

St Peter's Church Magazine June 2019

SUMMER

a time to reach
your neighbours

Matthew 22:39



Summer Evensong

5pm for tea & cake

6pm for Evensong

on Sunday 23rd June 2019

St Michael's & All Angels, Altcar

NO Evensong at St Peter's



Regular Church Services

Sundays

8.00am Holy Communion (1662)

10.00am Parish Eucharist (Coffee afterwards)

6.30pm Choral Evensong

Service of Wholeness at 6.30pm - Sunday 30th June

Weekdays

9.00am Morning Prayer

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday

11.00am Wednesday Eucharist

6.30pm Eucharist 1st Friday of each month

9.00am **Breakfast Church** – Saturday 8th June (change of date)

From the Editorial Team

When writing the magazine, we consciously attempt to balance the magazine between interesting articles, news and advertising content in order to retain our readers' interest. But in writing this editorial, this gives us the opportunity of expressing our thanks to all of our advertisers for their support.

For this we thank them, and in doing so we hope that they obtain a commercial benefit from doing so.

But we are always interested in feedback from our readers, so please do tell us whether you think we have struck the right balance - or not, as the case may be.

Several events are worth reporting in June:

- June 16th is the 90th anniversary of the formation of both our 9th Formby Scout Group and Brownies troop
- June 30th is the date of our Patronal Festival, when one of our linked German visitors will be preaching during their visit to the Deanery, and after the morning service all are welcome for drinks in the Vicarage garden.

Finally we hope that the upgrading of St Peter's heating system in the last few weeks has not resulted in any cases of pneumonia whilst attending services, but the good news is that at the time of writing the work has been almost completed.

Best wishes

The Editorial Team

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

*Please note the deadline for the July 2019 edition of the magazine is **Friday 7rd June 2019**. Contributions to alisonwhiffing@aol.com*

Dear Friends,

Anniversaries are in the air!



As you know from last month's magazine, 2019 marks the 25th anniversary of the ordination of women to the priesthood in the Church of England.

We were delighted that Canon Alison Woodhouse presided at our Wednesday Eucharist on 22nd May which was the 25th anniversary of her ordination to the priesthood in Liverpool Cathedral. It was a great privilege to make this occasion so special.

Last month marked the 5th anniversary of my institution to St Peter's – time flies when you're having fun! On 19th June I will mark the 25th anniversary of my ordination in Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin. The date also falls on a Wednesday, so that morning's Eucharist will be a special one for me.



At the All-Age Parade Service on 16th June our Brownie Pack and Scout Troop will both celebrate the 90th anniversary of their founding in St Peter's. The Scouts have commissioned a special badge designed by one of their members to mark the anniversary of both groups and it will be revealed and presented at the service.

During June The Consultation of Anglican Bishops in Dialogue will be held with Bishops visiting Liverpool. This is a fluid group of bishops from Canada, the U.S., England, and various African countries.

Together they seek to build common understanding and respect among parts of the Communion that have been in conflict. We have been asked to host one of the bishops and we will welcome as our preacher at our 10am Eucharist on 23rd June, Rt Rev Jane Alexander, Bishop of Edmonton, Canada.

And then at the end of the month we think especially of our church on St Peter's Day, 29th June. Although the church was consecrated on 19th July 1747, St Peter's Day marks our Patronal Festival. This year the Patronal Festival coincides with the exchange of visits between our Deanery and the German Deanery of Uberlingen-Stochach on the shores of Lake Constance. We visited two years ago and now it is their turn to come here. Ted and I stayed with the Revd Christina Wagner, and as we will be hosting her she will be the special preacher at our Patronal Service on the 30th June (no such thing as a free lunch!). One of her colleagues who was with us in St Peter's during their last visit is also staying with us, Revd Matthias Sehmsdorf. We look forward to welcoming them both to St Peter's.

As is now the custom, refreshments will be served after the service in the Vicarage garden and you are all most welcome – Patronal Prosecco I believe!

Also during June we welcome Helen Hunter from St Michael's, Blundellsands, who will be on placement as she explores ministry.

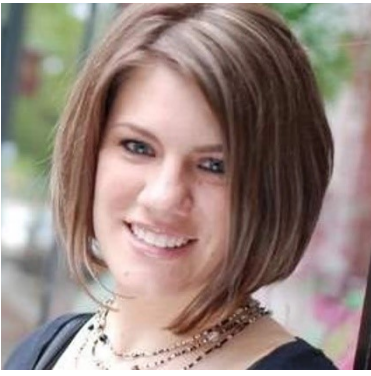
Continuing the theme of women and June anniversaries, 2nd June is the 66th anniversary of the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II. Queen Victoria succeeded to the throne on 20th June, 1837 and reigned for 63 years. 91 years ago on 14th June Emmilene Pankhurst died. She helped women win the right to vote in the early part of the 20th century.

Other June anniversaries are D Day on 6th June 1945 while later that month on 26th June, the United Nations was established as its charter was signed by representatives from 50 nations in San Francisco.

