

St Peter's Church Magazine
October 2026

Harvest Thanksgiving

Sunday 27th September

8:30am

Eucharist (Common Worship)

10:00am

All-age Parade Eucharist

Preacher: Revd Claire Lewis

followed by tea, coffee & barbecue refreshments

2:30pm

Relaxed Service for Older People

followed by tea and cake

6:30pm

Community Harvest Thanksgiving

Preacher: Revd Nathan Thorpe

followed by wine and fruit pies

All very welcome

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

October 2026 Diary Dates

Thursday 1st

2.00pm Mothers' Union meeting in the Bier House *with guest speaker David Holroyd "Confessions of an Organist"*



Friday 2nd

9.30am Little Fishes Pre-school Group in the Parish Hall **every Friday in term time**

1.00pm Funeral Service for Meryl Petrie in Church

Saturday 3rd

9.00am Breakfast Church in the Bier House

10.30am Saturday Crew *all things crafty* in the Bier House



Sunday 4th The 18th Sunday after Trinity

8.30am Eucharist (BCP)

10.00am Parish Eucharist *followed by refreshments*

12noon Children's Hotdog Service

6.30pm Service of Wholeness



Monday 5th

10.30am Bacon Barms and Banter in the Bier House

2.00pm Eucharist in Halcyon House

7.30pm Time Out - Men, Beer & Topics in the Bier House



Tuesday 6th

10.00am Bible Study with Ken Ward at 40 Southport Road **every Tuesday**

11.00am Eucharist in Woodlands Care Home

4.30pm Junior Choir Rehearsals in the Song Room **every Tuesday in term time**

Wednesday 7th

11.00am Eucharist *followed by refreshments* – **every Wednesday**

7.30pm Bible Study *with Ted Woods* in the Bier House

Thursday 8th

2.00pm Singing for Fun in the Parish Hall



Sunday 11th The 19th Sunday after Trinity

8.30am Eucharist (CW)

10.00am Parish Eucharist and Sunday Club *followed by refreshments*

6.30pm Choral Evensong

Monday 12th

7.30pm Study Series 'The Danger of Reading the Bible' in the Bier House

Tuesday 13th

2.00pm Bereavement Support Group begins in the Old School Room, Parish Hall.

Wednesday 14th

9.30am Refugee Welcome Day in the Parish Hall

Thursday 15th

2.00pm Fellowship of Wholeness in the Bier House

2.00pm Singing's Good for the Brain in the Parish Hall



Sunday 18th The 20th Sunday after Trinity / St. Luke's Day

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



Monday 19th

- 7.30pm Study Series 'More than a Splash of Water' in the Bier House



Wednesday 21st

- 7.00pm Primetime Ladies Group in the Old School Room

Thursday 22nd

- 2.00pm Singalong Thursday in the Parish Hall



Friday 23rd

- 2.00pm Bible Study *with Peter Paine* in the Bier House

Sunday 25th The 21st Sunday after Trinity / Bible Sunday

- 8.30am Eucharist (CW)
10.00am Parish Eucharist *followed by refreshments* and the Saturday Crew Pop-Up Stall to raise funds for the Christmas Shoe Box Appeal
6.30pm Choral Evensong

Monday 26th

- 7.30pm Study Series 'Faith in a Nutshell' in the Bier House

- Friday 30th** No Little Fishes Today – Half Term Holiday



Wednesday Eucharist

There is a Eucharist every Wednesday at 11am throughout the year.

Morning Prayer – there is a short service of Morning Prayer at 9am on Monday (Bier House), Tuesday (Song Room), Thursday (Bier House), Friday (Church / live stream) & Saturday (Bier House). First Saturday of each month is Breakfast Church.



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

FUTURE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sunday 1st November at 6.30pm Fauré Requiem
Sunday 29th November at 6.30pm Advent Carol Service
Sunday 6th December at 6.30pm Bereavement Service
10th to 13th December Christmas Tree Festival

St Peter's has a contactless payment machine for



The deadline for the **November 2026** edition of the magazine is **Friday 9th October 2026**.
Please send contributions to magazine@stpetersformby.co.uk

Dear Friends,

Someone has written:-

*The worst part of October
is to rake, rake, rake.*

*The leaves look kind of pretty,
but it takes, takes, takes,
an awful lot of effort
'til you're done, done, done!*



From now on the church grounds will be strewn with leaves – as will the vicarage garden! We're in the month when the clocks go back, the days get noticeably shorter and the evenings longer. But you needn't be bored! As well as the meetings of the usual parish organisations and groups, the Parish Faith Group have organised four interesting sessions for our annual Autumn Series of Talks.

