

St Peter's Church Magazine ~ June 2021



June Services

The Eucharist every Wednesday at 11am in church.

The services at 10.30am and 6.30pm each Sunday will be live streamed and the link is available on our website.

Sunday 6th June

9am & 10.30am Eucharist

12noon Children's Haribo Service in church

6.30pm Evensong



Sunday 13th June

9am Eucharist

10.30am Eucharist & Baptism

6.30pm Evensong

Sunday 20th June

9am & 10.30am Eucharist

6.30pm Evensong

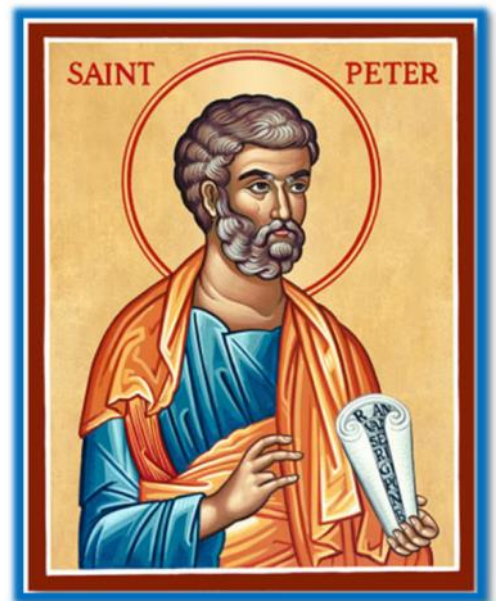
Sunday 27th June – St Peter's Day

9am & 10.30am Eucharist

6.30pm Evensong

Wednesday 30th June

2pm WOW – worship for pre-school children in church



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.

FRONT COVER:

Scaffolding around St Peter's Church. See centre pages for details.

EDITORIAL

It is 'flaming June' already and the longest day is nearly here. For many the past year must have seemed inordinately long but now we are double-jabbed, confident and optimistic, ready for summer. Evensong is back at its traditional time of 6.30pm on Sundays with choir. It is being live streamed, much to many people's appreciation, and baptisms and weddings have returned. Dare we hope that we are coming into brighter times?

On June 29th we celebrate SS Peter and Paul, otherwise June is a quiet month in the church's year but not at St P's. The scaffolding is up and work on the roof is underway; a 'drone' film of the work would be interesting. We hope you like the topical cover! There is an appeal for donations towards the considerable cost of the roof repairs, £25,000, details of which are in a separate, detailed article in the centre pages of the magazine.

Reminder - should you notice a new family moving into your area please could you tell the office? We are printing welcome cards and will deliver a copy of the magazine and a card to the newcomer as a greeting and for information about the parish.

Shirley Potter has left for a new home nearer her family in Manchester. We must record our sincere gratitude to Shirley for the remarkable work she did for St Peter's as church warden, for all the expertise and support she gave to the PCC and in the countless ways that she supported our life and worship. We thank you Shirley and wish you every happiness in the future.

The retirement of Peter Deyes from the editorial team left a sorry gap in the team but good news, we can welcome Elaine Almond who has agreed to join our happy band! We are delighted to welcome her aboard and sincerely hope that she enjoys her time with us. With every good wish,

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.

Donations can be made via the safe QR code link (shown) or by clicking on '**donate here**' on the magazine page of our website - stpetersformby.co.uk/parish-magazines



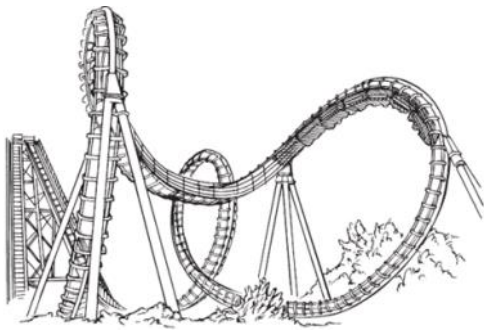
If you would like a magazine delivered to your home, please contact the Parish Office.

Coronavirus
Keep your
distance
Please follow the
Government guidelines



*Please note the deadline for the summer July/August 2021 edition of the magazine is **Friday 4th June 2021**. Contributions to **magazine@stpetersformby.co.uk**.*

Dear Friends,



Life has been an emotional rollercoaster over this past year and just when we thought it was about to slow down it took off again and took us on another emotional loop - the loop with the Indian variant in Sefton. For so many these 'we are nearly there' days have been some of the hardest. Plus, there is everything else that life throws at us. We need to be gentle with ourselves and with others.

Often when we use our cycle of prayer which covers all the roads in our parish I think to myself of so many people behind so many doors and hope and pray that, whatever is happening in each home, people will have a sense of God's love with them. The cycle of prayer is in each magazine and I encourage you to use it regularly in your prayers as we continue to be a caring community.

Next year we celebrate 275 years since our church was consecrated. 275 years as a worshipping, Christian community in this place. Just imagine how many weddings, baptisms, confirmations, funerals and other church services have been held in St Peter's Church during those years!

275th

So many people see St Peter's as holding special significance in their lives. It has been a place where people have laughed and celebrated together and also where they have comforted each other in times of sadness. Regardless of the picture the national media may paint at times of a declining church, that is not our experience here in St Peter's, and I hope and pray that we all look forward with a sense of positivity and that for many more people St Peter's will have a special influence on their lives.

Of course we can't sit back and think we have everything sussed because we don't! We need to keep building for the future. Which is why I based my talk at the recent APCM on the four missional priorities of strategic transformation that our diocese is focusing on –

- ❖ **Introducing people to Jesus**
- ❖ **Deepening discipleship**
- ❖ **Developing Christian leaders**
- ❖ **Working for justice.**



Many people will say that this past year has made them realise what is really important in life. As so many of the things that filled our lives were reduced or stopped it gave time to realise what are the real priorities.