On a lighter note, June 22nd marks the anniversary of Diego Maradona's "hand of God" goal against England in the 1986 quarter final of the FIFA World Cup. The Wimbledon tennis finals were first televised on 21st June, 1937, while 76 years earlier, on 30th June, 1859, the French acrobat Charles Blondin crossed the Niagara Falls on a tightrope. And for those who like trivia, Henry Heimlich first wrote about the "Heimlich manoeuvre" on 1st June, 1974! And here's hoping that this June will be the 6th time Liverpool FC will win the Champions League!!

As you read this the Uganda Team will be working hard in Kalule and enjoying building and re-establishing relationships with the people of St Peter's Church, School and Women's Project. All the news of the trip will be presented at a feedback meeting in July and in the next edition of our parish magazine. Please do pray for the team and all involved in the project. Thank you to everyone who have helped make this a fabulous trip. Watch this space!

Anne



A QUEST FOR INTEGRITY

Sometimes you come across a book that articulates in a telling way some of the things that you've been thinking about but have never put into so many words.

That sums up what many say about the books and blogs of Rachel Held Evans who sadly died last month at the age of 37.

Rachel Held Evans hailed from Tennessee in the American Bible Belt and found herself increasingly questioning the fundamentalist and exclusive teaching of the Baptist Church she attended. At a time when twenty-and thirty-somethings were leaving the church in droves she began to articulate why this was happening. In her book *Searching for Sunday* she wrote:-

"I can't provide the solutions church leaders are looking for (about why millennials are leaving the church), but I can articulate the questions that many in my generation are asking. I can translate some of their angst, some of their hope...

Millennials want to be known by what we're for, not just what we're against. We don't want to choose between science and religion or between intellectual integrity and our faith. Instead we long for churches to be safe places to doubt, to ask questions, and to tell the truth, even when it's uncomfortable. We want to talk about the tough stuff – biblical interpretation, religious pluralism, sexuality, racial reconciliation and social justice – but without predetermined conclusions or simplistic answers. We want to bring our whole selves through the church doors, without leaving our hearts and minds behind, without wearing a mask.

We need to stop building our churches around categories and start building them around people. Contrary to popular belief, we can't be won back with hipper worship bands, fancy coffee shops, or pastors who wear skinny jeans.

Millennials aren't looking for a *hipper* Christianity. We're looking for *truer* Christianity, a more *authentic* Christianity. Like every generation before ours and every generation after, we're looking for Jesus – the same Jesus who can be found in the strange places he's always been found: in bread, in wine, in baptism, in the Word, in suffering, in community, and among the least.

Sometimes we are closer to the truth in our vulnerabilities than in our safe certainties.

When my faith had become little more than an abstraction, a set of propositions to be affirmed or denied, the tangible, tactile nature of the sacraments invited me to touch, smell, taste, hear and see God in the stuff of everyday life. It reminded me that Christianity isn't meant simply to be believed; it's meant to be lived, shared, eaten, spoken and enacted in the presence of other people. I can't be a Christian on my own. I need a community. I need the church."

Her untimely death has taken a true prophet from our midst.

Searching for Sunday is published by Nelson Books ISBN 978-0-718-02212-9.

APCM Review

At the annual Parish Council Meeting we report on the events of the past year and look forward to the future. We also make appointments and this year the following were elected –

Churchwardens: Paul McHenry & Steve Edwards

PCC Members (to serve for 2 years): Gill Holroyd and Fiona Martin (to serve for three years) Andrew Greenyer, Joanne Dean, Mike Fletcher, Pat Downey and Susan Flaxington

Thank You – Andrew Greenyer

This year Andy retired as Churchwarden after serving for four years. We really appreciate Andy's hard work and dedication as he served with integrity and care in all the demands that this position brings. There is a lot that happens in the background and his wisdom and patience have been of great benefit in all the projects and events over the last four years. We are delighted that he has agreed to serve as Lay Vice Chair of the PCC and therefore will still be part of the Standing Committee.

2019 New Electoral Roll - There are 186 names on the new Electoral Roll (34 new, 152 renewals). If you would still like your name included there are forms available in church.

News from the Refugee Support Group

Our last "Welcome" day for asylum seekers from Liverpool was on 4th April. Eleven people came from Asylum Link Merseyside (ALM) in our minibus. It was a cold and damp day so we were unable to take our guests to the beach. However, they enjoy our hot vegetable curries, dahl, rice, fruit salad and other side dishes provided by the members of the Support Group. The Support Group has also welcomed an additional member, Rosie McConomy. We are most grateful to the Mother's Union for their continued and regular provision of toiletries which are placed in individual bags and given to our guests on their departure. We have also received items of clothing (mainly men's) which have been taken to ALM who are delighted to receive them. Our next "Welcome" day will be the 27th June as, on account of Ramadan, we are not able to host a group during May.

There is a blue box in the porch for toiletry items which is emptied every week. If you have good quality clothing (men's or women's) and need it collecting please contact Peter on 01704 809517 or peterspaine@gmail.com.

