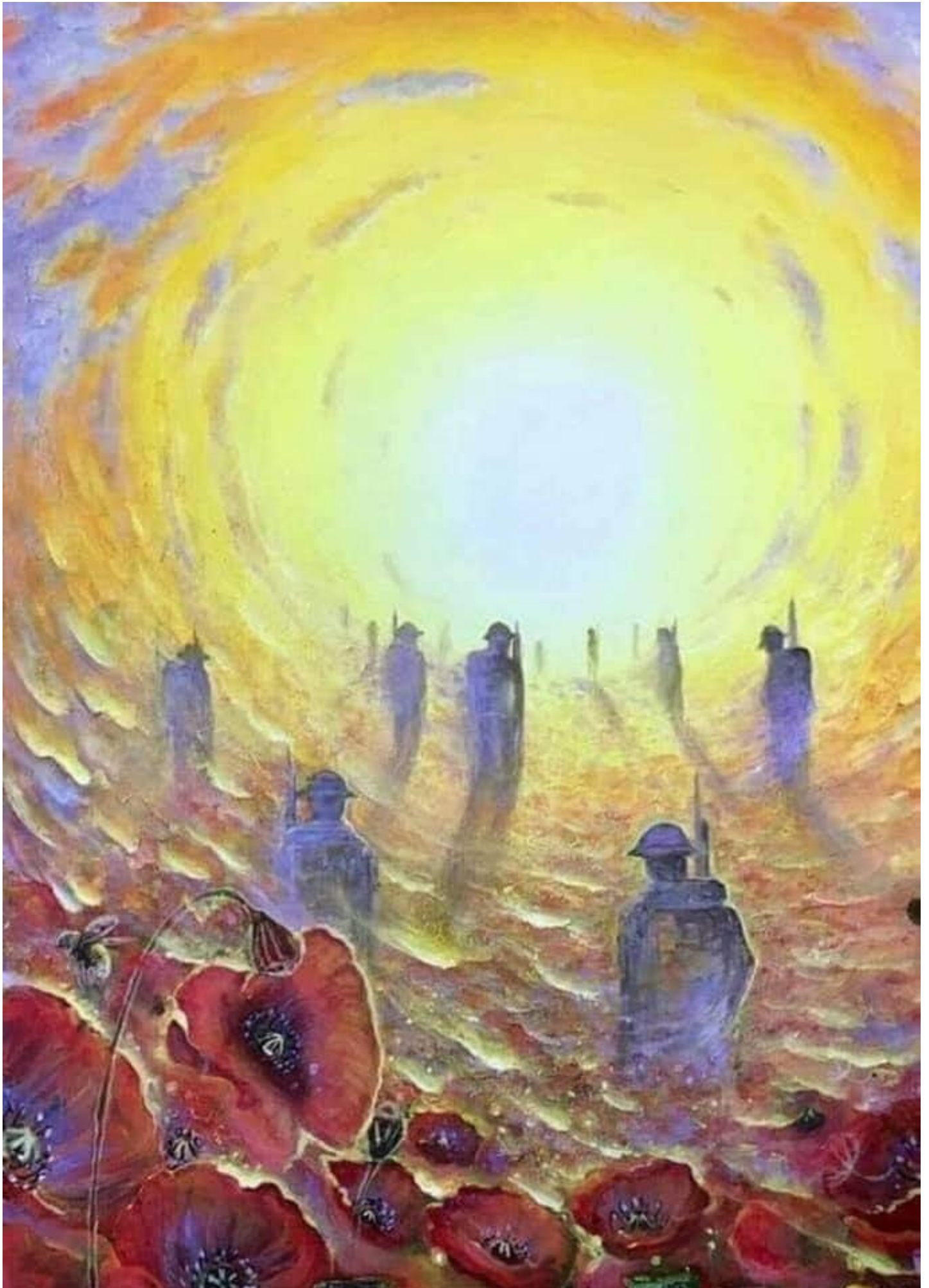


St Peter's Church Magazine

November 2021



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St Peter's Church, Green Lane, Formby L37 7DL

EDITORIAL



Hello Everyone!

It's not strictly November but with luck you'll receive this edition of the Magazine in time to be reminded of Fauré's Requiem Mass at 6.30pm on Sunday 31st October (assuming you've remembered to put your clocks back an hour!).

Whilst on the subject of music, we are reliably informed that the Concert by the Amadeus Chamber Choir raised in the region of £2,000 for our Uganda project. What a result!

And there are details of another opportunity to support the work in Kalule on page 6. Why worry about your Christmas presents being stuck in shipping containers in Felixstowe when St Peter's can bring you inspiration?

It's good to see some semblance of a return to normality in church services, especially the singing of hymns. And Morning Prayer has resumed – see page 43. We're not out of the woods yet but it feels a little more optimistic.

Meanwhile the church porch is developing a good collection of books for you to read; or to recycle books that you have read and are unlikely to re-read.

The image on the front cover is an eloquent reminder of Remembrance Day on Sunday 14th November.

Lest we forget!

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.

*Please note the deadline for the December/January double edition of the magazine is **Friday 5th November 2021.***

Contributions to magazine@stpetersformby.co.uk



Dear Friends,

***“No shade, no shine, no butterflies, no bees,
No fruits, no flowers, no leaves, no birds! –
November!”***

So wrote the poet, Thomas Hood. And how accurate is his summing up of November! The clocks have gone back and for the next three months the evenings will be dark.

Some people love Autumn/Winter with cosy nights around the fire, while others dread the coming of dark evenings and cold weather.

