

St Peter's Church Magazine June 2020




CROSS OF HOPE

Calling One
You are always with us
both in the day and in the night

You are always with us
in the great sleep and in the bed

You are always with us
when we are in good health or are ill

Today we thank you
that you are always with us
and will never leave us
Amen

You may wish to say a prayer and light a candle
and stand in front of the cross at any time
We have a book of prayers





Ways to Give...

THANK YOU to all who have continued to give financially to the work and mission of our parish through the Parish Giving Scheme, bank transfers, cheque donations and numbered / yellow envelopes. With church services online and normal activities stopped the income is very important and very much appreciated.

Questions have been asked about how to continue to give and hopefully the information below will provide the answers. If you need further information please phone or email the Parish Office, the Stewardship Team or the Vicar.

Website Donate Button There is now a Donate Now button on the St Peter's website. When the button is used Gift Aid can be added.

Bank Transfer – if you would like to make a direct electronic transfer then please use the following with a meaningful reference - St Peters PCC Pledge Account - Sort Code 40-52-40 - Account No. 00020671

Yellow Envelopes – for those who would like to use the yellow envelopes they are available by contacting the Parish Office. These can be posted to the Office or Vicarage.



Brown Numbered Envelopes – The numbered envelopes can be either left at the vicarage or kept until the church is open again.

Cheque Donation – cheques should be made to 'St Peter's PCC', adding name and address on the reverse and be posted to the Parish Office or to the Vicarage.

Parish Giving Scheme – if you would like to join the Parish Giving Scheme please contact the Stewardship Team – Mike Fletcher 879755 or stewardshipstpeter@gmail.com

Gift Aid – if you are a tax payer St Peter's can claim 25% Gift Aid on your donation. This will happen automatically with the yellow and brown envelopes. If you would like to discuss Gift Aid or would like a Gift Aid form please contact the Stewardship Team (details above).

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St Peter's Parish Office, Parish Hall, Paradise Lane, Formby L37 7EH

Cheques / envelopes may be hand delivered or posted to
The Vicarage - St Peter's Vicarage, Cricket Path, Formby L37 7DP

For further information please phone the Parish Office 871171 or email office@stpetersformby.co.uk. www.stpetersformby.co.uk

EDITORIAL

For the past two months we have not had an editorial in the magazine but here we are again. Thanks to Alison and the team members for keeping the magazine going during lockdown. Special thanks go to David who has single-handedly printed all the magazines to date, a great solo effort! And thank you to David, Pauline, Ruth, Sonia, Jenny and the clergy for getting the magazines distributed by deliveries, email and post.

As you will know Nathan has departed to pastures new: St Giles, Aintree. Perhaps you saw the picture of him and Poppy posing with the door key of their vicarage? We wish them both every blessing and assure Nathan that the magazine meetings will never be the same! Perhaps Simon will take over 'Curate's Bad Joke Corner' for on 28th June Simon, our new curate, will be licensed as a lay worker; the date for his ordination is provisionally arranged for 27th September. Welcome, Simon, we hope you enjoy your time with us and we look forward to getting to know you (as the song has it!). As soon as this time of lockdown has passed, as it surely will, you will be able to partake of our hospitality in full.

While we wait for that day, do join in with Sunday worship on the St Peter's website. The evening service is on Zoom. Both have been a source of great comfort and blessing and we are very grateful for all the preparation that has been necessary and for the excellent camera work and editing done by David Holroyd.

While the church building has been closed the parquet floor has been treated and polished, it looks quite wonderful, peek through the window, but it will be even more wonderful when we can walk on it and make it our own place again.

Until then, keep safe, be careful,

Best wishes

The Editorial Team

The magazine is an important means of outreach and keeps everyone informed and in touch with the life of St Peter's Church. The magazine is free, though it would be appreciated if you would like to give a donation towards production costs. If you would like a magazine delivered to your home, please contact the Parish Office.

If you would like to see the magazine in full colour, go to our website

www.stpetersformby.co.uk

*Please note the deadline for the Summer Double July/August 2020 edition of the magazine is **Friday 12th June 2020.***

Contributions to alisonwhiffing@aol.com

Dear Friends,

Lockdown continues, but thankfully, at least at the time of writing, restrictions are slowly being eased and we begin to look forward to the time when churches can first be open for private prayer and reflection, and then for services to be held once more. But of course these things cannot be rushed and we keep in mind those who still live with anxiety and worry.



This is why we should not ease off in watching out for others, **making phone calls to check up and catch up**, and generally being a caring community.

It is great that we can have “virtual” services each Sunday, both pre-recorded for the morning and the live Zoom Evensong in the evening. The united zoom service for Ascension Day, involving the parishes in Formby, Altcar, Hightown and Aintree was a great success. We must say a special word of thanks and appreciation to David Holroyd whose skill and expertise has made all of these services not only possible but also professional.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our Standing Committee – Wardens, Steve & Paul, Lay Chair, Andy, PCC Secretary, Anne and Treasurer, Irvine. They have met with me every week on zoom since lockdown and have all worked tirelessly to make sure St Peter’s can be the best it can be during these difficult times. Thank you to each of them for their time, expertise and good humour.

Thanks to all who have helped keep the grounds of the church tidy – Glyn, Ted, Ian – mowing grass, sweeping paths and pruning shrubs. Thank you also to Elaine, Alison and Sonia from Primetime for re-potting the church pots. Do admire them if you are walking in the church grounds. We also had a generous donation of plants from Porters Fuchsias.

While the church building has been closed the church grounds have been a very important focus. Not only have people very generously left items in the Foodbank box in the church porch but the grounds have been a pilgrimage of prayer. Every day people light candles at the **Cross of Hope**, and there will be another opportunity to meet people’s spiritual needs at this time with a prayer tree.



The pruned holly tree beside the porch looks rather architectural, and while we wait for foliage it gives another great opportunity for a prayer focus. We are going to make it into a ‘**Prayer Tree**’, where prayer requests can be attached to its branches.

This time of lockdown has provided the opportunity for ordinary people to do extraordinary things. Making a phone call or doing some shopping may not seem extraordinary but it has been a life saver to so many. The church is alive and well while we reach out and care for others. The prayer tree gives an opportunity for prayers of thanksgiving as well as of concern.

You may well hear in the news some church leaders saying that virtual is the way to go for churches and their congregations in the future, yet what most of us long for is to worship physically as an actual community. To be able to worship together in a building which has been hallowed by centuries of prayer and worship.

An article in the Church Times speaks of being released “from the prison of church buildings” which “soak up energy and resources.” They talk of moving from ‘going to church’ to ‘becoming the church’ as if these were mutually exclusive.

I believe we need both. Community and actual contact is so important. We are social beings. Yes, we will have learned some new things during lockdown and there will be new behaviours that will continue for the good but we are social beings.

Coming together as a worshipping community gives us the energy and the focus to then go out and be the church. Jesus gathered his disciples to teach and encourage them so they could then go and spread his message of love. I pray that now in our virtual worship you are being encouraged but that also in the future we will gather again to listen to God’s word, hope and love for each and every one.

