

July and August Services

The Eucharist every Wednesday at 11am in church. Evensong every Sunday at 6.30pm 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 4th July

9am & 10.30am Eucharist 12noon Baptism Service

Sunday 11th July

9am Eucharist

10.30am Eucharist

12noon & 1pm Baptism Service

3pm Deanery Confirmation Service in Holy Trinity Church

Wednesday 14th July

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

Sunday 18th July – 274th Anniversary of the Consecration of St Peter's Church

9am Eucharist

10.30am Eucharist – preacher Revd Nathan Thorpe

Drinks in the vicarage garden following the service

Sunday 25th July – St James' Day

9am & 10.30am Eucharist

Sunday 1st August

9am & 10.30am Eucharist

Sunday 8th August – Mary Sumner Day 100th Anniversary

9am Eucharist

10.30am Eucharist – preacher Diocesan President of the Mothers' Union,

Caroline Collins

12noon Baptism Service

Sunday 15th August – The Blessed Virgin Mary

9am & 10.30am Eucharist

Sunday 22nd August

9am & 10.30am Eucharist

Sunday 29th August

9am & 10.30am Eucharist



Please note that in September the times of the Sunday Services will change to 8.30am and 10am. More information in the September magazine.

FRONT COVER: Peace Doves, at Liverpool Cathedral. Photo by Wendy Thorpe. For more details see page 24.



EDITORIAL

Hello, Everyone!

Here we are with the joint July/August edition of our Parish Magazine. We had hoped to bring glad tidings of restrictions lifted, but, alas, Covid Delta has put a damper on our optimism. Perhaps the September edition will be filled with joy as we celebrate a return to something more akin to the normality we yearn for!

But we can look forward to what could be the social event of the year on Saturday 3rd July at 10.00am. Yes, we're having a Church Yard Tidy Up – see page 24. There's plenty to do and ample room in which to do it – ideal in these continuing days of social distancing.

Last month it was a fond farewell to Shirley Potter as she moved to Sale to be closer to her daughters and their families.

This month we have two more stalwarts of St Peter's on the move. Mike Fletcher, after many years of singing in our choir and maintaining our Stewardship records, is moving to Little Aston, Sutton Coldfield with his family. And Revd Canon Alison Woodhouse, having held the fort on so many occasions, is heading for pastures new in Lytham St Anne's. They have both served St Peter's well and we wish them God Speed for the future!

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.

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



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



Please note the deadline for the September edition of the magazine is **Friday 6**th **August 2021.** Contributions to **magazine@stpetersformby.co.uk**.

Dear Friends,

It is so good to see many more be able to come back to church for a service and feel safe when they do so. We continue to follow procedures as required. I know some of these are frustrating but hopefully we will be able to dispense with masks and social distancing at some stage this year. Until then please work with the Churchwardens and Sides Team and they will give guidance when we can slowly start to remove some of the restrictions.



I have been asked when the service times will change again and the answer is not until September. For July and August we will stay with a Eucharist at 9.00am and 10.30am and of course Evensong at 6.30pm. In September we will change to a said Eucharist at 8.30am and a sung Eucharist at 10.00am.

Before the pandemic the early service was at 8.00am but we hope to encourage a few more to come along to the early celebration with a new time. It is also hoped that in September the All-Age Parade Service and the Service of Wholeness will return. And also there will be a Pet Service! All will be explained in the September issue of our magazine.

It has been great to be able to have coffee after our service on recent Sundays and Wednesdays when the weather has permitted and I know this has been a really important step. We thank our Churchwarden, Sarah, and Ken Ward for making it possible. If you are happy to help please let them know.

There will also be outdoor refreshments on Sunday 18th July in the Vicarage garden (weather permitting) after the 10.30am Eucharist. If you attend a different service, please do come along to the garden for Vicarage Pimm's! This is the day we celebrate the 274th anniversary of the Consecration of St Peter's and our preacher will be Revd Nathan Thorpe (unless Thorpe Junior arrives early and then it may be a recording!!)