Thank you for your support.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC)
The PCC is the executive committee of a parish.
A brief report on the May meeting of St Peter's PCC

The following PCC Elections were made -

LAY VICE CHAIR - Andrew Greenyer

TREASURER - Irvine Rawcliffe

SECRETARY - Anne Cotsworth

ELECTORAL ROLL OFFICER - David Manning-Fox

UGANDA PROJECT: Mike Fletcher and Susan Flaxington were elected to serve on the Uganda Committee. **Chicken Project:** 31 people from the School and the Women's Group are being trained in poultry management. The Uganda Team will look at where the chicken houses are to be sited and check feasibility. **Head teacher's Wish List:** Painting classrooms. Climbing and Play Equipment which must be robust has been purchased and will be installed during the Group's visit. The electricity has now been connected. The team will look at a plan for school fencing and the upgrading of the teacher's accommodation. **Thank You:** We are very grateful for all the items donated by people, children and organisations from across Formby. **Trinity St Peter's School:** held a Uganda Day (no electricity, etc), food tasting, talks on life in Uganda and decorating T-shirts to be taken out to Uganda. **Team Visit:** A full report will be given on the Team's return.

SAFEGUARDING: It is now a requirement of the Charity Commissioners that all PCC trustees have advanced DBS clearance. This includes signing a Fit For Purpose Form, DBS clearance and C1 training.

REPORTS FROM SUB COMMITTEES:

Finance - Annual letters of thanks will be going to those in the Stewardship Scheme along with the 2019 Stewardship brochure.

Fabric - A new Church Heating system is being installed and the church re-decorated.

The conservation work on the Queen Anne Hatchment is finished and it will be returned to church after the decorators are finished.

Faith & Outreach - The numbers have increased at the Easter Relax Service for older people and it is planned that there will also be special services at Harvest and Christmas.

Social - The committee are organising a Garden Party on Saturday 13th July at the Parish Hall; a Treasure Hunt at a date to be announced and an All Age Family Night in Holy Trinity Church Hall on 29 February 2020.

BACK TO BASICS?

The Elizabethan Puritans emphasised the importance of the sermon and developed a form of short hand to record what was being preached. Because of this a sermon given by a Leveller in 1641 to an illegal gathering of a free church was recorded. The preacher Samuel How wanted to see religion go back to a basic understanding of the gospels. He argued, "Such as are destitute of learning are the learned ones and truly understand the Scripture." Allied to this was an attack on authority which was part of the Leveller's approach. The sermon was printed. Poor How was sent to prison and died there.

The idea of returning to basics is often seen as a process of renewal. Recently an author decided to move from the trapping of civilization and go to an island. He lived in a small cottage but found this too daunting and eventually built his own dwelling.

The philosophers of the late of the late 17th Century believed there was an original state of people who lived a simple life from which they were seduced to modern ways. They used this idea to show how political society should retain essential principals found in the simple native life. There have been attempts to understand the basic life of hunter gathers. Goodness only knows how this can be done! The carpenters today with freshly seasoned timber making simple furniture are using iron tools, tools based on centuries of skill and knowledge. The man who went to live a simple life on this island used nylon to catch fish.

It is often said that we live in stressful times and that things have become more demanding. This surely would bewilder peasants of the 15th century who watched their crops fail with little chance of a steady flow of food for the remaining months.

The modern world finds on occasions two competing ideas. One is to find an ideal state and looks to the past, the other is to say we are in a constant state of flux and, as nothing stays still, and nothing is certain. Christianity has to face this issue because it affects Christian ethics. Theologians and clergy have for years considered this. As one has written, "How is it possible to change, so continuing to be relevant, while remaining the same, so continuing to be Christian." This convoluted sentence can be a springboard to looking at the fundamental issue.

One answer given by the same writer is, "The imitation of Christ is, in truth, the nearest principle in Christianity to a moral absolute." This has been the cornerstone that allows the Quakers to say there is God in all of us which leads to the necessary response to ethical questions. How we turn to the next person and decide how to relate to them is found in the example of Jesus.

Rod Jacques



**Trinity St Peter's
Summer Fair
Friday 14th June
from 3.05pm to 6.30pm
in the school grounds,
Paradise Lane**

The fair will feature a DJ, stalls, food and bar.
Bouncy castles, tombolas and displays.

£1 per adult entry

All funds raised go towards school equipment
and educational trips for the pupils.

All welcome!

**WHAT'S IN THE CHURCH
LIBRARY?**

The library now has a selection of DVD's as well
as books for adults & children.



*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.*



**Singing for Fun
1st Monday of the month
2-3.30pm in The Bier House,
St Peter's Church, Green Lane, Formby**

Please join us for an afternoon of singing and refreshments.
Everyone welcome, especially those with memory loss.

St Peter's Parish Office 01704 871171

On Thursday 2nd May Gordon McLeod talked on his training as an ordinand at St Peter's from September to December last year and also about his wider two-year training as an ordinand in the Church of England.

This covers many facets including studying for a degree in theology, bible studies, church history, pastoral work, planning and conducting of services, experience of different churches and styles of worship, whilst also carrying out a day-time job, in Gordon's case running a furniture re-cycling unit in Haydock which provides furniture for people in difficulty, such as setting up home for the first time and refugees. We enjoyed his witty asides. His ordination is planned for June 2020, and we wish him a very happy and fulfilling future.

The Deanery Festival was on Wednesday 15th May at St Phillip's, Litherland, when Beverley Boden was commissioned as our Deanery MU President. St Philip's MU are historically part of the MU in Sefton North Deanery and were celebrating their 90th Anniversary. This is also the parish that Beverley grew up in so this made is a very special occasion.

