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# ST MICHAEL'S TIMES

The Parish Church of St Michael and All Angels Hoole



September/October 2025 £1.50per edition or Annual Subscription of £10.00



# HOOLE PARISH CHURCH - ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS    Liverpool Old Road, Much Hoole, PR4 5JQ

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Rector	In Vacancy
Curate	Rev Mandy Hughes - 07791 532461 <a href="mailto:amandahughes945@gmail.com">amandahughes945@gmail.com</a>
Churchwarden & PCC Chair	Jane Elphick - 07977 201199 <a href="mailto:candielphick@hotmail.com">candielphick@hotmail.com</a>
Churchwarden & Joint Treasurer	Barbara Wood - 07745 208617 <a href="mailto:bw12252@hotmail.com">bw12252@hotmail.com</a>
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Churchwarden Emeritus	Jock Davidson - 07902 441055 <a href="mailto:sgtmajor@talktalk.net">sgtmajor@talktalk.net</a>
Children & Young People's Minister	Liz Boland -07903 200204 <a href="mailto:lizboland@yahoo.co.uk">lizboland@yahoo.co.uk</a>
Occasional Preacher	Margaret Kirkman - 07786 543581 <a href="mailto:margk1946@gmail.com">margk1946@gmail.com</a>
PCC Secretary & Lodge Hire Bookings	Andrea Susnik - 01772 615336 <a href="mailto:familysusnik@live.co.uk">familysusnik@live.co.uk</a>
Joint Treasurer	Andrew Smith - 07771 983726 <a href="mailto:andrew.smith8118937@btinternet.com">andrew.smith8118937@btinternet.com</a>
Parish Office & Administrator	Sharon Gregson - 07802 245634 <a href="mailto:stmichaelshoole@outlook.com">stmichaelshoole@outlook.com</a>
Health & Safety Officer	Colin Wilson - 07905 719831 <a href="mailto:southview1953@tiscali.co.uk">southview1953@tiscali.co.uk</a>
Chair of Fundraising & Social Committee	Colin Wilson - 07905 719831 <a href="mailto:southview1953@tiscali.co.uk">southview1953@tiscali.co.uk</a>
Little Angels (Baby & Toddler Group)	Rev Mandy Hughes - 07791 532461 <a href="mailto:amandahughes945@gmail.com">amandahughes945@gmail.com</a>
Hoole St Michael C E Primary School	Rebecca Holland (Headteacher) - 01772 613219 <a href="mailto:head@hoole.lancs.sch.uk">head@hoole.lancs.sch.uk</a>
Ladies Group Leader	Erika Penrose - 01772 613816 <a href="mailto:johnanderika.penrose@gmail.com">johnanderika.penrose@gmail.com</a>
Men's Group Leader	Jock Davidson - 07902 441055 <a href="mailto:sgtmajor@talktalk.net">sgtmajor@talktalk.net</a>
Flower Group Leader	Lisa Redshaw - 01772 614428 <a href="#">no email available</a>
Parish Magazine Editor & Collator	Jeanette Calderbank - 07470 124910 <a href="mailto:stmhoolemagazine@gmail.com">stmhoolemagazine@gmail.com</a>
Magazine Distribution (Subscribers)	Elsie Kirkham - 01772 615832 <a href="mailto:elsie.kirkham@icloud.com">elsie.kirkham@icloud.com</a>
Magazine Distribution (Parish) & Adverts	Barbara Wood - 07745 208617 <a href="mailto:bw12252@hotmail.com">bw12252@hotmail.com</a>

## Ladies Group Meet:

3rd Thursday each Month @ 2pm  
The Venue (Village Hall ) Much Hoole

## Men's Group Meet:

2nd Tuesday each Month @ 7.30pm  
The Venue (Village Hall) Much Hoole

During our time of vacancy, if you have any queries about anything,  
please do not hesitate to contact the relevant member of our Leadership Team

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - October 2025

Day	Date	Time	What's happening?
Wednesday	01-Oct	9.30am - 11.00am	St Michael's Little Angels in The Lodge
Thursday	02-Oct	tbc	Flower Group in Church
Friday	03-Oct	9.00 am	School Harvest Service
		7.00 pm	Harvest Supper, Quiz & Social @ The Venue
Saturday	04-Oct	9.00-1200	Flower Group in Church
Sunday	05-Oct	9.00 am	No Service
		1030 am	Harvest Service led by Rev Andy Meeson
		4.00 pm	Holy Communion @ Old Mill Court
Monday	06-Oct		
Tuesday	07-Oct	1015 am	Midweek Service in the Lodge
Wednesday	08-Oct	9.30am - 11.00am	St Michael's Little Angels in The Lodge
Thursday	09-Oct		
Friday	10-Oct		
Saturday	11-Oct		
Sunday	12-Oct	9.00 am	Holy Communion
		1030 am	Parish Communion with Sunday School
Monday	13-Oct		
Tuesday	14-Oct	1015 am	Midweek Service in the Lodge
		1100 am	Leadership Team Meeting in the Lodge
Wednesday	15-Oct	9.30am - 11.00am	St Michael's Little Angels in The Lodge
Thursday	16-Oct	2.00 pm	Joint Meeting of Ladies Group & Men's Group @ The Venue
Friday	17-Oct		
Saturday	18-Oct		
Sunday	19-Oct	9.00 am	Morning Prayer
		1030 am	Parish Communion (no screen / no Sunday School)
		3.45 pm	Family Church (theme to be confirmed) @ The Venue
Monday	20-Oct		
Tuesday	21-Oct	1015 am	Midweek Service in the Lodge
Wednesday	22-Oct	9.30am - 11.00am	St Michael's Little Angels in The Lodge
Thursday	23-Oct		
Friday	24-Oct		
Saturday	25-Oct		
Sunday	26-Oct	9.00 am	Holy Communion
		1030 am	Morning Worship
Monday	27-Oct		
Tuesday	28-Oct	1015 am	Midweek Service in the Lodge
Wednesday	29-Oct	9.30am - 11.00am	St Michael's Little Angels in The Lodge
Thursday	30-Oct		
Friday	31-Oct		



