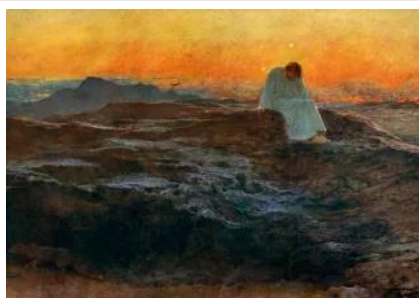


# 18<sup>th</sup> February, 2024 Benefice Bulletin

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

St. Michael's Church Website: [www.aughtonstmichael.org.uk](http://www.aughtonstmichael.org.uk)  
Holy Trinity Church Website: [www.bickerstaffeholytrinity.co.uk](http://www.bickerstaffeholytrinity.co.uk)

Notices for the Benefice Bulletin can be sent to  
[beneficebulletin2020@gmail.com](mailto:beneficebulletin2020@gmail.com)



**Rev Andrew Housley**  
01695 423204  
07788 256776

**St. Michael's Church Wardens:**  
Margaret Ellams 07753 801345  
Pam O'Brien 07889 908088

**Holy Trinity Church Wardens:**  
Mike Emmott 07419 825818  
Irene McCarthy 07818 205597

**Join us this Sunday for our  
informal all age service for  
all the family.**

**St Michael's 9.30am**

**Holy Trinity 11am**

**Funerals:**  
**St Michael, Aughton**

**Barbara Joan Jackson**  
Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> February at 1pm  
**Susan Kennedy**  
Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March 12.30pm

### **Wednesday Communion**

The Wednesday Communion  
meets in St Michael's Church Hall  
on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of  
each month at 11.15am. **The next  
will be on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup>  
February.** *Due to the Friends of  
St Michael's bridge afternoon  
there will be no refreshments  
following the service.*

### **PCC Meetings:**

#### **Holy Trinity**

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30pm

#### **St Michael's**

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February at  
7.45pm

### **Stanley Arms Pub Quiz**

If anyone from St Michael's or  
Holy Trinity would like to join in a  
church pub quiz team, then  
please come along to the Stanley  
Arms each Tuesday at 8.30pm

### **Wednesday Fellowship**

The next Fellowship meeting will  
be in St Michael's Church Hall at  
1.30pm on **21<sup>st</sup> February.**

**'Bee Keeping'  
with Jo Ainsworth.**

There will be honey cake to taste  
and products for sale Meetings  
begin at 1.30pm please join us if  
you can.

### **Bible Study**

The group will meet again on  
**22<sup>nd</sup> February** in St. Michael's  
Church Hall at 1.30pm to continue  
the study of the book of Esther.

### **Lent reflections and breakfast at Bickerstaffe School**

The Lent reflections and breakfast  
at Bickerstaffe School will be each  
Wednesday at 8am during Lent  
starting on **Wednesday 21st  
February.** All welcome.

### **Aughton Cluster Standing Committee Meeting**

There will be a joint meeting on  
**Monday 26th February at  
7.30pm** at Christ Church Ministry  
Centre for all the Standing  
Committees in our Cluster.

### **Bingo at Bickerstaffe**

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March 7.30pm at Four  
Lane Ends Mission. Bring your  
own drinks and nibbles.  
Tea/Coffee and fresh made cakes  
are included in the price of the  
tickets which can be bought on  
the night. All welcome!

### **Ormskirk Clocktower Rotary**

The Tea Party at Christ Church  
Ministry Centre for senior citizens  
on Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup> February 2.00 –  
4.30pm. There are a few tickets  
left at the back of church.



### **England v Ireland Live-stream**

On Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March England  
and Ireland will meet one another  
in the Six Nations Championship,  
the game begins at 4.45pm. We  
plan to live stream the game and  
watch in St Michael's Church Hall.  
Bring your own drinks and snacks.



### **World Day of Prayer 2024**

This service is being held at Christ  
Church on **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March at  
7.30pm.**

Theme this year is '*I beg you,  
bear with one another in love*'.  
It has been prepared by the  
Christian women of Palestine.  
If anyone needs a lift please  
contact Margaret Ellams

**Gift Day** - The annual Gift Day at  
Holy Trinity and St Michael's will  
be on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March. The Gift  
Day is an opportunity to give a gift  
to the church not only in  
appreciation of the fellowship we  
receive but also in appreciation of  
the ministry we receive and to  
give thanks for all that God has  
done in our lives.

*Church Wardens*

### **Our Focus Areas:**

**Please keep praying** for our three focus areas at St Michael's and Holy Trinity and think if there is anything you can do to help with any of them.