A number of people recently have said to me that, though they don't come to church very often (or at all), they have become aware of the spiritual side of life. And they have begun to read the Bible. While that is great and to be encouraged, I sometimes worry that they will start at Genesis and plough through the books of the Old Testament which are full of rules pertaining to a pre-Christian time and which often give a very inaccurate and partisan picture of God that is far from the one revealed to us in Jesus Christ. So, the first session will be on **"The Danger of Reading the Bible."**

Thankfully we have a lot of baptisms in St. Peter's. In the second session we'll look at the meaning and implications of baptism – **"More than a Splash of Water!"** This will be an evening of interest and information to those parents who have had their children baptised recently or maybe as an adult you want to be baptized. It will also be a help for those of us who have been baptized and confirmed to remember the promises made. The third session will look at what we believe when we say the creeds – **"Faith in a Nutshell"**. The final session will look at vocation, which is not just about ordination, but the ministry we all have but at time find difficult to recognise. See the next page for further details. We hope that it will be both of particular and general interest. All are welcome to one or all of the sessions.

The Archbishop of York is coming to Liverpool Cathedral to lead an evening on the Lord's Prayer on Monday 5th October at 7pm. He will be meeting young people from Liverpool Diocese, including some teenagers from St. Peter's, to hear their views on the role of the church. We used to call such sessions "Bait a Bishop!"

We have just had a wonderful Pet Service with over 130, 40 dogs, a pony, a tortoise, a hamster and a bee! People brought along their pets – to have them blessed, to give thanks for the animals we share our world with and to remember those no longer with us but have been a part of our family. It was a joyful and happy occasion. In spite of a few barks, peace and harmony reigned! Thanks to all who

brought along pets. See some photos on the back page. We also raised about £200 for Freshfield Animal Rescue.

The hope is you have received a magazine in time for our **Harvest Festival Week**. Thank you to everyone who has been creative with scarecrows and decorating the windows and to Fiona for leading the team. Thank you to all who have delivered Harvest cards which reached every house in the parish. Thank you to Simon Price for the generous donation of fruit.



So it is now time to come along and enjoy the week. The **coffee shop** is open from Thursday to Saturday from 10.30am to 4.30pm with lots of cake! The church will be open to see the Harvest decorations and scarecrows.

Then on Sunday our Harvest Services include the **Parade Service** with **Revd Claire Lewis** preaching, followed by a BBQ. The **Relax Harvest Service** at 2.30pm ideal for those in Care Homes or who find the morning service to early, followed by tea & cake. At 6.30pm we have our **Community Harvest Thanksgiving Service** and welcome back **Revd Nathan Thorpe**, our former curate, as the preacher and the service is followed by wine and fruit pies!



It will be great to see you at any of our services. We do ask that you bring along an item for the Foodbank and please feel free to invite a friend. There is always a warm welcome in St Peter's for everyone.

Anne



UNPACKING THE BASICS

This year's Autumn Study series has, we hope, something of interest for most people.

We've entitled it **UNPACKING THE BASICS** and it will seek to deal with how to read the Bible, what is baptism all about, what do we mean when we say the Creed and God's multi-faceted plan for our lives.

Each session will be held in the Bier House at 7.30pm. While each evening is a stand-alone session, you are invited to come along to all of them!

Monday 12th Oct: **The Danger of Reading the Bible** - Ted Woods

Monday 19th Oct: **More than a Splash of Water** – Anne Taylor

Monday 26th Oct: **Faith in a Nutshell** – Toni Ashcroft

Monday 2nd Nov: **Grabbed by the Collar** – Jane Morgan

A Hello from Mark Sheil Our New Parish Administrator

Hi, I'm Mark the new Parish Administrator, and I've been asked to write a few words about myself, which is harder than you would think! I would hope that many of you may already know me or are familiar with me, as I have been involved with the 9th Formby St. Peter Scouts as a Leader for over 12 years now.

I've also volunteered for different things at St. Peter's over the years but mainly in the background such as recently assisting with the interment services in the Garden of Remembrance.

I am excited about joining the team at St. Peter's, meeting the challenge of the role, and getting to know you all. *Mark*



Caroline Speakman has now retired from being Parish Administrator after a handover time. Caroline has been the friendly face of St. Peter's to all who call into the Parish Office for the past 8 years. We thank her for all that she has done in the role. Thankfully Caroline is not leaving St Peter's and will still be in the choir, part of the Stewardship Team and our Brownie leader.



St Peter's Singers

Jon Barton ~ Organ
Conducted by David Holroyd

Celebrant & Preacher
Revd Lilly Nelson

**Sunday 1st
November
6:30pm**

Gabriel Fauré REQUIEM MASS



*Celebrating All Saints
and commemorating All Souls*

*A performance of beautiful music
within the liturgical setting
of a Eucharist*



The Bereavement Journey

The Taster Session will be on Saturday 26th September 11am to 12pm, in St Peter's Parish Hall, Paradise Lane

Following the positive response to our Bereavement Journey course, we are pleased to be offering a gentle taster session for anyone who has experienced grieving a loss and may be wondering whether the course could help them.



Grief can often feel lonely, but you do not have to face it on your own.

This informal drop-in gathering is an opportunity to share tea and cake in a welcoming and relaxed setting, meet others who understand something of the experience of bereavement, and find out more about the seven-week Bereavement Journey Course. The Course commences on Tuesday 13th October at 2pm

There will be no pressure to sign up or to share more than you feel comfortable with. Whether your loss is recent or many years ago, you are warmly invited to come along, ask questions, and take time to discern whether the Bereavement Journey is the right next step for you.