Also in May we were invited to a Garden Party in Beverley Boden's garden in aid of The Children's Society.

On Thursday 6th June we set sail at 12.00 for our lunch cruise from the Mill Hotel, Chester, on the Shropshire Union Canal. The mini-bus will leave the Church at 10.00. This is now fully booked.

The Strawberry Tea and Bring & Buy will be held in the Bier House on Thursday 4th July at 2.00 pm. Admission £2.00. As always, please give as much support as you can to the Bring & Buy as we depend on it for income.

We will not be collecting for our three Projects in June. At the Strawberry Tea in July the item for collection for Refugees will be **Toothpaste**. The yellow bucket for collecting cash for holidays for deprived children and the collection box for magazines etc. for Seamen will also be there.

The Mothers' Union is open to everyone. If you are interested in joining, please contact Herbert (tel. 8733367).

Herbert and Jean



Beverley Boden, was commissioned as Deanery MU President, by the Area Dean, Revd Anne Taylor, in St Philip's Church, Litherland. Present was the Diocesan MU President, Caroline Collins, and Revd Alan Finch, Vicar of St Philip's.





**Friday, Saturday &
Bank Holiday Mondays
St Luke's Meeting Room,
Formby L37 2DF**

11:00am - 4:00pm

Tea, coffee, soft drinks, cakes, sandwiches

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 contact the Parish Office on 871171 for more details.

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



PARISHGIVINGScheme

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

or contact St Peter's Stewardship Team who will be happy to discuss the scheme.

Mike Fletcher 07808 310834
or email:
stewardshipstpeter@gmail.com

Thanks to all of you that support the essential work of the food bank, the need for which is as great as ever.



If you wish to donate to the food bank then the following are items that are in short supply :- long-life orange juice, coffee, long-life milk, rice pudding, dried rice, tins of cold meat corned beef, ham etc.), tins of tomatoes, cereal, tea and cook-in sauces.

Donations of toiletries are also welcome including soap, shampoo, toothpaste, personal hygiene products, and nappies.

Donations can be left in the box in the church porch.

Thank you.



Primetime

in the Old School Room,
Parish Hall, Paradise Lane

Wednesday 19th June
7.30-9.30pm

*£2 contribution per meeting
suggested towards costs.
All ladies welcome, especially if
joining us for the first time.*

*For further details call
Sonia, Elaine or Ali
on 833781 / 874635 / 879976*

Formby Quiet Time

1st Friday of the month
10.00am to 12 noon
Bier House, St Peter's Church,
Green Lane, Formby L37 7DL

Quiet Time is based on the
Quaker tradition of silent
worship. The meetings are open
to everyone, of faith or no faith,
who would like to come and
share half an hour of peace and
reflection with refreshments
provided afterwards.

Sue Jacques

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

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

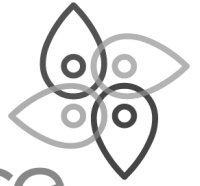
Leaving a gift in your Will is one of the most valuable and lasting ways you can continue to support the mission and ministry at St. Peter's.

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

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.

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*Matthew Dean
Branch Owner of EweMove Formby*



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

Caroline Speakman **Member of the Society of Willwriters**

Email: cspeakmanestateplanning@gmail.com

Phone: 07926 587776

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**Saturday 13th July
1.30pm to 4.00pm**

**at the Parish Hall,
Paradise Lane**

- ❖ *Face Painting* ❖
- ❖ *Mothers' Union Stall* ❖
- ❖ *Refreshments* ❖



Here at Trinity St Peter's we are very proud of the way we do things!
Our vibrant Foundation Stage and Wrap Around Care enables children to flourish and learn in a safe and happy environment.
We are able to provide affordable, flexible, full-day care from 7:40am - 6:00pm, for children from the age of three and are now also offering the 30 hours provision.

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For further information, please phone: **01704 876391**;
email your enquiry to: **admin@tsp.sefton.school** or visit
the school's website: **www.trinitystpeters.org**



Trinity St. Peter's
Church of England Primary School
where children shine

#RuleOfLife

SENT TO SERVE

In the porch at Bishop's Lodge is a tile, with words from Adrienne von Speyr reading "Holiness in the Church is always service". I wanted these to greet visitors and nudge me each time I came home myself.

"Holiness in the Church is always service". The inner and outer journey are often indistinguishable. We are called and sent to serve the world God loves, and serve those who are on the edge of things. I hope each disciple will have a clear sense of what they do, and can do, to act as servants.

Jesus knew himself as God's beloved child, and the love of his Father as an infinite reality. "You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,'" he said to his disciples, "and you speak correctly, because I am. If I, your Lord and teacher, have washed your feet, you too must wash each other's feet. I have given you an example: Just as I have done, you also must do." He went on, "I assure you, servants aren't greater than their master, nor are those who are sent greater than the one who sent them. Since you know these things, you will be happy if you do them." (John 13: 13-17)

I ask each disciple to do "ten things" in this coming year as acts of service. Ten things? What things? That depends on where God has put you but here are some examples. You may commit to help a housebound neighbour, telephone a lonely friend, join a political party and advocate for the kingdom's values, volunteer at your local foodbank or debt advice service. You will know what you can do, and what the world needs from you.



