in the village that I could not enjoy. I would not eat pheasant or grouse then, as a child, and still won't. It may sound silly, but to my way of thinking it was barbaric to kill for fun.

These traditions have passed. They seem so childish and silly now, but for generations the countryside was led by them. The seasons came and went according to the weather and to the church. In village life, the church was the centre and hub of everyday living and it can't have been bad, as it lasted for hundreds of years.

I mourn the days when we could walk safely anywhere we wanted to, and where we children could play safely in the fields and parks. I feel sad that people have lost the old traditions which held society together for so long.

Is innocence and naivety a bad thing when people respected one another and the old ways kept us safe in our own little world?

Martha.



Here at Trinity St Peter's we're really proud of the way we do things and we would love to show you around our vibrant and forward-thinking school.

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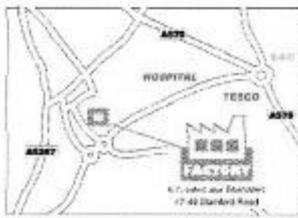
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- |       |         |        |           |           |
|-------|---------|--------|-----------|-----------|
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| CHIEF | WELCOME | HOUSE  | WEALTHY   | DOWN      |
| TAX   | CROWD   | TREE   | ZACCHAEUS | COLLECTOR |
| COME  | POOR    | SINNER | GUEST     | SHORT     |

## Oops!!!

A little girl, dressed in her Sunday best, was running as fast as she could, trying not to be late for Bible class. As she ran she prayed, "Dear Lord, please don't let me be late! Dear Lord, please don't let me be late!"

While she was running and praying, she tripped on a curb and fell, getting her clothes dirty and tearing her dress. She got up, brushed herself off, and started running again! As she ran she once again began to pray, "Dear Lord, please don't let me be late...But please don't shove me either!"

## Inner Peace !!

If you can start the day without caffeine,

If you can always be cheerful, ignoring aches and pains.

If you can resist complaining and boring people with your troubles,

If you can eat the same food every day and be grateful for it,

If you can understand when your loved ones are too busy to give you any time,

If you can take criticism and blame without resentment,

If you can conquer tension without medical help, If you can relax without liquor,

If you can sleep without the aid of drugs.....then you are probably the family dog!

## The Last Word.....

Kids were asked questions about the Bible. The following answers were written by children (not from our school!!).

They have not been corrected in anyway.

~ In the first book of the bible, guinnessis.

~ Adam and Eve were created from an apple tree. Noah's wife was Joan of ark.

~ Noah built a ark and the animals came on in pears.

~ Lots wife was a pillar of salt during the day, but a ball of fire during the night.

~ Moses led the Jews to the red sea where they made unleavened bread which is bread without any ingredients.

~ The greatest miricle in the bible is when Joshua told his son to stand still and he obeyed him.

~ The epistels were the wives of the apostles.

~ David was a Hebrew king who was skilled at playing the liar.

~ Solomon, one of David's sons, had 300 wives and 700 porcupines.

~ The people who followed the lord were called the 12 decibels.

~ One of the oppossums was St Matthew who was also a taximan.





## From the Back Pew Ted Woods

### THE HISTORICAL JESUS

It's sometimes argued that the Bible is the only place that mentions Jesus, so how can we be sure that he really existed and isn't just a mythical person made up by some of his deluded followers?

In teaching sessions and study groups, four non-Biblical contemporary sources are usually quoted to attest to the fact that Jesus was a figure of history and not just a figure of faith. But very recently I was sent a piece that appeared on Facebook that lists more places from contemporary writings, other than the Bible, where Jesus is mentioned.

First, the 'usual' four places:-

1. The Talmud, a collection of Jewish religious writings dating from just after the death of Jesus, makes references to Jesus who "was hanged on the eve of the Passover", though the Talmud also accuses Jesus of enticing Israel to apostasy.
2. The Jewish historian, Josephus, who was employed by the Romans to write a kind of 'diary of events' mentions Jesus, "the Christ who rose from death". Later, in his Antiquities of the Jews, written c 90 AD, he has quite a long paragraph about Jesus in which he calls him "a wise man... a doer of marvellous deeds, a teacher of those who receive the truth with pleasure." He goes on to state that Jesus "was the Christ" and that "many people from among the Jews and other nations became his disciples. Pilate condemned him to be crucified and to die", but the disciples "reported that he had appeared to them three days after his crucifixion and that he was alive..." In recounting the stoning of James, Josephus calls him "the brother of Jesus who was called Christ".
3. The Roman senator and proconsul Tacitus, described as one of the most trusted historians of the ancient world, records that Jesus "suffered the extreme penalty during the reign of Tiberius at the hands of one of our procurators, Pontius Pilate."
4. Pliny the Younger, a magistrate and Governor of Bithynia in 156 AD, in writing to the Emperor Trajan tells him that Christians "were in the habit of meeting on a certain fixed day before it was light when they sang hymns to Christ as God."