**Grow a sustainable ministry to the increasing number who are unable to attend church.**

**Develop the third Sunday of the month into an all-age service and grow the number of children and young families who attend it.**

**Increase the number of volunteers involved in the worship, ministry and maintenance of St Michael's and Holy Trinity so that it doesn't always fall onto the same few.**

### **Church Cleaning**

Can anyone spare 30mins on Thursday mornings to help clean in St Michael's Church? There are a small number of people who regularly keep the church looking well but it would be so helpful if we could enlist a few more people to lighten the load. Please speak to Peter Fogden or Pam if you can offer help.

### **Benefice Bulletin**

If you would like to receive the Benefice Bulletin by email, please contact Andrew or Pam  
[beneficebulletin2020@gmail.com](mailto:beneficebulletin2020@gmail.com)

### **Home Communion and Pastoral calls**

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

### **Home Communion and Pastoral Calls**

If you would like a home Communion or a pastoral call, please contact Andrew.

### **Benefice Facebook Page**

If you have a Facebook account, become a member of the 'Aughton & Bickerstaffe Benefice' group for daily prayers and news

### **Skelmersdale Food Bank**

The food bank will be extremely grateful for any donations.

#### **CURRENT SHORTAGES:**

Jam  
Cereal  
Tinned fruit  
Tinned chopped tomatoes  
Tinned meat (cold and hot)  
UHT milk and juice  
Washing up liquid  
Toiletries – deodorant, shower gel  
Toilet rolls, toothpaste, sanitary products  
**Thank you.**

### **Lifts to Church**

Some members of our churches would at times like a lift to church, if you are able to help then please let Andrew or the church wardens know.

### **Holy Trinity**

Would sidespeople please sign the rota at the back of church to help welcome people and to count the money following the service.  
Many thanks.

### **9.30 am Service at St. Michaels's Church**

Please consider adding your name to the calendars at the back of church, if you are able to help at the 9.30am services with any of the following

- epistle reader
- reader of intercessions
- serving the chalice
- sidesperson

Please also add your name to the calendar if you are able to provide flowers (to buy flowers or donate money for flowers) for the two vases in the sanctuary.

There is also a sign-up sheet if anyone is able to help serve tea/coffee after the 9.30am services.

**Your help would be very much appreciated with any of the above.**

If you need more information, please see Margaret or Pam or Andrew.

### **Churches Together in Ormskirk Rep**

We still do not have a representative from St. Michael's for Churches Together in Ormskirk. If anyone is interested please speak to Andrew.

## Bickerstaffe Church Walking Group

The next walk will be in Lathom on **Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> February** starting promptly at 11am The walk is 2.34 miles

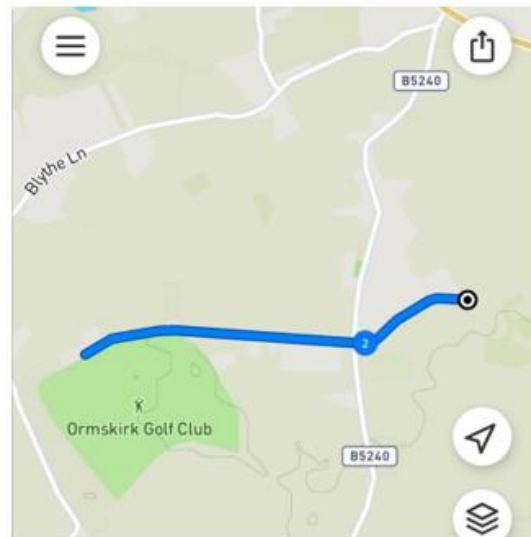
1. Park and meet at Lathom Chapel.
2. We start with a look around the Chapel and refreshments will be provided.
3. Walk down Cranes Lane and back.
4. We shall go to The Plough Inn for lunch.



At your own risk and please wear sensible footwear.

The walking group meets monthly.

Any questions ask Edward McCarthy  
[westlancsedward@btinternet.com](mailto:westlancsedward@btinternet.com)  
Or ring Edward on 07971 299606



	<b>St. Michael, Aughton</b>	<b>Holy Trinity, Bickerstaffe</b>
<b>4<sup>th</sup> February</b> <b>Second Sunday before Lent</b> <b>Green</b> Isaiah 40.21-31 1 Corinthians 9.16-23 Mark 1.29-39	8am Andrew Holy Communion (BCP)  <i>There will be no 9.30am service at St Michael's</i>	11am Andrew Benefice Service
<b>11<sup>th</sup> February</b> <b>Sunday before Lent</b> <b>Green</b> 2 Kings 2.1-12 2 Corinthians 4.3-6 Mark 9.2-9	8am Andrew Holy Communion (BCP)  9.30am Judith Holy Communion (CW)  9.30am Andrew, Margaret & Pam Messy Church (St Michael's Hall)	11am Judith Holy Communion (CW)
<b>Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February</b> <b>Ash Wednesday</b>	11.15am Andrew Holy Communion	
<b>18<sup>th</sup> February</b> <b>First Sunday of Lent</b> <b>Purple</b> Genesis 9.8-17 1 Peter 3.18-22 Mark 1.9-15	8am Andrew Holy Communion (BCP)  9.30am Andrew Informal Family Service	11am Andrew Informal Family Service
<b>25<sup>th</sup> February</b> <b>Second Sunday of Lent</b> <b>Purple</b> Genesis 17.1-7,15-16 Romans 4.13-25 Mark 8.31-38	8am Andrew Holy Communion (BCP)  9.30am Andrew Holy Communion (CW)	11am Mark Morning Prayer
<b>Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February</b>	11.15am Judith Holy Communion	