Do ten things. There will be no penalty if you do eleven! But since holiness in the Church is always service, as disciples in the Diocese of Liverpool our commitment to draw close to the Lord Jesus must issue in action; so do ten things, as you are sent to serve.

Bishop Paul Bayes www.ruleoflife.org.uk



Called to pray, read and learn.

Sent to tell, SERVE and give.

Staff and pupils have been presented with a Gold Award from Christian Aid's Global Neighbours Scheme for their global citizenship work.



From campaigning about single use plastics and writing to local businesses to raise awareness of Fairtrade to lobbying politicians on global issues, pupils and staff have been working hard to take their place as global citizens.

Trinity St Peter's School achieved Gold Award status in Christian Aid's Global Neighbours scheme in recognition of its wide-ranging steps to love their global neighbour. It is the third school to have achieved a Gold award and the first in the Diocese of Liverpool.

The accreditation scheme celebrates schools that are helping pupils learn about global poverty and the Christian responsibility to tackle it, as well as giving them the tools to play a confident part in creating a fairer world.

Mrs Pringle, Headteacher said: "We are thrilled to be recognised for the work that we have done as a whole school community to raise awareness of the extreme inequalities across our globe and, perhaps more importantly, the steps that we can take to address them. Pupils in all year groups learn about global issues across a range of subjects each week and gain a deep understanding of injustice in our world. Our SEA committee work hard to reduce plastic waste along with other pupils who are keen to address environmental issues locally by planting trees and protecting the planet...Pupils have also been learning about examples of people who faced adversity and overcame this to be courageous advocates for change. Pupils were then inspired to join in with the 'Send my Friend to School' campaign to encourage decision makers to work to break down barriers to education in other areas of the world. These stories have challenged the whole school community to think about how each of us can make a difference in our local community and globally. We took part in Christian Aid's scheme because it gives us a practical way of living out our school vision and values. Our world is increasingly connected and our hope is for our children to grow as responsible global citizens."

The link that our church and school has with the parish project in St Peter's Church and school in Kalule, Uganda, has been a major part of the children's understanding what it means to be a global neighbour. Children in both communities have written letters to find out about how life is lived in another part of the world.





Pictures have been exchanged and through the team visit there is a really understanding and partnership that has developed.

Trinity St Peter's is also a Thinking School!

Children and staff are also celebrating a prestigious award from the University of Exeter, as the school becomes the first Thinking School in Sefton Local Authority. There are only 23 schools across the country who are currently accredited - and Trinity St Peter's is the only school in the North West of England.

A Thinking School is an educational community in which all members share a common commitment to giving regular careful thought to everything that takes place.

The report states: "The school's core values are embedded in all aspects of school life to ensure the vision and mission statement are a reality."

The report also highlights that the school uses a number of methods to encourage thinking, for example: its own bespoke 4C Thinking Model supported by Thinking Maps, Thinking Hats, "Big" Questions, the Learning Pit and more.

The report concluded: "Trinity St Peter's demonstrates a true commitment to the continued development of a whole school approach to the teaching of thinking."



Trinity St. Peter's
Church of England Primary School
where children shine

This only happened with the hard work and exceptional effort of all the staff to deliver a curriculum that enables pupils to consistently further develop their logical, critical, creative and reflective thinking. Also the work of Think Tank, a group of pupils from Year 6, and class Thinking Ambassadors who have motivated everyone to further develop an innovative approach this school year.

Well done to the children and staff for wonderful achievements and St Peter's is very proud of you all.

Appreciation

Whilst on a bus trip I went into a shop to buy something and there was a queue at the counter. I was about third in the queue but stood watching the world go by and seeing how the older lady was teaching a young assistant to use the till and how to parcel up the customers' purchases. It was slow. A lady farther down the queue pushed her way to the front of us all and demanded, very rudely, that she be served next. She berated the lady behind the counter for her slowness, told her that she should see to her customers and not the young assistant. We stood there with our mouths open. How rude! With great dignity, the lady behind the counter asked her to keep her voice down and to have patience until it was her turn. It was like a circus act, with tempers flying across the counter and most people leaving their purchases and going away. The scene went on for quite some time and I stood, transfixed, watching the dignified assistant and the loud-mouthed customer. Eventually she was served and went grumbling on her way. It was now my turn to be served. The assistant apologised profusely for the delay, but the tears in her eyes showed how upset she was. I told her it was not her fault, but all she said was, "There is never any excuse to be rude", and I agreed. We should all show our appreciation for any task, however small that is done for us.

Even kings can show appreciation. Isaiah tells us that King Hezekiah wrote a poem to God after being cured from some near fatal disease. He was prepared for death when, of all things, a fig plaster was applied to some part of his dying body and he was restored to health. If kings can say "thank you" then we should all be able to do it.