And everyday life is still slowly returning to some sort of normality. It was great to see so many out for the Harvest Thanksgiving services. Thank you to all who decorated the church so beautifully and provided refreshments after the evening service. Bishop Michael Burrows from Ireland was struck by how normal things were compared to Ireland where they are still reluctant to get too close and where singing in church is still not permitted. “It really was a delight to be in a place of such positivity after all the Covid difficulties,” he wrote of St Peter’s when he returned to Kilkenny.

And that’s what we have tried to be – positive, yet taking our time to lift all restrictions so that people can feel safe when they come to church services. We are still encouraging the wearing of face masks at the 10am Sunday service, and communion will be distributed in one kind – the wafer – for the time being.

Organisations and groups have started meeting again and that is good as we all need a bit of socialising after the restrictions and it was particularly pleasing to be able to hold a concert by the Amadeus Choir in the church in aid of our Uganda project. A great total of £2,000 was raised and we are grateful to David Holroyd and the Amadeus Choir, and the Social committee who provided refreshments, for a wonderful concert. The link to the concert is on our website.

Please see the item about **child sponsorship** in Uganda on page 6. The schools are re-opening in Uganda in January and the need is great to enable children whose parents cannot afford fees to be enrolled in school. There is no such thing as free education in Uganda, and although to us the fees are not large, they are outside the reach of many, especially in families where the children have been orphaned.

The poet Thomas Hood also wrote “**I remember, I remember**” and November is a month for remembering.

Remembrance Sunday is on 14th November, and although All Saints’ Day is the 1st November we will hold a special Bereavement Service to remember all those who have died over the last 2 years on Sunday 14th December at 6.30pm. The sense of loss is particularly felt around Christmas and we hope that having a service of remembrance nearer to Christmas will help those who have lost loved ones.



Behind the scenes a committee have been meeting throughout the year to organise a Year of Celebration as we prepare to mark the 275th anniversary of the consecration of St Peter’s which was in 1747. A varied programme for all ages has been put together starting in February 2022 and going on to Christmas 2022. The programme of events will be announced in the February Magazine. It will be a year to remember!

Thomas Hood lived in London in the first half of the 19th century. November in London was usually cool and overcast, and in Hood's day subject to frequent smog. In 1844, he wrote the poem, "No!" which end with the lines I quoted at the beginning of this letter. This is how the poem started:-

***“No sun—no moon!
No morn—no noon—
No dawn—no dusk—no proper time of day—
No sky—no earthly view—
No distance looking blue—...”***

It’s all very negative. Not at all what we in St Peter’s are like. We look forward with hope as we remember with thanksgiving and enter the season of Advent.

So, in the words of Dag Hammarskjöld, one time Secretary-General of the United Nations,

“For all that has been, Thanks; and for all that will be, Yes!”

Anne



A CHRISTMAS PRESENT SOLVED!

It's that time of the year when the question of Christmas presents looms on the horizon. And what with all the warnings about the shortage of goods we have a possible solution for you!



Why not give the sponsorship of a child in St Peter's School, Kalule, our project partner in Uganda, as a Christmas present? A present that will continue to give and be of value throughout the whole year.

Thank you to those who have already become sponsors, but we have a number of children still to sponsor.

The costs are as follows:-

P1 – P5 costs £47 a year to which is added books, pencils and uniforms, making a total cost of **£60**.

For P6 the annual total cost is **£67**, while for P7 the annual cost escalates to **£194**.

You can choose to sponsor a child in a particular year, or donate **£100** as an average of the annual fees.



We are preparing special Christmas donor cards which can be given as a present, along with a Ugandan key ring made by the women of Kalule.

Education is the key which opens opportunities for young people, not only in Uganda but everywhere.

One of the serious consequences of the pandemic in Uganda is that parents cannot afford to send their children to school. All education in Uganda has to be paid for. We would want as many children as possible to have the benefits of education to secure their futures.

Will you help?

Please contact the Parish Office on Paradise Lane – Tel 871171 – and we will take it from there and get the sponsor card and key ring to you in good time for Christmas.



Advent Candles

As we come to the season of Advent, the shops are already full of Christmas decorations. Signs of the coming of Christmas are really an expression of the Advent hope itself - looking forward to the coming of Christ, so perhaps the early arrival of Christmas themed food and decorations in our shops should be seen in that spirit.

One of the ways in which the Church marks the season of Advent is through the use of an Advent wreath of five candles. Traditionally the first four candles are either red or purple (often with one pink) - the fifth candle always being white or gold to symbolise Christ himself. The candles marking the four Sundays in Advent, which are lit on each of those days, have a number of symbolic meanings. One popular tradition is that the four candles of Advent represent *Hope, Faith, Joy* and *Peace*. In the Lutheran Church a similar tradition designates the candles *Prophecy, Preparation, Joy* and *Love*.

In Anglican and Roman Catholic tradition the four candles lit on each of the Sundays of Advent are given meanings which link to the readings and themes of each of those days. The first Sunday of Advent marks the role of the *Patriarchs* in pointing to Christ while the second commemorates the *Prophets*. The third candle (often pink) remembers the forerunner, *John the Baptist*. It is often referred to as refreshment Sunday or *Gaudete* - meaning 'rejoice' - a reference to the beginning of Philippians 4 verse 4, which is often a reading or antiphon on this day). It is one of the two Sundays in the liturgical year when pink vestments are traditionally worn; consequently, the candle used on this day is pink. The fourth Sunday reminds us of *The Blessed Virgin Mary*.

As we look to the coming of Christ let us pray that we may shine, like the Patriarchs, Prophets, John the Baptist and the Virgin Mary, as lights of Christ's hope, faith, joy and peace.