	<b>St Michael, Aughton</b>	<b>Holy Trinity, Bickerstaffe</b>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> March</b> <b>Third Sunday of Lent</b> <b>Purple</b> Exodus 20.1-17; 1 Corinthians 1.18-25; John 2.13-22	<b>8am Andrew</b> <b>Holy Communion (BCP)</b>  <b>9.30am Andrew</b> <b>Holy Communion</b>	<b>11am Andrew</b> <b>Holy Communion</b>
<b>10<sup>th</sup> March</b> <b>Mothering Sunday</b> <b>Purple</b> 1 Samuel 1.20-28 2 Corinthians 1.3-7 Luke 2.33-35	<b>8am Andrew</b> <b>Holy Communion (BCP)</b>  <b>9.30am Andrew</b> <b>Mothering Sunday</b> <b>Service</b>	<b>11am Andrew</b> <b>Mothering Sunday</b> <b>Service</b>
<b>Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>11.15am Andrew</b> <b>Holy Communion</b>	
<b>17<sup>th</sup> March</b> <b>Fifth Sunday of Lent</b> <b>Purple</b> Jeremiah 31.31-34; Hebrews 5.5-10; John 12.20-33	<b>8am Judith</b> <b>Holy Communion (BCP)</b>  <b>9.30am Judith</b> <b>Holy Communion</b>	<b>11am Mark</b> <b>Morning Prayer</b>
<b>24<sup>th</sup> March</b> <b>Palm Sunday</b> <b>Red</b> Isaiah 50.4-9a; Philippians 2.5-11; Mark 11.1-11	<b>8am Andrew</b> <b>Holy Communion (BCP)</b>	<b>11am Andrew</b> <b>United Benefice Palm</b> <b>Sunday procession and</b> <b>service</b>
<b>Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>11.15am Judith</b> <b>Holy Communion</b>	
<b>28<sup>th</sup> March</b> <b>Maundy Thursday</b>		<b>7pm Andrew</b> <b>Symbolic Passover Meal</b>
<b>29<sup>th</sup> March</b> <b>Good Friday</b>	<b>10.00am Andrew</b> <b>Good Friday Service</b>	
<b>31<sup>st</sup> March</b> <b>Easter Sunday</b> <b>White</b> Acts 10.34-43; 1 Corinthians 15.1-11; Mark 16.1-8	<b>8am Andrew</b> <b>Holy Communion (BCP)</b>  <b>9.30am Andrew</b> <b>Easter Celebration</b>	<b>11am Andrew</b> <b>Easter Celebration</b>

# Regular Giving

## St. Michael's:

**The best way** to support our share of the diocese clergy stipends and pensions, is through the **PARISH GIVING SCHEME**.

The Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) will:

- Dramatically reduce the time the treasurer needs to devote to administration
- Give you regular and speedy payments and returns from Gift Aid
- Offer an easy way to tackle static giving with the value of gifts being raised by inflation on an annual basis.

The Parish Giving Scheme allows all who currently give by standing order, envelopes or loose on the offering plate, to plan and manage their giving through Direct Debit.

To register online – [Aughton St Michael - Parish Giving Scheme](#) (or, if you prefer, by phone, call 0333 002 1271).

Our parish PGS code is 220622143. Everything you give comes to St. Michael's; **PGS does not deduct a fee from your gift.**

## Raising funds for St. Michael's while shopping online

Whenever you buy anything elsewhere online – from your weekly shop to your annual holiday – you could be raising free donations for St Michael's with easyFundraising. There are over 4,000 shops and sites on board ready to make a donation – including eBay, Argos, John Lewis, ASOS, Booking.com and M&S – and it won't cost you a penny extra to help us raise funds. All you need to do is:

1. Go to [https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stmichaelschaughton1396sb/?utm\\_campaign=raise-more](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stmichaelschaughton1396sb/?utm_campaign=raise-more) and join for free.
2. Every time you shop online, go to easyfundraising first to find the site you want and start shopping.
3. After you have checked out, the retailer will make a donation to St Michael's Church at no extra cost to you.

Thank you for your support.

## Holy Trinity:

To help with cash flow, if you haven't already, please consider setting up a Standing Order.

Thank you for your ongoing support.