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - September 2025			
Day	Date	Time	What's Happening?
Monday	01-Sep	7.00 pm	PCC Meeting in the Lodge
Tuesday	02-Sep	1015 am	Midweek Service in the Lodge
		11.00 am	Leadership Team Meeting in the Lodge
Wednesday	03-Sep	9.30am - 11.00am	St Michael's Little Angels in The Lodge
Thursday	04-Sep		
Friday	05-Sep	9.00 am	School Welcome Service in Church
Saturday	06-Sep		
Sunday	07-Sep	9.00 am	Holy Communion
		1030 am	Parish Communion (no Sunday School)
		3.45 pm	Family Church @ The Venue "Why? Church"
		4.00 pm	Holy Communion @ Old Mill Court
Monday	08-Sep		
Tuesday	09-Sep	1015 am	Midweek Service in the Lodge
		7.30 pm	Men's Group Meet @ The Venue (Village Hall)
Wednesday	10-Sep	9.30am - 11.00am	St Michael's Little Angels in The Lodge
		1000-1.00 pm	Church in Use - Energy Audit
Thursday	11-Sep		
Friday	12-Sep		
Saturday	13-Sep		
Sunday	14-Sep	9.00 am	Holy Communion
		1030 am	Morning Worship with Bishop Joe Kennedy
			with Service of Holy Baptism
Monday	15-Sep		
Tuesday	16-Sep	1015 am	Midweek Service in the Lodge
		2.00 pm	Parish Walk from the Lodge
Wednesday	17-Sep	9.30am - 11.00am	St Michael's Little Angels in The Lodge
Thursday	18-Sep	2.00 pm	Ladies Group Meeting @ The Venue
Friday	19-Sep		
Saturday	20-Sep		
Sunday	21-Sep	9.00 am	Morning Prayer
		1030 am	Parish Communion with Sunday School (no screen)
		1215 pm	Burial of Ashes (David Hull)
Monday	22-Sep		
Tuesday	23-Sep	1015 am	Midweek Service in the Lodge
		1100 am	Leadership Team Meeting in the Lodge
Wednesday	24-Sep	9.30am - 11.00am	St Michael's Little Angels in The Lodge
Thursday	25-Sep		
Friday	26-Sep		
Saturday	27-Sep		
Sunday	28-Sep	9.00 am	Holy Communion
		1030 am	Morning Worship
Monday	29-Sep		
Tuesday	30-Sep	1015 am	Midweek Service in the Lodge



### Autumn Greetings from the Leadership Team

What a wonderful summer we have had for sunshine and warmth, it encourages us all to get out and about to enjoy the lovely countryside around Hoole and to spend time with family & friends.

At St Michael’s we were no exception – you can see photos in this magazine of us all enjoying a treasure hunt walk and football match at Picnic Church; always accompanied of course by delicious refreshments. The Sunday School also enjoyed a busy and fun filled party before the summer break.

The highlight of our summer though, was without doubt, the Ordination of our own Mandy Hughes as a Deacon at Blackburn Cathedral on 28<sup>th</sup> June. Mandy was very well supported by her family, friends and a large contingent from St Michael’s who attended the service by coach, car and online. At her first service as Reverend Hughes, the next day, Mandy baptised her little grandson Luca Jensen and also received gifts from the congregation. You can see an article and photos of this special weekend later in the magazine.

The Leadership Team have all enjoyed some time off with our families and friends over the summer, although work did also continue as usual. Liz Boland, our Children and Young People’s Minister, had something of a Busman’s Holiday when she and her family went to Lincolnshire to lead the Beach Mission there as they do every year. Liz’s article gives us an insight into what this involves.

I imagine many of us have carried or worn a small cross while we have been out and about – for some people it is a reminder to live as Christians, for others a reminder of protection and comfort offered by our faith. Margaret Kirkman gave a moving address in our service on 17<sup>th</sup> August to mark VJ Day, recalling people whose resources (and no doubt faith) were cruelly tested, and she writes about the symbol of the Cross in her article this month.

As we move ahead now into autumn, there is a lot going on at St Michael’s. The new term will start at our school with the arrival not just of new children, but a new Head Teacher, Mrs Rebecca Holland and a new Assistant Head, Ms Katy Heyworth. Both teachers will be welcomed with commissioning prayers at our service on 31<sup>st</sup> August which is when Sunday School also restarts.



The first weekend in October is the time for our special harvest celebrations. Please do join us for our traditional Harvest Service at 10.30 a.m. on 5<sup>th</sup> October, when your gifts of fresh and tinned/packet food will be gratefully received and sent on to local residents as well as our Food Bank at Churches Together in Penwortham. Everyone is also warmly invited to our Harvest Social Evening at 7.00 – 10.30 p.m. on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October at The Venue, Hoole Village Hall. Tickets are available in church and details are in this magazine. Your ticket includes a delicious supper, quiz and entertainment with older children being particularly welcome.

Reverend Mandy and the Leadership Team will be working hard on planning the next stage of her Ministry at St Michael's and we will keep everyone informed about how things develop. She will be leading more services and our popular Bible Study meetings will restart in September, so do watch out for details. Bishop Joe Kennedy will be returning to lead our services on September 14<sup>th</sup>, when we will also be welcoming two families bringing their children for baptism. Looking further ahead, we will be remembering loved ones in our moving Service of Thanksgiving for their lives on 2<sup>nd</sup> November. We have booked another quiet day at Whalley Abbey on the 15<sup>th</sup> November which is a popular chance for us to reflect, worship and pray together in a beautiful location. Please do save the dates, in addition of course to Remembrance Sunday on the 9<sup>th</sup> November.

And finally, we extend a warm welcome to Revd David Dickinson who was the Minister at All Saints, Hesketh Bank and upon his retirement he and his wife Gill decided to make St Michael's their home church. Revd Dave has already been leading prayers and assisting at our 1030 service but he has now been given "Permission to Officiate" by Bishop Phillip which means he will be able to preside some services for us - an offer we have been delighted to accept.

Don't forget that St Michael's is open daily for prayer and quiet reflection between 9.30 – 4.30 p.m.