As we look forward to a less restricted world and our 275th celebrations we should, as a church, also re-assess what is important and the missional priorities help us do just that.

❖ **Introducing people to Jesus**

We have some parishioners who are brilliant inviters, who are happy to encourage someone to come along and see what we are like in St Peter's. The live stream is now a very easy way of sussing us out without having to come through the door! If worshipping in St Peter's is important to us then there is a really good chance that if we invite someone to join us it will be important to them as well. Plus, when people do venture in we must make sure we make the first move and say hello. I know it is not easy with face masks and no coffee after services but let us have the aim that no one leaves without someone other than the vicar saying hello. The attitudes and actions of the people in a church reflects the sort of God they believe in – let our reflection of God be one that is loving, caring and inclusive.

❖ **Deepening discipleship**

We have had many good courses to help us all grow in our faith and in our knowledge of the Bible. Can we all make an effort to engage in the talks and bible study groups, or use the bible study notes that Marilyn Siddons-Smith organises? A positive aim for everyone is to follow the Diocesan Rule of Life which has six disciplines – pray, read, learn: sent to tell, serve, give. www.ruleoflife.org.uk

❖ **Developing Christian leaders**

Ted in his Back Pew article expands on recognising that we are all called to serve God and use our gifts. This may mean stepping outside our comfort zone and responding to God's prompts. We need to encourage God's particular calling in other people at home, in school, at work, as well as to all forms of service and leadership within and beyond the Church.

❖ **Working for justice.**

This is an area that we are very strong in as a parish. We have our partnership with the church, Women's Project and school in Kalule, Uganda. We annually support a variety of charities and the response to the Foodbank has been brilliant. We are working towards a Gold Eco Church Award and our work with those living with dementia as well as asylum seekers is really important.

IF YOU
WANT PEACE,
WORK FOR
JUSTICE.

—Pope Paul VI

What else can we do? How else can we make our voice heard for those who feel they have no voice? We need to treat all God's children with justice, whether inside or outside the church and to discern the particular needs of our community and find ways to serve them.

Let us have a new and clear focus as we build on the foundations of those who have worshipped and served God in St Peter's in the past and present. Let us build on the amazing work by so many during the pandemic in keeping our church vibrant. As we have all been aware of what is really important to us over the past year may we as a parish know our priorities as we move into a brighter future.

Anne

From the Church Registers

Baptism

16th May

Matthew Winston,
son of Michael and
Victoria Skelley .



Sunday Club

On Zoom we did the story of doubting Thomas, the friend of Jesus who didn't believe the other disciples when they said they had seen Jesus.

Jesus appeared during this supper and then Thomas really did believe.

Continuing with another meal for our next Zoom, we had the story of the Breakfast on the Beach. We compared it to a picnic on Formby beach but Jesus' friends were fishing. The children had to shout out 'Yes' or 'No' as to whether they caught any fish.

We had our youngest baby ever on Zoom last week. Levison, 10 days old, joined us with his proud sister, Aria. Congratulations, Katie and Rory.



Parish Administrator – Sonia Greenyer

We are sad to report that Sonia is stepping down as our Parish Administrator from 8th June. Sonia has enjoyed five years in this role and we thank her for all that she has done for the parish.

It is important that callers are met with a friendly and confident person, and in Sonia, St Peter's had that person. Sonia's organisational skills and tremendous eye for detail will be greatly missed. The role of Parish Administrator covers many aspects of parish life, including Mailchimp, finance, bookings; to say nothing of having to deal with Clergy and Churchwardens.

We say a big 'Thank You' to Sonia and wish her well for the future.

It is our pleasure to announce that Caroline Speakman will now work in the office for five days – we are still in good hands.

Vicar & Churchwardens

Children's Service

Date: Sunday 6th June at 12noon

Children's Haribo Service in church

Sunday Club by Zoom

Dates: 13th & 20th June



WOW Service Worship on Wednesday is a service designed for pre-school children. The children from Nursery and Reception from Trinity St Peter's join us for this service which is held at 2pm.

Date: Wednesday 30th June 2pm in church
Everyone is very welcome.





Church Closed in Lockdown? NO WAY

Live services with viewers near and far
A balcony choir singing like stars
Evensong Zoom with laughter and chats
Showing us ways we could relax.

Our church was dressed in Christmas lights
To brighten up those dark nights
Eggs and posies made their way
To show St Peter's cared on Easter Day.

The church stood proud with beautiful displays
On window sills and flowers to amaze
The monthly magazine kept us up to date
With the latest gossip and news to relate.

To Anne and all helpers we give our thanks
To David, the music and technology champ,
We won't forget these vibrant times
When our church portrayed such positive signs.

Judith Aspinwall

BANNERS

I have been asked to make some additional banners for the church of which I am delighted to do.

There will be a banner for each season of Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter and Pentecost. Also, a St Peter's Banner.

Although I am working on these by myself, I feel that the work could also be shared with anyone who like textiles and embroidery.

There are a number of symbolic applique images and I was wondering if there is anyone who would like to join me in producing these banners.

Please contact Jannice Crawford on 01704 576160 for more details.

Once we can meet in each other's homes, we could come together in fellowship to work on these banners for our church.

Thank you.