**For more information, email:
office@stpetersformby.co.uk**

From the Church Register

Funerals

7 th September	Mary Howard
9 th September	Ron Smith
14 th September	Barbara Knowles
16 th September	Doreen Jackson
17 th September	Joan Jones



Garden of Remembrance

11 th September	Harry & Joyce Parker
16 th September	Cathryn Walsh
26 th September	Peter Church
28 th September	David & Denise Jones

PLEASE NOTE We have large-print hymn books, bulletins and magazines. Those on duty in Church will be pleased to assist in providing copies. Let the Parish Administrator know if you would like a large-print magazine delivered.

☎ 01704 871171

✉ office@stpetersformby.co.uk



LITTLE FISHES

Drop in playgroup for babies and toddlers



9.30am Play
10.30am Snacktime!
10.45 Storytime and Singing
Suggested Donation £2

St Peter's Parish Hall
Fridays during term time
9.30am - 11.15am

2nd, 9th, 16th & 23rd October
(half-term on 30th)

We warmly invite parents, grandparents and guardians to join us with their babies and toddlers for a joyful morning of play, friendship and community.



CHILDREN'S DIARY DATES

Children start in Church at the 10.00am service and then move to the Bier House for lots of fun.

An adult comes with the child and can join in the activities. All children are welcome, though it is designed for the younger age group (up to Yr3).

We also have children's puzzle sheets, books and toys at the back of church please help yourself at any stage during the service.



October Dates:

Sunday 4th 12noon Children's Hotdog Service

Sunday 11th & 18th Sunday Club
25th - School half term

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.

Everyone is very welcome.

Wednesday at 2pm
30th September & 11th October



Children in Church



We love to have children in Church but we don't want them to be bored and we want to make it as easy as possible for children and parents to attend services. There are boxes with books, toys etc., for the children, at the back of church. There are also activity bags.

Please do help yourself or ask the welcome team for help. The Bier House is open during services where you will find a box of toys, a toilet and the service is also relayed onto a screen.

During refreshments after the service there is juice and biscuits for the children.



The next Breakfast Church will be at 9am in the Bier House on Saturday 3rd October

Join us for a short service (about 20 mins) using material from the Iona community. We meet in the Bier House and you will be made very welcome. The service is followed by tea, coffee, toast, and crumpets etc.

Steve & Shena Edwards

Weekly Prayers for our Parish

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

During October, please pray for all who live in –

- 4th October** Glenmarsh Way, Burlington Avenue, Lowes Green
- 11th October** Old Mill Lane, Willow Grove, The Warren
- 18th October** New Road, Clifton Road, Ryeground Lane
- 25th October** Wrigleys Lane, Wrigleys Close, Canterbury Close



Service of Wholeness at 6.30pm

Dates for Your Diary

Sunday 4th October

Sunday 8th November



October Bible Readings

4th – The 18th Sunday after Trinity

Isaiah 5:1-7 / Philippians 3:4b-14 / Matthew 21:33-46

11th – The 19th Sunday after Trinity

Isaiah 25:1-9 / Philippians 4:1-9 / Matthew 22:1-14

18th – St Luke the Evangelist

Isaiah 35:3-6 / 2 Timothy 4:5-17 / Luke 10:1-9

25th – Bible Sunday / Last after Trinity

Nehemiah 8:1-4a, 8-12 / Colossians 3:12-17 / Matthew 24:30-35

28th – St Simon and St Jude Apostles

Isaiah 28:14-16 / Ephesians 2:19-22 / John 15:17-27



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** ☎ **01704 871171**

✉ **office@stpetersformby.co.uk**

A Reflection on Saints Luke, Simon and Jude



What is the context of Simon, Jude and Luke? How might we flourish as disciples of Christ?

Luke tells us that Jesus went out to the mountain to pray (Luke 6 v12-16). As day turned to night, whilst on the mountain, Jesus prayed to God through the night about who he would choose to be his apostles. When day came Jesus named the twelve apostles, which included Simon, and Jude, who we reflect on with Luke during October.

Whilst Simon, who also had the name of Zealot, was going about his everyday work as a fisherman, in chapter five Luke writes how Jesus “called” Simon whilst he was fishing. Simon instantly left everything to follow Jesus who later chose him to be an apostle.

Jude is identified as the brother of James and identified as Jude Thaddeus. Thaddeus meaning having courage.

Jude, alongside Simon, preached the gospel in many countries in such regions as Judea, Samaria, Libya, and Mesopotamia, before suffering martyrdom in Armenia, which was then part of Persia. Jude became regarded as the ‘Saint for the Hopeless and Despaired’. Or the ‘Patron Saint of the Impossible’ living out the gospel of Christ and teaching God’s word alongside Simon

The 28th October is a date when the two are honoured within the Anglican Communion. Other countries celebrate them on different dates.