And of course the 274th anniversary must be followed by the 275th celebrations next year! We are looking forward to a year of celebration with no restrictions! A committee is working hard to produce an enjoyable year of events. A few dates for your 2022 diary already are - Flower Festival 8th to 12th June and a Family Fun Day on Saturday 3rd September. There will also be concerts, social occasions, visiting preachers and historical events in a very exciting year.

We will need lots of help so watch this space!



'Such a lovely day!...
It seems a shame to spoil it with
a sermon doesn't it? So....

This year is going to be the summer of baptisms as we catch up on all those who couldn't have this very important event last year. Next year will definitely be the year of the wedding! I hope the summer months will be a time to relax and be refreshed after a very difficult year and we look forward with a sense of hope.

Anne

ROOF APPEAL

Thank you to everyone who has given to the Roof Appeal. Your generosity is very much appreciated and shows how important St Peter's is to so many people. The next phase of the work has started which will repair the roof above the organ. The organ has been covered both inside the chamber as well as the pipes that you can see in church. We need to stop any debris from falling into the organ pipes as this would cause damage that would be very expensive to repair. So if you see the organ shrouded in plastic sheeting that is the reason!

We will give the total for funds raised to help pay the £25,000 cost in the September issue of the magazine.

If you would still like to give a donation please -

- Donate through our website www.stpetersformby.co.uk/donations/roof-appeal/
- Make a bank transfer to St Peters PCC Account Sort Code 40-52-40 Account No. 00020671 please mark your donation Roof/Surname.
- Or use a yellow envelope and clearly mark it 'Roof Appeal'. Donations can be brought to any church service or to the Parish Office.

It is also possible for us to claim Gift Aid on your donation if you are a tax payer.

Thank you for all your help.

This photo is like find Wally!! Now who would insist on climbing scaffolding!!



Sunday Club Haribo Service TWO VERY DIFFERENT SISTERS

To help the children understand the differences between the two sisters, Mary and Martha, we had them acting out the Bible story. Martha is the action-packed caring sister who conscientiously cleans the house, cooks for everyone and does the washing while Mary seizes every opportunity to meet with Jesus, listen to his stories and starts to understand the importance of showing love to all.

The children were amazing, brushing and scrubbing the floor, dusting the seats (well done to the dad who joined in too), hanging out the washing and stirring the food. When it came to Mary and Jesus, Olivia, as Mary, summed it up well when she said, 'I really like the extraordinary stories of Jesus but I don't like them, I actually love them.' Jesus, drafted in at the last moment, was equally compliant telling Mary his message of love was for all the world.

WELL DONE, children, we were very proud of you.



Parents, you did well too, shouting out the responses!

SIT AND TALK TO JESUS.

Caroline followed up, reminding us all we need to find quiet times opting out of our busy schedules to reflect on what really matters talking with Jesus.

Anne taught us the actions to a new song so a good time was had by all. 26 children attended and there were lots of enthusiastic families; it really started to feel like the old days pre-Covid. We're getting there, staying safe at the moment but YIPPEE, even better times ahead.

Anne, Caroline & Judith



Daniel really entered into the spirit of Martha busily dusting the church pews.



Sunday Club by Zoom



Date: 4th July at 10am



Children's Service Date: 11th July at 4.30pm

Children's Service and Picnic – please bring a sandwich and picnic blanket. We will provide crisps, drinks etc.

The plan is to have a children's service and then play some games in the grounds and have a picnic (teddy bears are welcome!).



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 14th July at 2pm

Everyone is very welcome.



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 July please pray for all who live in -

4th July Smithy Close, Moss Side, Fallowfield Close, Watchyard Lane

11th July Whitehouse Lane, Whitehouse Avenue, The Green View, Kenyons Lane

18th **July** Gardner Road, Shaw Crescent, Norris Way, Devon Farm Way

25th July Mawdsley Close, Moss Green, Cattan Green, Bull Cop

During August please pray for all who live in -

1st Aug Altcar Road, Flaxfield Road, Glenmarsh Way, Burlington Avenue

8th Aug Lowes Green, College Avenue, College Path, Vicarage Road

15th Aug Vicarage Close, Vaughan Close, Lenton Avenue, Lenton Close

22nd Aug Barkfield Lane, The Evergreens, Holmfield Park, Holmwood Close

29th Aug Holmwood Gardens, Beech Drive, Weld Drive, Holmwood Drive

Heavenly Father By John R Simpson

Heavenly Father, as I wake, lead me in which paths I take. Guide me in each choice I make, that I may do Your will.