So to the other sources:-

5. Celsus, a 2<sup>nd</sup> century Greek philosopher and fierce opponent of Christianity, tried to explain away the miracles of Jesus, saying he got his special powers from Egypt.

6. Suetonius, the official secretary of Emperor Hadrian c. 121 AD, documents the expulsion of Christians from Rome in 49 AD, “because the Jews at Rome caused constant disturbances at the instigation of Christ.”

7. A Samaritan historian named Thallus who lived at the same time as Jesus recounts what happened during Jesus’ crucifixion: “On the whole world there oppressed a most fearful darkness, and the rocks were rent by an earthquake...”

8. Phlegon, another ancient historian, has also confirmed the darkness at the time of Jesus’ death and that Jesus was alive in the time of Tiberius Caesar.

So, from non-Christian and even anti-Christian sources we can be sure that Jesus existed as an historical person, that he was crucified and was believed to have risen from the dead. These sources also state that his followers were drawn from all races and that they were willing to suffer and die for their beliefs.

A Parish Adult Education Handbook (published by the Church of Ireland!) puts it like this:-

“Jesus is a historical person, like Julius Caesar or Mahatma Gandhi. He lived at a time from which we date the years of our era, in a country, Israel, which we can visit today. We don’t know what he looked like, no authentic portrait or description of his appearance exists, but he was of a



certain height and weight, of a particular colour of eyes and hair. His mother tongue was Aramaic and he probably also spoke Greek. He didn’t know everything; his knowledge was limited by the time and place in which he lived. At times he was hungry, thirsty, tired. He felt the force of temptation. Sometimes he was angry, pleased, surprised, sad. He wept when a friend died and we can be certain that there were times when he laughed. He was executed by order of the Roman governor of Judea, Pontius Pilate, when he was in the prime of his life, probably in his thirties. This fully human man Jesus is the supreme and unique manifestation of God on earth.”

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY MAY 2017



3<sup>rd</sup> Weds 2.00pm WOW service for pre-school age  
3.10pm Fishy Club (after school children's club) in the Parish Hall  
6.30pm Confirmation Group in Church

4<sup>th</sup> Thurs 12noon Mothers' Union lunch at Clouds restaurant, Southport

5<sup>th</sup> Friday 6.30pm First Friday Eucharist



6<sup>th</sup> Sat 9.00am Breakfast Church & Christian Aid in the Bier House

7<sup>th</sup> Sun **4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**  
10.00am All-Age Parade Service



10<sup>th</sup> Weds 2.00pm Mothers' Union Deanery Festival in Church  
3.10pm Fishy Club (after school children's club)  
6.30pm Confirmation Group in Church

14<sup>th</sup> Sun **5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter –  
Christian Aid Week / Dementia Awareness Week**  
10.00am Sunday Club  
3.00pm Confirmation Service conducted by Bishop Cyril Ashton  
6.30pm Christian Aid Service in the United Reformed Church  
*No evening service in St Peter's*

17<sup>th</sup> Weds 6.30pm Confirmation Group in OSR, Parish Hall  
7.30pm Primetime in Old School Room, Parish Hall



21<sup>st</sup> Sun **6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**  
12 noon Hot Dog Children's Service

24<sup>th</sup> Weds 3.15pm Fishy Club – end of season party  
6.30pm Confirmation Group in OSR, Parish Hall  
8.00pm Computer Safety Talk in OSR, Parish Hall



25<sup>th</sup> Thurs 7.00pm Ascension Day Eucharist in St Peter's  
7.30pm Archdeacon's Visitation at St Michael's, Blundellsands

**Thy Kingdom Come - Global Wave of Prayer - Ascension Day to Pentecost**

27<sup>th</sup> Sat 12noon Wedding of Tom Edwards & Kirsty Barnes

28<sup>th</sup> Sun **Sunday after Ascension Day**  
12noon Baptism Service  
6.30pm Service of Wholeness



## Future Dates for Your Diary

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> June – after the 10am Service – 3 Kenton Close – work will be completed on our curate's house and you are welcome to visit.

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> June – 10am Eucharist – special preacher Canon Cecil Hyland to mark Rev Ted Wood's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his Ordination.