Jannice

Weekly Prayers for our Parish

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



During June please pray for all who live in –

- 6th June Alderson Crescent, Church Road, Church Close, Formby Gardens
- 13th June Cable Street, The Hamptons, Dobbs Drive, Ryeground Lane
- 20th June New Road, Clifton Road, Deansgate Lane, Mounthouse Road
- 27th June Mounthouse Close, Longfield, Primrose Close, Smithy Green

June Bible Readings

3rd June – Day of Thanksgiving for the Institution of the Holy Communion

Genesis 14:18-20 / 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 / John 6:51-58

6th June – 1st Sunday after Trinity

1 Samuel 8:4-20 / 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1 / Mark 3:20-35

11th June – St Barnabas the Apostle

Job 29:11-16 / Acts 11:19-30 / John 15:12-17

13th June – 2nd Sunday after Trinity

1 Samuel 15:34-16:13 / 2 Corinthians 5:6-17 / Mark 4:26-34

20th June – 3rd Sunday after Trinity

1 Samuel 17:57-18:5, 10-16 / 2 Corinthians 6:1-13 / Mark 4:35-41

24th June – Birth of John the Baptist

Isaiah 40:1-11 / Acts 13:14b-26 / Luke 1:57-66, 80

27th June – 4th Sunday after Trinity / St Peter's Day

Ezekiel 3:22-27 / Acts 12:1-11 / Matthew 16:13-19

29th June – St Peter & St Paul Apostles

Zechariah 4:1-6a, 10b-14 / 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18 / John 21:15-22



Footsteps in the Field

In Grasmere, Cumbria, there is a lane leading from the village to Easedale Tarn but before the road narrows to a farm track there is a right turn which leads to a lovely small valley typical of Lakeland. This road leads along the valley to a drover's bridge and nearby there is a small field bordered by a stream. This field, we are told on a plaque on the bridge, was bought in memory of someone's wife. It is such a pleasant place and a wonderful way to remember a person. I wondered if the husband walked round the field with his memories of her. Certainly the local farmer who used the field must have done.



Now we are in Spring the blossoming of flowers brings our links with the countryside to the fore. In the Christian calendar Spring is marked with Rogation Sunday. Country parishes would hold a service in the fields to bless the land and seek a good harvest. Farmers, parishes and clergy would know the areas involved and work and hope to see them well cared for.

It was during spring that the beating of the bounds would take place. This meant the clergy with people and church officials would walk round the whole parish boundary. This would ensure that the limits of the parish were properly defined and the authority of the church 'stamped on the ground.' The point about this custom was to know your territory and understand how the land was used and maintained. It has been said the best fertilizer is the farmer's footprint.

Prison governors were expected to walk the boundary of their estate. This was easy in a walled environment but I remember one governor complaining because he ran an open prison with a large farm attached.

The relationship between land and the church has always been close but now it seems to have become more distant. Rural churches are being deconsecrated and left unused. Some in poor repair are being saved by the Friends of Friendless Churches who do important work putting the church in good repair and open for walkers etc. Entering an empty church is a lovely experience and the peace makes self-reflection an immediate sensation.



Whole programmes are on television about the saving of the countryside; they emphasize the many efforts to save species and create reserves, often encouraging the help of children. Not so long ago the local vicar would have been seen as involved with this but now the idea of providing a blessing for these enterprises seems to have disappeared, although a programme about an heritage railway did have a bishop bless a newly acquired train.



There have been attempts to help create closer links between the countryside and the church with the appointment of agricultural chaplains and rural officers. Perhaps rural societies could appoint their own chaplain?

The countryside is such a valuable part of our lives; we need the church to help it maintain its importance. This would provide a guide to the theology of the countryside and show how God's world allows faith to prosper.

Rod Jacques

Illustrations from wood carvings by Rod Jacques

House Boxes

The year 2021 marks the 140th anniversary of The Children's Society's founding by Sunday School teacher Edward Rudolf.

House Box Holders have made such a difference for many young people in a year which has been so harmful for so many of them. The pandemic has made many of the problems children were already facing – for example low well-being, poverty and abuse – even worse.



Support from House Boxes made sure that young people never lost hope.

If you would like a box at home to collect your change – please find a spare one in the Church porch. (Please complete a new box holder registration form and return to me).

As a parish we raised over £530 in the last six months – so Thank You for your continued support.

Tricia Shaw Children's Society regional manager for St Peter's Church, Formby.
For more information please contact office@stpetersformby.co.uk

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APCM Review 2021

At the Annual Parish Council Meeting we report on the events of the past year and look forward to the future. But this year was slightly different as we held the 2020 APCM in October last year due to lockdown. We also make appointments and this year the following were elected –

Churchwardens: Paul McHenry & Sarah Gorman.

PCC Members elected: Fiona Martin, Gill Holroyd, Keith Millington, Mark Andrews, Tricia Barrett and Vicky Hall.

Thank You

Shirley Potter has moved to Sale to be close to her family – we thank Shirley for her friendship and good humour as she took on being churchwarden, chair of finance and sacristan amongst other roles. Mike Fletcher is moving with his family to The Midlands and we express our sincere gratitude to the phenomenal work he has undertaken with stewardship as well as being a member of the choir. Revd Canon Alison Woodhouse is moving to Lytham St Anne's and we thank her for her ministry amongst us.

2021 Electoral Roll - There are 188 names on the Electoral Roll (119 resident & 69 non-resident in the parish). If you would like your name included there are forms available in church or contact our Electoral Roll Officer, David Manning-Fox.

The PCC consists of:

The Clergy: Anne & Simon

Churchwardens: Paul & Sarah

Deanery Synod Reps: Michael Pitts, John Ryan, Cliff Cotsworth, Susan Flaxington

Elected Members

Mark Andrews, Tricia Barrett, Jannice Crawford, Anne Cotsworth, Joanne Dean, Pat Downey, Shena Edwards, Steve Edwards, Andrew Greenyer, Vicky Hall, Gill Holroyd, Rod Jacques, Fiona Martin, Keith Millington, Irvine Rawcliffe.