Heavenly Father, through the day, guard me in each word I say, And when in doubt, to stop and pray, that I may know Your will.

Heavenly Father, by Your grace, please help me in the trials I face, And in You, find a resting place, to let my soul be still.

Heavenly Father, be my guide, in all things Lord, with me abide. Be always present at my side, my courage to instil.

Heavenly Father, Sovereign Lord, help me never seek reward, But simply live in true accord, to do Your perfect will.

Heavenly Father, walk with me, that I may know serenity, And as Your Spirit rests in me, my life will be fulfilled.

July and August Bible Readings

3rd July – St Thomas the Apostle

Habakkuk 2:1-4 / Ephesians 2:19-22 / John 20:24-29

4th July – 5th Sunday after Trinity

2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10 / 2 Corinthians 12:2-10 / Mark 6:1-13

11th July – 6th Sunday after Trinity

2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19 / Ephesians 1:3-14 / Mark 6:14-29

18th July – 7th Sunday after Trinity

2 Samuel 7:1-14 / Ephesians 2: 11-22 / Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

22nd July – St Mary Magdalene

Song of Solomon 3:1-4 / 2 Corinthians 5:14-17 / John 20:1-2, 11-18

25th July – 8th Sunday after Trinity / St James the Apostle

Jeremiah 45:1-5 / Acts 11:27-12:2 / Matthew 20:20-28

1st August – 9th Sunday after Trinity

2 Samuel 11:26-12:13 / Ephesians 4:1-16 / John 6:24-35

6th August – The Transfiguration of Our Lord

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14 / 2 Peter 1:16-19 / Luke 9:28-36

8th August – Mary Sumner Day – 100th Anniversary

Psalm 150 / Hebrews 12:1-3 / Luke 10:1-9

15th August – 11th Sunday after Trinity / The Blessed Virgin Mary

Isaiah 61:10-11 / Galatians 4:4-7 / Luke 1:46-55

22nd August – 12th Sunday after Trinity

1 Kings 8:22-30, 41-43 / Ephesians 6:10-20 / John 6:56-69

24th August – St Bartholomew the Apostle

Isaiah 43:8-13 / Acts 5:12-16 / Luke 22:24-30

29th August – 13th Sunday after Trinity

Song of Solomon 2:8-13 / James 1:17-27 / Mark 7:1-8, 14 - 15, 21-23







Do Clothes Matter?

Some years ago a Christmas card showing a nativity scene was a cause of some mirth because the figures were dressed in late medieval attire. The question asked was, 'What relevance did this have to first century Roman Palestine?' During the 16th century artists in northern Europe painted many of their images of religious scenes in contemporary dress. It could be argued that the artists were not aware of how the disciples dressed and therefore used the clothing they knew.

A recent book on the pictures of Bruegel the Elder looks at this issue; this artist provides a good example of art in northern Europe. He became famous for his 'Wimmel' pictures, so called because they teemed with detail. Bruegel would visit the taverns and the events attended by local people and he did indeed create large images teeming with people; some pictures have more than a hundred figures.

His religious pictures are also full of the people he would have seen every day; these folk offered him an immediate reference. There was however an argument put forward by Erasmus, famous scholar and contemporary of Bruegel, who wrote highly influential works. In these he put forward reasons why contemporary pictures of biblical scenes should show ordinary people dressed in their everyday attire.



The Adoration of the Kings is an oil-on-panel painting of the Adoration of the Magi by the Netherlandish Renaissance artist Pieter Bruegel the Elder, painted in 1564, and now in the National Gallery, London.

