

ST MICHAEL'S TIMES

The Parish Church of St Michael and All Angels - Hoole

NOVEMBER 2022

£1.00



Platinum Jubilee Lodge OPENS...



Lest We Forget

To Know Christ and Make Him Known



Hoole St. Michael's Church Invites you to join us for

CHOCOLATE CHURCH

Much Hoole Village Hall
Sun. 20th Nov @ 3.45pm

Chocolate Fountain

Film Clips

Bible Story

Craft

All Welcome



ST MICHAEL'S TIMES

November 2022



The Sides Duty Team of Martha Wakeling, Freya Howard, and Ruby Eaton, did an amazing job at the *All Age Service* on Sunday 16th October - led by Liz.

Editorial Team

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Jesus said

“Everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who builds on the rock. The rain came down, the stream rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand.”

From The Rectory...



" LIFE IN ALL ITS FULLNESS "

There is indeed more to life than this!

***Jesus said "I have come that you might have life -
life in all its fullness..."***

'Life in all its Fullness' is the title of our Quiet Morning in the Lodge with Archdeacon Mark on Saturday 19th November.

In the last 2 months, in the midst of national and global turmoil, as a church and community we have glimpsed the truth of Jesus' wonderful promise- "I have come that you might have life - life in its all its fullness."

We have celebrated the long inspirational reign of Queen Elizabeth characterised by her self-sacrificial service to God and her country. Queen Elizabeth's profound commitment to Jesus Christ shone through every part of her life and we saw that emphasised through that amazing day of her funeral which will remain etched in all our memories. The 'sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life' was at the heart of all the wonderful prayers Bible readings and music.

And for ourselves we celebrated her reign in the Grand Opening of our superb new Lodge. It has already transformed Sunday school on Sundays and has enabled us to run an Alpha Course entitled 'Is there more to Life than this?'. You can read more about both these in the subsequent pages of this first edition of St Michael's Times which features the new Lodge on the front showing how wonderfully it complements our beautiful church.

Huge thanks go to all those of you who have made the Lodge possible by your generosity and hard work.

And a note of invitation to you all. Jesus Christ himself answers the Alpha question which we all ponder- 'Is there more to life than this?' He tells us

that there is infinitely more in Him - He offers us life in all its fullness, abundant life; that is why He came. Why not put Him to the test. Try church if you are not already a regular. Or try Alpha on Wednesdays at 7.00pm in the Lodge till 16th November; the short 30min films are excellent and thought-provoking. And come to our Quiet Morning on 19th November which Archdeacon Mark who is an inspirational speaker will be leading.

Join with us too in giving thanks to God for our departed loved ones at our annual service of Thanksgiving for Loved Ones on 30th October at 6.00pm and on Remembrance Sunday 13th November at 10.10am in remembering those who have given up their lives for peace in 2 world wars and beyond.

All this we do in the knowledge of Jesus Christ's conquest of sin and death and His wonderful promise which begins every Christian funeral service:

“I am the Resurrection and the Life; He who believes in me even though he die will live and he who believes in me will never die”.

But you don't have to wait till you die to find joy. Christianity is not 'pie in the sky when I die' but 'steak on the plate while I wait!'. Jesus is very clear: eternal life begins now on this earth when we acknowledge Jesus Christ as our Saviour and our King.

'Life in all its fullness' is what Jesus is offering to each of us now.

Finally. We owe an enormous debt of gratitude to Erika (Honey) and John Penrose for 20 years of producing our excellent church magazine which is the envy of many other churches around the country.

Our grateful thanks go to Steve and Hilary Newman for taking this on so willingly. They come to us with considerable experience of producing a magazine elsewhere, so we are in very good hands.

Rev Ann Templeman

Rector

Time For Change...

Erika Penrose



Doesn't time fly! As editor of St Michael's parish magazine for 21 years since October 2001, I have recently been thinking maybe it was about time I should hand over to someone else who would introduce new ideas. Consequently, I would like to thank Steve and Hilary Newman who are taking over from this edition and I'm absolutely positive that their fresh outlook will be a great success.