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June – 10.30am Liverpool Cathedral – Ordination of Deacons - Nathan Thorpe

## From the Church Registers

### Infant Baptism

2<sup>nd</sup> April

Alistair James Skelley,  
son of Mike and Vicky



### Adult Baptisms

26<sup>th</sup> March

Harry Roy Williams  
Georgia Bridget Williams



### Interment of Ashes

12<sup>th</sup> April      Brenda Wylie

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)

# Contacts at St Peter's

			(01704)
<b>Vicar</b>	<b>Revd Anne Taylor</b>	<b>St Peter's Vicarage</b>	<b>872824</b>
	<b>(email: revannetaylor@gmail.com)</b>		
<b>Parish Administrators</b>	<b>Tricia Shaw</b>	<b>stpetersformby@gmail.com</b>	<b>871171</b>
	<b>Sonia Greenyer</b>	<b>(Wednesdays)</b>	
<b>Readers</b>	<b>Michael Pitts</b>	<b>45 Freshfield Road</b>	<b>875550</b>
	<b>Peter Davies</b>	<b>44 Trafalgar Road</b>	<b>550768</b>
<b>Wardens</b>	<b>Steve Edwards</b>	<b>57 Brewery Lane</b>	<b>870840</b>
	<b>Andrew Greenyer</b>	<b>46 Woodlands Road</b>	<b>833781</b>
<b>Organist &amp; Choirmaster</b>	<b>Graham Jones</b>	<b>32 Harington Road</b>	<b>876134</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Irvine Rawcliffe</b>	<b>17 Gorsefield</b>	<b>870569</b>
<b>PCC Sec.</b>	<b>Anne Cotsworth</b>	<b>22 Gorse Way</b>	<b>871808</b>
<b>Stewardship</b>	<b>Mike Fletcher</b>	<b>7 Firs Crescent</b>	<b>879755</b>
	<b>email: stewardshipstpeter@gmail.com</b>		
<b>Church Flowers (Sunday rota)</b>	<b>Margaret Dalley</b>	<b>5 Ryeground Lane</b>	<b>874303</b>
	<b>Mary Howard</b>	<b>18 Firs Crescent</b>	<b>874252</b>
<b>Magazine Team Editors</b>	<b>Rod and Sue Jacques</b>	<b>41 Heatherways</b>	<b>879643</b>
	<b>(e-mail: rsjacques@talktalk.net)</b>		
	<b>David Manning-Fox</b>	<b>53D Paradise Lane</b>	<b>833124</b>
	<b>(e-mail: david.manning-fox@tiscali.co.uk)</b>		
	<b>Alison Whiffing</b>	<b>32 Deansgate Lane North</b>	<b>833571</b>
	<b>(e-mail: alisonwhiffing@aol.com)</b>		
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	<b>(e-mail: prdeyes@gmail.com)</b>		
<b>Trinity St Peter's School</b>	<b>Debbie Pringle</b>	<b>Paradise Lane</b>	<b>876391</b>
<b>Social Committee</b>	<b>Shena Edwards</b>	<b>57 Brewery Lane</b>	<b>870840</b>
<b>Representatives at Churches Together in Formby, Altcar and Hightown</b>	<b>John Ryan</b>	<b>9 Lime Tree Way</b>	<b>879947</b>
	<b>Peter Davies</b>	<b>44 Trafalgar Road</b>	<b>550768</b>

**Please note: Friday is the Vicar's day off  
In emergency, please contact either of the Churchwardens**

# Church Organisations

(01704)

**Brownies** Thursdays 6.00 - 7.15pm  
**Contacts:** **Caroline McGarvey** 871171  
stpbrownies@aol.co.uk.

**Beavers** Fridays 5.45 - 6.30pm  
**Contact:** **Gill Jones,** 19 Green Lane, L37 7DJ 874300

**Cubs** Mondays 6.00 - 7.30pm  
**Contact:** **Cat Appleton** 07585 191118

**Scouts** Tuesdays 7.00 - 8.30pm  
**Contact:** **Angela Hughes** 1a Sealand Avenue L37 2HP 871164

**Explorers** Tuesdays 8.30 - 10.00pm  
**Contact:** **Joe Appleton** 07795 225652

**(All the above organisations operate during Term Time only)**

**Mothers' Union**  
**Contact:** **Eleanor Gibson** 64 Gores Lane 874112

**Parish Office** Paradise Lane 871171  
Open Monday to Friday (9.30am - 12 noon)  
email: [stpetersformby@gmail.com](mailto:stpetersformby@gmail.com)

**Parish Hall and Bier House Bookings**  
**Contact:** **Tricia Shaw** Parish Office 871171  
email: [stpetersformby@gmail.com](mailto:stpetersformby@gmail.com)

For further details please refer to our web-site: [www.stpetersformby.org](http://www.stpetersformby.org)

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# Easter Garden

Created by  
Nick  
Philpott  
and Ted  
Woods



## The Easter Bonnet Parade

at the W.O.W.  
Service in March