In contrast to the Renaissance pictures in Italy Erasmus wanted to make the bible relevant to everyday experience so it would accessible to all. He argued that the bible presents Jesus among the crowds with many of the poor and humble.

This shows Jesus as fully human and His life relevant for all, especially after the truth of the resurrection. Bruegel used this view to present Christ, his disciples and his followers as relevant to his time and dressed them accordingly.

Two pictures encapsulate this, 'The Adoration of the Kings' and 'Christ and The Woman taken in Adultery.' Both of these show us ordinary folk. The woman accused of adultery is dressed as a wealthy, well-born 16th century person, many turning away are peasants. The adoration picture shows contemporary soldiers.



Christ and the Woman Taken in Adultery is a small panel painting in grisaille (near monochrome) by the Netherlandish Renaissance printmaker and painter Pieter Bruegel the Elder. It is signed and dated 1565.

The whole basis of these and other biblical stories illustrated by Bruegel is to show the relevance of Christ to the people who surround Him. This is still important to us today. Considerable work has been done since Bruegel to understand how people and disciples of Jesus dressed and this has undermined the need to follow the 16th century approach to images from the bible. Yet it would be good to see modern artists present Christ and his followers in our modern outfits. Jesus in jeans would wake up the critics!

It would be interesting to see modern art showing a crowd of ordinary people listening to Christ in Bold Street, Liverpool thus depicting the relevance of Christianity to today.

Rod Jacques

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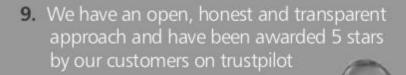


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The good news is that we can at last all meet together. We will celebrate at the Strawberry Tea on Wednesday, 15th July, at 2.00pm in the Bier House.

We remind you that we will be collecting items for our three Projects: knitted woollens and magazines for Seafarers, loose cash in the yellow bucket for holidays for disadvantaged children and toiletries for refugees. The specific items for toiletries are sponges and flannels.

Mary Sumner Day will be celebrated at the 10.30am morning service in church on Sunday, 8th August. (See centre pages for more information about Mary Sumner).

Corporate Communion is now held at 11.00 am on the first Wednesday of the month.

The opening meeting in the autumn will be at 2.00 pm on Thursday, 2nd September. Details will be confirmed in the September magazine.

Canon Alison Woodhouse will be leaving us when she moves on 9th August to a small flat overlooking the sea at Lytham St. Anne's. She has been a dedicated branch member, and stimulating and always open-minded leader of a bible-study group. She has given wonderful and unstinting support to many of us over Lockdown. We wish her a very happy and fulfilling future.

We remember all MU members world-wide as we unite in the Wave of Prayer.

Herbert and Jean

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.



St Luke's are planning to open their Tea Room on Friday 25th June but will be watching the government statements. As the kitchen is very small, they have decided to not make sandwiches at the beginning (as these take many hands!) but will have soup and rolls, toasted teacakes, and the usual delicious scones and cakes.

So their message is - 'watch this space - and we hope to see you this summer!'



I wonder if this link will be of interest to our readers.

Listed in the monthly newsletter from a church software supplier, it seems that the Louvre has recently placed all its treasures on line. This link will take you to the home page where you can simply type in a search request or scroll down to view the options.

https://collections.louvre.fr/en/

The Collections database consists of entries for more than 480,000 works in the Musée du Louvre and Musée National Eugène-Delacroix. Updated on a daily basis, it is the result of the continuous research and documentation efforts carried out by teams of experts from both museums.

But first, a spoiler alert. Make sure that you have set an alarm to ensure that you don't get lost in the treasures!

Mike Fletcher



This summer we give thanks to God for the gift of life and for our loving and compassionate families and friends.



We owe our unique role for women within the Church to our founder **Mary Sumner**. This year we celebrate 145 years of Mothers' Union and pay tribute to Mary Sumner on the 100th anniversary of her death for all she achieved in life, empowering women and mothers worldwide, and establishing the home as a place of religious education and growth.

In June or July, please join us in gathering your loved ones around you and host a safe and socially distanced Cream Tea, to help raise funds for women around the world.