As we think about what it means to be a church being involved at the beginning of a vicar’s ministry, it is a crucial role. St Peter’s has given Nathan a wonderful start to his ministry and while we said a sad farewell to him last month as he became Vicar of St Giles’ it is also with excitement and anticipation for him in all that lies ahead .



Now we all have the opportunity again to be an encouragement as **Simon Macaulay** begins his ministry with us as our new curate.

The ordination service has had to be postponed until the end of September, but Simon will be licensed as a lay worker on Sunday 28th June. I ask you pray for Simon as he begins his ministry. Obviously this is not the ideal way to start a curacy and try to get to know people but I know he will take it in his stride and we will work out new creative ways for him to quickly become part of the St Peter’s family.

So life continues to be exciting in St Peter’s as together we let God lead and encourage us.

Anne

ST GILES, AINTREE, LIVERPOOL

12th May 2020

Bishop Bev licensed Nathan as the new Vicar of St Giles, Aintree, witnessed by Poppy and Nathan's family, Archdeacon Pete, Anne - his Training Incumbent and still his Area Dean!, our Wardens Paul & Steve and the St Giles PCC Secretary, Louise. We look forward to the time that we can all attend St Giles for Nathan's Installation Service and when we will have him back to St Peter's as a visiting preacher for a proper farewell.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to Nathan's farewell gift there has been a wonderful response and shows how fond of Nathan everyone has been.

At his last service we presented him with a purple chasuble which joins the green chasuble we gave him when he was ordained a priest.

Thank you to everyone who got involved in the thank you video which was added to the pre-recorded farewell service. Also thank to David for editing everything I kept sending him and coping with me saying 'I have an idea!'

If you haven't seen the service it is still available on the St Peter's website.

**<https://stpetersformby.co.uk/our-services/service-sheets>
Morning Service – 10th May 2020**

Well worth watching for the final few minutes!!



Anne, Vicar

About me

I was so excited a few months ago to get to meet some of you at St Peter's, and I'm looking forward even more to meeting the rest of the congregation and getting to work!

It looks now as if I will be ordained deacon towards the end of September so hopefully I will have had chance to move to Formby and settle in before then. It will seem odd to leave Cambridge behind: I've really enjoyed my two years training at Westcott House, but all of us here are eager to move forward and take up our vocations.

Prior to training in Cambridge I worked for almost ten years at Liverpool Cathedral, and I had been a layclerk in the choir for over twenty years. In fact my association with the Cathedral goes back even further, as I joined the Cathedral choir as a treble when I was seven. Prior to working at the Cathedral I was a Civil servant, working in the Home Office in the area of asylum and immigration, which was both fascinating and very challenging. Much of what I learned and experienced in that job gave me the motivation to pursue a priestly vocation.

My sending Church in Liverpool is St Margaret of Antioch, Toxteth, which, I have learned, has longstanding historic links with St Peter's, so it seems all the more appropriate that I am to be assistant curate in Formby.

It will be great to get to know you all once I have moved back up to Liverpool!

With every blessing,

Simon



Grateful Thanks I wish to thank all the 'good Samaritans – they know who they are, that have been looking after me during this difficult time.

As I am not allowed to go into shops due to medical trouble and I would be in a pickle without them! With many thanks, Margaret Dalley

Worship from Home

Each week there is a Sunday morning service to watch as we continue to worship together. The service is filmed in the church and churchyard and thank you to those who have been involved.



Click on the link on our website home page.

<https://stpetersformby.co.uk/>

Services from previous weeks are still available by clicking on Services and then Service Sheets. There is also a service sheet each week that can be printed.



Still worshipping together. Sunday Evensong by Zoom

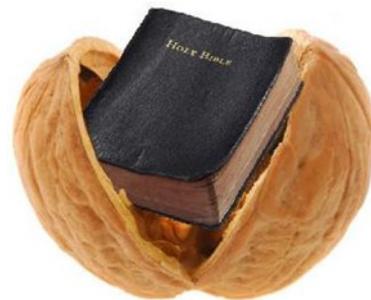
You are welcome to join our Sunday evening Zoom congregation at 6.30pm each week by clicking on the Zoom Services Link on the website Home page.



The Bible in a Nutshell Series is Back!

Ted and I have decided to host a Bible Study by Zoom until everyone can meet again in person. This is a trial for June to see if this is something people would like.

We will have a Zoom talk on **Monday 15th and 29th June at 7.30pm**. It will start with a talk followed by a prayer and then some time for questions and a catch-up. The two sessions will look at two saints who have dedicated days this month – St Barnabas and St Peter. So really **Bible Characters in a Nutshell!**



No prior knowledge needed though the readings for those days are below, which you might like to read. The only issue is you will need to make your own coffee!

We hope you might like to join us and the Zoom link will be on the St Peter's website or email me for more details.

Anne & Ted

June Bible Readings

The Visit of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Elizabeth (1st)

Zephaniah 3: 14-18 / Romans 12: 9-16 / John 20: 19-23

Trinity Sunday 7th

Isaiah 40: 12-17, 27 – 31 / 2 Corinthians 13: 11-13 / Matthew 28: 16-20

St Barnabas the Apostle (11th)

Acts 11: 19-30 / Galatians 2: 1-10 / John 15: 12-17

Sunday 14th

Genesis 18: 1-15 / Romans 5: 1-8 / Matthew 9: 35 – 10:8

Sunday 21st

Genesis 21: 8-21 / Romans 6: 1-11 / Matthew 10: 24-39

The Birth of St John the Baptist

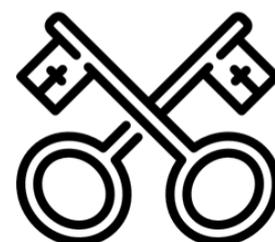
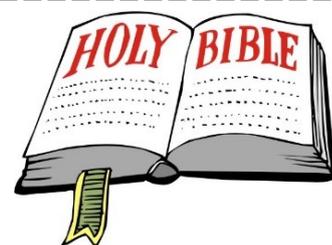
Acts 13: 14-26 / Galatians 3: 23-29 / Luke 1: 57-66, 80

Sunday 28th

Genesis 22: 1-14 / Romans 6: 12-23 / Matthew 10: 40-42

St Peter the Apostle (29th)

Acts 11: 1-18 / Acts 12: 1-11 / Matthew 16: 13-19



Injustice

Over many centuries there have been attempts to define 'a just society'. Sometimes examples of this have been cruelly enforced ending in tragedy with millions of deaths. There are many books extolling the virtues of what the author thinks should be done and how reform should be introduced but it is probably easier to see what is unjust. There are many examples of individuals who expose dishonesty but fighting injustice is not always done by carrying out major reforms but by exposing people or organisations which take advantage of others, and this is made worse when those in authority give the nod to it.

Here are two examples of someone seeing injustice and acting on their anger: one a small blip in history, the other of greater significance.

Lord Cochrane in 1810 was a nationally famous naval captain and became the model for Captain Hornblower and Richard Bolitho. He was very close to his crews and looked after them and gained their devotion. After a period of time in the Mediterranean he had captured a series of merchant vessels and, as demanded by law, handed them over to the Admiralty court in Malta. The task of the court was to assess and obtain the value of the ship and cargo. The money made was called prize money and was shared out between the captain and crew. The task was carried out by two court officials and was regulated by a tariff system which had to be publicly displayed.