Sub-committees: each of the PCC is assigned to a sub-committee and this list will be in our next magazine.

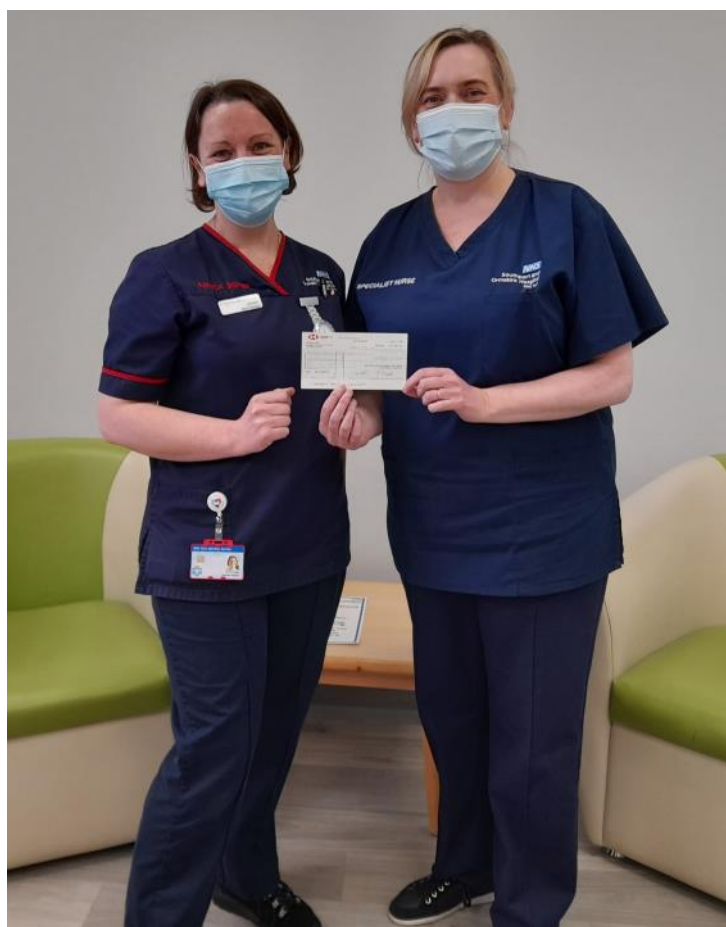
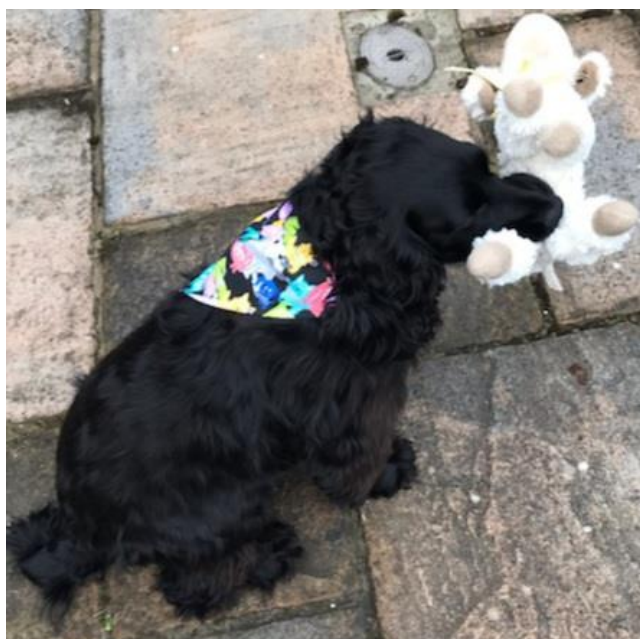
Copies of the PCC Accounts are available in church.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Throughout January to end of April, the elves at Formby Rotary have continued making face coverings and are thrilled to let you know that because of your generosity in supporting this project, £900 has been donated to the Medical Day Unit at Southport & Ormskirk Hospital. Rachel Chidley, Haematology Nurse Specialist and Gemma Alston, Senior Nurse at the Unit, are pictured with the cheque and are thrilled with the donation which will go to patient care, and staff training in the Unit. Many of our supporters have told us that irrespective of any rule changes which may come in, they plan to continue wearing face coverings, so we are planning to keep making them until December at least. They are three-layer, 100% cotton, and will help to keep us safer.

We are also making a range of
Doggie Bandanas.

Like the face coverings they are also just a £3 donation, so if you have a four-legged friend why not treat him or her! They slip over the collar and you can get yours from Animal World, Formby Post Office and Prides Hairdressers. They have masks too, along with Select Stationers (Church Road), Spar Green Lane and Walkers Pharmacy Harington Road.



Gemma left and Rachel right

Also pictured is cocker spaniel Dolly wearing her lovely bandana (medium) while helping Mum work from home. Thank you Dolly! The next charity we will be supporting is Southport Soup Kitchen, who support the homeless and families in need.

Mothers' UNION

It is hopeful that we can have our Strawberry Tea. Date and venue to be confirmed.

We will continue to collect items for our three projects, knitted woollens and magazines for Seafarers, loose cash for disadvantaged children in the yellow bucket and toiletries for refugees. The specific items for collection for refugees are sponges and flannels.

Please note that in future our Corporate Communion will be held on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 11.00 am, not as previously on the 2nd Wednesday of the month.

A note for diaries: We will be celebrating Mary Sumner Day in Church on Sunday, 7th August.

We will rejoice at coming together again after so long a separation.

We will always remember Myra and her dedication to the MU.