If you'd like to support in another way, why not take part in our 5km MU on the Move Challenge?

You can walk or run a distance of 5km on a June or July day of your choice, and invite friends and family to sponsor you. Feel free to spread the distance over a number of days if you prefer and enjoy the sights and sounds of summer that way.

However we all choose to connect and take part, we welcome God into our hearts and give thanks for his loving kindness.

Let us wish one another a bright Summer of Hope.



God of hope, shine the rays of your love on all in need across the world, that this may be a summer of hope for those we seek to serve.

Help us to reflect your hope through kindness and generosity, that lives may flourish and grow in the warmth of your love.

Amen



Mary Sumner was born in Swinton near Salford, Lancashire, the third of four children. The family moved to Colwall near Ledbury, Herefordshire, in 1832, where Sumner's mother held mothers' meetings. A year after their arrival in Herefordshire, Sumner's sixweek-old brother died. Her mother's faith, her women's meetings and her brother's infant death may have all inspired Sumner decades later to begin the Mothers' Union.

Educated at home, young Mary learned to speak three foreign languages and sing well. To complete her musical education, she travelled with her mother and elder sister to Rome. Whilst there she met her future husband, George Henry Sumner, the son of Charles Richard Sumner, the Bishop of Winchester and a relative of William Wilberforce.

The couple were married in Colwall on 26 July 1848, 18 months after George's ordination as an Anglican cleric. They had three children: Margaret, Louise and George; the latter became a well known artist. Sumner dedicated herself to raising her children and helping her husband in his ministry by providing music and Bible classes.

In 1876, when her eldest daughter Margaret gave birth, she was reminded how difficult she had found the burden of motherhood. Inspired, Sumner publicised a meeting of mothers in the parish to offer mutual support. Her plan was quite radical in its day as it involved calling women of all social classes to support one another and to see motherhood as a profession as important as those of men, if not more so.

The nascent Mothers' Union was limited to Sumner's parish, in Hampshire. However, in 1885, she was part of the audience in the Portsmouth Church Congress, some 20 miles from her home. Sumner gave a passionate address about national morality and the importance of women's vocation as mothers to change the nation for the better. A number of the women present went back to their parishes to found mothers' meetings on Sumner's pattern. The Bishop of Winchester, Edward Browne, made the Mothers' Union a diocesan organisation.



The Mothers' Union concept spread rapidly throughout the United Kingdom. By 1892, 60,000 members lived in 28 dioceses, and by the turn of the century, the Mothers' Union had grown to 169,000 members. Annual general meetings began in 1893, and the Mothers' Union Central Council was formed three years later. Sumner was unanimously elected president, a post she held into her nineties. In 1897, during her Diamond Jubilee, Queen Victoria became patron of the Mothers' Union, giving it an unprecedented stamp of approval. The Mothers' Union set up branches throughout the British Empire, beginning in New Zealand, then Canada and India. Sumner lived to lead the Mothers' Union to act in rebuilding the heart of Britain after the First World War.

Mary Sumner died in August 1921 at the age of 92, and is buried with her husband, who had died 12 years before, in the grounds of Winchester Cathedral.

Mary Sumner is remembered in the Church of England with a Lesser Festival on 9th August. Mothers' Union remains the greatest memorial to Mary Sumner, with 4 million members in 83 countries continuing to support marriage and family life through diverse community and development projects.

Spectacular art installation takes flight at Liverpool Cathedral



The installation officially opened on 21st May and will run until 31st August 2021.

Peace Doves is a mass participation art installation, created by renowned sculptor and artist Peter Walker. It features around 18,000 paper doves suspended on 15.5 miles of ribbon from the ceiling of the Cathedral. David Harper has composed the soundtrack to accompany the installation. The piece is called 'Ruah Qadeska'.

It was originally scheduled to open the artwork last May but it was postponed due to the pandemic.

However, before lockdown, visitors to the cathedral, along with local school children and community groups were invited to write messages of peace, hope and love onto thousands of paper doves.

There will be a series of special events, including talks, music, storytelling for children, yoga plus the chance to dine under the doves.