SMJM

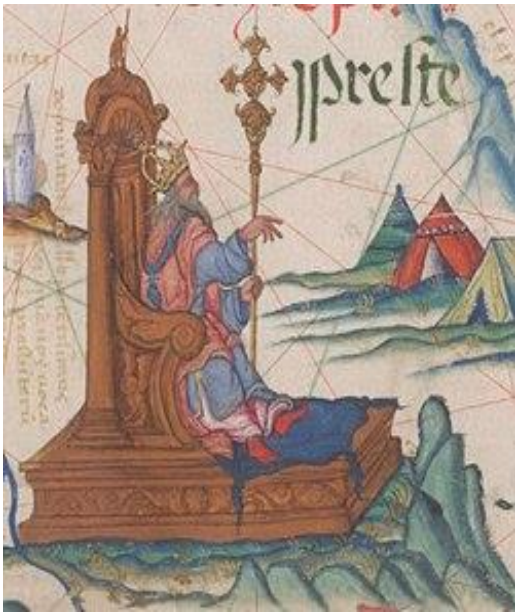


Folly

In 1162 the pope and two emperors received a letter which was to set in motion a cycle of investigations. The letter had come from a ruler of a distant Christian country ruled by a king called 'Prester John.' The letter described the kingdom he ruled, praising the fine nature of its people who wanted for nothing and who were ruled in peace. The contents emphasised the good works of the king stating, "Once a day our court dines. At our table every day, thirty thousand eat besides those who enter and leave. And all these receive provisions each day from our treasury, such as horses and other expenses."

Towards the end the letter states, "If you can count the stars in heaven and the sand of the sea, then you can calculate the extent of our kingdom and our power." It did not however indicate where the country was situated.

The pope and others involved saw it as important to know where this kingdom was, as it was believed to be a Christian enclave in a world dominated by Muslims. It was assumed the country was in Ethiopia and it was hoped that if the people there could be contacted they would possibly provide an army to support the crusades, which were going badly. As a consequence explorers were dispatched, travelling through Egypt to find Prester John and learn about his kingdom. Nothing came of this.



The task of finding Prester John was taken up by the Portuguese. They had started to explore the west coast of Africa and believed this would give them the means to gain access to this fabled land. By this time it was thought Prester John's land was in need of help to defend itself from aggressive neighbours. The Portuguese held to the task of looking for a route to John's land until the late 1400's but by then the letter was clearly a forgery. At this time a voice was being heard of one who, as a committed Christian, wanted to show that Christian Europe had created structures of thought that needed to be challenged and thus perhaps avoid the commitment to follow up spurious ideas.

This was the monk, theologian and scholar Desiderius Erasmus. Well known for struggling to create an edition of the New Testament in its original Greek he also wrote a short book called "The Praise of Folly" which made his name known throughout Europe.

The book is written in the first person as if it were the god 'Folly' telling us how important folly is. He argues that without folly there would be no fun, no attempts to prick the pomposity of people but that with folly he can expose the emptiness of so much convoluted thinking.

In fact, folly is vital in reducing arguments to simple statements that lead us to a true understanding of Christianity.

Erasmus mocks the endless preening of the aristocracy of his time and then attacks the church hierarchy. "For a long time now this courtly manner of life has been eagerly imitated by the loftiest Popes, Cardinals, and bishops Why are his hands covered with gloves if not to keep them clean of all contact with human affairs." This attack, however it may seem exaggerated, has an underlying theme. Erasmus ends his piece by making two points.

Firstly his attack on theologians, especially their long and complex arguments which may dazzle them but leaves others bewildered. He continually returns to the original texts of the bible which he sees as very important. He wants everyone to have access to the actual writings of the New Testament and cut through the arguments of theologians. Access to the bible is second nature to us now but at the time Erasmus's demand for this was new.


His second point is to reinforce his position as 'Folly' and show that it is the foolish who have access to the understanding of the bible and in reaching out to Christ. He quotes Paul "God has chosen the foolish things in the world to confound the wise," and "God chose to preserve the world through foolishness" adding "since by wisdom it could not be preserved." He gives thanks that the mystery of salvation has been hidden from the wise but revealed to little children, that is fools, those who are innocent.

The use of folly in argument is important, it enables us to see through the complexity of arguments and gain a true understanding of walking with Christ.



Rod Jacques

COME JOIN OUR

BIBLE

Study

Bible study helps us see how scripture can help us in our everyday lives. It is more fun to study and journey together and all that is needed is a willingness to read the passage.

There are two groups meeting at different times in the Bier House.

So if you haven't already thought about it, please think about joining a group. Please approach one of the group leaders to say that you would be interested.

Tuesday Bible Study Group (weekly) at 10am

Contact Ken Ward on 871927

Wednesday Bible Study (10th & 24th November) at 7.30pm

Contact Ted Woods 872824

As we remember again the great sacrifice of so many on Remembrance Sunday, it is good to be reminded of the lives of those who found their final resting place in St Peter's most of which are marked by a Commonwealth War Grave headstone. The booklet is available on our website, in the church porch or from the Parish Office.

+++++

In Memory of Major Robert Hodgins

**Indian Army who died on 1st February 1918, aged 39.
Son of Robert and Mary Hodgins of Summerhill, Tipperary;
husband of Mary Hodgins**

Remembered with Honour

Robert Hodgins was born at Nenagh, County Tipperary, Ireland on the 29th October 1878, the eldest son of Robert Hodgins (Snr) and Mary (nee) Mounsey. He had two elder sisters and one younger brother and sister.

The 1901 Census of Ireland finds him living with his cousin in Rathfarnham*, Dublin, as a 2nd Lieutenant in the Royal Warwickshire Regiment. He obtained his commission in the Indian Army on the 16th March 1901. He also held the rank of Assistant Commissioner with the Burma Military Police.

Robert married Margaret Daisy Wilson at Shwebo, Bengal, India on 13th September 1905. He and his wife had three children; Robert (Jnr) Crossman (1907), Pamela Margaret (1910) and Michael Minden (1912). Robert Jnr became a solicitor and Deputy Town Clerk. Michael joined the Anglican Church and was latterly Secretary of the London Diocesan Fund and the Archdeacon of Hackney for 30 years until 1981.