Cochrane was eventually sent a note from the court judge saying the vessels handed in to Malta had been sold and that the court costs were not covered by the sale and therefore Cochrane owed them money. This was clearly misconduct by the court but what made Cochrane angry was that his crew had been denied funds.

At this time Cochrane was a known rebel and radical, not trusted by the Admiralty and so he was given no work. He therefore made his way to Malta and on arrival went to the Admiralty court to find the list of tariffs which should be on display. Not finding it he searched the whole court and eventually found it attached to the back of the judges lavatory door. Taking it down, he started his campaign to get justice. He also discovered the two officials who had charged exorbitant fees for consulting each other were the

same person. Afraid of this, the judge demanded the return of the document. Cochrane refused and an arrest warrant was issued. When this was served he was sitting with his naval colleagues and refusing to move so he was carried off to jail still sitting in his chair to the cheers of his fellow officers. On arrival at the jail he refused to buy food and so the court decided to pay for it. For several days he entertained his friends in his cell for dinner. Outside trouble was brewing. The sailors in Malta, well aware of what was happening, were restless and were going to attack the prison.

The Governor of Malta, recognising that Cochrane would not surrender the tariff document, ordered him to escape and issued him with file and rope. Lord Cochrane duly made his exit from the cell window, and left Malta.

This was not the end of it. As an MP he led a debate about fraud in the navy and unrolled the list of charges the Malta court had demanded, to the amusement of the MP's as it covered several yards. He maintained his fight for sailors and their condition which eventually ended in tragedy for him. Cochrane's fight was not to reorder the whole of society but to right injustice.

The other example is very well known which was the clearing of the money changers from the temple by Jesus. Angered by the fraudulent conduct of the financial dealings especially in his Holy Temple he acted in such a way to make it clear such behaviour was intolerable. As with all those who challenge to identify and correct injustice he suffered the consequences.



Carl Bloch (1834-1890), "The Cleansing of the Temple"

Throughout history and today there is fraudulent conduct and it may be better to expose it than to set up a wholly new structure of society. Society has learnt so much from the morality of Christ that the slow change and evolution, based on Christian ethics, could be the way for the future.

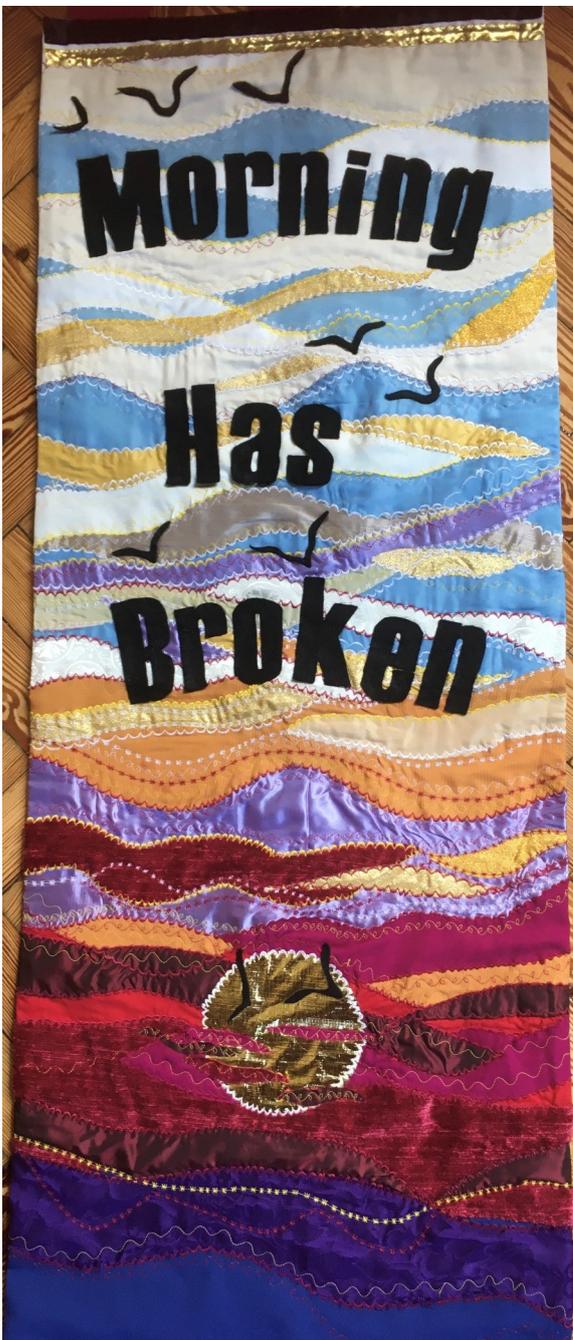
Rod Jacques

New Banners for Church

We are delighted to receive five new banners for the church from Jannice Crawford. They look fabulous and you will be very impressed. The banners had been originally designed for St John's Church in Ainsdale but after renovating the church they no longer needed them.

Jannice gave us the chance to have them in St Peter's and the colouring matches our paintwork so exactly they look as though they were designed for our church. We got first refusal before they went to the Vicar of Grantchester!

Jannice made the banners herself and has agreed to design some more for different seasons of the church year. Thank you, Jannice, we really appreciate your skill and generosity



SAINTLY SYMBOLS IN JUNE

TRINITY SUNDAY - 7th June

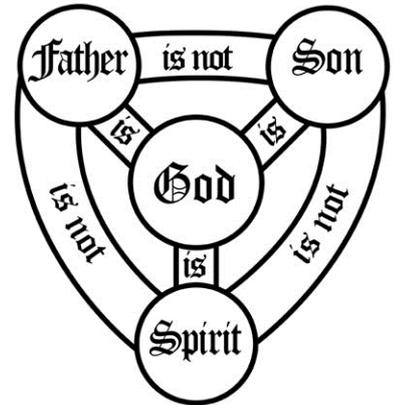
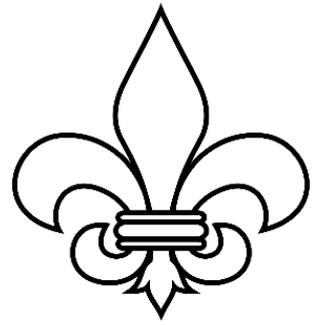
The doctrine of the Trinity – three persons in one God – has always been difficult to explain, but sometimes art can help us to understand its meaning.



This what is sometimes called the “Trinity Knot” – an interlocking three-leafed shape that is often associated with Celtic art and design.

Other similar trefoil representations are the Fleur de Lis and the shamrock, accredited to St. Patrick.

A wandering eye in some cathedrals might see the “Shield of the Trinity” painted on the ceiling. It lays out the doctrine of the Trinity both in words and diagram.