For those who might find crowds daunting, for example, someone who has an autism spectrum condition or sensory processing differences, there are some Quiet Hours.

Due to COVID regulations, please book your visit in advance to view the installation.

For more information go to www.liverpoolcathedral.org.uk





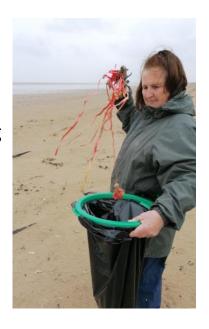
Peter and Carol completed their sponsored 30 hours beach cleaning challenge in May and have been encouraged, by the many expressions of appreciation from the general public and rangers, to continue one session a week on Ainsdale beach.

Thank you to everyone at St Peters, friends and family, who generously donated both online and off-line to Christian Aid's project to provide local earth dams for villages in Kenya.

Altogether we raised £1,555 with an extra £307 to be claimed in Gift Aid.



You may have noticed that beach cleaning was also taking place on Formby beach during Christian Aid week. Different groups, led by Jennifer and Tony, met each morning and wearing C A tabards were often asked what they were doing and why. A young family joined them. As the children were covering this environmental issue at school, and using their Facebook page, they immediately raised £430!



It was good to be joined by friends from the other churches in Formby too and have their support for this project .

We estimate to have raised altogether £5,575.

Together we can make a difference to those most in need.

Many thanks, Carol



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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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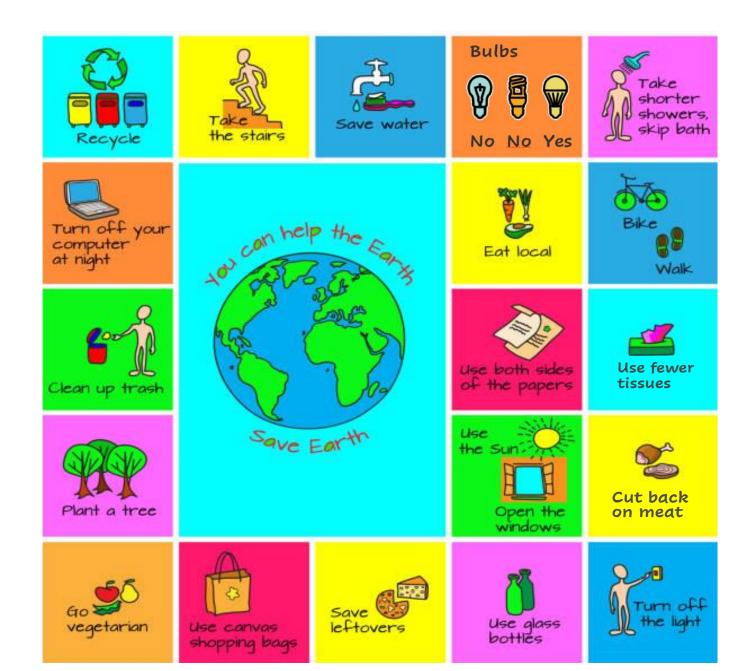
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has received £95.69 as of May 2021



If interested, the full details are at www.liverpool.anglican.org/ parishgivingscheme

or contact St Peter's Stewardship Team who will be happy to discuss the scheme. Email: stewardshipstpeter@gmail.com



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.



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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A free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers

Are you in need of some daily hope during this lockdown?

We have a new FREE telephone line for you to ring to hear comforting hymns, daily prayers and reflections.

0800 804 8044



"I thought the dryer was shrinking my clothes. Turn's out it was the refrigerator all along."

"What do you call a factory that makes okay products?" "A satisfactory."

"How does the moon cut his hair?" "Eclipse it."