On 6th October 1917 Robert arrived at Liverpool aboard the Henzada from Rangoon, Burma. The address he gave in the passenger list was 1 Wordsworth Crescent, Harrogate.

Robert died on 1st February 1918 at Shaftesbury House**, Formby aged 39. The cause of death was certified by Dr E. S. Hayes Gill as "General Paralysis of the Insane." The informant was William Lomax present at the death. He was buried on the 3rd February 1918. His death certificate and subsequent probate records gave his home address as Minbu, Lower Burma, India.

* Rathfarnham in Dublin is the parish that Anne & Ted served before moving to Formby.

** Shaftesbury House on the south side of Ravenmeols Lane, was the home of Dr Stanley Gill who also ran it as a private Mental Hospital. It was described as having well wooded grounds, nearly 10 acres in extent, affording ample privacy for exercise and recreation. It had an attractive hall used for concerts at which Percy French entertained. It is now the site of Harebell Close.





St Peter's Churchyard – Commonwealth War Graves

To mark the VE Day Celebrations in 2020,
Mike Fletcher researched and wrote a booklet
reviewing the Commonwealth War Graves
in our churchyard .

Weekly Prayers for our Parish

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



During November please pray for all who live in –

- 7th Nov** The Rydinge, Brackenway, Heatherways, Heathfield Close
- 14th Nov** Gorsefield, Spymers Croft, Dales Walk, Paradise Lane
- 21st Nov** York Close, Kenton Close, Old Lane, Wrigleys Lane
- 28th Nov** Wrigleys Close, Green Lane, The Paddock, Canterbury Close

November Bible Readings

1st November – All Saints' Day

Isaiah 25:6-9 / Revelation 21:1-6a / John 11:32-44

7th November – 3rd Sunday before Advent

Jonah 3:1-5, 10 / Hebrews 9:24-28 / Mark 1:14-20

**14th November – The 2nd Sunday before Advent – Remembrance
Sunday**

Daniel 12:1-3 / Hebrews 10:11—14 [15-18] 19-25 / Mark 13:1-8

**21st November – Christ the King -
The Sunday next before Advent - St Cecilia**

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14 / Revelation 1:4b-8 / John 18:33-37

28th November – Advent Sunday

Jeremiah 33:14-16 / 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 / Luke 21:25-36

30th November – St Andrew the Apostle

Isaiah 52:7-10 / Romans 10:12-18 / Matthew 4:18-22





Thanks to Grace and Hattie too for holding up the houses.



Children's Haribo Service

We explored a different version of the Good Samaritan story called The Magic Pine Cone, very appropriate for Formby. The children were quick to join in and help with the acting. Joseph, our beggar man, had no success getting a bed for the night from the Mayor's wife in her big, bright and beautiful house but he was offered a bed in the poor humble house of the little old woman. (Anne and Caroline entered into the story here). We even had a sound effects department run by Louis for the knocks on the doors.



Without any prompting from adults, Anna decided to take to the stage to demonstrate the actions to one of the children's hymns and very well she did it too.

Thank you to all our families.

Anne, Caroline and Judith

Children's Service

Date: 28th November

Children's Haribo Service in church at 12 noon.

Sunday Club

Date: 7th & 21st November
at 10 am.



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 17th November
Everyone is very welcome.



Little Fishes Pre-School Group

The Littles Fishes pre-school group has started again. This is a drop-in group on a Friday morning in school term time from 9.30 -11.30 in St Peter's Parish Hall (opposite Trinity St Peter's School).

Parents, grandparents, guardians with children from 0 – 3 welcome for play, organised craft, songs, stories with a light snack and drink. Messy play on the last Friday of the month.



Space for children and carers to play and support each other. There is a voluntary donation of 50p to cover snacks.

Volunteers – we also need some volunteers to help set-up, tidy away, make coffee etc who are not also keeping an eye on children! Would you like to join our team? Even if you can help for one or two Fridays a month it would be a help and it is also great fun. More information from Caroline Collins - email address office@stpetersformby.co.uk



SHOEBOX EXPRESS® BAZAAR

St Peter's Shoebox Appeal 2021

Thank you, thank you, thank you to everyone who has already donated to this Year's Shoebox Appeal. It is still not too late to order your ready-made Shoebox, they are priced at £7 per box, which includes £1 towards shipping costs.

To order, please fill in one of the special 'Shoebox' envelopes at the back of Church or in the Porch, with which age group you would like a box for, and a message if you wish. Please put your cash or cheque inside and hand to Anne or Simon, one of the Churchwardens or drop into the Parish Office.

Vicky Hall

An Appeal for Shortbread & Mince Pies!!!

In St Peter's we love to offer hospitality and we are hoping you will be willing to help by providing shortbread for the Advent Carol Service (28th Nov) or mince pies for the Carols by Candlelight (19th Dec).



We would like to have any donated shortbread by 22nd November and mince pies by 13th December. Please bring along to church or drop them into the Parish Office. Many thanks.



TIMEOUT

Timeout – an opportunity to share ideas and a pint in the Bier House at Ted's Bar.

Monday 1st November at 8.00pm.

Topic – The Pros and Cons of the Effect of Lockdown

All welcome.

Primetime

Wednesday 17th November.