I have enjoyed this "job" through the years, coping with several Rectors all having different ideas of how the magazine should look. Looking back through old magazines, it is interesting to read what has occurred through the years. The Church Officers' and Organisations page has expanded to two pages for a start!

St Michael's used to hold a Walking Day, and the Autumn Fair was still an important annual event which eventually ceased when it was reckoned not to be making enough money for all the effort which went into organising it.

In 2001 we were at the start of an interregnum following the Rev Harry Pugh's incumbency, when the Rev Peter Ainsley took many of the services and our churchwardens, Bill Carr, David Turner together with Stan Pickles and Robert Hawthornthwaite continued to manage the running of the church with great success. In those days the advent of women priests, churchwardens and sidespersons was just beginning. It was the heyday of Betty Gilkes who was still writing poetry and anecdotes for parish parties. Eric Barker, a former churchwarden, in later years instigated the fitting of a spectacular wind vane and a flag pole for the church.

We have much for which to thank Jeremiah Horrocks. Who could forget the wonderful organising talents of the special planning committee whom, with many volunteers, executed the Transit of Venus celebrations in June 2004? Astronomers

from the University of Central Lancashire with their cameras and screens were invited and the skies almost magically cleared for the actual transit (from memory I think we were on TV!); a magnificent flower festival was held over three days, together with a special Songs of Praise service, Youth Event, “Band, Bar-B-Que and Fireworks evening”, Garden Trail and Garden Party.

We filled a large marquee to capacity twice, on the occasions of the concert and the dinner. Professor Alan Chapman gave a memorable talk (without notes) at the latter about the life and times of Jeremiah Horrocks. I would like to mention particularly Eric Barker who took on the challenging role of master of ceremonies and coped brilliantly, and Peter Parker who produced a magnificent record of the whole event (now available as a DVD). In addition, the ladies of the church, with their usual skills, planned a weekend of non-stop culinary delights! To commemorate the event a stained-glass window was installed in St Michael’s Church.

Through the years, each time there is an interregnum, we have been very concerned about the possibility – thankfully, so far unfounded – that we may have to share our own parish with others. We have been fortunate to have some wonderful rectors: following the Rev Harry Pugh came the Rev Steve Hughes, the Rev Bill Sloan (very brief ministry) and the Rev Derek Baines. We are currently of course enjoying the ministry of the Rev Ann Templeman assisted by her husband, the Rev Peter. Ann is supported by Barbara and Jane as churchwardens who, together, are the first all-female team at St Michael’s.

I could continue in this vein with many other events taken from old parish magazines but think I have taken enough space in the new-look publication. I would like to thank everyone who has helped me and contributed to the magazine for the last 21 years and wish good luck and a following wind to Steve and Hilary.

“Thanks Erika” Steve & Hilary

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

Sunday 13th November at 10:10am



A SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

With the Laying of Wreaths



Lest We Forget



Harvest Festival Supper



Steve Newman

The Harvest Festival Supper, at The Venue on Friday 30 September, was a splendid evening of good food and entertainment, especially the abundance of pies and cakes, as we laughed our heads off at Colin Wilson's and Lynn Smith's brilliantly well-paced take-off of Laurel and Hardy which, I'm sure, would have brought much laughter, and a bit of bewildered head scratching, from the boys themselves. It was just... 'another fine mess' of comedy they got us into.



The Rev Peter Templeman's Doo-Wop group (let's call them The Temple Men – Peter, Colin and John) took those of us old enough to remember straight back to the 1950s as they rocked and swayed their way through, 'What Are You Making Those Eyes at Me For?' We were definitely all shook up!

Hilary and I took the audience back to 1666 and the Great Fire of London in a sketch that included the burning down of most of the famous City of London Livery buildings, and poor old Fred's Caf, where Sam Pepys wrote most of his diary. "Oyez, Oyez, Oyez!"