A lot of people find it hard to be grateful, and take things for granted, but our health is something we can never take for granted, it is our most treasured possession and should be looked after above all else. Few people get through life without needing a doctor's help, or that of a surgeon. I have regular visits to see my surgeon, and always give him a big smile and a big thank you when I leave his office. It costs nothing and shows appreciation for his attention to me. Politeness and appreciation cost nothing, nor does a smile. It is far better to smile and say thank you to both strangers and to God than to be rude and miserable. I avoid miserable people like the plague. We all have our troubles, but it isn't necessary to constantly moan to everyone about them. It is better to look on the bright side and be thankful for what we have and have had all our lives. I think that when we offend people, we offend our maker and it is so unfair, as life has been given to us to use not only for our own benefit but for the benefit of others.

The evening prayers that I taught my son when he was small were a 'Thank you' for the nice things that happened that day, it was not a 'please can I have.'

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Martha." The signature is written in dark ink on a light background.

Fishy Club

Fishy Club is our after school Bible Club for children in Years 3 to 6 of primary school. There is a varied programme and each Club begins with a drink, chocolate and games followed by an interactive session. We have had a great year with a super gang of children. Both children and leaders have really enjoyed their time together. We wish the children of Year 6 every blessing as they prepare for the transition to high school. We finished with a party and an inflatable obstacle course.



Thank you to our leaders who give their Wednesday afternoon to make Fishy Club happen – Paul McHenry, Ted Woods, Caroline Collins and Nathan Thorpe. I can say on behalf of the team that we are looking forward to September and welcoming our regulars and new children to Fishy Club.

Anne Taylor



ECO TIP FOR JUNE 2019

Observe an Eco-Sabbath:

For a set-period of time (one day, afternoon or hour a week), don't buy anything, don't use machines, don't switch on anything electric, don't cook, don't answer your phone and, in general, don't use any resources.

If nice, enjoy the outdoors - and gain some time to yourself; or work out where to become more eco-friendly.



Buying New Plants for Your Garden??

Look for a garden centre who will recycle plastic plant pots.

Hartley's Garden, Northway, Lydiate take back your plastic pots plus they have a great café!

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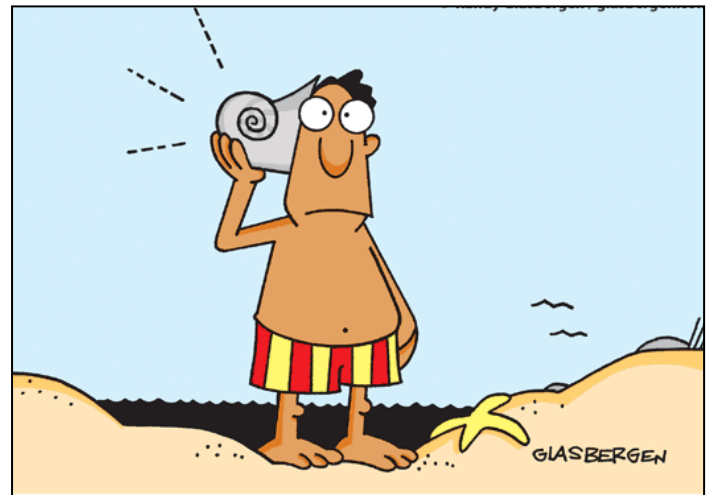
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"Tom, this is Kate from the office. Boy, you're a hard person to reach when you're on vacation!"

Always believe in God.
Because there are some questions
that even Google can't answer.

Give it
Some
grace.
LOVE EACH OTHER DEEPLY,
because LOVE COVERS
OVER a MULTITUDE
of SINS. 1 PETER 4:8

A German Shepherd, a Doberman, and a cat died.

In heaven, all three faced God, who wanted to know what they believed in.

The German Shepherd said, "I believe in discipline, training, and loyalty to my master."
"Good!" said God. "Sit at my right side."

"Doberman, what do you believe in?" asked God.

The doberman answered, "I believe in the love, care, and protection of my master."

"Aha," said God. You may sit to my left."

Then God looked at the cat and asked, "And what do you believe in?"

The cat replied, "I believe you are sitting in my seat."



Open Air Services had their drawbacks at the Seaside

Curate's Bad Joke Corner.....

What animals have their eyes nearest together?

The smallest.

What are the best steps to take when you meet a lion?

Very big ones.

What's the difference between ignorance and apathy?