We will meet at the **Parish Hall at 7.30pm** and depending on numbers will be in the Old School Room or the Hall, so we can have plenty of space to socially distance. We would ask all, if possible, to do a Lateral Flow test before you come, just to ensure we are doing as much as possible to protect one and all. This is, of course, voluntary. Looking forward to seeing you, **Elaine, Sonia and Alison.**

Christmas Chocolate/Treats Appeal at St Peter's for Southport Soup Kitchen



Last year, we had a chocolate appeal on behalf of Southport Soup Kitchen which was so successful we are repeating it this year! We collected chocolate Santas, Christmas chocolates, mini-Christmas cakes and lots of other goodies which were distributed to the local homeless. Anything Christmassy, and in date is fine, the more variety the merrier. We will be putting a box into the Porch from early November. Thank you for everything you do.

Vicky Hall

Read a Book for Advent

There are books in the Church Library to read as we enter the season of Advent:-



“Walking Backwards to Christmas” Stephen Cottrell explores the Advent story through the eyes of some well-known characters.

“Do Nothing, Christmas is Coming!” by Stephen Cottrell. For every day of Advent providing short, practical steps to help us slow down, take time out - and resist the pressure of the Christmas whirl.

“Advent for Everyone” A Journey through Matthew by the popular writer Tom Wright.

“Reflections for Christmas” Steven Croft & Joanna Collicutt. A daily devotional companion throughout Advent.

If you would like to borrow a book or DVD, please write your name in the book provided. The Library is situated in the Bier House.

Take time to have a look.

CARERS SUPPORT GROUP



*Are you
looking after
a relative
or friend?*

***Formby Methodist Church, Elbow Lane
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For more information Email: carersfmc@yahoo.co.uk

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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

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3rd October –
Phillip Porter & Amy MacDonald

From the Church Registers ~ Weddings



10th October –
Amy Ralston & Elliott Taylor



From the Church Registers ~ Baptisms

24th October –
Lily Grace Hardwick,
daughter
of Joe &
Hannah



Winter Tidy Up for the Church – Can you help?

We need help on Saturday 27th November from 10am to rake up the leaves and generally tidy up the grounds. We will also be giving the church a 'spring' clean! Refreshments will be provided. There is also a tidy-up on the first Monday of each month. Everyone welcome.



Face Masks

We are asking that you continue to wear face masks at the 10am Sunday service. This service has the highest number of people attending and a mix of age groups. We wear masks for the peace of mind of others and we do not want anyone to be discouraged from attending.

Of course there are those who are exempt from wearing a mask. It is possible to socially distance at the 8.30am Eucharist and at Evensong so masks are optional and this includes the Wednesday Eucharist.

It has been wonderful to see so many coming back to our services and we want to make this as easy as possible for everyone.

The Clergy, Churchwardens & PCC



HARVEST FESTIVAL

Grateful thanks to everyone who contributed in some way to the Harvest Festival church decorations. Together, we all produced an amazing spectacle! A welcome sign of life returning to normal and collectively being able to give thanks to God for all that has been achieved during testing times.

Particular thanks for all the window decorations produced by The Sunday Club, Brownies, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. Also donations of Food Bank items, flower arrangements, loaned pots of garden plants and Warren Farm, Hightown, for all the pumpkins and maize stalks, complete with cobs! After dismantling and distributing the exhibits, everything was redirected to local groups in need or purchased by donations.



We are already planning next year's Harvest Festival Celebration. Check out these guys! Hopefully, we will swell the congregation with 'Scarecrow Characters', popping up everywhere! Until then, let's make good use of this year's harvest and try something different. Cooking with pumpkins in delicious dishes perhaps?

How about pumpkin scones, spice cake or as a vegetable risotto? All recipes readily available online. Let's continue to appreciate God's bounty.'

Fiona Martin





Harvest photos from David Holroyd



One of the events that has proved popular with the Scouts over the years is the Chariot Race which takes place at Bispham Hall Scout Estate in Billinge, Wigan. Normally the Chariot Race takes place as part of a camp, but this year for obvious reasons it was a day event taking place at the beginning of October.

The race is a timed trial; working together each team must navigate the cross-country course as fast as they can, whilst overcoming several obstacles along the way. Penalty points can be picked up on each obstacle, which are then converted into time penalties added to the team's race time, a handicap is also applied based on the age of the team, so it is not always the fastest team that wins!



Scout Team

A chariot is defined as a free standing two wheeled vehicle capable of carrying a 'jockey' over the rough cross-country course of approximately 1,000 yards (900 metres).

We are fortunate that the Education Trust funded two chariots a couple of years ago, which allows us to enter two teams.

Normally we only take Scouts, but as our older Scouts (who are now Explorers) missed out on last

year's event due to the lockdown, we entered a team of Explorers as well as entering a team of Scouts.

While the Explorers were all experienced Charioteers, only Matthew the Scout team's Captain had previously entered, so the Scouts were given a crash course on Troop night on steering and running with the Chariot to give them an idea of what to expect.



Scouts Team - and they are off!

This paid off as the Scouts ran the course in 10.11 minutes finishing in 5th place, which is a really great performance especially as it was their first time. It also bodes well for next year when we can introduce some of the younger Scouts to the Chariot Race, knowing we now have some experienced Scouts.



Meanwhile the Explorer team, also acquitted themselves extremely well, in fact so well they finished in first place with a time of 7.42 minutes! This was also the fastest time of the day and was just under a minute quicker than the nearest competitor.

Of course, that means I will be looking for a third Chariot for next year, so that the Explorers will have the chance of defending their title, a nice little headache to have!

The Scout team was made up of Matthew Hersey, Theo Summers, Ben Cromer, Jack Bevan, Koray Murray-Cakar and Alfie Johnston.

The Explorer team was made up of Ollie Jenkins, Max Dickinson, Lewis Henson, Jack Warwick-Davies, Harry Conway and Jack Tysome.

Mark Sheil, Assistant Scout Leader





The Annual Church Service was held in St Peter's Church on Thursday, 7th October 2021, led by Revd Ted Woods who gave the address, based on the Book of Job.