ST BARNABAS - 11th June

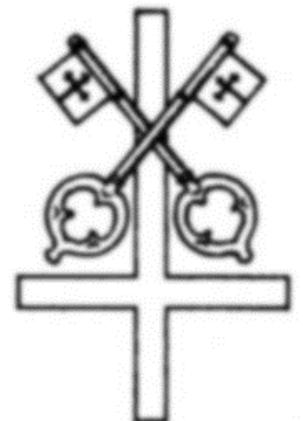


Though not one of the twelve disciples, Barnabas played a crucial role in the life of the early church. We first come across him in Acts 4:36 when he sold a field in his native Cyprus and gave the proceeds to fund the emerging church. Barnabas saved two key figures to the great benefit of Christianity. First, St Paul, about whose sudden conversion the disciples were suspicious. It was Barnabas who vouched for Paul’s sincerity and genuineness and had him accepted by the leaders of the church. And then Barnabas saved Mark – the writer of the first Gospel.

The young Mark had accompanied Barnabas and Paul on the first missionary journey, but soon got cold feet and returned home. Paul called him a quitter but Barnabas stood by Mark and encouraged him. (Barnabas means ‘The Son of Encouragement’). Mark blossomed and grew, becoming Peter’s right-hand man, and eventually being the first to write a Gospel. Barnabas is depicted holding a Gospel. Tradition has it that he was stoned to death, hence the three stones.

ST PETER - 29th June

The traditional symbol of Peter is keys. In Matthew 16:19, Jesus said to Peter, “I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven.” Tradition has it that Peter suffered a martyr’s death by crucifixion in Rome in AD64. But he asked to be crucified upside down as he felt unworthy to die as Jesus did. So the cross is inverted. Next time you are in St Peter’s Church look for the cross keys – there are lots!





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If you would like some guidance, please feel free to come and have a chat with me, or alternatively please contact me on **07926 587776**

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EYAM 1666

The present restrictions of lockdown and self-imposed isolation bring to mind the story of the village of Eyam in the Derbyshire Peak District.

When the bubonic plague broke out in the village in 1666, the village was put into quarantine to prevent the spread of the plague to neighbouring towns and villages. It came with a huge cost – of the 330 residents, 259 died of the plague.

The plague travelled to Eyam in a bundle of clothes sent from someone who died in London to the local tailor in Eyam. Popular legend says that the villagers chose to self-quarantine, but later historians have disputed this, quoting records showing that the city of Sheffield employed constables to patrol the borders of the village to prevent movement. But whether imposed or self-imposed, it was a remarkable act of sacrifice, although some did flee Eyam to escape the plague and its consequences. Deaths were concentrated among the poorer households, though the Vicar's wife, Catherine Mompesson, died from the plague while he continued to minister and give leadership to his flock.

Food and medicine were left by the boundary of the village by neighbours and were paid for by money left in vinegar filled holes on the top of the boundary stone to prevent infection.

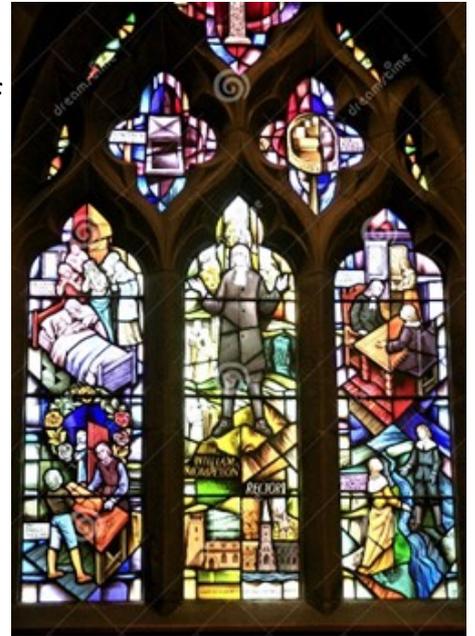
And yes, the church was closed! However, the Vicar, unhampered by advice from the Archbishop of Canterbury was able to lead services in a grassy dell where social distancing could be practised.



And there was the sad love story of Emmott Sydall from Eyam and her fiancé, Rowland Torre. Rowland was from the neighbouring village of Middleton Dale. They came each day to look lovingly at each other from a distance. This continued for some time until one day Emmott failed to appear. The desperate Rowland continued to come to the meeting place each day, but Emmott never appeared. It was only after quarantine was lifted that he found out that she had died from the plague many months before.

Whether imposed or self-imposed, the quarantine of Eyam did prevent the spread of the plague and Eyam is rightly commemorated for its heroic and sacrificial response involving the death of 80% of its inhabitants. The Revd William Mompesson, the Vicar, described it as “Our town has become Golgotha, the place of a skull.”

Eyam is a popular destination today and has many venues, including the church, which record their response to the plague of 1666. “Plague Sunday” is commemorated on the last Sunday in August.



The Plague window in Eyam Church

Weekly Prayers for our Parish

Each Sunday we pray for the residents who live in our parish and during the year every street is included in our prayer rota.

We thank David Manning-Fox for up-dating the list and making sure every road is included.



During June please pray for all who live in -

7th June –

St Anne's Road, St Anne's Path, St Anne's Close, Brewery Lane

14th June –

West Lane, Stanley Road, Rimmers Avenue, Massams Lane

21st June –

Gregsons Avenue, Queens Avenue, Argarmeols Road, Argarmeols Grove

28th June –

Mersey Avenue, The Birches, Fisherman's Close, Stanlawe Road



Trinity St. Peter's

Church of England Primary School

where children shine

In the Queen's speech for VE Day, she said '...but our streets are not empty; they are filled with the love and the care that we have for each other.'

This can also be said for Trinity St Peter's. Our school may be temporarily closed for many of our pupils, but it is not empty; it is filled with the love and the care that all within our school family have for each other.

It still seems surreal that the doors of our beloved school were closed to nearly every one of our pupils on Friday 20th March, to keep us all safe and protect the NHS.

On Monday 23rd March we opened our doors as an emergency, last resort childcare for pupils whose parents work is critical to the COVID-19 Response. In order to maintain the high-quality education of our pupils, the school website became the tool to provide online learning to ensure all pupils received a quality education.

The quickness and the smoothness of the turnaround is testament to the hard work and dedication of school staff and governors and the wonderful spirit of togetherness throughout our school community. Our school family. All working incredibly hard together to support one another and keep one another safe.

We have been so grateful for the many emails we have received from parents which have been full of love, care and support for staff and their families; commending the school on our online provision, affording many home-based learning opportunities and excellent communication throughout this unsettling time.

Also recognising the difficulties and demands placed on schools showing such empathy, kindness, and compassion. We are a community that really do care about every single pupil and their families too.

There have been so many wonderful acts of kindness: school parents setting up local support groups for anybody in the Formby area; parents and pupils celebrating staff as their Stars of the Week on Twitter; creating class videos and sharing photographs and emails of what children have been up to, have all been incredibly heart-warming. It has been wonderful to see so many of our pupils in their class catch up on Zoom meetings too.

In school, our wonderful key worker children have created bunting, which is now displayed in the Critical Care Unit in Aintree Hospital. Mrs Warwick, a

Teaching Assistant, has also been busy making paired hearts for patients and their families; ear savers for the key workers using face masks (to protect their ears) and crochet hearts which she hangs from the tree in her front garden for passers-by to take as they wish. She has also been asked by a friend at the Liverpool Women's Hospital to make more!