Our multi-talented man, Stan Pickles, ended the evening's entertainment with a fine rendition of the old Frank Sinatra favourite, 'Fly Me to The Moon', accompanied, on piano, by the one and only Carole Wilson.

Throughout the evening Matt Wilson conducted a great quiz, in the confident style of Hughie Green (remember him?) that proved once again just how bright the kids are.

"Thanks to everyone for supporting the above event, and we hope you all had a good time. A special thank you to all the social committee members for their support, Mathew for a great quiz, Stan, Steve, Hilary, Peter, Lynn and John for the entertainment, plus the caterers and all the ladies who provided the delicious cakes, and Betty and Julie for the beautiful table flower arrangements. The evening raised £500." *Carole & Colin Wilson*

St Michael's Parish Diary for November

Wednesday 26 th October	7.00pm – c8.30pm ALPHA COURSE IN THE LODGE
Sunday 30 th October	9:00am Holy Communion 10.30am Parish Communion with Sunday School 6.00pm SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING FOR LOVED ONES
Tuesday 1 st November	10.15am Holy Communion
Wednesday 2nd November	7.00pm – c8.30PM ALPHA COURSE IN THE LODGE
Thursday 3 rd November	4.30pm Bible & Biscuits in the Lodge
Sunday 6 th November	9:00am Holy Communion 10.30am Parish Communion with Sunday School
Tuesday 8 th November	10.15am Morning Prayer in the Lodge
Wednesday 9 th November	7.00pm – c8.30PM ALPHA COURSE IN THE LODGE
Thursday 10th November	4.30pm Chat & Chocolate in the Lodge
Friday 11 th November	9.00am St Michaels' School Remembrance Service
Sunday 13th November	No 9.00am Service 10.10AM REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY SERVICE
Tuesday 15 th November	10.15am Morning Prayer in the Lodge 7.30pm Ladies Group meeting in the Village Hall
Wednesday 16th November	7.00pm – c8.30PM ALPHA COURSE IN THE LODGE
Thursday 17 th November	4.30pm Bible & Biscuits in the Lodge
Saturday 19th November	9:30am- 1:30pm a Quiet Morning at the Lodge with Archdeacon Mark Ireland
Sunday 20 th November	9:00am Holy Communion 10.30am Parish Communion 3.45PM CHOCOLATE CHURCH IN THE VILLAGE HALL
Tuesday 22 nd November	10.15am Morning Prayer in the Lodge
Sunday 27 th November	9.00am Holy Communion



ADVENT SUNDAY 27th 10.30am Morning Worship with Sunday School
Tuesday 29TH November 10.15am Holy Communion in the Lodge
7.30pm Preparing for Christmas 1 Bible Study

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Come and join us at St Michael's



Sunday 4th December at 3.45pm

TOY AND CHRISTINGLE SERVICE IN CHURCH

SUNDAY 11th December 6.00pm CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