Much has been written about these three saints by theologians who agree and disagree about their stories. However, on the anniversary of celebrating the lives of Luke, Simon and Jude (Traditionally Luke is celebrated on 18th October and Simon and Jude on the 28th October) we have an invitation to be renewed with the passion, enthusiasm and courage of the apostles, to share the gospel of Christ wherever we go, as they did wherever they went.

When Jesus called Simon and Jude by name, he then identified them as apostles, they both became active in the ministry of healing, wholeness and reconciliation. Many were also made well as they were delivered from evils spirits.

These things, the sharing of the gospel of Christ through mission, and the ministry of healing, wholeness and reconciliation, were born out of Jesus praying day and night. Who was he praying for? The apostles. Who does Jesus pray for today? Jesus prays for each of us day and night. Yes, Jesus prays for you. And each one of us is called to serve him. Jesus calls you. Jesus names you.

As a physician himself, Luke is passionate about the health and wellbeing of all. Luke highlights the connection between Simon and Jude as he lists them side by side in his gospel. Not only did Simon and Jude minister together but so did all the apostles as they were sent out by Jesus. Flourishing in ministry together is so important.

How do we flourish? With all the challenges that come our way it can be hard, and sometimes feel impossible to know how to live, how to 'be', even to know who we are. Life experiences confront our beliefs and may buffet our faith. In today's climate we share our appreciation that healing is not "just about getting better" but about our relationship with God. Healing is about living in the now, within whatever circumstances we find ourselves and articulating our faith when we experience life challenges.



We have an invitation to embody what Christ in the gospels demonstrates; that the ministry of healing, wholeness and reconciliation reaches out to our lives, "to help all people to live their best life" (Dr Gillian Straine). Jesus called the disciples and named them as apostles wherever they were in their daily life. Even in the context of people gathering for celebration, we read in John's Gospel chapter 5 how Jesus returned to the feast at Jerusalem, and in the midst of noise, laughter, people and conversation there were those in need of healing.

Reverend Beverley Smith

Quiet Time with God

Christ the King & Preparing for Advent

Saturday 21st November 10am – 12 noon

We meet in the Bier House beginning with coffee & tea.

Our quiet times give us the opportunity to spend time with God, to be with others, to pray and to reflect, and be quiet in the busyness of our lives, making time in our lives to just 'be.' Using a range of material such as art, music, scripture, poems and quietness you are invited to take time to stop and pause, away from life's distractions and spend time in God's presence.



All are welcome. Do come and join us.

Reverend Jane Morgan



Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. Psalm 119: 105

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 £25.

The occasion would also be printed in the Sunday bulletin.

Please contact Mark in the Parish Office on

**☎ 01704 871171 or ✉ office@stpetersformby.co.uk
for more details and to reserve your date.**

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





A free choir for children
aged 6-11 led by music staff of
Liverpool Cathedral.

Rehearsals take place at St Peter's
on Tuesdays at 4pm-5pm (in the Song Room).

Junior Choir Sefton extra events:

*Tuesday 1st December **Singing at Halcyon House Care Home***

*Monday 7th December **Ring Out the Bells Christmas Concert** at
Liverpool Cathedral*

*Saturday 13th December Junior Choir Sefton's **Big Christmas Tour!**
Singing at St Peter's Parade Service, pizza lunch followed by the afternoon
service at Liverpool Cathedral*

New members very welcome Contact stephen.mannings@liverpoolcathedral.org.uk

**TEENAGER
MEETUP** AT
ST PETER'S
BIER HOUSE

Monday 5th October -
Field trip - Liverpool Cathedral with the
Archbishop of York - (travel tbc)
Sunday 15th November
- Pizza in the Bier House - 6-7pm
Saturday 12th December
- Helping with Santa's grotto

FOR MORE DETAILS, SPEAK TO REV LILLY
07706419034

CHRISTIAN SYMBOLS

One of the most challenging of sermons is to preach on the meaning of the Trinity! As the advertising executive Frederick R. Barnard once said, "A picture is worth a thousand words," so artists down the centuries have developed symbols to represent the Trinity – God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, three ways in which God has worked and continues to work in our world. There is the concept of God as Creator, the loving source of all life, the Son, Jesus, who came to show us the true nature of God in human terms, and the Holy Spirit, God's divine presence in the world, and in our lives that have been imbued with freedom and self-determination.

So here are some symbols of the Trinity:-



This one seeks to show how these three aspects of God are not separate but relate to each other.



The Fleur-de-lis, which sometimes represents Mary, is also used for the Trinity, a stylised version of the shamrock which St. Patrick is said to have used in his teaching.



Musical opportunities at St Peter's

Music is a very important part of the worship at St Peter's. Those of us already privileged to be involved with the music would love to share the fun ... we often have a huge laugh during choir practice! We have space in the choir stalls - not only, but particularly, for tenors and basses.

Do think about coming and joining us. Speak to any of the choristers after any service - or catch me when I've finished playing!



