



**Rev Andrew Housley**  
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**St. Michael's Church Wardens :**  
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**Holy Trinity Church Wardens:**  
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**Wednesday Communion**

The next Communion will be on  
**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April** in  
St. Michael's Church Hall at  
11.15am, after which there will be  
a sandwich lunch ... £3.

**Bible Study Group** will meet  
again on **11<sup>th</sup> April** in  
St. Michael's Church Hall at  
1.30pm to continue the study of  
the book of Esther.



The next Messy Church will be on  
**Sunday, 14<sup>th</sup> April at 9.30am** in  
St. Michael's Church Hall.  
Spread the word!!

**St. Michael's Annual Meeting**

This year's annual meeting will be  
on **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April** following the  
9.30am church service. Please  
send any group reports to James.  
[james.parsons19@btinternet.com](mailto:james.parsons19@btinternet.com)  
There will be vacancies on the  
PCC. Please ask Andrew,  
Margaret or Pam for details.

**Wednesday Fellowship**

The next Fellowship meeting will  
be on **17th April**.  
'History of Lancashire Dialect' in  
songs poems and stories with  
Sid Calderbank.  
Meetings begin at 1.30pm in the  
Church Hall. Please join us  
Everyone welcome!

**Pentecost Sunday**

The churches of St Michael's  
Aughton, Holy Trinity Bickerstaffe,  
Christ Church Aughton, St Mark's  
Scarisbrick and St James  
Westhead will join together to  
celebrate Pentecost on **Sunday  
19<sup>th</sup> May** on the Parish Field in  
Bickerstaffe. The service will be at  
11am and following the service  
we'll enjoy a picnic. There will be  
a craft tent for the children and  
other activities. Please put the  
date in your diary and invite  
friends and family.

**Dying Matters Awareness Week**

On **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May 7pm – 9pm**  
the churches of the cluster have  
invited Dr Clare Finnegan from  
Queenscourt Hospice to speak  
about issues related to dying. The  
session will be held at Christ  
Church Ministry Centre. Local  
charities, health care  
professionals and funeral  
directors will also be there. For  
any further information, please  
speak to Andrew.

**Visitation Service**

This year there will be a combined  
Archdeacons' Visitation with  
Bishop John at **Liverpool  
Cathedral on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June at  
3pm**. Bishop John will also  
preach at the service. Although  
this Visitation service is for church  
wardens to be admitted for office,  
all other church members are very  
welcome to attend.

**Leading your Church into  
Growth (LYCIG)**

The clergy of the churches in the  
cluster are attending the LYCIG  
conference at Swanwick, **Monday  
14<sup>th</sup> October – Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup>  
October**. We are hoping the  
conference will give us both vision  
and training as we join together in  
growing our churches. The  
conference is designed for both  
clergy and members of the  
congregation and we would like to  
take one or two representatives  
from each congregation. If you are  
interested in representing St.  
Michael's or Holy Trinity then  
please speak to Andrew. Places  
on the conference are limited and  
so we would like to know asap.

**Andrew's Lent Challenge in  
Support of Campaign Against  
Living Miserably**

A BIG thank you to all who  
donated towards the Campaign  
against living Miserable. To date  
£1300 has been raised, £500 via  
Facebook and £800 via the  
sponsor form.

**Will Thorpe's Ironman  
challenge in aid of the Roy  
Castle Lung Cancer Foundation**

Will and his friend Alex are both  
taking on a full distance Ironman  
triathlon in Austria on 16<sup>th</sup> June  
and raising money for the Roy  
Castle Lung Cancer Foundation. If  
you would like to donate please  
use the following  
link: [https://www.justgiving.com/pa  
ge/will-and-alex-ironman-austria](https://www.justgiving.com/page/will-and-alex-ironman-austria)

### 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.

### 9.30 am Service at St. Michael's Church

Offers of help are always welcome if you would like to volunteer to:

- read the epistle
- read the intercessions
- serve the chalice
- generally help

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.

### 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.

### 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

### 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 a pastoral call, please contact Andrew.

### 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.

### Benefice Facebook Page

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

**Cystic Fibrosis the reason I run**

**3k FUN RUN**

**Sunday 28th April 2024**  
**Edge Hill Sport**  
**10.30AM**

Come along and run, jog, or pram push the 3k route and help us raise money and awareness for The Cystic Fibrosis Trust (Ormskirk & District Branch)

After collecting your medal, join in the fun on campus with entertainment, refreshments and photos on the winner podium.

Registrations open from 9.30am  
Race starts at 10.30am  
Earlybird discounts available

Enter Online...  
BookItZone.com

[https://bookitzone.com/CysticFibrosis\\_EdgeHillQJEX](https://bookitzone.com/CysticFibrosis_EdgeHillQJEX)

### **Bickerstaffe Church Walking Group**

The next walk will be on Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup> April meeting at 11.00am at St. Helen's Crematorium car park.

The walk will take just over an hour and will be 2.5 miles walking through parts of Windle and Crank.

Please wear sensible footwear.

After the walk we can drive to the Abbey Pub on Hard Lane, St. Helen's (WA10 6TL). Book yourself a table if you would like to eat.

Any more information contact Edward McCarthy  
[westlancsedward@btinternet.com](mailto:westlancsedward@btinternet.com)

07971299606

Everyone welcome!



	St Michael, Aughton	Holy Trinity, Bickerstaffe
7 <sup>th</sup> April Second Sunday of Easter White Acts 4.32-35; John 20.19-31	8am Andrew Holy Communion 11am Andrew Benefice service	No service at Bickerstaffe
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> April	11.15am Judith Holy Communion	
14 <sup>th</sup> April Third Sunday of Easter White Acts 3.12-19; Luke 24.36b-48	8am Andrew Holy Communion 9.30am Judith Holy Communion 9.30am Margaret, Pam, Andrew Messy Church	11am Judith Holy Communion
21 <sup>st</sup> April Fourth Sunday of Easter White Acts 4.5-12; John 10.11-18	8am Andrew Holy Communion 9.30am Andrew Family Service	11am Andrew Family Service
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> April	11.15am Andrew Holy Communion	
28 <sup>th</sup> April Fifth Sunday of Easter White Acts 8.26-40; John 15.1-8	8am Holy Communion 9.30am Sylvia Draper Holy Communion	11am Mark Morning Prayer

	St Michael, Aughton	Holy Trinity, Bickerstaffe
5 <sup>th</sup> May Sixth Sunday of Easter White Acts 10.44-48; John 15.9-17	8am Andrew Holy Communion	11am Andrew Rogation service in the barn
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	11.15am Judith Holy Communion	
12 <sup>th</sup> May Seventh Sunday of Easter White Acts 1.15-17,21-26; John 17.6-19	8am Andrew Holy Communion 9.30am Andrew Holy Communion 9.30am Margaret, Pam, Messy Church	11am Andrew Holy Communion
19 <sup>th</sup> May Pentecost Red Acts 2.1-21; John 15.26-27; 16.4b-15	8am Andrew Holy Communion	11am Andrew Cluster Pentecost Service on the Parish Field in Bickerstaffe.
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> April	11.15am Andrew Holy Communion	
26 <sup>th</sup> May Trinity Sunday White Isaiah 6.1-8; Romans 8.12-17; John 3.1-17	8am Andrew Holy Communion 9.30am Andrew Holy Communion	11am Mark Morning Prayer

## 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.**

### 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.

### 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.