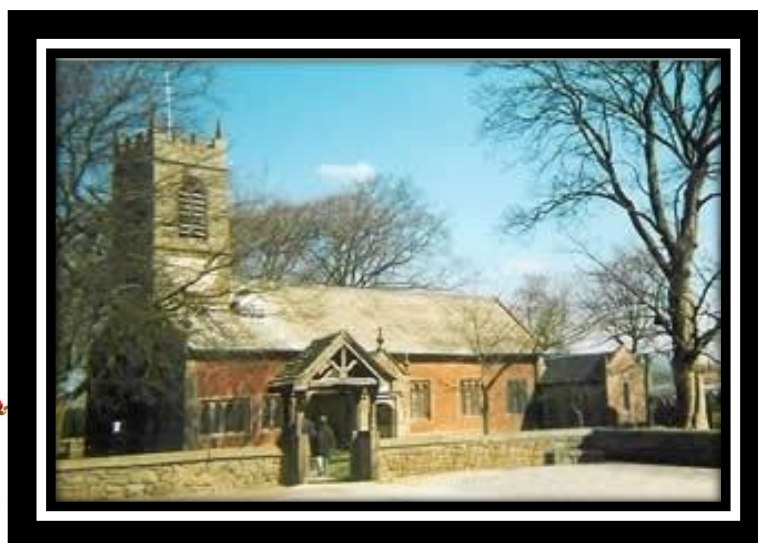
CHRISTMAS EVE

4.00pm CRIB SERVICE

11.30pm MIDNIGHT COMMUNION

CHRISTMAS DAY

10.30am FAMILY SERVICE WITH CAROLS AND COMMUNION





St MICHAEL'S LADIES GROUP

Mules, Goats, Coffee and Cakes...

I am writing this prior to the September meeting which I am not able to attend, so cannot report on Roger Blaxall's talk. I look forward to hearing all about it! However, I know it will have been an exceptional evening because we presented Edith Trevor with a bouquet of flowers and a card to celebrate a very special birthday which she was to celebrate in October.

I am also sure the meeting on Tuesday 18th October with the Men's Fellowship went very well, when Brian Topping who has been to talk to us previously, was talking about *A World of Mules & Minders*.

Another date for your diaries – I am hoping this magazine will be circulated prior to the beginning of November because we are organising a Coffee Morning at Banks Farm, Station Road, on Saturday 5th November from 10.00am to 12.30pm. Please bring along items for the bring and buy stall and cakes.

On Tuesday 15th November local lady Caroline Orritt will be coming along to talk about Arline Goats' Milk Soap. I often walk past the field where her goats live and I am sure this talk will be very interesting.

Then on Tuesday 6th December (note it's the first Tuesday) at 7.30pm we will be holding our Christmas Coffee Evening (it seems all wrong to be writing about that in September!) at the Venue. This year Matt and Yvonne Pinder are coming along to entertain us; it's a charitable evening so please do come along with your friends. There will be the usual delicious home-made refreshments of course plus a Bring & Buy stall and Raffle.

New members are always welcome – just come along to The Venue, Hoole Village Hall at 7.30pm on any of these dates, when you will be warmly welcomed.

Erika

Mandy Hughes - Jesus said "Follow me"



God calls us by name, he knows us and wants us to follow him. We may have already answered his call and are living our lives as Christians. We may be thinking about what it would be like to be a Christian, we may not be entirely sure, or we may not know what we need to do - but no matter what stage you are in your life God is patient and kind and will wait for you. So how do we get there? God speaks to us through his holy spirit. That small voice inside us, maybe a meeting with Christians who have spoken about their faith, hearing about Jesus from school, college, the workplace a role model someone sharing their faith in practical ways. We need to say to God, I will follow you, becoming a Christian may happen slowly, over the years, or suddenly in a moment of realisation, a lightbulb moment! (conversion) or maybe you haven't quite got there yet and have more questions. Deciding to become a Christian is often the result of Christians praying for you! As we are encouraged to do. Jesus said follow me and put me first and our part is to ask him to come into our lives, to repent-say sorry for all the things that we have done wrong and be Baptised.

Luke 9 is quite a tough passage, why does Jesus say these things, it sounds hard to be a Christian? Jesus uses images of everyday life (as he does in his parables) to help people understand what being a Christian will mean for them. These sayings reflect everyday life in first century Israel.

The son of man has nowhere to lay his head-any follower of Christ must be prepared to leave home and security. Our security is in God not things of this world

Let the dead bury the dead – it was important to give family members a good burial, not doing so would be frowned upon. You may need to leave friends and family. Jesus is not saying that these things are not important, his message is a

rather exaggerated one, to get the point across that following him takes priority over everything else.

No one who puts a hand to the plough and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God. Looking backwards while controlling a Plough and an Ox would put the farmer off track.

Come to our Alpha Course through into November and find out the answers to some of the tough and confusing questions that we all grapple with at times.