Also - there is the exciting opportunity of a BURSARY for a young musician to become our **Organ Scholar**. Ideally s/he will already have reached about grade 4 on the piano. The organ scholar will have the opportunity to practise on the organ here in St Peter's; and in due course the chance to play and accompany during services.

Please do spread the word about this - organists are in short supply, and we need to do all we can to ensure there are organists in the future ...

David Holroyd

email: music@stpetersformby.co.uk



ECO Church

As part of our Eco church work, we are now a bra recycling station for clean, unwanted bras! This will be in place in the **Parish Hall, Paradise Lane**, until November 2026 (Breast Cancer Awareness Month).

Thank you to everyone who has donated so far this is a reminder that you have until November to use the Bra Bank station.

Saturday Crew Announcement

International Aid Trust Talk Saturday 3rd October at 10.30am – The Bier House
We welcome **Julie Rowlandson** from **International Aid Trust**, who will be joining us to give an update on our shoebox donations and how they are reaching people in troubled areas of the world who are in need. This year, we have sent **over 250 shoeboxes** – a fantastic achievement! Julie's talks are always very interesting and informative, and the talk will be followed by refreshments.
Everyone is very welcome.

Saturday Crew Stall

The Saturday Crew will be holding a **Christmas-themed stall after church on Sunday 25th October**, with lots of seasonal items available.



The Saturday Crew also continue to collect and recycle the following items, which can be left in the **church porch**: Old glasses, food containers and used greetings cards. Thank you!

The Saturday Crew meet on the first Saturday morning of each month at 10.30am.

Mothers' UNION

At his last service in St Peter's we made a presentation to Herbert, our former leader, and sent him off to pastures new in Ireland with our very best wishes and grateful thanks.

We started our meetings again, after our summer break, with a very lively and interesting talk from Fiona Martin who shared her experience of being a Norland Nanny.

We look forward on 1st October to hearing the "Confessions of an Organist" from our own David Holroyd, and are intrigued to know what secrets will be spilled!

Also members will be present in Church at the 10am Parish Eucharist, on Sunday 4th October, to rededicate themselves to the work and witness of the Mothers' Union when we will be sharing information and raising awareness of how the organisation has developed, in its 150 years.

Monthly meetings take place, at 2pm, in the Bier House on the first Thursday in the month and all are welcome to **Join Us and Join In.** Rev'd Jayne



St Peter's Church Community Library

We have a library in the Church Porch with lots of interesting books and jigsaws. Borrow a book or swap with another.

We ask that books are in good condition.

Please no magazines.

Chill with a jigsaw. Jigsaws need to have the pieces in a bag and be complete (very frustrating if a piece is missing!).



The Church Porch is open each day from 10am to 5pm.



GIVE TO YOUR LOCAL PARISH
QUICKLY AND EASILY ONLINE

Contacts:



stewardship@stpetersformby.co.uk
Parish Office ~ 01704 871171



**PARISH
GIVING
SCHEME**

Use your smartphone or tablet to scan this QR code to access your church's dedicated page on the PGS website. From here, it's simple to make a one-off gift or set up and manage your regular giving online.

From the Church Register - Baptisms



Sunday 30th August
Baptism of Benjamin
McFadden, with big brother
Jonathan and parents,
John and Amy

Sunday 30th August

Baptism of Kai Edwards, with big sister
Sienna and parents Vikki and Kieran



Sunday 20th September
Baptism of Cecilia Summer Holroyd
with parents Matty & Beth.



Liverpool Seafarers Centre - an Introduction

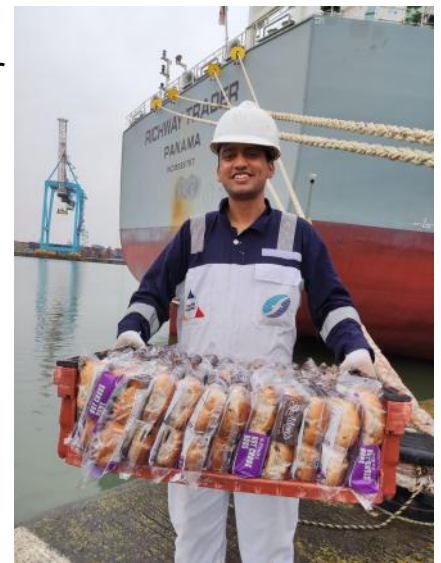


Just under 3 years ago I contacted John Wilson, Centre Chief Executive of Liverpool Seafarers Centre and was asked along for a chat. I was pleasantly surprised at what I found when I arrived. There are areas for relaxing on big sofas and armchairs, a TV/Karaoke room, a snooker/pool table as well as a well stocked bar, lots of books, guitars/keyboards etc., as well as donated clothing free for the seafarers to take (they often are not prepared for the Liverpool weather, summer or winter). There is a lovely quiet chapel on site where services are held on Mondays.

I do one day a week - Wednesdays 11am until 5pm - mostly driving. There is a mix of volunteers and paid staff, some who drive and those who look after the Centre, serve at the bar etc.