As a whole staff team, including clergy, we created a short video to share our appreciation to some of the people who are helping and supporting us all at this moment in time whilst also wanting to reassure our pupils that we are all safe and well. We chose the song 'Get Up' by King's Daughters because it is full of optimism and gratitude, which is very much in line with our school values. The group is also kindly donating some of their proceeds to 'Mind,' the UK's leading mental health charity, which we annually support on 'Hello Yellow' Day.



Making this video has made us appreciate even more how fortunate we have been to create our whole school videos over the last few years, which have celebrated all of the kindness within our school community and brought us all so much joy and laughter. We hope it won't be too long before we are all able to do this together again.

We were also delighted to see one of our pupils appear on a national advert promoting the importance of taking care of ourselves and one another.

This really is the time for everyone to put our mission statement and school mottos into practice and choose both kindly and wisely for themselves and for others. The kind words and actions continue to show what a wonderful school family we are.

I pray that we all stay safe and continue to support one another. Together we are always stronger.

Debbie Pringle, Headteacher

Scouting activities continue in lockdown with a night camp



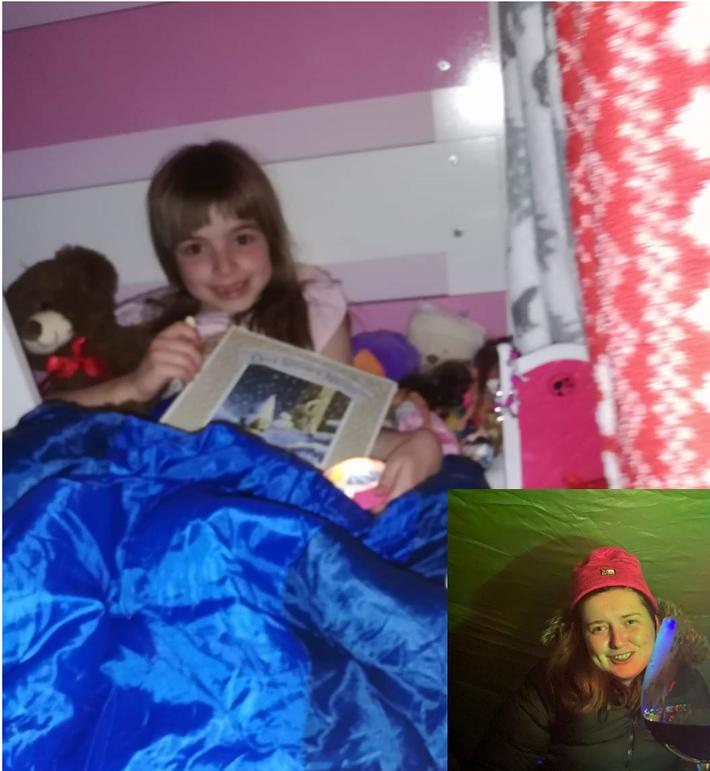
2 Beavers, 21 Cubs, 12 Scouts and 5 Explorers took part. They all camped out in a variety of tents and dens. It was a very warm Saturday and was also a perfect time for a camp fire and marshmallows!





An AMAZING 1525 members of Girlguiding Sefton from Rainbows to Trefoil Guild joined in our county sleepover on May 2nd making it, quite probably, the best attended county event EVER 🎉👏❤️👍

Those taking part had to sleep somewhere that wasn't their bed and so sleeping places included: baths, balconies, tents, paddling pools, hammocks, dens, under tables, on trampolines, and even in a canoe



A HUGE THANK YOU TO EVERYONE who has dropped items into the Foodbank boxes in the church porch or sent financial donations. Your help is very much appreciated and helps the most vulnerable at this time of national crisis. Many of the usual sources of donations for the Foodbank are not operating at this time and the Foodbank is really pleased with the extra help that has been provided by St Peter's.

The Church Porch is open 10am to 5pm each day for donations. The boxes are emptied regularly during the day. Outside those times there is a box on the Vicarage doorstep on Cricket Path.

The items particularly needed are: UHT Long Life Milk, Tinned Meat, Long Life Juice or Cordial and Jam.

The Foodbank has plenty of – Soup, Baby Food, Pasta, Ladies' Sanitary items, Baked Beans.

For those self-isolating, donations are appreciated either directly to the Southport Foodbank – www.southport.foodbank.org.uk - or to the Vicar and items needed by the Foodbank will be bought on your behalf. If you are out for a walk you might consider leaving an item in the box.



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PEOPLE IN CRISIS

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YOUR HELP.**



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**Each week there is a story,
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with a puzzle sheet. Using cartoons,
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Hosted for Defra by
the Bumblebee
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in support of Bees'
Needs: Food and a
Home



You don't need to keep bees to be a bee-keeper. At home, in your street, at work or at school, you can help the 270 or more different types of bee by growing the right plants, improving local spaces for pollinators and avoiding pesticides.

Simple actions can make sure we are the generation to save Britain's bees. According to a report by World Wide Fund in 2019, 17 species of bees had become regionally extinct in the UK, with 25 other types marked as threatened and another 31 of conservation concern.



Bees are vital to our way of life because they pollinate food crops, fertilising plants so that they can produce fruit, vegetables, seeds. According to the Bumblebee Conservation Trust, pollination is worth £691 million to the UK economy. Bees and other insect pollinators together pollinate 87 per cent of all plant species, and about 75 per cent of crop species; without bees it has been estimated that supermarkets may have half the amount of fruit and vegetables.

The extinction of bees could lead to a significant disruption in our food supply chains, drive up the price of fresh produce, and likely cause famine in poorer regions, according to a number of wildlife organisations.



"Without them, we would have no apples, tomatoes, strawberries, peppers, cherries, chocolate, coffee, and much much more. We could not feed the human population; billions would starve," Dave Goulson, Professor of Biology at the University of Sussex specialising in the ecology and conservation of insects, said in an interview.

These simple actions can help pollinators and make sure their populations are sustained:

- 1. Grow more flowers, shrubs and trees that are rich in nectar and pollen.**
- 2. Leave patches of your garden to grow wild.**
- 3. Cut your grass less often.**
- 4. Don't disturb insect nest and hibernation spots. If you are worried about a nest, do not destroy it. Instead contact your local beekeeper for assistance or a Beekeeping Society who will help.**
- 5. Think very carefully about whether to use pesticides or weed killer.**
- 6. Support your local beekeeper.**
- 7. If you see a bee in the house that is tired from flying. Leave a spoonful of sugar mixed with water, just a drop will do. The bee will consume this and will regain enough energy to be fit enough to fly away.**



Remember: Bees only sting you if they feel threatened.

<https://www.bumblebeeconservation.org/bees-needs/>

<https://friendsoftheearth.uk/bees/20-facts-you-need-know-about-bees>

<https://www.rhs.org.uk/advice/profile?pid=528>

WORDS

They come naturally to us from the first sounds we uttered as babies, and all our lives we have communicated with one another through them.

For the past couple of months, words have been very scarce in many households and workplaces, they have been replaced with thoughts. The telephone, the i-pad and computer have been a boon to us oldies who have to self-isolate for health reasons, and I must admit that the "lines" have been hot for hours on end from my phone.



For my birthday my son and grand-daughter clubbed together and bought me an i-pad which was already set up so that all I have to do is press a button and we can talk and see one-another. It is great, as I have not been able to see Kayleigh since her wedding and now I can see her new home. She takes me on tours of the house, showing me rooms, the kitchen and conservatory and garden, and the antics of her two cats. What an invention!