#### The Leadership Team

**Liz Boland, Jock Davidson, Jane Elphick,  
Rev Mandy Hughes,  
Margaret Kirkman, Barbara Wood**




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The Leader-Ship & Admin Team	JANE ELPHICK Churchwarden & PCC Chair	BARBARA WOOD Churchwarden & Joint Treasurer	REV MANDY HUGHES Curate	LIZ BOLAND Children & Young People's Minister	MARGARET KIRKMAN Occasional Preacher	SHARON GREGSON Parish Administrator (part-time)
						
This is what we can help you with	Policy & Processes Safeguarding Visiting Ministers In-house Rotas  <b>Initial Enquiries for:</b> Baptisms Banns of Marriage Weddings	All Things Financial Safeguarding  Magazine Subscriptions, Distribution & Advertisements  <b>Initial Enquiries for:</b> Funerals Memorials Churchyard	Home Communion Pastoral Care Little Angels Alpha Courses Bible Study  <b>Follow up Contact:</b> Baptisms, Banns of Marriage, Weddings & Funerals <b>Enquiries about:</b> Adult Confirmation	<b>All Enquiries</b> relating to children and youth work  Sunday School Family Church Schools' Liaison Youth Confirmation	Home Communion Pastoral Care Old Mill Court Bible Study	<b>The Parish Office</b> is located in The Rectory @ 69 Liverpool Old Road Much Hoole PR4 4RB  The office is open (usually) on a Monday & Thursday between 0830-1230
	<b>How to Contact Us</b> 07977 201199 <a href="mailto:candjelphick@hotmail.com">candjelphick@hotmail.com</a>	07745 208617 <a href="mailto:bw12252@hotmail.com">bw12252@hotmail.com</a>	07791 532461 <a href="mailto:amandahughes945@gmail.com">amandahughes945@gmail.com</a>	07903 200204 <a href="mailto:lizboland@ya-hoo.co.uk">lizboland@ya-hoo.co.uk</a>	07786 543581 <a href="mailto:margk1946@gmail.com">margk1946@gmail.com</a>	07802 245634 <a href="mailto:stmichaelshoole@outlook.com">stmichaelshoole@outlook.com</a>
AND WHEN ARE WE AVAILABLE?						
Sunday						Rest day
Monday				Working from Home	Rest Day	
Tuesday				Working in the Parish	Variable availability	Rest Day
Wednesday	Rest Day			Rest Day	Mainly mornings	Rest Day
Thursday		Flexible	Rest Day	Working in the Parish	Variable	
Friday		Flexible	Rest Day	Rest Day	Variable	Rest Day
Saturday	Rest Day	Rest Day	Rest Day	Rest Day	Rest Day	Rest Day
However, if in any doubt, contact a Churchwarden the first instance						

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ORDINATION OF MANDY HUGHES AS DEACON

On 28<sup>th</sup> June 2025, a coach load of happy parishioners and a lot of others in their own cars, set off for Blackburn Cathedral to attend the Ordination of Mandy Hughes. The sun shone as we entered the packed cathedral, with all six Ordinands supported by friends, family, clergy and congregations.

Bishop Philip led an inspirational service that was upbeat, reflective, emotional, solemn and joyous – all at the same time. Most of us had never been to an Ordination before and it was wonderful to be part of such a special day and to share in Mandy’s happiness as she completed two years of hard work and training.

She is now entering her Deacon year, during which she is officially assigned to St Michael’s as our Curate.



The day after the Ordination, as part of her first service as Reverend Mandy Hughes, Mandy baptised her youngest grandchild, Luca Jensen, surrounded by her family and church congregation which was another wonderful occasion full of happy faces. Mandy was also presented with gifts from the congregation including a priesting stole, beautifully made by

Beryl Blakeley, decorated with four symbols associated with Mandy’s personal Christian journey.



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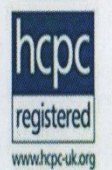

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**Here is an extract from Mandy's contribution to Blackburn Diocese coverage of the event:**

My journey towards Ordination has been a long one. Brought up in the Church of England, I had a good grounding in the Church before moving around for my career as a Nurse. This took me to experience many different Church traditions and periods of no Church input, as I worked out what it all meant and who I was. I'm not sure if I've got that completely sorted yet!

I lived and worked in Romania for 10 years, am fluent in their language and have a charity that is still operating today. We have been awarded a 'Cross of Nails' for Reconciliation as part of this work from Coventry Cathedral Centre for Reconciliation. As a Nurse and later married to a Priest for 30 years, we moved around the UK. My work as a Nurse and work in Romania - setting up a Charity for health, social, education and reconciliation work - have all been a calling from God and a lifetime of Ministry. Not always easy, especially in Romania in the 90s bringing up 2 small babies/children.

There has been a 'niggle' for many years edging me toward ordination, with people who know me commenting that I'd be a good vicar. After many years of this and living and working with a Vicar husband and becoming a Third Order Franciscan, I gave in and started to explore; firstly, through the Diocese of Canterbury then latterly, after the death of my husband, the Diocese of Blackburn. With a long life of twists and turns, ups and downs, and saying yes to God, the future is exciting and there is more to discover.

**What do you view as your most significant personal achievement?**

Apart from my successful bringing up of 2 children and an active part in my grandchildren's lives, my greatest achievement is finally saying yes to God with all my heart. I have many work achievements and they are important to me but my relationship with God is the most important.



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# The Symbol of the Cross

Every Christian church you enter will have either a cross or a crucifix on the altar:

- the empty cross to denote that Christ has defeated death for ever
- the crucifix to show that Christ who suffered on the cross is with us throughout our earthly troubles.



It stands as a symbol, as a mark that this is God's house, where all who enter abide by God's teaching and are accepted and welcomed as His children.

We currently have no cross in the Lodge but that is soon to be remedied; as on our new Communion Table, very kindly donated by the Revds Ann & Peter Templeman, we will have a cross made by Wally Taylor which will declare

that our Lodge is also part of God's house.

We all received the sign of the cross at our baptism to welcome us into God's family. Some of our visiting preachers make the sign of the cross when giving the final blessing, to show that all of us are included in the family of God. Some make the same sign when offering communion, showing that these are special gifts blessed by God for his faithful.

Many Christians wear a cross or a crucifix to show the world that they are chosen by God and have themselves chosen to be God's followers despite what the world may throw at them. My cross was bought for me by my husband in Bethlehem many years ago and has only been removed in medical emergencies!!