The end of Lockdown will be a mixture of relief and joy at recovery of freedom and, for some, apprehension at venturing into the outside world again.

We think of MU members in other parts of the world suffering the ravages and terrors of Covid on a scale we have not known, whom we remember in our Wave of Prayer.

Herbert and Jean



"I don't call myself religious, I am a Christ follower. If you talk just about being religious, people can refer to traditions and facts that damage the reputation of Christianity, which, on the contrary, is such a rich thing. Jesus is much more than a religion."

Alisson Becker, Goalkeeper LFC



Certificate of Appreciation

awarded to: **St Peters Saturday Crew**

Thank you for your kind donation of shoebox gifts

Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it for me.

Matthew 25:40

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bernard Cocker', written over a horizontal line.

Charity Registration Number: 1086597

Rev Bernard Cocker

Founder & CEO, April 2021

Dear Anne and all friends from the
'Saturday Crew'

Thankyou very much for kindly
filling shoebox gifts, despite the
challenges of the pandemic!

As you know, each box brings
great joy to the person who receives
it, and you are making a lot of
people very happy.

Thankyou again
for all your support.
With every blessing
from all at

International Aid Trust

ROOF APPEAL

Some years ago there was a major project to repair the church roof and this work has proved very successful but unfortunately we have some new problems.

- ❖ Whilst investigating damp in the sacristy we discovered part of the small flat roof between the sloping slate roofs is starting to collapse due to rot. The sacristy roof is immediately above the organ so this work is urgent.
- ❖ Then on four areas on the roof we found the joints in-between the coping stones to be degraded. This has necessitated the repointing of the joints of all the coping stone cappings which hadn't been included in the original roof project.



This is the reason that damp is so obvious in church on the arch above the lectern and on the back wall of the balcony.

It has always been our plan to look after St Peter's Church as well as we can and this work is very important not only to protect the organ but to keep our church in the best possible condition for future years. All the work has been agreed in consultation with our Architect, Robbie Bell, and the cost will be £25,000.

We want to draw your attention to the work because once the scaffolding is removed it will not be obvious that work has been required. This is work that we could not budget for, so want to give you the opportunity to make a donation to the Roof Appeal. If we raise more money than required for the roof the excess money will be put into other fabric projects.

Next year we celebrate the 275th anniversary of the consecration of our church and we want to preserve this very special place of worship for generations to come.





If you would like to give a donation please use the yellow envelope with this magazine and clearly mark it 'Roof Appeal.'

If you are a UK taxpayer, please complete the Gift Aid declaration; it increases the value of your donation by 25%.



Donations can be brought to any church service or to the Parish Office. Donations can also be made by bank transfer to St Peters PCC Account - Sort Code 40-52-40 Account No. 00020671 – please mark your donation Roof/Surname. It is also possible to donate using contactless payment (in church or the Parish Office) or by using the St Peter's website donation button.

All contributions will be greatly appreciated. If you have any questions please talk to the Clergy or Churchwardens.

Thank you.

ECO-FRIENDLY CHURCH

Some Attitudes to Christian Environmentalism (4)

Not everyone sings the praises of Christian environmentalism, or even agrees that there is such a movement, despite the biblical support for it. Generally speaking those who disregard it fall into two groups.

The first group is non-Christian (and some Christian) eco-campaigners who believe that, regardless of biblical teaching, centuries of Judaeo-Christian tradition have favoured unfettered exploitation of the earth, whether animal, vegetable or mineral, for the selfish interests of humankind alone. Some eco-warriors have gone to extremes with this theme, such as Orin Gelderloos and Lyn White. Gelderloos wrote in 1992: "With almost no interest in the doctrine of creation, practices involving stewardship of creation have disappeared in most organised Judeo-Christian religions. As a consequence, species, living components of the creation, are exterminated, entire eco-systems are destroyed without the slightest concern for the well-being of the creatures, habitats which are filled with great bio-diversity are used as dumping places for toxic substances, and the integrity of the created order is ignored."

Similarly, Lyn White is quoted as saying that "Christianity, in absolute contrast to ancient paganism and Asia's religions, not only established a dualism of man and nature but also insisted that it is God's will that man exploit nature for his proper ends."

Some people trace the roots of this antagonism right back to the book of Genesis and the instruction attributed to God that mankind should *have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth* (Gen. 1.26, Authorised Version). More modern translations have "rule" or "subdue" rather than "have dominion", but the essence is the same and presumably all these translations reflect the literal meaning of the original Hebrew. In chapter 2, however, the command to Adam in the Garden of Eden is that he should "dress it and keep it" (Gen. 2.15, AV) or to "work it and take care of it" (NIV). That is the sense—caring and stewardship—in which most of us now understand God's intention for our attitude to the earth, and I believe it is reflected in the biblical threads I have described in earlier articles.

Even so, there are those—and this is the second group—who hold to the view that as Christians they have no need to concern themselves with the environment.

In earlier articles I have referred to the intertwined threads of creation and redemption running through the Bible, both in the Hebrew Scriptures and in the writings of St Paul. These threads somehow became separated in some Christian thinking after the Reformation, and while Luther and Calvin are both said to have had an appreciation of nature their followers generally preferred to emphasise salvation of the individual over respect for creation. Ludwig Feuerbach (1804-1872) wrote that "Nature, the world, has no value, no interest for the Christian. The Christian thinks of himself and the salvation of his soul." Gelderloos writes that this "climaxed in the so-called neo-Reformation theology of Karl Barth and Rudolf Bultmann, as well as in the thought of Soren Kierkegaard with his hatred of everything that smacks of everyday life, his hatred of all natural forms of life."