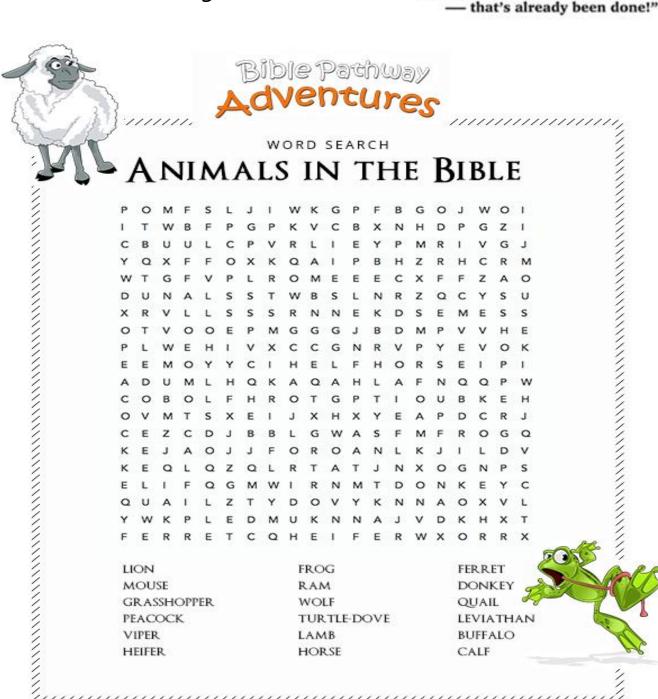
"Why couldn't the bicycle stand up by itself? It was two tired."

"How do you make 7 even?" "Take away the s."

"I have a joke about chemistry, but I don't think it will get a reaction."



"Don't worry about burning the calories



MOUSE GRASSHOPPER PEACOCK VIPER HEIFER.

RAM WOLF TURTLE-DOVE LAMB HORSE

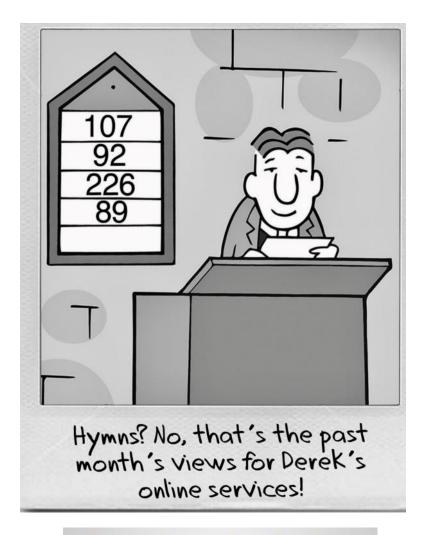
FERRET DONKEY QUAIL LEVIATHAN BUFFALO CALF

NURSE CAME IN AND SAID DOC, THERE'S A MAN IN THE WAITING ROOM WHO THINKS HE'S INVISIBLE, WHAT SHOULD I TELL HIM? THE DOCTOR SAID TELL HIM I CAN'T SEE HIM TODAY.

English Language is FULL of contradictions so much so:

- 1) Found Missing
- 2) Open Secret
- Small Crowd
- Act Naturally
- 3) 4) 5) Clearly Misunderstood
- 6) 7) Fully Empty
- Pretty Ugly
- 8) Seriously Funny
- 9) Only Choice
- 10) Original Copies
- 11) Exact Estimate
- 12) Tragic Comedy
- 13) Foolish Wisdom
- 14) Liquid Gas
- 15) Working Holiday





I went to the doctor because I couldn't stop listening to Tom Jones. He told me it's not unusual





From the Church Registers

Wedding
Kristian Solaru &
Katie LackenFernell

We had a sunny day for our first wedding in over a year.

Congratulations to Kristian & Katie who were married in

St Peter's on Friday 4th June.

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

CAF Bank Sort Code: 40-52-40 Account Number: 00020671

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

Baptism

Cara Elizabeth Fiona Cosgrove, daughter of John & Heather, was baptised on Sunday 13th June.







Would you like to help with Baptisms?

We need more volunteers to join the team who help with our baptism services. A volunteer helps at the 12noon baptism service, sets up the church, welcomes the families and generally helps the Vicar. For large services we have two volunteers on duty. Our Parish Administrator, Caroline, contacts the team with dates and arranges who is free.

This is an important ministry of welcome.

Please have a chat with the Vicar if you are interested.