**So, is it purely a Christian symbol?**  
**Well not exactly.**

In the Book of Ezekiel, the people of Jerusalem had displeased the Lord so he ordered them to be killed. Some people were grieving for the state of the city and a mark was made on their foreheads to save them from the slaughter. That mark was the last letter of the Hebrew alphabet "Tau," which was then written as X.

Tau is now written as "T" and has become the symbolic cross of the Society of St Francis. Rev Mandy is a member and you may recall that this was one of the symbols we chose for her priesting stole.



In the early days when crucifixion was still a regular form of punishment, the Christian community chose a fish as their symbol. Why a fish?



The Greek word for fish is "ichthys" which is an acronym for "Jesus Christ, God's son, Saviour" - a safe code amongst enemies but still a declaration that you were a follower of Jesus.

Today the cross stands as the symbol of Christ's victory over death, of His continuing love for us, of our delight in following Him and it gives us courage to declare our faith to the world.

We should carry our cross with determination and pride.

**Margaret Kirkman**  
**Occasional Preacher**



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Google Maps

## SUMMER FUN AT ST MICHAEL'S

**Members of St Michael's and their friends have been enjoying our lovely weather over the summer.**

Following the success of our parish walk and supper in the spring, Colin and Carole Wilson generously opened their garden, following a treasure hunt round Walmer Bridge organised by Colin, which gave us some exercise as well as delicious refreshments and social time in the sun



Colin also arranged the annual football match for Picnic Family Church, which this year took inspiration from a historic England v France match.



Nina Harrison opened the match as the Queen after both national anthems, and a fun afternoon was enjoyed by young and older alike; with craft activities and a short service at half time.



And.....  
**SUNNY SUNDAY MORNING  
REFRESHMENTS IN THE LODGE**



## ARE YOU READY FOR ANOTHER PARISH WALK?

**WHEN TUESDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER @ 1.45 PM  
DEPARTING AT 2.00 PM**

**DURATION: ABOUT 2 MILES**

**YOUR REWARD: LIGHT REFRESHMENTS & RECOVERY  
AFTERWARDS IN THE LODGE**



**WATCH OUT FOR A POSTER AND ON FACEBOOK FOR MORE DETAILS**



## WE NEED A NEW ASSISTANT TREASURER

Dear Readers

Having read that headline, please, please don't run away or turn the page yet!  
Because even if this is not for you, you may be able to think of someone who could.....?

You will notice the important word of "Assistant" in the title?  
That means we are not looking for anyone to take on the full role, but I most definitely need help.  
So, I am sending this appeal to you all, having said my prayers most fervently, in the hope God will step in and give someone a nudge.

I am perfectly aware that being asked to do anything relating to the job of a treasurer can seem a bit daunting, but let me try and put it in a better light. It has such bad press!

I took on the job of treasurer about 20 years ago.  
I had no previous training and learned as I went along with the strong and experienced support of Stan Pickles and John Penrose and I would provide the same level of support.

**Why Are We Asking Now?** Our joint treasurer, Andy Smith has very kindly agreed to carry on in a reduced role until the Spring of 2026, but has been wanting to resign for some months after 4+ years in the role.

It is at this point I wish to thank Andy, most sincerely, for all his support and hard work as Joint treasurer with the book-keeping and also carrying out background research on many aspects of our financial contracts and a wide range of activities outside the financial role.

The other reason is that I have a number of other responsibilities in the church which has always got in the way of me developing understanding of new financial systems that might help to cut workload and increase efficiency. I would love to be able to concentrate on that.

**Who/What Are We Looking For?** Well, in an ideal world, we need someone a decade or more younger than me (I am 73)!! We need someone who could give us about 4 hours a week to do the day-to-day book-keeping, pay the bills and keep relevant paperwork on file to provide an audit trail.  
Does that sound better than you thought?

### What Can I Do to Ease the Process?

I will continue to do the legal stuff, the policies, the processes, the reporting, the year-end accounts, the Diocesan returns and the gift aid and anything else that falls outside the book-keeping remit.  
I will be on hand to provide brilliant, comprehensive training and support from the very start for as long as it was needed.  
Margaret Clark will continue to do all the collections, the counting and the banking.  
So, we would be a team of three, supporting each other.


### The Target Timescale

We need someone to step up before the end of 2025 – if at all possible.  
You would be "Assistant Treasurer in Training", working alongside Andy and myself until such time as Andy finally hangs up his spreadsheets and calculator in the Spring of 2026.

Please feel free to ask me anything you like without obligation nor expectation.

Yours most sincerely  
**Barbara Wood (Joint Treasurer)**





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**3.45pm**  
*The Venue*

*Sunday*  
**7 Sept**

**Got Questions?**

**WHY?**  
**CHURCH**



**SONGS**

**EVERY BODY**

**GAMES**

**CRAFTS**



## FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

### Baptism – “We welcome into the Lord’s Family”

29<sup>th</sup> June LUCA PHILIP RASK JENSEN son of Nikolus and Adine  
Jensen of Austria. (Grandson of Revd. Mandy)

27<sup>th</sup> July FREDERICA AURELIA CRANKSHAW daughter of  
Jonathan and Lucinda Crankshaw of Whilton  
and formerly of Much Hoole.

### The Departed “Rest eternal grant unto them”

7<sup>th</sup> July SHELAGH BRACEWELL aged 94 years of Much Hoole.  
Interment followed in the Churchyard.

27<sup>th</sup> July IAN WALLACE McINTOSH aged 78 years formerly of Much  
Hoole. Interment of ashes only in the Churchyard.

30<sup>th</sup> July BARRY McMANMON aged 75 years of Walmer Bridge.  
Private Cremation took place on the following day.

10<sup>th</sup> August CARL TOWLER aged 83 years of Little Hoole.  
HILARY ANN TOWLER aged 85 years of Little Hoole.  
MAXTON TOWLER aged 40 years of Sheffield.  
Interment of ashes only for these family members in the  
Churchyard.

## USED STAMP APPEAL

We are continually collecting used stamps for a very worthy cause.....



**“East Lancashire Hospice”**  
Can you help?

Just collect and drop off at church  
as and when convenient

Church is open daily from approx.  
0930-1630 hrs

Please place them in an envelope,  
leave on the pew at the rear of the font and mark them up FAO Sheila Taylor

One small request, if possible,  
please retain a border of about 1/4" around the stamps.