Since not being able to see my friends I have turned to books for the words I badly need. Cookery books have been opened and recipes read and acted upon. I have had some lovely meals from them and it is such a shame that I cannot share any of them with my friends. The words were there all the time but I had no time to see them. Grannie's recipe for parkin is delicious, but I had to freeze half as there was too much and I can't stand wasting food.

Since not being able to attend church I have resorted to reading the Daily Office prayer book. Through it I have seen plenty of words from the bible, as there are lots of bible readings each day. Some of the stories are fascinating and again I am just learning from them as I go.

It has been a strange year for me. At Christmas I should have gone to my son in Scotland for a few weeks, but both he and his wife were very ill and I had to stay home alone. They were very ill for about six weeks and are sure that they caught "it" when they went to Manchester Christmas Shopping. Then Mother's Day and my birthday were celebrated on my own as Lockdown had come. I said a few bad words about that as my party had to be cancelled.

As a child I went to Sunday School where we sang a hymn. One of the verses went like this:-

Little deeds of kindness, little words of love,

Make our earth an Eden, like the heaven above.

During the last couple of months I have thought of those words, as I have never known such care and thoughtfulness, and had as much help as I have had from my lovely neighbours.

The words they have spoken to me and the care that they have shown have been the best words in the world.

Martha.



A free phone line of hymns,
reflections and prayers



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

A CHRISTIAN PRESENCE IN EVERY COMMUNITY

The Archbishop of Canterbury has launched a free national phone line as a simple new way to bring worship and prayer into people's homes while church buildings are closed because of the coronavirus. Daily Hope offers hymns, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line.

The line – which is available 24 hours a day on **0800 804 8044** – has been set up particularly with those unable to join online church services during the period of restrictions in mind. Although thousands of churches are now running services online, many people do not have access to the internet. The line also recognises the impact of social distancing restrictions and self-isolation measures on those suffering from loneliness.

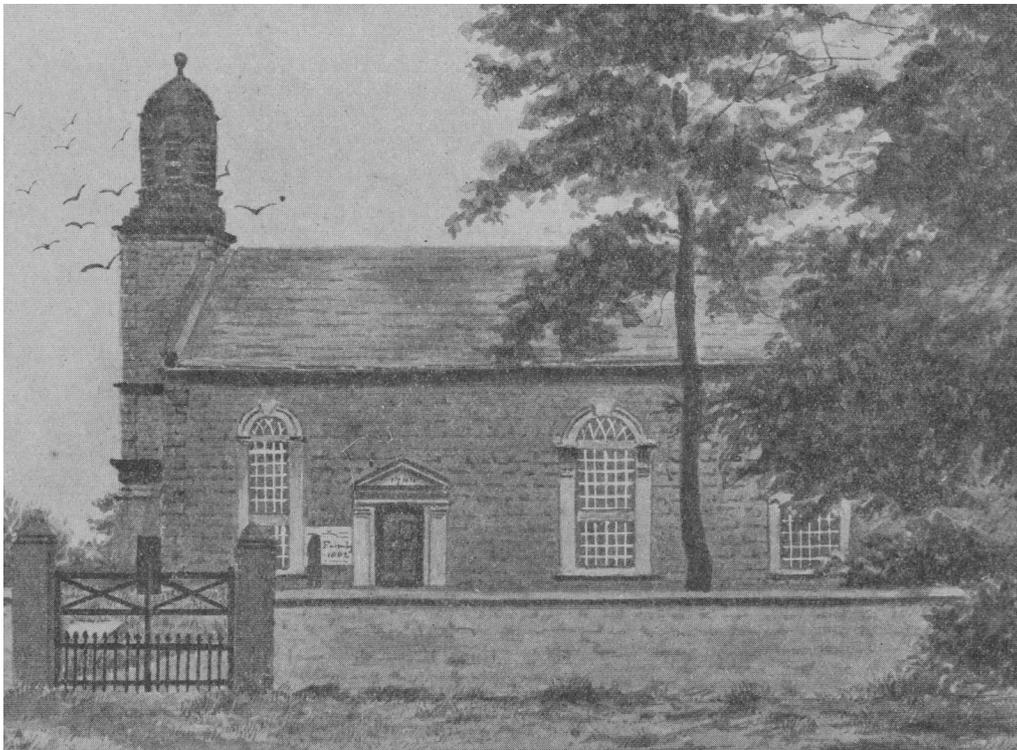
ST LUKE'S CHURCH AND THE PAROCHIAL CHAPEL OF ST PETER

Despite Formby having lost its bookshops over the years, there still remain a good number of different kinds of books that describe varying aspects of our local history and which provide a valuable bank of information for anyone wishing to learn more of our past and our heritage. There is one aspect, however, in which we fall short and that is any updated chronological history of our township that pulls together the present and the more distant past: the only exception was that of the Formby Society's "Viking Village: the Story of Formby", edited by Edith Kelly in 1982 with illustrations by Muriel Sibley and Mildred Wason. It is now out-of-print but happily can be bought either in second-hand bookshops or online.

Yet, it is always worthwhile taking the time to revisit our story and perhaps in these strange times we might turn our thoughts to the corner of Formby in which St Luke's Church lies and remind ourselves of what may have been here in the past. We can try to construct our picture with the help of 'Viking Village' and the Victoria County History (VCH), available now online but originally produced in large book format in 1899 when a project was set up to write the history of every county in England.

Formby's first religious house was situated in the area close to the present-day church, though no one is sure just where exactly. It was known as Formby Chapel – or 'Formby Parochial Chapel' - though there are suggestions that it originally may have been named Ravenmeols Chapel. Its original dedication was to St Peter and this dedication was later taken for use for the 18th century church that replaced it after damage by storm and wind. At the time of the Norman Conquest, Formby lay in the 'Hundred' of West Derby, a hundred being an area of a 'shire' divided up for military purposes as well as for legal issues and law-keeping within the Norman feudal system. Within the Hundred of West Derby there were six 'Parishes' and Formby belonged to the Parish of Walton-on-the-Hill. The church at Walton has some Anglo-Saxon remains though the building itself has been entirely rebuilt; however, it is likely that the Formby Chapel was constructed initially after the Normans had settled their lands and probably after the Domesday Book of 1086. There are occasional records reminding us of the link to Walton-on-the-Hill, such as the record that states that in the early 13th century the mother-church owned land for ploughing in Ravenmeols and that in 1334 a settlement was made of a dispute regarding the tithes of a Fishery that existed at Ravenmeols between the Rectors of Walton and Sefton.