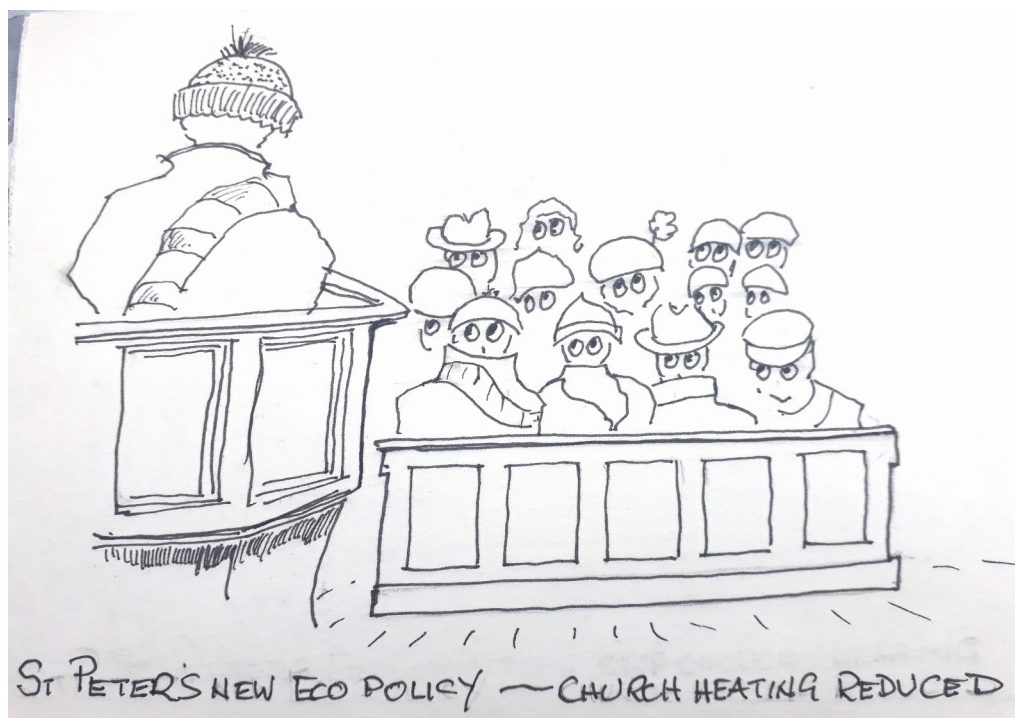
I don't know and I don't care.

If H₂O is the formula for water, what is the formula for ice?

H₂O cubed.



Keep groaning!



(But don't worry the new heating system has now been installed!)

From the Church Registers



Sunday 28th April

Matthew James Barrett-Coey,
son of Steph & Scott



Sunday 5th May

Athena Lilian
Jenkinson-Furlong,
daughter of Hayley & Ben



Sunday 5th May

Fletcher Andrew
Hardaker, son of
Katie & Andrew





Sunday 19th May

Grace Helena-Fay
Hocking, daughter of
Claire & Jeff

Sunday 26th May

Oscar William Poole, son
of Jenny & Anthony



Sunday 26th May

Jagger Cole Tyrie,
son of Abbygail & Martin



We would like to include the announcement of births, engagements and special anniversaries etc. **so please let us know - alisonwhiffing@aol.com**



From the Back Pew Ted Woods

CHRISTIANS UNDER ATTACK WORLDWIDE

It may surprise you, as it did me, to learn that 11 Christians are killed on account of their faith every day.

In today's world, as in the Book of Acts and the early history of the church, Christians are being persecuted all over the world for being followers of Jesus.

According to Open Doors, a charity which monitors and serves persecuted Christians worldwide, every month 345 Christians are killed for faith-related reasons, 105 churches and Christian buildings are burned or attacked and 219 Christians are detained either without trial or arrested, sentenced and imprisoned. www.opendoorsuk.org

The case of Asia Bibi in Pakistan hit the headlines over the past few years. She has just been freed and has gone to live in Canada but she was accused of blasphemy against Mohammed and was sentenced to death and held for many years in solitary confinement. It appears that her case is far from being an isolated incident. Not only in Pakistan but in countries such as Algeria, Egypt, Iran, Syria and Saudi Arabia, the situation of Christians and other minorities has reached an alarming stage, according to a recent report. In China alone, there has been a doubling of attacks on Christians between 2016 and 2017.

North Korea is ranked number 1 (for the 18th consecutive year) as the most dangerous country for Christians but it is also thought that Christians could be wiped out in areas of the Middle East where their roots go back furthest. A century ago, Christians comprised 20% of the population of the Middle East and north Africa. Now their proportion is down to less than 4% - about 15 million people.

Open Doors reports that in many places women experience a "double persecution" – one, for being a Christian and one for being a woman. The charity reports that "gender specific persecution is a key means of destroying the minority Christian community."

While ISIS have been weakened and driven from their so-called caliphate, yet their fighters have dispersed to a large number of countries bringing with them an extreme ideology that sees Christians as infidels and therefore targets for elimination.

All this has come to the fore in a special way in recent weeks with the publication of an interim report from the independent review on the persecution of Christians, commissioned by the Foreign Office and led by the Bishop of Truro, the Rt Revd Philip Mountstephen. The report has found that Christians are the most widely persecuted faith group in the world, and it goes on to say that, in places, the attacks are so widespread and co-ordinated that they very nearly meet the international

definition of genocide. Of all those persecuted for their faith 8 out of every 10 are Christian.

The Pew Research Centre, an American organisation, claims that, in 2016, Christians were targeted in 144 countries around the world, up from 125 in the previous year.

Sri Lanka also hit the headlines last month. Three churches were among the targets bombed by terrorists, leaving 290 dead and about 500 injured. But most of the persecution goes on below the radar of the international press.

The Foreign Secretary who set up the independent review has remarked that “we’ve all been asleep on the watch when it comes to the persecution of Christians”. Bishop Mountstephen asks why we in the west “have been so blind to the situation for so long”.