## Deadline for the Magazine

November/ December 2025 deadline

**Monday 20th October 2025**

January/ February deadline

**Monday 14th December 2025**

March/ April deadline

**Monday 16th February 2026**

May/ June deadline

**Monday 13th April 2026**

July/ August deadline

**Monday 15th June 2026**

All articles to be sent to

[bw12252@hotmail.com](mailto:bw12252@hotmail.com)

Adverts

COLOUR or BLACK TEXT/IMAGE

1/2 PAGE- 1/4 PAGE

Please email Barbara Wood for details

[bw12252@hotmail.com](mailto:bw12252@hotmail.com)

## CHURCH MAGAZINE FOR 2025

We do hope you are enjoying our  
magazine, which on average, is  
produced bi-monthly.

There is a full parish circulation every  
Easter & Christmas delivered to your  
door if you live in the village of Much  
Hoole or Walmer Bridge  
(up to the Walmer Brook area).

If you would like to subscribe to our  
magazine which helps towards the  
costs of its production this would be  
very much appreciated.

The annual subscription remains at  
**£10 per annum or £1.50 per  
edition.**

If you would like to know more, please  
give me a call or drop me an email.

**Churchwarden: Barbara Wood**  
**(07745 208617**  
**[bw12252@hotmail.com](mailto:bw12252@hotmail.com))**

## PM Dance, Theatre & Fitness Weekly Timetable

### VENUE KEY:

- Priory Lane Community Centre
- ‘The Venue’ Much Hoole
- St. Teresa’s Club Penwortham

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	SATURDAY
<b>‘STAGE &amp; STREET’ DANCE &amp; DRAMA</b>  Act I Drama (7-12yr) 4:45-6pm  Act I Dance (7-12yr) 6-6:45pm  Act II Dance (13-17yr) 6:45-7:30pm  Act II Drama (13-17yr) 7:35-9:20pm	<b>STRETCH OUT</b> Stretch Class 9:30-10:30am  <b>TEA DANCE - SOCIAL</b> Ballroom/Latin/Sequence 2-4:15pm  <b>‘LATIN IN LINE’</b> Line Dance Class 7-8pm  <b>BALLROOM &amp; LATIN SPARKLERS</b> Small Group Class 8-9pm	<b>STRETCH OUT</b> Stretch Classes 9:30-10:30am 10:30-11:30am  <b>UPBEAT AEROBICS</b> Dance Exercise Class 7-8pm  <b>BALLROOM/LATIN &amp; SEQUENCE</b> Improvers Class 7-7:40pm  Advanced Class 7:40-8:15pm  <b>SOCIAL DANCE NIGHT</b> 8:15-10:45pm  <b>BALLROOM &amp; LATIN</b> Beginners Class 8-9pm  <b>STAGE &amp; STREET</b> Adult Drama (18+) Starting in 2025	<b>POPULAR SEQUENCE</b> Beginners Class 1:30-2:30pm  <b>POPULAR SEQUENCE</b> Intermediate Class 2:30-3:15pm  <b>BALLROOM/LATIN &amp; SEQUENCE</b> Intermediate Class 7:00-7:30pm  Intermediate Class 7:30-8:30pm	<b>BALLROOM/LATIN, &amp; STREETDANCE</b>  Starlites (4-7yr) 9:30-10:30am  7-10yr 9:30-10:45am  10-18yr 10:45-12:45pm  <b>COMPETITION &amp; EXAM REHEARSALS</b> 12:45-1:45pm

1 to 1 tuition  
available - various  
days/times, by  
arrangement



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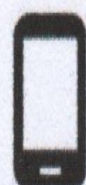
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**A TIME TO REMEMBER.....**



You are warmly invited to a

## **Service of Thanksgiving for Loved Ones**

at St Michael's Church, Much Hoole on  
**Sunday 2nd November 2025 at 6.00pm**

*There will be an opportunity to light a candle in remembrance of your loved one(s)*

### **St Michael's Men's Group**

Following our Summer break, we are now all set to begin our new season of meetings, commencing on Tuesday September 9<sup>th</sup> in the Village Hall, when we look forward to seeing all of our established members with hopefully maybe one or two new faces, please come along you will be most welcome. With the exception of the October meeting, all commence at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Here is a list of our topics for this year:

**Tuesday September 9<sup>th</sup> - - - - - 'My Life' by Richard Lee.**

**Thursday October 16<sup>th</sup> at 2.00pm**

**'Why we love a Town Crier' by Rawden Kerr.  
(at the invitation of the Ladies Group)**

**Tuesday November 11<sup>th</sup> - - - 'Battlefields and Poppy Fields'**

**by Steve Williams.**

**Tuesday December 9<sup>th</sup> - - - - Christmas Dinner in the Village Hall.**



## Hoole Church Ladies' Group

We had an interesting and fascinating talk by Jackie Mafi at our June meeting, entitled "Sweet Memories". She spoke about the origins of sweets and chocolates dating back to the Middle Ages; the introduction of sugar was the beginning of many sweet brands centuries ago. She brought back childhood memories from the 1950s of Spangles, pear drops, Jelly Babies and Pontefract cakes to name a few. Jackie really did take us back in time.

At our August meeting, open to everyone, Yvonne and Matt Pinder gave us their second talk entitled "Adventure on Wheels". Our members and visitors enjoyed being whisked off to the United States to tour some picturesque national parks and cities. Our speakers easily retained our attention with their excellent delivery of slides, music and facts. Elvis Presley also made an appearance!

Next month, on the 18th, we have another interesting talk on a very different subject – "Edith Rigby – Preston's most famous Suffragette" with Judy Beeston. On Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October, we are welcoming the Men's Group to our meeting when Rawden Kerr is going to tell us "Why we LOVE A TOWN CRIER".

Anyone who may be interested in coming along to our meetings would be made very welcome. We are a friendly group and welcome new members.

Do give me a call on 07791 068360.