We need to listen as much as to talk to people, we do not always want comforters who can tell us how bad things are - we need people with whom we can rejoice; but when the support of the mourners, and their noise, has gone, and we are alone, we need those who listen.

We were sad to hear of the death of Doreen Gillett. Doreen was a parishioner of St Peter's and a member of the Mothers' Union for many years. Doreen recently celebrated her 101st birthday.

A reminder for your diaries:

Thursday, 4th November, Bier House, 1.45 pm

Ken Ward will talk about his visit to the WW2 Battlefields.

A notice will be displayed inviting volunteers to state what category of food They wish to provide for the Christmas Lunch.

Thursday, 2nd December, Parish Hall, 1.00 pm - Christmas Lunch

Committee Members are asked to arrive at 12 noon to prepare.

Ken will arrange carols and entertainment. If you would like to contribute music, poetry or a reading, please let Ken know.

Thursday, 13th January, 2022, Bier House, 1.45 pm

Revd Peter Paine will talk on the visit he led to Ethiopia.

Thursday 3rd February, 2022, 1.45 pm

AGM and Bi-annual Bring-and-Buy.

Any suitable item may be contributed for asylum seekers.

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

Visitors are welcome at all meetings. (Tel. Herbert 873367)

The 2022-2023 membership card is in preparation and we hope to issue this at the AGM.

We rejoice at the resumption of more normal life, but irksome as it may be, are asked to continue social distancing and wearing of masks, for the comfort of others.

Herbert and Jean

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Southport Offshore Rescue Trust

life saving service in an area of coast and water between the River Mersey and the River Ribble, and up to 25 miles offshore, including Southport Marine Lake.

The Southport Lifeboat has helped in the safe return of over 5,000 people since being formed in 1988, and aim to give our crew the best equipment possible to help save lives on our coastline.



The Trust have three launch vehicles in our fleet, a fully converted Caterpillar Challenger, a modified New Holland TD5 tractor and also a Muir Hill 121.

Both our offshore and inshore lifeboats are regularly maintained in order to ensure that they are ready for immediate call-out at all times.



Our ATV quads continue the service of providing an excellent search and rescue (SAR) capability for the Trust. In February 2021, for the first time in the Trust's history, a third quad was added to our fleet. As the quads have proven to be the workhorse of our organisation, it made sense to add the third vehicle.

This additional quad will provide an ability to rotate the usage of the quads and to ensure that two quads are available for call-outs at all times. The third quad can also be used to transport additional equipment using our ATV trailer if required. All three quads are also equipped with an extra seat. This enables us to transport additional personnel to and from an incident when required.

Southport Lifeboat has a proud and dramatic history; the earliest service, crewed and organised by local fishermen, was saving lives 20 years before the formation of the RNLI. In the 19th century Southport's coast was one of the busiest and most dangerous in the country; for more than 100 years the oar and sail driven boats saved countless lives.

The Mexico disaster of 1886, in which 14 crew members of Southport's Lifeboat and all 13 crew members of the St Anne's lifeboat died, whilst trying to rescue the crew of the stricken barque. This catastrophe remains the highest loss of life in Lifeboat history.

Over time the sandbanks shifted, and by the turn of the 20th century, sail had given way to steam. The Bog Hole channel at Southport Pier where the lifeboat was moored began to silt up severely. In 1925, the RNLI decided to withdraw its lifeboat service from Southport. In the 1980's after a series of tragedies off our coast, bereaved relatives and local people campaigned to bring a rescue service back to the town. Amazingly, after only 14 months of the idea first being mooted, the dream was realized. One hundred and eighty years on, Southport once again had an Independent Lifeboat, paid for with your donations, crewed, and run by the people of Southport.

The crew, all unpaid dedicated volunteers, are immensely proud of their lifeboats history. The new service has helped rescue over 100 people, and three crew members have received bravery awards from the Shipwreck and Humane Society. The spirit and heroism and dedication of the 19th century lifeboat men lives on in the present day crew.

Following last year's introduction of our UAS (Unmanned Aerial System) assets (Drones) to our Search and Rescue service, they have been tasked to many of our emergency call-outs. This is especially so in the search for missing casualties within the dunes to the south of our operational area but also frequently to the vast marshland area to the north.



Work started on the construction of the new Southport Lifeboat Station in July 2018. After delays with the contractors and COVID we are due to move in October (at long last!).

Elaine Almond Secretary SORT

REFUSE-REDUCE-REUSE-RECYCLE- REPAIR

We are fortunate enough to live in an age where there is indeed almost a 'pill for every ill'. Thankfully these days they are hygienically produced and presented in little packs, often with days of the week handily inscribed to make our daily pill popping routines a little easier. Usually a mix of foil and plastic these are not obvious candidates for recycling so often end up in general waste bins and onto landfill sites or incinerators. But did you know that there is a now a way that these can be recycled?

The pharmacy section at the back of Superdrug on Eastbank Street has a Terracycle recycling box for all brands of empty medicine blister packs. In another section of the store there is a Terracycle box for recycling all brands of used make up products such as

- ◆ Foundation bottles, concealer tubes, powders and blushers
- ◆ Mascaras, mascara brushes, eyeliner and eyeshadow palettes
- ◆ Lipsticks, glosses and balms
- ◆ Other packaging – caps, pumps and sprays



Once collected these are sent to Terracycle, separated by polymer type and cleaned, if necessary, so that plastic pellets can be produced to make new recycled products. You can find out more about Terracycle on their website Terracycle.com.



So, something else to save for recycling, confident that they will find a good home in Superdrug on your next trip to Southport (or other participating branches – see Terracycle.com). **Sonia Greenyer**

PS Waitrose now have a film packaging recycling bin inside the entrance to the Formby store - check it out next time you're there!