Such views might seem strange to most of us today but as recently as the 1990s the vicar of a church in our diocese was railing in the press that environmental concerns were irrelevant to the Christian faith. Even more recently a suggestion that Pope Francis might be "paving the way for spirit-worship in a desperate attempt to tackle a shortage priests in the Amazon" (The Times) has generated fears that the Amazonian people's veneration of nature might tip the church into nature-worship. A cardinal has criticised a related document for "its focus on nature being God's creation". Whilst we must be clear that respect for God's creation is not nature-worship, I think we should be equally clear that nature is indeed God's creation, and as an integral part of that creation we have a duty to take care of it. It is my firm belief that this is what the Bible tells us and I hope if you have read this far you agree!

Garth Raybould, Reader at Holy Trinity Church



We thank Garth for his inspiring articles over the past four months.

The Magazine Committee

Croquet is amazing!



If walking through a secluded part of Victoria Park, you hear the sounds of mallets striking balls followed by cries of glee or anguish, you have found Southport and Birkdale Croquet Club, one of the oldest sporting clubs in Southport. Croquet has been played here for more than a hundred years in one of the most picturesque sporting settings in the area. The historic clubhouse was opened in 1904 and is still fully used today, adorned inside with some historic photographs presenting an interesting and practical base for the club activities.

Forget the 'posh' reputation and fantasy tales of Alice in Wonderland, croquet can be a highly competitive and serious sport for young and old, male or female, all competing on equal terms. It is also a wonderful social game played between friends for pleasure and relaxation. Playing croquet in the sunshine on a magnificently manicured lawn is one of life's greatest pleasures.

Over the decades, Southport has hosted national and regional tournaments, as well as international matches, and witnessed many of the nations leading players exhibiting their skills. The club manages five league teams, playing matches all over the North West, in addition to many competitions for club members.

The club has about 70 members and croquet is played at all levels from beginners to experts. Coaching is readily available at various levels and all equipment is supplied; however, many players prefer to buy their own mallets.

If you are capable of swinging a 1m long mallet, why not try croquet? A sport involving thinking and strategic skills along with good hand-eye co-ordination, (think of Snooker on grass), a sport to maintain cerebral skills and a modicum of fitness. Why not give it a try?

Free one hour taster sessions will be taking place in the first 2 weeks of June. Following this you may like to join our coaching sessions which would be £20 for 4 two hour lessons. Hope to see you there!

Pauline Rooney

REDUCE - REUSE - RECYCLE and REPAIR

If you read this in the June magazine then I have made the hat-trick of articles, which will be of great satisfaction (surprise really!) to me but less so to you.

So before I go on let me assure you that my life has not been one of saving the planet. I worked in the car industry for many luxury brands and also put so many new cars on the road for my personal use. I also travelled so much that I was on first name terms with airport, hire-car and hotel check-in staff. Having stopped working I vowed to never set foot on an aircraft again but failed dismally a while ago with long haul flight and a big liner to get home.

I point the finger at me as much as anyone.

Let's look at coffee capsules as an example of trying to go green which highlights some typical issues. One brand will take your used capsules back by selling you bags to put them in and then you drop them off at a courier drop-off point and they recycle them. This brand of capsule is made of aluminium, 1g to be precise. To make 1 ton of aluminium from the ore takes about 11 tons of CO₂ into the atmosphere (11g for 1g). To recycle it takes about 1 ton of CO₂ to clean, heat it up etc. (so 1g per 1g). So that part of the recycle task is good. Don't forget the brand is making up to £1,750 per tonne profit for 1 million capsules returned.

However, if you take one full bag (with 30 capsules) in the car to the courier collection point, then if the car engine is cold it will emit about 2 times the CO₂ per mile until warm and about 60% more other pollutants for the first 2 miles. So for a 4 mile return trip across Formby you will have added about 600g of CO₂ to the atmosphere for even a medium-sized car. You will have saved 30 x 10g (11g – 1g) or 300g of CO₂ per bag. If you take 3 bags this will make a saving of 900g. The planet breaks even at 2 bags, and wins with 3 bags (300g of CO₂) and this ignores plenty of other sources of pollution.

Of course, if you walk or cycle to the courier collection point then you have saved the full 900g of CO₂.

Advice – cut open the capsule (fingers!), empty the coffee out and put the capsule in your recycling bin. You can even buy a device to make emptying the capsule easier but this itself is made of metal and plastic, and took energy (CO₂) to make, doooh!

Be very careful about your recycling as you may do more harm than good! We all need to look for the facts about what we are doing. Google tells all!

Mark Andrews



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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**

Caroline Speakman Member of the Society of Willwriters

Email: cspeakmanestateplanning@gmail.com

Phone: 07926 587776

Website: www.southportwills.com

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THANK YOU for your continued financial support for the work and mission of our parish.

With so much turmoil over this past year your support has been very important and much appreciated.



ALTERNATIVE WAYS OF GIVING

Yellow & Brown Numbered Envelopes – envelopes can be brought to any church service, posted/delivered to the Parish Office or Vicarage, collected by the Stewardship Team or you can adopt another option from those below.

Parish Giving Scheme – if you would like to join or move to the Parish Giving Scheme as a regular donor, please contact the Stewardship Team. This can now be done online or by telephone.

BACS Transfer – one-off general donations can be made by direct electronic transfer. Please use the following with a meaningful reference -

Account name St Peters PCC Formby - Sort Code 40-52-40 - Account No. 00020671.

Website – one-off general donations can easily be made via the Donate button on the Stewardship tab on the website. For Uganda Project, see button on Uganda tab.

Contactless Payment – it is now possible to use your card to give a donation through contactless payment either in church or in the Parish Office.

Cheque – cheques should be made to St Peters PCC Formby, adding your name and address on the reverse and be posted to the Parish Office or to the Vicarage.