Erika



  
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**2025/26 Tax Tables**





# **Hoole Village Memorial Hall** **The Venue**

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or phone Rose 07967 696533 or Sam 07845 37307  
For upcoming events and meetings etc. visit our website

Every Thursday 7pm — **DOMINOES**  
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Come along and have a chat and  
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All welcome for delicious Cakes  
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Come and meet new friends!

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- Meetings & Classes, Courses etc
- Carpet floor. Opens onto the Veranda

## **LOCALS' LUNCHES**

Meet new friends and old for a  
great lunch at the Village Hall, two  
courses with hot drink just £8.

If you are new to the area come  
along—you will be made welcome.  
12.00pm every 2nd & 4th Thursday

## **Village Hall LOTTERY**

The 250 club lottery drawn on the  
second Domino night of the month  
1st **£150**, 2nd £75, + 5 at £15  
Just £2.50 per month  
Ring Stan 07747 607552

## **Sunday Concerts**

Monthly on 4th Sunday at 2pm  
just £7.50 including tea and cakes  
Great musical entertainment from organ  
to brass bands & singers. Entertainment  
for all tastes.  
Ring Stan 07747 607552

## **Play Bowls** visit our beautifully maintained bowling green

- Join the Bowls Club
- All welcome. If you are new to  
bowls we can help you get started.

Ring Dave on 07887 297370

## **Sutton on Sea Beach Mission**



As the children's activities at church have been having a break over the summer holidays, I thought I'd write about the Beach Mission I lead instead.

Sutton on Sea is a small town on the east coast, just north of Skegness in Lincolnshire. The beach along the east coast is miles and miles of beautiful white sand, and should you wish to, you can walk 16 miles along the coast from Skegness to

Mablethorpe, talking in Sutton as you go, but the beach goes on for many more miles either side of that!

Since 1886, there has been a Beach Mission in Sutton, firstly run by CSSM, and then Scripture Union. There was a brief stop through both World Wars, but otherwise it has run each year, initially for 3 weeks, and now for 2. I have been involved since 1997, and leader of the Mission since 2002. When I first took over as leader, I was the youngest leader on a Scripture Union Mission (I'm very much not the youngest anymore!) and the first female leader of our Mission.

We have a team of about 25 people, this year ranging in age from 17-80, who each pay to serve God in this place each year. We have a great team of people who come back year after year, and in the last 3 years, 6 of our teenagers (including both my children), who have come through the Mission as children, have joined the team. This is a huge encouragement to us and helps us see the huge impact the Mission has on the spiritual lives of young people.



Our day begins with team morning prayers at 8:30, led by me, or one of the assistant leaders, where we look at the same passage as the children, young people and adults will look at later on. On this occasion we were sitting in a bus shape and Bryn has a steering wheel and tickets at the ready! Fortunately, this was our weekly “pray on the beach day” where we are given a chance to take time by

themselves with God to pray, and people often go to the beach. Most days we sat in a much more sensible circle!

We then head to the beach for half an hour of games, followed by our Beach Show. This is an hour of drama, songs, games and a lot of fun. This year, we had over 100 people joining us for this each day, including the first day, when we suddenly had to change our plans and rush to a local church because the driving rain and wind on the beach became too much! Thank goodness for social media meaning





This year, our theme was Uncover, and we were uncovering the truth about Jesus in the gospels in the first week and the beginning of the Church and God’s power in Acts in the second. The show was based around a Christian detective agency led by Casey Close and Gil Tee where they solved cases given to them by extra characters; Sir Pent (who tried to persuade them that Christianity was rubbish) and Ant Eek (a slightly batty old man, who had lost something and each day had another clue to help him find it.) They were funny characters who led the show brilliantly.

Each afternoon, we either headed to different church halls around the town for age specific Holiday Clubs or to a local field for activities altogether where we dig into the theme and passage a bit more, with crafts, games, singing, and more fun.

We run Holiday Clubs for everyone aged 0-adults, so everyone is welcome to join us, and the people who come along are a mix of local families; families who come on holiday to Sutton because we’re going to be there, many of whom grew up coming to Mission, and want the same for their children, even if they don’t go to church at any other point during the year; and people who just find us on the beach and join in. Everything we offer is free, and our income is all from team paying fees and donations from people who come along. Somehow, we always have enough!

The team have a house we’re based in which sleeps 11, and everyone else either has their own accommodation if their families are with them, or they stay with local Christians. We take our caravan and sleep in the team house garden!

After Holiday Clubs, the team plan the next day, before dinner and house jobs to keep our team house clean and tidy. The evenings are either free time, volleyball on the beach, football on a local field or a family treasure hunt in one week, and a barbecue in the other, before team evening prayers and eventually bed! We work long days (most days I was working before 7:00, and didn’t finish until I got into bed at 10ish!) but we love it.

The team contains some of my best friends and very few days pass by on Mission without a lot of laughter being heard from the team house, as well as a lot of support and prayer with anyone who needs it. It is 2 weeks full of friendship, hard work and God.

As you read this, we have just returned from a proper holiday to recover from a very busy fortnight! Happy summer holidays everyone

Liz Boland  
CYP Minister



**BIBLE STUDY IS RETURNING IN SEPTEMBER**



Check out the pew sheet

Watch out for posters

Follow us on facebook or Instagram

[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/HOOLEPARISHCHURCH](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/HOOLEPARISHCHURCH)

[@HOOLESTMICHAELS](https://www.instagram.com/hoolestmichaels)

**John and Erika recently visited our former rector, Ann, and Peter in Drayton and were delighted to see they are enjoying their retirement!**





# St Michael's Flower Team.

This month, instead of photos, we have a poem by Robert William Service, a 19/20<sup>th</sup> century Preston poet (there is a Blue Plaque to him, but I'm not sure where in town!) who spent a long time in Canada. Among his many poems he wrote this one about flowers and gardening, the last verse seeming particularly relevant in our world today:

## Flower Gardener by Robert W Service

Gas got me in the first World War,  
And all my mates at rest are laid.  
I felt I might survive them for  
I am a gardener by trade.  
My life is in the open air,  
And kindly is the work I do,  
Since flowers are my joy and care,  
And comfort too.

My flowers are a fairy sight,  
Yes I'm an ugly, warped old man,  
For I have lived in Fate's despite  
A year beyond one's mortal span;  
And owe my health no gentle toil  
From dawn to dark, contented hours,  
Of loving kinship with the soil,  
A friend of flowers.