Which one shall I wear.....

Don't get caught out, make sure your pooch has something to wear this Christmas and support **WOODLANDS HOSPICE** at the same time!

Formby Rotary elves have made **Festive Doggie**

Bandanas, Bow Ties and Human Face

coverings, in a range of sizes to suit all pooches! They are available at Animal World, Formby Post Office, Prides Hairdressers, Spar Green Lane, Select Stationers, Walkers Pharmacy (Harington Road), and The Pawfect Retreat, Hightown.

Just a £3 donation, thank you for your support!





ANY OLD PHOTOS?

As part of the St Peter's 275th Anniversary Celebrations in 2022 we will be holding a Heritage Week at the end of March. This will include a Photographic Exhibition of the life of the church community over the years.

Do you have any old photos or other illustrations which could be reproduced for the exhibition? The older, the better. We will be copying any material, so there will be no pin-holes in your valuable pictures! The photos might include church events, Trinity St Peter's School or the uniformed organisations. Any photos of former clergy would be greatly appreciated.

Please don't dash off to your attic to dust off your albums just yet. It would be best if you get in touch with Nick Philpott first to let him know the type of material you have. His email is nick.philpott54@gmail.com, and his mobile number is 07979 892626.

We look forward to an interesting and entertaining exhibition!

As part of **St Peter's Church 275th Anniversary Year** of celebration events planned for 2022, Formby Flower Club has very kindly agreed to stage a Flower Festival in the church in June, but they need our help in certain areas now. Before winter sets in, they are asking for any of the following, to create 'dry sculptures' garlands etc.

Poppy seed heads, agapanthus, alliums, honesty, achillea, statice and helichrysum - dry upside down in bunches, hanging in a dry place. Hydrangea heads - stand in an inch of water and leave to evaporate naturally then dry out.



If there are any other flower heads in your garden not mentioned here, but that you think might be useful, please experiment with drying them out. You might see your contributions make all the difference!

We would love as many people to be involved as possible in this event, and others, as they are advertised. **St Peter's Church 275th Anniversary Year** is a community event. Let's all feel a part of it in some way!

In anticipation of your assistance, thank you.

Fiona Martin



The organisers for next year's flower festival in church are looking for any sheet music they can use as part of the decoration.

If you can help please leave it in the porch.

Thank you very much.

Sue Jacques



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 CHRISTMAS
 WREATH
 LOVE
 WISEMEN
 MESSIAH
 MYRRH
 ADVENT
 HOPE



"ACTUALLY THIS IS JUST MY TABLETS!"





The other day, at a thrift store, I bought an old record album called "Sounds Wasps Make". When I got it home and played it, I said to myself, "This doesn't sound anything like wasp sounds." Then I realized, I was playing the Bee side.



- I was wondering why the frisbee kept looking bigger and bigger, and then it hit me.
- Why did the scarecrow get an award? Because he was out standing in his field!
- What did the daddy buffalo say to his son when he left for work? Bison.

I SAID WE NEEDED FOUR CANDLES FOR THE WRE - OH, NEVER MIND



Tim Wakeling

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE



who donated items during the Harvest Thanksgiving and to everyone who brings items each week.

Your generosity is very much appreciated. The church porch is open every day from 10am to 5pm for donations. Or those who use the Bier House please leave any items inside in the foodbank donation box.

It is also possible to make a financial donation directly to the Foodbank by visiting their website.

www.southport.foodbank.org.uk

Many thanks

REQUIRED ITEMS LIST

UHT milk
tinned fruit
coffee
jam
crackers
savoury snacks
tinned meat
shampoo
soap
razors
deodorant
nappies
toothbrushes

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.

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.

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Formby Rotary 12 Hour Static Bike Ride



Calorie Burn Challenge Relay
In aid of raising funds on behalf
of **Prostate Cancer UK**
Challenge to burn 6000 calories

Chapel Street, Formby
Saturday 13th November
6.00am – 6.00pm

Be a hero and take part

Contact: Peter - 07905453652 or Secretary: Alan - 07446845275



Formby Rotary

www.formby.rotary1180.org
or Facebook!

President: Peter Connor

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.



Bingo Group for the elderly which is held twice a week in the Parish Hall on Paradise Lane.

The Bingo group runs on

Sundays at 8pm - 9.30pm and

Mondays at 2pm - 4pm

Tickets are 50p each.

Refreshments are available – 20p for Tea and Biscuits.

Contact Pat Boardman

office@stpetersformby.co.uk



From the Back Pew Ted Woods

WILL COP26 COP ON?

Before the invention of electronic devices to test toxicity, each coal mine had its own canary in a cage which went down the mines with the workers. The miners used canaries because they are particularly sensitive to toxic gases which are often colourless and tasteless.

When the air was clean the canary sang. But if the bird ceased to sing and chirp, if it began to show signs of distress, the miners knew it is time to get out – that conditions were unsafe and the air had become polluted.

Many scientists today say that the global canary is showing signs of extreme distress and may soon cease to sing.

Global warming, once thought of as a slow-motion process taking decades to develop and giving us plenty of time to deal with, is now at crisis point – and all caused by human activity.

We're in the last chance saloon, according to many experts, and time isn't on our side to prevaricate anymore.

One report has said, "No one can say exactly what it looks like when a planet takes ill, but it probably looks a lot like Earth."

From heat waves to storms to floods to fires to massive glacial melts, the global climate seems to be crashing around us.

"Ecosystems are usually able to maintain themselves," says Terry Chapin, a biologist and professor of ecology at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks. "But eventually they get pushed to the limit of tolerance."

Global warming is tipping regions of the world into drought. Higher temperatures bake moisture out of soil faster. Hot, dry land can be murder on flora and fauna, and both are taking a bad hit. Wildfires create a feedback loop of their own, pouring more carbon into the atmosphere and reducing the number of trees, which absorb CO₂ and release oxygen.