From the Back Pew Ted Woods

IN PRAISE OF PARISH MINISTRY

A common question in church circles today is what kind of church is going to emerge after Covid 19. What new forms of ministry will become the norm?

Certainly, digital ministry is probably here to stay. Zoom meetings (though hopefully not always) will be common. They cut out travelling to meetings and can include those who are away from home. Live streamed services reach people in different parts of the country, even of the world.

But they are no substitute for the real thing. For the one element that is missing in digital ministry is face-to-face relationships.

In spite of tuning in every Sunday to our live streamed services one parishioner declared that she was suffering from "church drought"! She looked forward to joining with other people in person for worship and fellowship. Zoom meetings have their limitations and can lack spontaneity, though there is an advantage of being able to mute the over-talkative!

Clergy have largely been desk bound for the last 15 months, unable to conduct parish ministry face to face. And while certain constituencies in the church will welcome that style (there's a hymn which goes, "Ye servants of the Lord each in his office wait"!), yet it would be a grave mistake to overlook or dismiss the importance of personal relationships as the bedrock of parish ministry.

Being shepherds is a theme that runs through all the ordination services. I have a son who is a sheep farmer, and one of his twice-daily chores is checking on the sheep by going round the fields on his quad. There is no digital substitute.

Relationships lie at the heart of parish ministry. It's not just about providing pastoral services which can be done without much contact, but providing services in a pastoral way that involves personal contact and interaction.

In many church quarters parish ministry isn't 'sexy.' Business models have replaced the pastoral. The church has become much more bureaucratic and top-heavy. Dioceses have to have strap lines (does anyone take any serious notice of them?), parishes have become missional areas, strategies are a must, targets are the thing and reports are constantly requested. In the battle to halt declining numbers the last thing on the minds of those in authority is parish ministry, well done. It's poo-poohed as old-fashioned, out-of-date and no longer fit for purpose.

But personal experience attests to more people being brought to faith and the church by good pastoral care than by gimmicky missions and evangelistic extravaganzas.

If half the energy and resources were put into training and supporting the clergy in this way as are put into projects and strategies for 'Growth and Renewal', the church would be on a better footing.

Ecclesiastically the diocese is the basic unit of the church. But in reality, for most people, the local church is the basic unit. The local parish is where people find God, are nourished and cared for, have their Christian identity affirmed. It's the local parish to which they give their loyalty and support.

Any diminishing or dismantling of parish ministry is to weaken foundations which have stood the test of time, and which, I hope, will remain the default strategy of the church for years to come.

At present, 50% of what the Church Commissioners allocate to sustaining ministry in dioceses now goes "for new growth opportunities". Dioceses dream up projects and strategies to get their hands on much needed money. But parish ministry takes a huge hit. It can all begin to spiral downwards instead of upwards, which in turn spurs church planners to think of more projects and ideas.

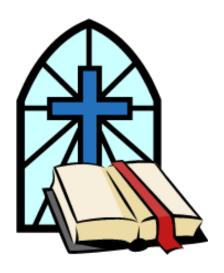
All I can say is that I have been round long enough to have seen that parish ministry, done well and with imagination, produces the "transformation" that church planners hope their often gimmicky and transient strategies will result in.

The pity is that more training, support and resources are not put into parish ministry. After all, the ordination service declares that "priests are called to work...as servants and shepherds among the people to whom they are sent.", the very model which all who are ordained are asked to adopt!





From the Church Registers



Funerals

7th June Jean Dean

Interment of Ashes

9th June Jim O'Hara

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







Our services remain open during the UK Coronavirus lockdown. You are not alone.

We know if you're scared of your partner, contacting us may be harder than normal. If safer, we can call you back on a trusted friend or family member's number at a specific time and use a code word.

nationaldahelpline.org.uk | 0808 2000 247







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.

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

Caroline Speakman

Stewardship 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

Magazine Team

Editors Rod and Sue Jacques

David Manning-Fox

Alison Whiffing

Advertising Elaine Almond

(e-mail: magazine@stpetersformby.co.uk)

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

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.

View from the roof!

