

8th November, 2026 Benefice Bulletin

Notices for the Churches of St. Michael Aughton and Holy Trinity Bickerstaffe

St. Michael's Church Website: www.aughtonstmichael.org.uk
Holy Trinity Church Website:www.bickerstaffeholytrinity.co.uk

Notices for the Benefice Bulletin can be sent to:
beneficebulletin2020@gmail.com

Rev Andrew Housley
07788 256776

St. Michael's Church Warden:
Pam O'Brien 07889 908088

Holy Trinity Church Wardens:
Mike Emmott 07419 825818
Alastair Critchley 07519 127635

Aughton Wednesday Social Group

The next get-together in Aughton will be on
Wednesday 18th November at 1pm in St. Michael's Church Hall
Come along for a warming bowl of soup at **1pm** followed by – BINGO!
Bring a friend and enjoy some friendly company.

Advent Course

This year we'll be studying the Beatitudes each Thursday at 7.30pm in St Michael's Church Hall, starting on **Thursday, 12th November.** The course books are £7.99, if you'd like a book please sign up at the back of church.

The Beatitudes are among the most important and revolutionary teachings of Jesus, challenging us to live differently as citizens of God's Kingdom. The course explores how we can put them into practice in everyday life.

1.Living with Openness to God – Opening ourselves to God and the w orld.
2.Thirsting for What Is Right – Seeking justice and God's will.
3.Living Transparently – Practising h onesty and showing mercy.
4.Peacemaking – Following Christ's example and embracing the cost of peace.
5.Living as Citizens of God's Kingdom – Understanding and living Kingdom values.
6.Foundations – Building our lives on Jesus' teaching and example.

Christmas Services and Events at St Michael's Church

Saturday 5th December at 7pm
Red Admiral Band
Christmas Concert
Tickets £15 including mince pie and glass of wine

Friday 11th December 6pm
Lanterns, Carols and Christmas Tree Festival

Saturday 12th December 10am – 1pm
'Remembering Loved Ones' Christmas Tree

Thursday 17th December 5.30pm
Christingle Service

Sunday 20th December 4pm
Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

Christmas Eve
4pm Crib Service
11pm Midnight Communion

Christmas Day
8.15am Holy Communion
9.30am Family Communion

Funeral

St Michael's
The late Alex McMinn
Tuesday 10th November 12.30pm at **St Michael's** - 1.30pm West Lancs Crem. The family invite those who attend to join them at the Cricket Club following the service.

Bible Study Group

Thursday 12th November at 1.30pm. in St. Michael's Church Hall.
Everyone is welcome to join in.

Christmas Services and Events at Holy Trinity Bickerstaffe

Saturday 28th November 2pm
Christmas Tree Festival with Stalls

Sunday 29th November 4pm
Darkness to Light Advent Service

Sunday 20th December 11am
Café Church Christmas Special

Sunday 20th December 6.30pm
Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

Christmas Eve 6.30pm
Christingle with Blessing of the Crib, followed by short Communion

Christmas Day 11am
Family Communion

Carpet Bowls

Carpet Bowls will now be played in St. Michael's Church Hall every Friday afternoon, 1.30 – 3.30pm starting on 13th November.
For more details please speak to Margaret Ellams. All welcome!

Bickerstaffe Wednesday Group

Bickerstaffe's next get-together will be in the North Aisle of Holy Trinity Bickerstaffe Church.
Wednesday 2nd December, 1pm
Come and enjoy a warming bowl of soup, followed by Maureen and Charlie who will provide the entertainment. Please come wearing something Christmassy
All welcome!
Come along, bring a friend and enjoy some friendly company.

	St Michael, Aughton	Holy Trinity, Bickerstaffe
1st November All Saints White Revelation 7:9-17 1 John 3:1-3 Matthew 5:1-12	8.15am Andrew Holy Communion 11am Andrew Benefice Service	
Tuesday 3rd November	4pm Holy Communion	
8th November Remembrance Sunday Red Micah 4:1-5 Romans 8:31–39 John 15:9-17	8.15am Andrew 10.45am Andrew Remembrance Service 4pm Andrew Commemoration of the Departed	10.45am Janet Roberts Remembrance Service
Tuesday 10th November	4pm Evening Prayer	
15th November Second Sunday before Advent Green Judges 4:1-7 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 Matthew 25:14-30	8.15am Judith Holy Communion 9.30am Judith Holy Communion	11am Team Café Church
Tuesday 17th November	4pm Evening Prayer	
22nd November Christ the King Red Ezekiel 34:1-16, 20-24 Ephesians 1:15-23 Matthew 25:31-46	8.15am Andrew Holy Communion 9.30am Andrew Holy Communion	11am Mark Morning Prayer
Tuesday 24th November	4pm Evening Prayer	
29th November Advent Sunday Purple Isaiah 64:1-9 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 Mark 13:24-27	8.15am Andrew Holy Communion 9.30am Andrew Holy Communion	11am Andrew Holy Communion 4pm Andrew Darkness to Light Service

Church Cleaning

If anyone would like to join the Church cleaning team at St. Michael's, we would love to hear from you. Cleaning is done on a Thursday morning from 9.00 – 9.30am. Brushes, dusters etc provided.
If you would like to join in, please speak to Peter Fogden or Pam.

Midweek Holy Communion and Evening Prayer

There will be no Holy Communion on Wednesday mornings at St. Michael's Church Hall.
Instead, on the first Tuesday of every month at 4pm, there will be a Holy Communion in church, meeting in the choir stalls.
On the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th Tuesday at 4pm we'll continue to meet for Evening Prayer. Please join us.