The Centre's three minibuses have a tough life driving onto the docks where the roads are challenging in places with hazards like scrap metal fragments and deep potholes. The docks are a maze of berths where signage is limited and road markings sporadic. So I needed to gain "the knowledge" of where the berths are, parking, the safety measures needed like strobe lights and Port escort vehicles in certain areas. **Huge** vehicles move containers and bulk products as well as cranes lifting heavy loads on and off ships. A hard hat, a hi-viz jacket and a minibus will only provide limited protection!

Liverpool imports bulk materials like grain (animal fodder mostly), cocoa beans, molasses (sticky!), potash, soda ash, aggregates, steel plate/coils/pipe, timber and BIOMASS which is essentially wood pellets on a vast scale, loaded on to trains and taken to the DRAX power station. There are exports such as scrap steel, Jaguar/Land Rover cars, and JCB machines. Not least there are thousands of containers each week going to and coming from North America and Europe. I don't know what's in them, but certainly most of the "stuff" we buy, electronics, cuddly toys, fondue sets (Generation Game anybody?) as well as industrial materials.



The Centre's main job is to collect crew not on watch from ships and bring them to the Centre, take them to supermarkets, or to Liverpool to experience our wonderful city. The Centre also covers ships at berths in Garston, Birkenhead and at the Cruise Terminal. On occasion crews ask to go to Anfield and we do if we have time, but no-one has ever asked me to go to Goodison or now Hill-Dickinson, sorry but that's the truth! There is so much more to say about the practical and pastoral side of the work that I hope to cover in a second article explaining how we help seafarers - the human side of the Liverpool Seafarers Centre which matters so much.

Mark Andrews

A Good Servant but a Bad Master

Have you heard the story about the Ford Motor Company?

They had sacked many of their human workforce, replacing them with machines driven by Artificial Intelligence (AI). Within six months, there were so many vehicles returned because of faulty workmanship that 350 ‘greybeards’ (experienced human beings) had to be rehired to sort out the problems and presumably have been retained because of their knowledge. Hopefully, there were some red faces in the Board Room.

This kind of mistake isn’t new; it predates AI, in the palmy days of Time and Motion – remember the quiet gentleman who disappeared from his desk in a grand reorganisation in a local local authority some years ago? Had anyone asked him what he did? Not having to pay his salary was a saving. Within weeks of his departure, sink holes in the administration appeared, created by procedural cables that had all led to his workstation but now led nowhere. I think he worked in benefits payments. You can probably duplicate the stories. All arising because organisations forget that people are not machines.

In *Magnifica Humanitas ... on Safeguarding the Human Person in the Time of Artificial Intelligence*, Pope Leo XIV writes of his concern at the growing de-humanising of our world with the development of AI, a good tool but a bad master, particularly if it is elevated to the status of a god, as some of its supporters regard it. Scientists have long argued that scientific knowledge is neutral as a thing in itself: its use is not, the point at which the morality of those who employ it comes into play.

Pope Leo employs two analogies from the scriptures to portray our relationship with AI: that of the building and destruction of the Tower of Babel (Genesis 11: 1-9) and that of the rebuilding of Jerusalem during the governorship of Nehemiah, when the Jews were allowed to return from exile in Babylon (books of Nehemiah and Ezra). The mythic story of Babel demonstrates the hubris of mankind in seeking divine status through the misuse of scientific knowledge: the rebuilding of Jerusalem shows how the just ordering of society results in a proper appreciation of our place in the world.

The Pope doesn’t make a blanket condemnation of AI, the proper use of which can be an advantage to all; rather, it is an analysis of our current situation as a guide to our attempts to counter the damage that we have made/continue to make in the world. Only we can decide at a local/personal level what it is appropriate for us to do, a responsibility not to be shirked. If I had to choose from the many ideas in *Magnifica Humanitas*, I would choose the following: a common underlying issue is that ‘if technology becomes the ultimate criterion, the human person risks being reduced to data, a cog in a machine or a commodity. If, however, technology is integrated with a wise perspective, it can become an instrument of growth, justice and fraternity’ (Para. 180).

Magnifico Humanitas is freely available on the web – I searched <Magnifico Humanitas English text> – chapters 4 and 5 deal with human relations on a personal level and international relations, respectively.

Peter Andrews



Bible Study enables us to 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 3 groups, meeting at different times. So if you haven't already thought about it, please consider joining a group. Just let one of the group leaders know you are interested.
You will be very welcome.