My dahlias are my pride today,  
And many my creations be.  
They're worth a fortune, people say,  
But what does money mean to me?  
Their glory is my rich reward,  
And as their radiant heads they raise,  
I dedicate them to the Lord,  
With love and praise.

I grieve to think that sullen Powers  
On bombs and guns their might depend;  
If man had heart for growing flowers  
Then would we all be friend and friend.  
The glory of the world is his  
Who seeks salvation in the sod,  
And finds that golden sunshine is  
The laugh of God.



# Hoole St Michael CE Primary School.

## HELLO EVERYONE

Having worked in education for over twenty years in many different diverse schools and communities, it is wonderful to be coming to join the Hoole St Michael family.

As a proud Mummy, family means everything to me and I am looking forward to extending my family to include the staff, children and community at Hoole.

In my spare time I love to be outside and you may spot me out and about walking or spending far too much time at the garden centre planning my next project.



My family live locally so if you see me out and about please feel free to say Hi.

I have attached a photo too. It has been so hard to select a photo I am happy with.

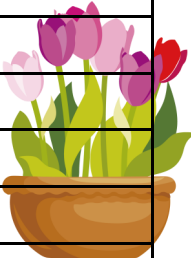
If there is anything else you need, do not hesitate to ask.

Kind regards

**Rebecca Holland**  
**Headteacher**



Flower Arrangers' Rota - September to Remembrance Sunday		
Date - 2025	Arranger/s	Sponsors
31st August	Sue/Jean	Mrs J Oak, Mrs M Ferguson
7th September	Betty / Maureen	Mrs Wignall
14th September	Betty / Maureen	Mrs Sutton
21st September	Lisa	Mrs Jump
28th September	Julie / Elaine	Mr & Mrs Wood
5th October	Elsie / Janet	Mr & Mrs Penrose
12th October	Jean / Hilary	Mr & Mrs Taylor
19th October	Jean / Sue	Mrs Lawrence
26th October	Gillian	Mrs Houghton - pedestal
		Mrs J Oak, Mrs M Ferguson
2nd November	Betty / Lisa / Maureen	Mrs Read, Mr & Mrs H Wignall
9th November	Claire / Lisa / Gillian	Mr & Mrs Pickles, Mr & Mrs Dewhurst
Remembrance Sunday		Mrs Smalley
Betty, Julie and children from St Michael's School – Poppies outside		



# Rota for Tea/Coffee in the Lodge

September & October 2025

September 2025

07.09.25. John & Honey

14.09.25. Carole & Lynn

21.09.25. Joan & Mike

28.09.25. Gill & Nick

October 2025

05.10.25. Shirley & John

12.10.25 Pat & Nina

19.10.25 John & Honey

November 2025

02.11.25. Joan & Mike

09.11.25 Gill & Nick



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# HARVEST SOCIAL

WHEN? FRIDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> OCTOBER

7-10:30PM

WHERE? THE VENUE, MUCH HOOLE

COST? £12.50 FOR ADULTS, £6 FOR KIDS (OVER 8 Y.O.)

CONTACT: JANE ELPHICK (07977 201199) OR COLIN WILSON (01772 616978) FOR TICKETS OR EMAIL: STMICHAELSHOOLE@OUTLOOK.COM

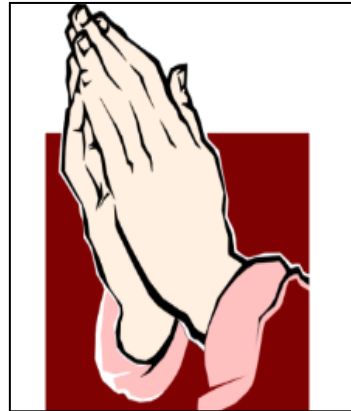
ENTERTAINMENT!



## SPACE FOR PRAYER

There is a space in church (in front of the pews) for anyone to come and sit and pray or just have a quiet time. There are materials to read and we hope it will provide a place to leave prayer requests. Prayer is a time when we have our conversations with God, but equally times of silence and quiet so that we can listen to what he has to say to us. God wants us to come to him in prayer and gives us the Holy Spirit to help us. Prayer is our breath. If you would like us to get in touch please contact me:

Rev Mandy Hughes  
Mob 07791 532461.  
Email [amandahughes945@gmail.com](mailto:amandahughes945@gmail.com)



## MUCH HOOLE METHODIST CHURCH

### GREAT NEWS

\*\*\*WE ARE STILL HERE\*\*\*

THE CHAPEL MAY BE CLOSED AND  
UP FOR SALE  
BUT THE CHURCH IS ITS PEOPLE,  
AND WE STILL MEET EACH SUNDAY  
@ 1045 AM

AT GOD'S ACRE CHAPEL IN THE  
WOODLAND BURIAL GROUND  
MOSS HOUSE LANE, MUCH HOOLE

WHERE YOU WILL FIND A  
WARM WELCOME

### Calling all little Angels

Come and join us at our toddler and baby  
group. Bring along your grownups.  
Play Stories...Craft...Singing...Snacks...