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 and/or would like to complete an enduring a Gift Aid form, please contact the Stewardship Team.

If you need further information, please phone or email the Stewardship Team.

Stewardship Team –Mike Fletcher 01704 879755 or Caroline Speakman (Parish Office) or email stewardshipstpeter@gmail.com

St Peter's Parish Office,
St Peter's Parish Hall, Paradise Lane, Formby L37 7EH
Tel: 01704 871171 email office@stpetersformby.co.uk



Questions a Vicar Gets Asked!!



Question: What difference do the new Marriage Laws make for couples being married in the Church of England?

Couples are still required to have a Qualifying Connection if they are not living in the parish or they are not on the Electoral Roll of the church where they are to marry. Banns of marriage will still be read or a licence required.

There are two main changes:

The mothers of the bride and groom are now included on the marriage document. Previously we only asked the couple who their fathers were! The bride and groom can name up to four parents each so that along with their biological parents they may include adoptive or step-parents. Couples can choose not to include any parents on the document.

The other major change is that the Vicar is no longer the one to issue a marriage licence. Once a marriage document has been signed by the couple, witnesses and the clergy, it is returned to the Register Office. A marriage licence for any weddings, including those which have already taken place, will now be issued by applying to the Register Office. The Vicar is no longer required to make returns to the Register Office about the weddings they have conducted.

I was very fortunate that Carol Hughes looked after this job and I thank her for taking on the responsibility for the wedding returns - it has been a great help.

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE

who has dropped items into the Foodbank boxes in the Church Porch or sent financial donations.

The Church Porch remains open every day from 10am to 5pm for donations. The boxes are emptied regularly during the day.

*We are in contact with the Foodbank and some of the items that are needed are: **Coffee, Hot Chocolate, Pot Noodles & Mug Shots, 1 Litre bottles of Squash, Crisps, Cartons of Juice, Gravy, Jams & Spreads, Tinned Potatoes.***



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PEOPLE IN CRISIS
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The Foodbank has plenty of – Soup, Pasta and Baked Beans.

*It is also possible to make a financial donation directly to the Foodbank by visiting their website. www.southport.foodbank.org.uk **Many thanks.***

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Derek had evidently forgotten that he was no longer preaching on Zoom!

Astronomers got tired of watching the moon go round the earth for 24 hours.

So they decided to call it a day.

If you boil a funny bone it becomes a laughing stock.

That's humerus.

Peter's Confession of Christ

"But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" Matthew 16:15 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 16:13-20 (NIV)



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

CHRIST
BLESSED
LIVING
JOHN

EARTH
KINGDOM
ROCK
HEAVEN

SON
CHURCH
FATHER
PETER

PROPHETS
GATES
HADES
KEYS

PEOPLE
BAPTIST
ELIJAH
JEREMIAH

"My wife said I should do lunges to stay in shape. That would be a big step forward."

"Why do fathers take an extra pair of socks when they go golfing?" "In case they get a hole in one!"

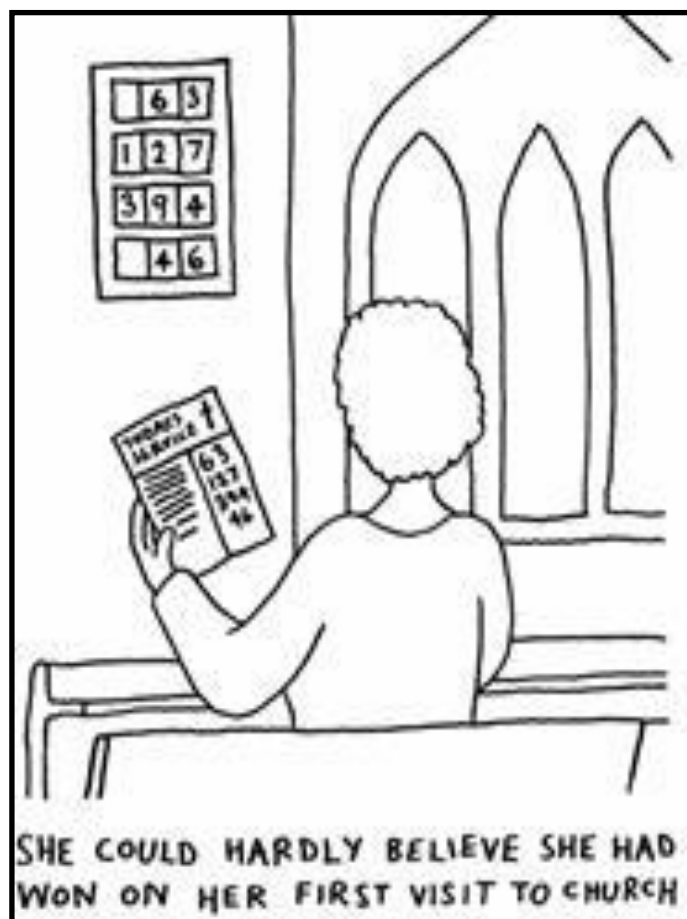
"Singing in the shower is fun until you get soap in your mouth. Then it's a soap opera."

"What do you call a fish wearing a bowtie?" "Sofishticated."

"If April showers bring May flowers, what do May flowers bring?"
"Pilgrims."

*"Everyone you meet is fighting a battle
you know nothing about.
Be kind. Always."*

—
ROBIN WILLIAMS



Diamond Wedding celebrations Thursday 3rd June

Margaret Sandys of Paradise Lane and Alan Woods of Deansgate Lane were married by Revd Jack Thomas at St Peter's Church on Saturday 3rd June 1961. A reception at the Grapes Hotel followed.