Tuesday Bible Study Group (weekly) at 10am

Every Tuesday with Ken at 40 Southport Road, Formby
 Contact Ken Ward on 01704 871927

Wednesday Bible Study Group at 7.30pm

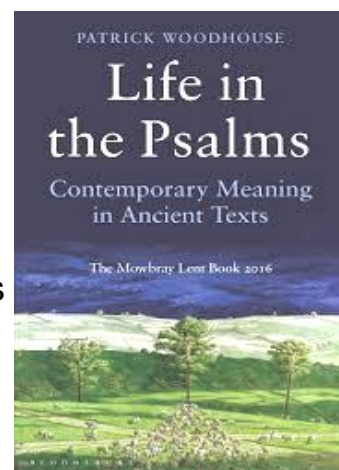
Ted's Bible Study in the Bier House
 7th & 21st October
 Contact Ted Woods for details 07899 429081



Friday Bible Study Group at 2pm

Peter's Bible Study in the Bier House
 23rd October
 Contact Peter Paine for details 07722 127791

The Friday Bible Study will begin a new session on 23rd October. We will be discussing some of the Psalms under the tuition of Patrick Woodhouse's book *Life in the Psalms: Contemporary Meaning in Ancient Texts*. We are each buying a copy of this paperback book so that we can all be prepared to introduce the discussion. It was the Archbishop's Lent Book in 2016, so there will be eight sessions in all focusing on each week's five Psalms. Anyone is very welcome to join us. We meet on a Friday in the Bier House from 2.00pm to 3.00pm and generally at fortnightly intervals. If you are interested please contact Peter, peterspaine@gmail.com.



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... yes, you who are reading this right now.

No matter where we find ourselves in life right now, and in whatever circumstances we continually face, each of us is fearfully and wonderfully made by God.

We read in Psalm 139 verses 13 and 14, 'For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well.'



Living this out in our soul can be a challenge when our way of life has its changes. Jesus Christ was, and is, concerned for the whole person. Whatever our beliefs and experiences about cause of illness, healing and treatment, Jesus was concerned for the whole person in his ministry of healing; that we live out 'wholeness' in our emotions, our body, relationships, purpose, decisions, and soul.

Whatever our experiences and beliefs about healing, wholeness and reconciliation, Jesus wants us to flourish as we believe in him and respond to his teaching on the kingdom of God.

In addition to the 'Service of Wholeness' that administers the sacrament of the anointing with oil once a month at St Peter's Church; there is also the more informal Fellowship of Wholeness held once a month on a Thursday afternoon where we share the liturgy of wholeness and the sacrament of anointing with oil.

From September 2026 we shall be meeting on the **third Thursday** of the month at 2.00pm in the Bier House, at St Peter's Church.

Come and join us for fellowship and a cuppa!

Thursday 15th October

Thursday 19th November

Thursday 17th December.

Revd Bev

(Reverend Beverley Smith)

Morning Prayer

There is a short service of Morning Prayer at 9am on Monday (Bier House) Tuesday (Song Room) Thursday (Bier House) Friday (Church/livestream) Saturday (Bier House)

First Saturday of each month Breakfast Church.



Wednesday Eucharist

There is a Eucharist EVERY Wednesday at 11am throughout the year.

The service is followed by refreshments.



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Friday Morning Prayer is livestreamed from the Church.



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Long into the future, this church will continue to be a place where people gather, reflect, and find hope.

By remembering St Peter's in your will, you can help preserve this special place for those who come after us.

Your gift, whatever its size, will support the care of our church, our ministry and our work within the local community.

Leave a gift that carries your faith forward.

A legacy that will serve generations to come.

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

Contact
Pat
07947
414558

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 - 01704 871171



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Our shopping list

We are currently in need of the following items:-

- Biscuits
- Soup
- Jam
- Coffee
- Tinned fruit
- Tinned hot + cold meat
- Long life juice
- Shampoo + shower gel
- Men's razors
- Toothbrushes

What do you call a flying turtle?

A shell-a-copter.

What do you call a turtle chef?

A slow-cooker.

Me: "Do you have any books on turtles?"

Librarian: "Hard back?" Me: "Yeah, with little heads"

What do turtles do on their birthday?

They shell-ebrate.

Did you hear about the self-help book written by a turtle?

It was a New York Times' Best Sheller!

What kind of pictures do turtles take? Shell-fies!

What kind of jokes do turtles tell? Shell-larious ones.

What do you call a famous turtle? A shell-ebriety!

What happens to you when you wish to buy a turtle?

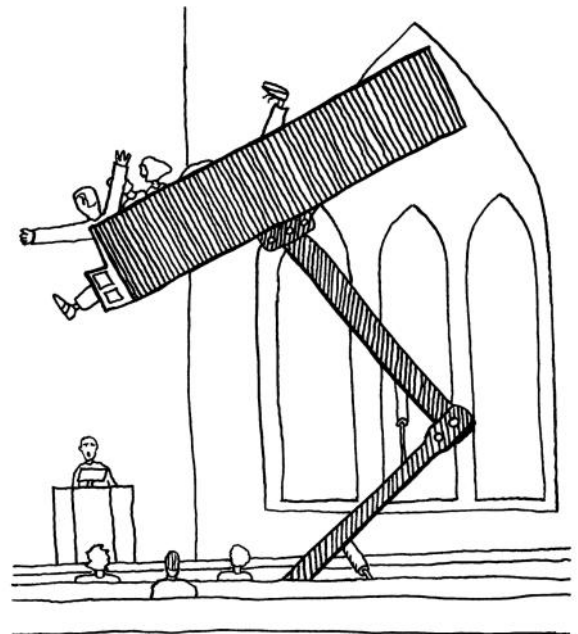
You have to shell out a lot of money.