EVERY  
WEDNESDAY  
ST MICHAEL'S  
CHURCH  
HOOLE  
PR4 5JQ  
9.30-11.00am  
ALL  
WELCOME



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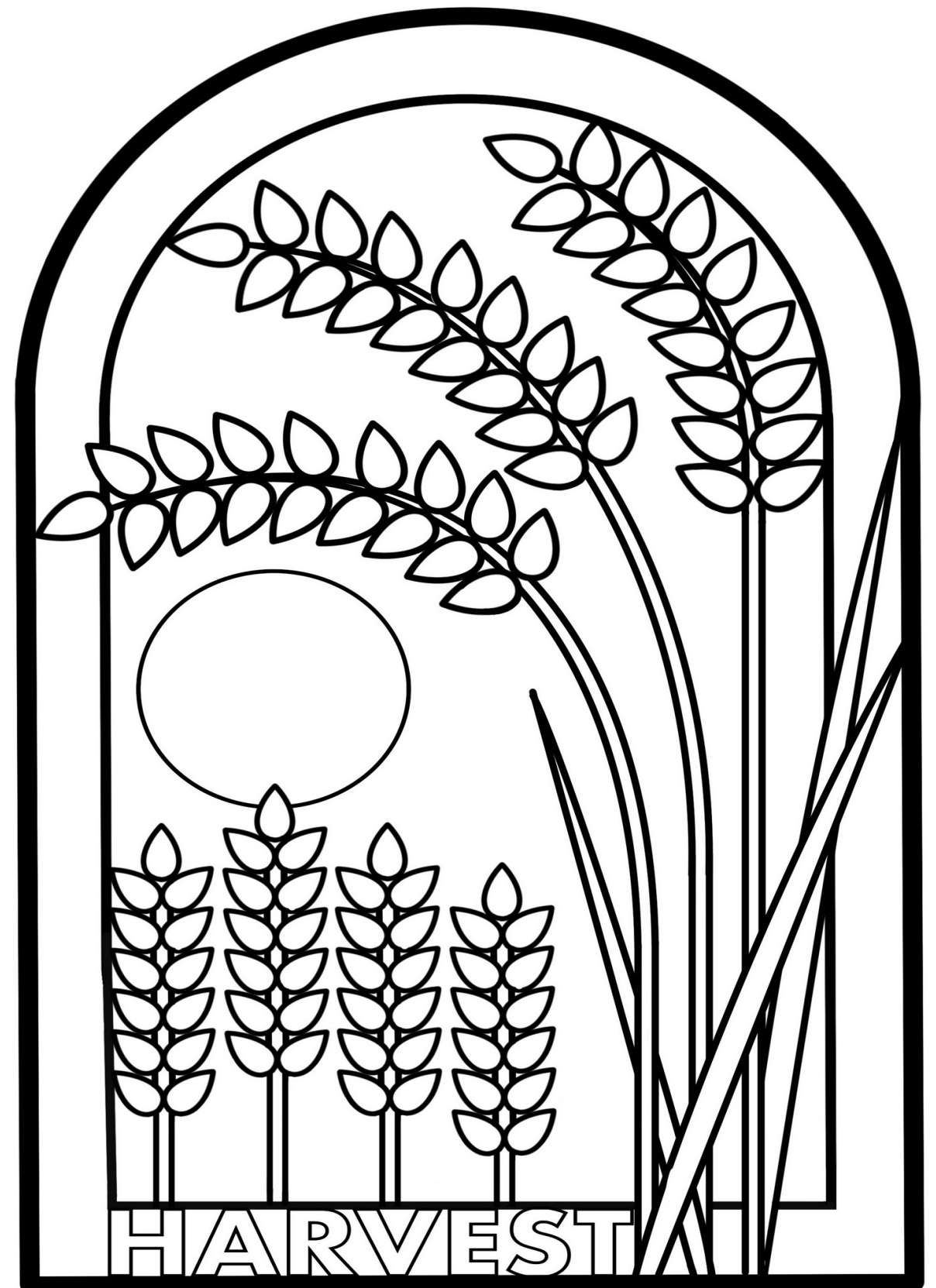
BABY & TODDLER  
GROUP



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IN THE LODGE.

# Junior St Michael's Times



Colouring Sheet

Can you make a colourful stained glass window?



## Mouse Makes

"May the people **praise** you **God**...  
The **land yields** its harvest, God,  
our God **blesses** us."  
- from Psalm 67:5-6

"Let us fear and respect the Lord our God.  
He gives **autumn** and **spring** rains  
at the right time. He makes sure that we  
have the harvest at just the right **time**."  
- from Jeremiah 5:24

"**Honour** the  
**Lord** with your  
wealth and the  
first part of  
your **harvest**."  
- Proverbs 3:9

"God... gives you **rain** from  
heaven and good harvests  
at the right times. He gives  
you plenty of **food** and  
fills your hearts with **joy**."  
- from Acts 14:16-17

"So the one who **plants** is not  
important, and the one who **waters**  
is not important. Only **GOD** is  
important because He is the one  
who makes things **grow**."  
- 1 Corinthians 3:7

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

Find the words in **bold** type in the bible quotes in the  
wordsearch then look for the words below too!

PLOUGH • FIELD • SOIL • SCATTER • SOW • SEEDS • SUN  
REAP • PICK • CROPS • GRAIN • CORN • BARN • BREAD • THANKSGIVING

# Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in  
Judges 6:1-7, 11-16, 25-35

Once the Israelites had moved into their  
promised land, they obeyed God, but not for  
long, so God let other countries invade.

The Midianites invaded every  
year, and stole all the food  
the Israelites had grown.



The Israelites had to  
hide in the hills.



After 7 years,  
the Israelites called  
out to God for help.

Gideon was secretly  
threshing wheat when  
an angel arrived.



The Lord is helping you,  
mighty warrior.

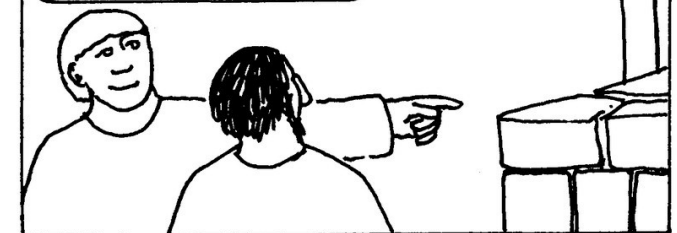
I don't  
mean to be rude, but it  
doesn't look like He is.

God said

I will give you the  
power.

But my clan  
is the weakest in our tribe and  
I'm the weakest in my family.

I'll be helping you. Start by pulling  
down the altar built for Baal and  
build one for Me.



Gideon did as he was told (but he  
waited and did it at night).



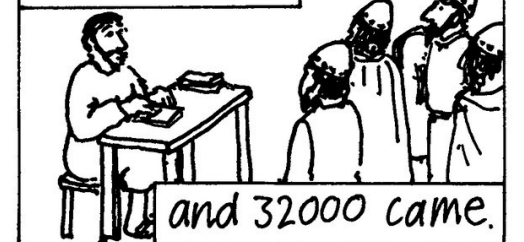
In the morning, people  
came to complain to  
Gideon's father



If Baal is upset, he  
can take his own  
revenge, can't he?



Gideon sent out messages  
to call men to fight the  
Midianites..



and 32000 came.