They will celebrate their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on 3rd of June this year.

Margaret was Christened at St Peters in 1940. She was a member of the Church Choir from the age of seven until the birth of their first child in 1964. They both taught in the Sunday School and were members of St Peters Youth Club for several years. Alan served as a sidesman and was a member of the CEMS (Church of England Men's Society).

Following the wedding they moved to Waterloo where they lived for nearly two years before returning to Formby. They have two daughters and two granddaughters.

Diamond
∞
60

How things had changed by the time of our Golden Wedding anniversary in 2011.





MEMORIES

Arthur and
(the late) Sue Siddall were
married
at Holy Trinity Church on
29th May, 1971

This year would have been
their Golden Wedding
Anniversary



Editors Note: Apologies to Alan and Margaret, and Arthur and his family for reproducing the wrong photo in the May edition of the magazine.

Church Flowers

Many people have special days in the year which they commemorate and flowers on the altar of St Peter's Church can fittingly mark the special event.

We invite you to remember your family and friends with a donation towards our Church flowers. Suggested donation is £20.

The occasion would also be printed in the Sunday bulletin.

***Please first contact the Parish Office on 871171
for more details and to reserve your date.***



We should be grateful if you would make donations either by yellow envelope marked "Flowers" or direct to the following account:

Account Name:	ST PETERS PCC FORMBY
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Account Number:	00020671

***Thank you to everyone who has already given donations
towards the weekly flowers.***



From the Back Pew Ted Woods

A PLACE IN THE PLAN

I've been involved in vocations work for over 20 years both in Dublin and Liverpool. It's been fascinating, if a little daunting, at times.

Basically, those involved in this work are trying to ascertain whether someone's sense of vocation is genuine.

There are two aspects to vocation – the individual's feeling that God is calling them, and the church's verification of that call. This is usually done by means of a Selection Conference called a BAP (Bishops' Advisory Panel), where candidates are interviewed by trained advisers to discern genuine vocations.



In between these two processes comes the DDO – the Diocesan Director of Ordinands – who acts as a kind of middle man or woman, and advises the bishop who makes the ultimate decision of who goes to a BAP.

There are as many ways of feeling called as there are people, so the work is always interesting and varied. But a common experience of those who feel they have a sense of vocation is that it is something that doesn't go away. And this can last for years. They try to put it out of their minds, but it keeps re-appearing. It's like a persistent itch! It can be treated for a while but then it comes back!

I have met with many people who felt a sense of vocation in their youth, but then work and marriage and children happened and it got put on the back burner. But it never went away and later in life they decided to do something about it.

Another response is 'Why me?'

For a number of years, young people with a sense of vocation were advised by the church first to go and 'get experience of life'. This advice has since been scrapped but the message lingers on. Don't heed it. I can assure you that you get more experience of life in a curacy in a large parish than anywhere else. All human life is there!

But vocation isn't always to ordained ministry. God calls people to many ministries and services – not just in the church but in the wider society. The common element is service.

Ordination is just one of many vocations to serve the church and the world. It's about finding and using the gifts that God has given us whether as a career or as a volunteer.

In St Peter's, many people are using their gifts in many and varied ways. We have those gifted with organisational abilities, artistic abilities, musical abilities, those reaching out to meet the needs of society whether through events for those suffering from dementia and their carers or foodbanks, those with teaching skills, gardening skills, welcoming skills and so on.

Some of these means of service have been put on hold in the past year because of the pandemic, but as we look forward to parish life re-emerging in full in September, there will be renewed opportunities for service.

Plans are being finalised for the celebration of **St Peter's 275**. There will be many opportunities for service and involvement.

Much has been developed in the parish around children's ministry with Sunday Club, the after-school Fishy Club and the Haribo services. But this is an area where more leaders are needed.



We all have different gifts and abilities. They only grow and develop if we use them.

So, what's yours? Does it need dusting down and re-charging? What's your 'itch' that won't go away?

What can you do about it?

Talk to the Vicar!!

How you can make a lasting difference to the work of St. Peter's

Once you have made provision for your loved ones, you have the opportunity to make a lasting gift to God, by leaving a legacy to His church.

Leaving a gift in your Will is one of the most valuable and lasting ways you can continue to support the mission and ministry at St. Peter's.

Please pick up one of our Legacy Leaflets in Church for more information.

From the Church Registers



Funerals

6 th May	Joan Allan
19 th May	Harry Westhead
24 th May	Kenneth Maddick

Interment of Ashes

27 th April	Jean and Maurice Williams
------------------------	---------------------------

The funeral service sheets can be viewed on the parish website in the section marked Funeral Services.

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Dementia
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Rule of Life

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.

Contacts at St Peter's

Vicar	Revd Anne Taylor, St Peter's Vicarage
Curate	Revd Simon Macaulay
Wardens	Paul McHenry Sarah Gorman
Parish Office	St Peter's Parish Hall, Paradise Lane, Formby L37 7EH (opposite Trinity St Peter's School) Open Monday to Friday 10am to 12noon office@stpetersformby.co.uk Sonia Greenyer Caroline Speakman
Stewardship	Mike Fletcher stewardshipstpeter@gmail.com
Director of Music	David Holroyd
Treasurer	Irvine Rawcliffe
PCC Sec.	Anne Cotsworth
Trinity St Peter's School	Headteacher - Debbie Pringle admin@tsp.sefton.school www.trinitystpeters.org
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Advertising	Elaine Almond

**For further details please refer to our website:
www.stpetersformby.co.uk**



Reception Class 2021 places available at Trinity St Peter's, Formby

We warmly invite you to visit our setting and explore our school's website:

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to find out what makes Trinity St Peter's so special.

Please contact the school
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