How, then, was Formby organised in 1086 and why was Ravenmeols significant at that time? The Domesday Book describes our community as being divided into 3 parts: Formby, Ravenmeols and Ainsdale. Formby comprised "three manors" held by "three thegns" – a thegn being an Anglo-Saxon term for a fairly substantial landowner and a manor was the area of land over which he had rights and privileges. In 1086 its size was 4 carucates (roughly the amount of land a plough team of 8 oxen could till in a season). Ravenmeols also had three thegns and was estimated as being three-quarters the size of Formby, and Ainsdale had three thegns holding 2 carucates of land. So, Ravenmeols was of some size and value. Who were these thegns? We do not know and, indeed, they may have been the same people holding the land in each of the three parts. Did they retain their lands following the Conquest? Again, we do not know. However, it is more than likely that the Chapel was sited in what was then an area of Ravenmeols. The encroachment of the sea on the land is nothing new and by the late 13th century about half of the area of Ravenmeols was lost to water. By 1289, with the reduction in the size of Ravenmeols, what land remained was bought by the Molyneux family of Sefton and eventually purchased in 1757 by the Formby family.



What the effects of this would have been on Chapel and community we cannot tell, but one of the original reasons for the building of the Chapel where it was must surely have been allied to a community living in that area. Edward Baines ("History of Lancashire" 1836) refers to a statement in 1660 that the Chapel was even then "Ancient" and that "In 1746 the Church was transferred to its present position ie the church of St Peter's was built in Green Lane. The original site, once the centre of the village, being near the sea, was, owing to the increasing inroads of the drifting sand, left a lonely and desolate burying-ground, in a wilderness of sandhills." The churchyard remained in use for local burials right through the period until the new church of St Luke's was consecrated in 1855.

Do we know any more about what Formby Chapel may have been like other than the fact that it had fallen foul of terrible storms? As it happens, we do know a little. It was a small rectangular building and there are suggestions it may have measured no more than 15 feet wide by 30 feet long, though that cannot be verified. We are fortunate to have the accounts for 1705 -1730 from which we can glean such information as the following:

It was coloured white due to the use of lime on the walls.

It had a small tower with at least one bell and a bell-house window.

It contained an hour-glass, presumably to restrain the minister from over-lengthy homilies.

There was a Communion Table with a set of Laudian Rails.

The level of the Chancel had been raised in 1728 with stone that had come from nearby Clieves Hill (on this ie western side of Ormskirk).

It had a medieval font.

It had a sundial in the churchyard, later taken to St Peter's Church.

It was the home for the medieval Godstone ... but that is worth an article all on its own!

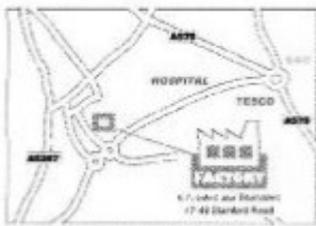
John Phillips (Chair of Formby Civic Society)

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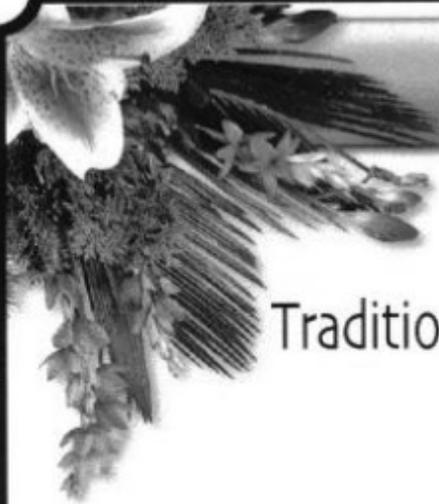
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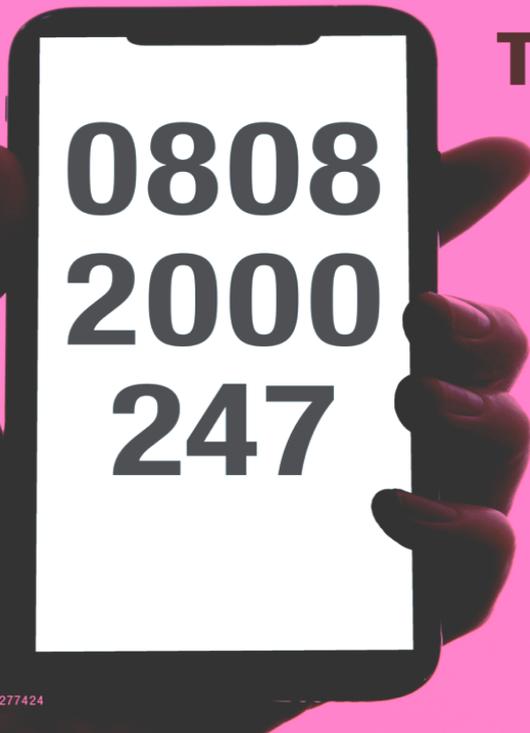
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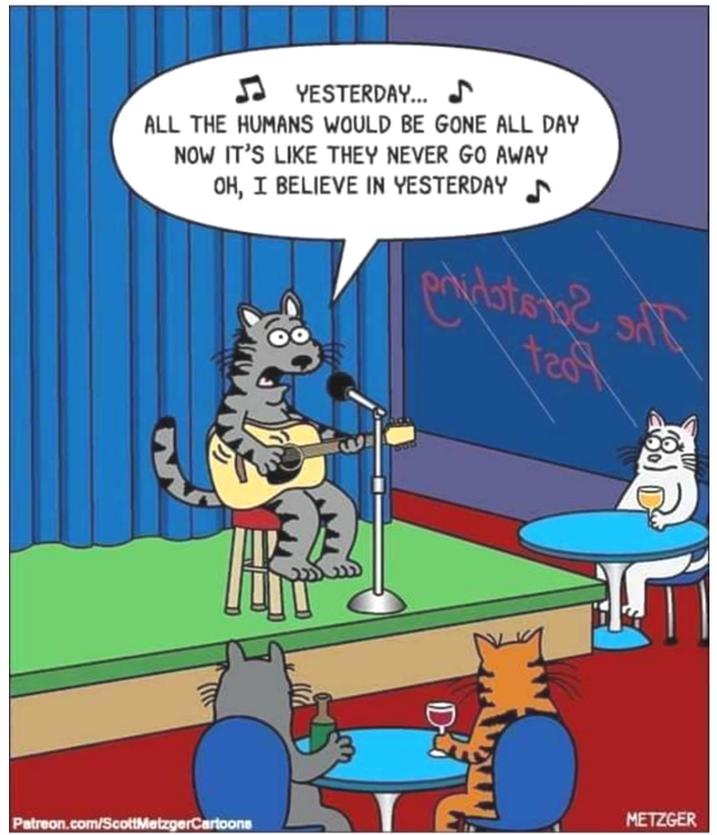
EMAIL DIRECTORY We have a parish email directory which is used once or twice a month to send out dates for the month and also when a special event is coming up. If you would like to be added to the email list, please send an email to **office@stpetersformby.co.uk**.

This is a way to help us keep in touch.

Email addresses will be used only by St Peter's.



All these humans with muzzles! Who did they bite?