What do you get when you cross a turtle with a giraffe?

A turtle-neck.



It was time for the annual
GPs' service again.



SOME OF THE YOUNG PEOPLE WANTED
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Our diocesan prayer

Loving Father,
by your grace we long to see
more people knowing Jesus,
and more justice in your world.
Help us to live as your disciples in the
power of the Spirit
and to work to your praise and glory.
Amen.



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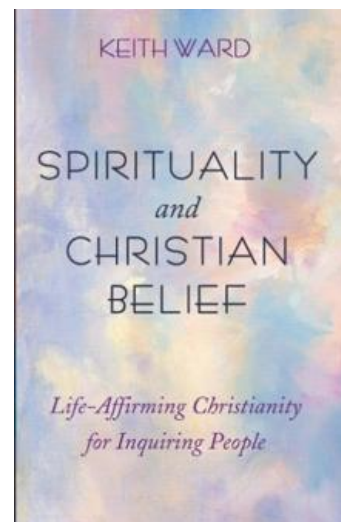


From the Back Pew

Ted Woods

Liberal Faith

I was given a book recently by a thoughtful parishioner. I use the word 'thoughtful' in the sense of being kind to have thought of me but also in the sense of having an enquiring mind. The book, *Spirituality and Christian Belief*, is by Keith Ward, a former regius professor of divinity at Oxford, who has written many books about having faith in modern times.



He starts off by saying that spirituality means more to many people than religion. "Religion is often seen as exclusive and excluding, anti-scientific and illiberal, hierarchical and patriarchal" while spirituality is concerned with the things of the spirit, with "cultivating a sense of unity with nature and care for the welfare of all beings".

For Ward this is a false dichotomy and he advocates a Christian faith that takes account of modern developments in thought and scientific progress, a Christian faith that is both spiritual and religious.

He caricatures what people outside the church think we believe. "People often imagine that Christians are opposed to evolution, and think Adam and Eve really existed in the Garden of Eden, and were tempted by a talking snake..... Christians are supposed to think that God is a loving and all-powerful Father who cares for all his children, yet millions of them starve, get killed in earthquakes and floods and die of innumerable diseases. Furthermore, this so-called loving Father sends most people to everlasting torture in hell if they refuse to believe all these highly improbable things."

And then he goes on to state what he, a priest of the Church of England, actually believes.

"I am sure that evolution on broadly Darwinian principles happened, that Adam and Eve never existed, that God is not able to do anything God wants, and that there is no such thing as everlasting hell.

"What many people say about Christians like me is that we are wishy-washy liberals who believe as little as possible. And do not care about church doctrines that have existed for centuries. They are wrong.....Liberals believe in freedom of thought and freedom to disagree.....To be liberal, in my book, does not mean to believe as little as possible, or anything you like. It means to be open to new ideas, to be free to criticise all ideas, but to be absolutely committed to truth, beauty and goodness and always to be generous and tolerant and fair when dealing with others."

Far from dismissing traditional beliefs of a creator God, that God is Trinity, that God became human in Jesus who is the Redeemer of the world, that Jesus died, rose again and lives with God and will be seen by all in glory, Ward goes on to deal with our credal beliefs in the light of modern thinking.

Anglicanism is based on three foundations – Scripture, Tradition and Reason. Faith is not about accepting unquestionably all that is said, written and taught, but using our God-given intellects and freedom to ask questions and to tease out a faith for today.

Sometimes we in the church don't help the cause of the Christian faith by our apparent prissiness and intolerance of each others' opinions, by our adherence to the letter of the law rather than its spirit, by being hidebound to the past rather than dealing with the present.

Thank God for people like Keith Ward for challenging us and making us think, for presenting a cogent and spiritual Christianity that stands up in today's world.

Primetime Ladies Group

will meet on **Wednesday 21st October at 7.30pm**
in the OSR, Parish Hall.

Speaker is Pam McKee on
'The Experience of Walking the Campo de Santiago.
Open to everyone not just Primetime members.



The next meeting of Timeout is Monday 5th October
at 7.30pm in the Bier House.

Topic: The work of Citizen Advice Bureaux
as many struggle with various problems.

Speaker: Cathy Bass

Timeout is mainly for men who meet for beer and chat with an
interesting talk thrown in.

If interested, just come along. *Ted Woods*



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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Curate	Revd Lilly Nelson <i>email: revdlnelson@gmail.com</i>	07706 419034
Wardens	Sarah Gorman Gill Holroyd	01704 875013 07910 561155
Reader	Peter Davies <i>email: peter.davies1954@btinternet.com</i>	01704 550768
Reader Emeritus	Michael Pitts	

Parish Office	St Peter's Parish Hall, Paradise Lane, Formby L37 7EH (opposite Trinity St Peter's School) Please note opening times: Monday to Friday 10am to 12noon office@stpetersformby.co.uk website: www.stpetersformby.co.uk	01704 871171	
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