It’s not a new phenomenon. From earliest days Christians have been persecuted for their faith. Just after Pentecost Peter and the disciples were arrested and flogged for preaching the Gospel. Stephen was stoned. Paul, or Saul as he was then, targeted Christians and had them thrown into jail. Both Peter and Paul are said to have been martyred in Rome by Nero. In the early centuries Christians continued to be persecuted by Roman Emperors, a situation which only stopped when Christianity was legalised by the Edict of Milan in the 4th century and became the state religion of the Empire. Indeed, the history of Christianity is littered with both individual and denominational persecution, not least in Reformation and its aftermath.

Perhaps we in the west don’t appreciate enough the freedom we enjoy in matters of religion and faith. It is a privilege denied many in the world today. We must be on our guard against religious conservatism and fundamentalism and not allow a situation to develop where religious persecution can happen without great protest.

Bishop Mountstephen’s report, which will be published in full in June, has highlighted “the terrible scale of persecution”.

According to the foundation editor of the World Christian Encyclopaedia, Dave Barrett, more Christians died for their faith in the 20th century than in all previous centuries combined.

Now that’s an alarming and very worrying statistic.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY – June 2019

June

Saturday 1 st		Please note Breakfast Church moved to 8th June	
	10.00am	Saturday Crew in the Bier House	
Sunday 2nd		The 7th Sunday of Easter	
	10.00am	Parish Eucharist	
	6.30pm	Choral Evensong	
Monday 3 rd	10.00am	Meditation <i>with Peter Paine</i> in the Bier House	
	2.00pm	Singing For Fun in Bier House	
Tuesday 4 th	10.00am	Bible Study <i>with Ken Ward</i> in Bier House	
Wed 5 th	2.00pm	W.O.W. pre-school service in the School – <i>please note venue. For one month only due to re-decoration of the church.</i>	
	7.30pm	Bible Study <i>with Alison Woodhouse</i> in Bier House	
Thursday 6 th		Mothers' Union Trip to Chester	
Friday 7 th	9.15am	Little Fishes in the Parish Hall	
	2.00pm	Bible Study <i>with Peter Paine</i> in Bier House	
	6.30pm	First Friday Eucharist	
Saturday 8 th	9.00am	Breakfast Church in the Bier House	
Sunday 9th		Pentecost	
	10.00am	Parish Eucharist	
	12noon	Hot Dog Service for children	
	6.30pm	Choral Evensong	
Monday 10 th	10.00am	Meditation <i>with Peter Paine</i> in the Bier House	
Tuesday 11 th	10.00am	Bible Study Group <i>with Ken Ward</i> in Bier House	
Thursday 13 th	7.30pm	Deanery Synod in St James' Church, Maghull	
Friday 14 th	9.15am	Little Fishes pre-school group in the Parish Hall	
	3.05 to 6.30pm	TSP School Summer Fair in school	
Sunday 16th		Trinity Sunday	
	10.00am	All-Age Parade Service – Brownies and Scouts celebrate their 90 th anniversary	
	12.30pm	Wedding of Matthew Bateson & Amy Warner	
	6.30pm	Choral Evensong	
Monday 17 th	10.00am	Meditation <i>with Peter Paine</i>	
Tuesday 18 th	10.00am	Bible Study Group <i>with Ken Ward</i> in Bier House	
Wed 19 th	11.00am	Eucharist in Church – The Vicar's 25 th anniversary of ordination	
	7.30pm	Primetime in the Old School Room	
Friday 21 st	9.15am	Little Fishes in the Parish Hall	

Sunday 23rd

10.00am

The 2nd Sunday after Pentecost

Parish Eucharist and Sunday Club

Visiting preacher Rt Revd Jane Alexander, Bishop of Edmonton, Canada

6.00pm

St Michael's Altcar Choral Evensong

No Evensong in St Peter's

Monday 24th

10.00am

Meditation *with Peter Paine* in the Bier House

Tuesday 25th

10.00am

Bible Study *with Ken Ward* in Bier House

Wed 26th

7.30pm

Bible Study *with Alison Woodhouse* in the Bier House

Thurs 27th

10.00am

Refugee Welcome Day in the Parish Hall

2.00pm

Halcyon House Eucharist

3.00pm

Woodlands Lodge Eucharist

Visit of Clergy from our link Deanery Uberlingen-Stochach, Lake Constance, Germany

Friday 28th

1.00pm

Wedding of Nicholas Smeddles & Rachael Gibson

2.00pm

Bible Study *with Peter Paine* in Bier House

Saturday 29th

7.30pm

St Peter's Choir Concert in Church

followed by refreshments

Sunday 30th

St Peter's Patronal Festival

10.00am

Parish Eucharist and Sunday Club

Preacher – Revd Kristina Wagner, from our Link Deanery

Refreshments in the Vicarage Garden after the service

6.30pm

Service of Wholeness



FUTURE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 2nd July

7.30pm

Scout Group AGM at the Parish Hall

Wednesday 3rd July

7.30pm

Uganda Feedback Evening in the Church

Sunday 14th July

12noon

Annual Pet Thanksgiving Service in Church

From the Church Registers



Funerals

13th May

Frank Gracie

30th May

Ian White

14th June

Margaret Cheetham

Interment of Ashes

5th May

Margaret Brian

Saturday 29th June

7:30pm

St Peter's Church, Green Lane, Formby

St Peter's Day Concert

*a concert of popular choral and organ music
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The St Peter's Singers

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