*Scientists have been warning us about this for decades. **This cover for TIME magazine appeared in April 2006!!** And the message hasn't changed. Indeed, it has become more urgent.*

TIME featured the picture of a polar bear standing on an ice floe trying to get across an expanse of water that not many years before had been a sheet of solid ice. Now polar bears are drowning because global warming has melted the ice, widening the distance between ice floes and making it impossible for the polar bears to travel for food.



Another photo, in the same issue, looked like a moonscape – but it was actually not on the moon but on this planet – parched land in Ethiopia. The caption declared that in the last thirty years the area of the earth's surface afflicted by drought had doubled. It hasn't got any better.

Many scientists are saying that we are at what they call the “Tipping Point” – the point of no return.

The canary is in danger of being silenced for good.

As the earth warms, both North and South poles are crumbling to slush – Greenland's ice and snow is melting twice as fast today as ten years ago and the ocean levels are rising.

And it's a downward spiral.

Polar ice reflects ninety per cent of sunlight back to space.

The less ice there is the less is reflected back and the more energy is retained in earth, accelerating the melting process.

And that causes another downward flourish of the spiral.

In the land exposed by melting ice there are layers of partially decayed organic matter – which when released from its frozen state releases more methane and carbon dioxide into the atmosphere - even further accelerating Global Warming. The melted waters affect currents – especially the Gulf Stream – which in turn affects climates worldwide – leading to more hurricanes, more typhoons, more forest fires and more carbon dioxide.

COP26 (The 26th meeting of the Conference of Parties) organised by the United Nations is taking place in Glasgow from 31st October to the 12th November. Its aims are: -

1. Secure global net zero by mid-century and keep 1.5 degrees within reach

By accelerating the phase-out of coal; curtailing deforestation; speeding up the switch to electric vehicles and encouraging investment in renewables.

2. Adapt to protect communities and natural habitats

The climate is already changing and it will continue to change with devastating effects even as emissions are reduced.

3. Mobilise finance

To deliver on the first two goals, developed countries must make good on their promise to mobilise at least \$100bn in climate finance per year by 2020.

4. Work together to deliver

Alok Sharma MP, the former Secretary of State for Business who is the President-Designate of COP26, has said, “COP26 simply can't be another talking shop. We need to be decisive.”

Let's hope – and pray – that the canary will be able to sing again on planet earth. And, let each of us, in our own small way, do what we can to save our planet. It's the only home we have.

November Diary



Monday 1st

- 10.00am Churchyard Clean Up Group - *first Monday of the month*
8.00pm Timeout – men, beer, topics – in the Bier House

Tuesday 2nd

- 10.00am Bible Study Group *with Ken* in the Bier House – *every Tuesday*
11.00am Woodlands Care Home Eucharist

Wednesday 3rd

- 11.00am Eucharist with Mothers' Union prayers *followed by refreshments*

Thursday 4th

- 11.30am A Service of Celebration for the Life of Shirley Longworth
1.45pm Mothers' Union meet in the Bier House



Friday 5th

- 9.30am Little Fishes Pre-school Group in the Church Hall – *every Friday*
10.30am Memorial Service for Edwin Trickett
1.00pm Wedding of Elliot Ketteringham & Lauren Towle



Saturday 6th

- 10.00am The Saturday Crew (all things crafty!) in the Bier House

Sunday 7th The 3rd Sunday before Advent

- 8.30am Eucharist (BCP)
10.00am Parish Eucharist (CW) and Sunday Club
6.30pm Choral Evensong



Wednesday 10th

- 11.00am Eucharist *followed by refreshments*
7.30pm Bible Study Group *with Ted* in the Bier House

Sunday 14th Remembrance Sunday

- 8.30am Eucharist (CW)
10.00am All-Age Parade Eucharist *followed by refreshments*
3.00pm Community Remembrance Sunday in Holy Trinity Church
6.30pm Choral Evensong



Wednesday 17th

- 11.00am Eucharist *followed by refreshments*
2.00pm WOW – service for pre-school children in church
7.30pm Primetime – women’s group in the Parish Hall



Sunday 21st Christ the King / St Cecilia, Martyr

- 8.30am Eucharist (BCP)
10.00am Parish Eucharist and Sunday Club
6.30pm Choral Evensong



Wednesday 24th

- 11.00am Eucharist *followed by refreshments*
7.30pm Bible Study Group *with Ted* in the Bier House



Saturday 27th

- 9.30am Leaf Rake in the churchyard – refreshments provided

Sunday 28th Advent Sunday

- 8.30am Eucharist (CW)
10.00am Parish Eucharist
12noon Children’s Haribo Service
6.30pm Advent Carol Service



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

Notice Morning Prayer –

there is a short service of
Morning Prayer at 9am

in the Bier House on
Monday and in
Formby Chapel in Church
on Tuesday,
Thursday &
Saturday.



A Prayer for Remembrance

Ever-living God,
We remember those whom you have
gathered from the storm of war
into the peace of your presence;
may that same peace calm our fears,
bring justice to all peoples
and establish harmony among the nations,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND



Gabriel Fauré **REQUIEM MASS**

On Sunday 31st October at 6:30pm, Evensong will be replaced with a performance of Fauré's exquisite Requiem in the liturgical context of a memorial Eucharist. Rather than the sombre and foreboding atmosphere found in many other settings of the Requiem, Fauré's work is peaceful and optimistic.

The music will be sung by our choir (with hymns for the congregation) and the preacher will be Matthew Parkes.

Sunday 27th November - 6:30pm

A service to begin the Season of Advent

From Darkness to Light

All welcome

Refreshments served
after the service