Twelve Disciples

B	O	A	T	F	I	S	H	E	R	M	E	N	E
T	I	P	E	S	E	L	P	I	C	S	I	D	W
T	E	A	C	H	I	T	E	O	M	G	D	T	M
I	N	S	T	E	W	T	T	I	I	N	E	H	S
P	S	E	T	F	O	M	O	J	M	I	E	P	I
T	G	L	P	R	L	A	P	O	U	H	L	R	M
H	J	Y	H	E	L	R	P	H	J	C	I	A	O
O	A	S	I	E	O	E	P	N	L	A	L	Y	N
M	M	T	L	A	F	T	P	I	L	E	A	E	E
A	E	E	I	A	D	E	E	I	M	R	G	R	I
S	S	T	P	T	B	P	E	E	R	P	O	A	P
A	J	A	N	D	R	E	W	H	T	N	E	T	S
E	L	F	T	C	M	E	E	S	A	D	U	J	E
O	H	S	W	E	H	T	T	A	M	L	I	L	P

- PRAYER
- PHILIP
- THOMAS
- FOLLOW
- BOAT
- JOHN
- NETS
- DISCIPLES
- ANDREW
- PETER
- SIMON
- PREACHING
- TEACH
- GALILEE
- MATTHEW
- JAMES
- JUDAS
- FISHERMEN

I visited a monastery and as I walked past the kitchen I saw a man frying chips.

I asked him "Are you the friar?" He replied "No, I'm the chip monk..."



As I get older, all I need in life is a Specsavers, a Boots and a Greggs...

Yep, life is all specs and drugs and sausage rolls!



HOW DO COURT RECORDERS KEEP STRAIGHT FACES????

These are from a book called 'Disorder in the American Court' and are things people actually said in Court, word for word, taken down and published by Court recorders who had the torment of staying calm while the exchanges were taking place.

ATTORNEY: What was the first thing your husband said to you that morning?

WITNESS: He said, 'Where am I, Cathy?'

ATTORNEY: And why did that upset you?

WITNESS: My name is Susan!

ATTORNEY: What gear were you in at the moment of the impact?

WITNESS: Gucci sweats and Reeboks.

ATTORNEY: What is your date of birth?

WITNESS: July 18th.

ATTORNEY: What year?

WITNESS: Every year.

ATTORNEY: Now doctor, isn't it true that when a person dies in his sleep, he doesn't know about it until the next morning?

WITNESS: Did you actually pass the bar exam?

ATTORNEY: She had three children, right?

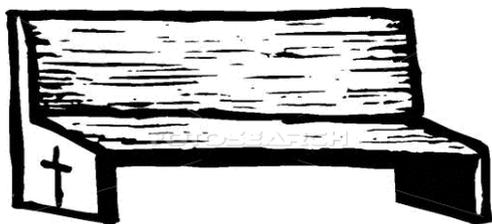
WITNESS: Yes.

ATTORNEY: How many were boys?

WITNESS: None.

ATTORNEY: Were there any girls?

WITNESS: Your Honor, I think I need a different attorney. Can I get a new attorney?



From the Back Pew Ted Woods

The **A B C** of Lockdown in St Peter's

- A** **Archbishops** who closed the churches for funerals and private prayer - aaargh!!!
- B** **Bells** – we've rung St Peter's bells every Thursday for the NHS.
- C** The **church** may be closed but the Standing Committee is busy working behind the scenes.
- D** **David "MGM" Holroyd.** Thanks for excellent video and zoom services. But we do miss our own choir.
- E** **Empty** church, empty halls. Hurry up, vaccine.
- F** **Food Bank.** A phenomenal response in the Church Porch which is greatly appreciated by the Food Bank in Southport.
- G** **Grounded.** We remember all those still self-isolating after getting a letter from the NHS and express **gratitude** to all who are helping them.
- H** **Hatchment.** The Formby coat of arms has been expertly cleaned by Steve. Thanks!
- I** **Idle.** The Vicar hasn't had time to be idle! It's an **illusory** concept in St Peter's!
- J** **July 4th.** When churches are allowed to open again. Watch this space.
- K** **Knackered.** It's strange how lockdown has made us all feel so weary.
- L** **LFC** - Longing for church again – and for Liverpool to win the league!

- M Magazine.** Well done, to Alison and the team. A great read during lockdown – as always!
- N Nathan.** Wishing you all the best in St Giles. You'll get a proper send-off asap.
- O An Opportunity** to be neighbourly – and to do some much needed spring cleaning – no excuse!
- P The Peace.** Shaking hands will not be allowed for some time.
- Q Queues.** Will we have 2 metre markings on the path up to the church – and up the aisle?
- R Rainbow Cross of Hope.** A place to pray and light a candle in the churchyard.
- S Simon Macaulay.** Welcome to St Peter's as you prepare to come as our new curate.
- T The New Normal.** Now what will that be like?
- U Uganda.** Good News! The 600 chickens are growing and thriving. Vivian's operation has been successful. They are still in lockdown too and have recently been hit by floods.
- V Virtual Church.** My dictionary defines 'virtual' as "invisible efficacy without the material part." Virtual Church online is no substitute for the real thing. Having said that, it's great to have so many virtual worshippers from far and wide.
- W Weddings.** All, bar one, have been postponed until next year.
- X** Kissing is also banned at the peace!
- Y Yawn.** One of the advantages of online services is that you can sit and watch it in your pyjamas – or in bed!!
- Z ZOOM.** Where would we be without it?!

From the Church Registers

Funerals

11 th May	Elsie Evans
12 th May	Margaret Forrest
20 th May	Paul Birkbeck
22 nd May	Doreen Rimmer
22 nd May	David Perkin
28 th May	Joan Trappe
2 nd June	Catherine Pope
2 nd June	Jonathan Foster



**Gracious God, we come before you,
drawn by the power of your welcoming love.
We come with our sorrows and joys.
We come with our expectations
and apprehensions.
We come with what we have done.
We come as who we are.
In your love we find peace and hope.
Amen.**



Dementia
friendly church



Churches Together are on Facebook

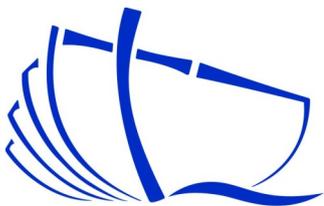
Look for Churches Together in Formby, Altcar and Hightown to keep up with all the events.



Contacts at St Peter's

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Stewardship	Mike Fletcher stewardshipstpeter@gmail.com	879755
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**For further details please refer to our website:
www.stpetersformby.co.uk**



**Diocese of
Liverpool**

**Diocese of Liverpool Website
www.liverpool.anglican.org**

St Peter's Church was originally "The Ancient Chapelry of Formby, St Peter Apostle and Martyr." It dates from the 12th 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 19th July 1747.

Thank you to everyone who expresses their thanks to the NHS and keyworkers on a Thursday evening.



Let us help all those who are working so hard to keep us safe and well, know that we appreciate them.

to the **COURIERS,**
 **DELIVERY DRIVERS &**
POSTIES

Thank You
for keeping the cogs turning!



thank you to our
bus workers




#ThankYouBusWorkers

THANK YOU
NHS STAFF
RETAIL STAFF
REFUSE STAFF
KEY WORKERS
DELIVERY DRIVERS
+ ALL 
OTHERS
YOU ALL MATTER

ALL OUR GRATITUDE GOES TO THOSE WORKERS AT HEALTH SERVICES, SUPERMARKETS, BANKS, PHARMACIES, PETROL STATIONS, CONVENIENCE STORES, FREIGHT, LOGISTICS, HOME DELIVERY AND ALL OTHER ESSENTIAL SERVICES!

THANK YOU!