Evening Prayer is a quiet opportunity to pause at the end of the day, listen to some Bible readings, reflect, and pray for our world, our community and the people and situations that matter to us.

Home Communions and Pastoral Calls

Calls - If you would like a Home Communion or Pastoral Call please contact Andrew.

The Book Club

The club will next meet at 7pm in St. Michael's Church Hall on Thursday 19th November, at 7pm to discuss 'I Love Charlotte Bronte' by Michelle Daly.
All welcome. *Julia Woolgar*

Prayer for the week……

Loving Father,
Thank you for the love that Jesus shares with us, and for reminding us that we are called to love one another as he loves us.
As we mark Remembrance Sunday, we remember with gratitude all those who have given their lives in the service of others, and those who continue to work for peace. Comfort all who carry the pain of loss, and help us never to take freedom and peace for granted.
May we follow Christ's example of love, kindness and selflessness, reaching out to others and becoming peacemakers in our own communities.
May your love remain in us, today and always. Amen.

Men's Breakfast

The Men's Breakfast Group will next meet in St Michael's Church Hall at 9.30am on Saturday 28th November. There will be a full fry up for £5 followed by a speaker. Sign up at the back of church and bring a friend!

Holy Trinity, Bickerstaffe Christmas Fair and Christmas Tree Festival

This year it will be in the church on **Saturday 28th November 2pm – 4pm.** Please sign up at the back of church if you are able to provide a stall or activity. The proceeds will go towards church funds.

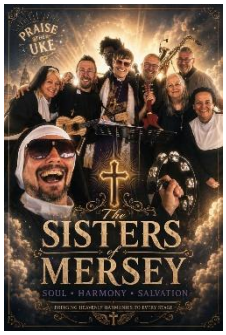
Leading Our Church into Growth Prayer
For our churches of St. Michael's and Holy Trinity

Let's Grow God's Love!

God of Mission,
Who alone brings growth to your Church,
Send your Holy Spirit to give Vision to our planning,
Wisdom to our actions,
Joy to our worship,
And power to our witness.
Help our church to grow in numbers, In spiritual commitment to you, and in service to our local community,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Follow us on Instagram
stmichaelschurch_aughton_
holytrinity_bickerstaffe

If you would like to receive the Benefice Bulletin by email, please contact Andrew or Pam
beneficebulletin2020@gmail.com



Sisters of Mersey Concert. Saturday 13th Feb 2027 at 7:30pm.

Save the date for a fantastic concert at Holy Trinity Church Bickerstaffe to raise funds for our beautiful Church.

Entertainment will be provided by the Sisters of Mersey who we enjoyed at Bickerstock 2025 and 2026.

Sign-up sheet in Church to show your interest or contact Edward westlancsedward@btinternet.com or 07971 299606.

Bickerstaffe Church Walking Group

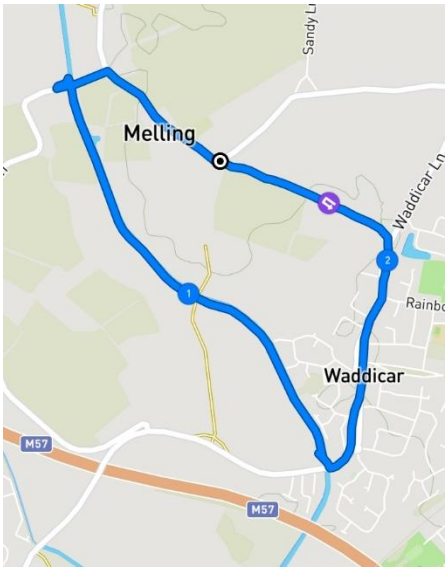
Meeting on Saturday
7th November at 11am at
The Bootle Arms in Melling.

The walk will be just over 2.5 miles.

At your own risk, please wear sensible footwear.
All walks have been risk assessed
Please consider that you are physically capable of being able to complete the walk. Please also consider what equipment may be needed for the walk.

We will visit parts of Melling with great views.

Any questions ask Edward McCarthy.
westlancsedward@btinternet.com



1. Start at The Bootle Arms, go past the Church on Rock Lane, turn left onto Brewery Lane, head to the canal.
2. Join the canal, follow the Canal Path for around a mile.
3. Come off the canal path onto the main road, Waddicar Lane.
4. Follow Waddicar Lane, you will see the Horse and Jockey Pub first. Walk on the pavement of Waddicar Lane for around half a mile, you will reach the old Catholic Church, known before as St Kentigan's.
5. From here/ Chapel Lane there is a footpath which goes alongside a farm.
6. This footpath goes across fields until reaching the junction of Rock Lane/Tithebarn Lane, you will see a post-box.
7. From here walk down the track known as Melling Rocks you will reach a farm, then turn back. Go back to the post-box.
8. From post-box head back along Rock Lane to The Bootle Arms.



If you would like to help St. Michael's Church financially -

Please consider a one-off or regular donation.
https://bit.ly/StMichaelsPGS

Also, please consider registering with easyfundraising to raise free donations every time you shop online – from your weekly shop to your annual holiday – you could be raising free donations for St Michael's.

https://bit.ly/StMichaelsEasyfundraising

Any questions about either of the above, email -

treasurer@aughtonstmichael.org.uk

or speak to Anthony in church.

If you would like to help Holy Trinity, Bickerstaffe financially –

Please consider a one-off or regular donation.

parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/holy-trinity-bickerstaffe-ormskirk