We are inviting you and anyone you know who would like to know what it means to be a Christian and for those of us who know God, who are Christians, to do a bit of revision, and to go deeper into faith. We will be meeting on Wednesdays, until 16th November, 7-8.30pm in our new Jubilee Lodge. There will be refreshments, videos, and time for discussion.

Quiet Morning in the Lodge

with Archdeacon Mark Ireland

Saturday 19th November 9.30am – 1.30pm



To Know Christ and Make Him Known

Liz Boland

Children and Families
at St Michael's Church



It has been a great start to the new term with the children and young people in St Michael's Church. It is so exciting to be in the Lodge now, with a dedicated space for us to run our childrens' work.

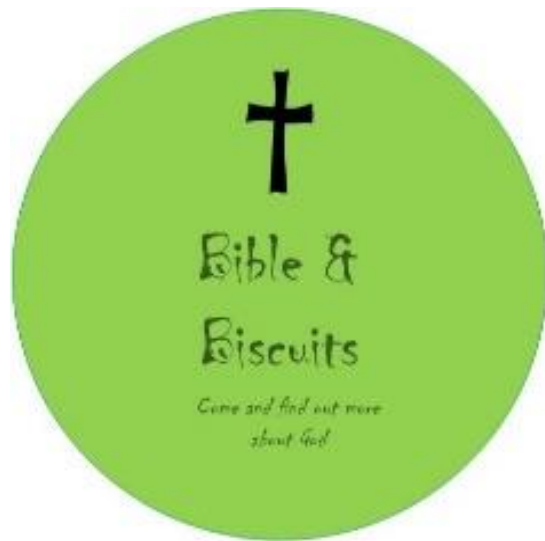


Sunday School started off at St Michael's school, with approximately 20 children aged 11 and under each week. And then came the Grand Opening of the Lodge and a massive 42 children came out to Sunday School. We had a busy morning, building with Lego, painting a Welcome banner, learning a memory verse and colouring! It's so good to have

a space where all our equipment can live (other than my house!) and that the children can take responsibility for and help look after. Now we're in the Lodge, we have introduced a time to tidy up at the end of Sunday School, so hopefully we will always be ready for everyone to come over to coffee after each 1030 service!



Our informal group, Chat & Chocolate for young people in year 6-9 has restarted now, and is also benefiting from being in the Lodge, rather than in church. This is a small group (always happy to have more) where we sit and chat, eat chocolate and play games. We meet fortnightly on a Thursday afternoon from 4:30-5:15. New members always welcome.



This term, we have started a new Bible Study group for young people in school years 6-13, on the Thursdays when we're not at Chat & Chocolate. This group grew from the request of last year's confirmation candidates that they wanted to keep on learning, now they're too old to be at Sunday School. We are hoping to give the young people a space to learn about God and worship Him in age-appropriate ways, while also having fun and eating

biscuits! Meeting alternate Thursdays 4:30-5:30.

Children & Young People Dates:

- Sunday 30 October, 10:30: Sunday School Light Party
- Thursday 3 November, 4:30: Bible & Biscuits
- Sunday 6 November, 10:30: Sunday School
- Thursday 10 November: Chat & Chocolate
- Sunday 13 November, 10:30: Remembrance Sunday with Sunday School for under 7's
- Thursday 17 November, 4:30: Bible & Biscuits
- Sunday 20 November, 3:45pm: Chocolate Church in the Village Hall
- Thursday 24 November, 4:30: Chat & Chocolate

- Sunday 27 November, 10:30: Sunday School
- Thursday 1 December, 4:30: Bible & Biscuits
- Sunday 4 December, 3:45pm: Toy & Christingle service
- Thursday 8 December, 4:30: Chat & Chocolate
- Sunday 11 December, 10:30: Sunday School
- Thursday 15 December, 4:30: Bible & Biscuits
- Sunday 18 December, 10:30: Sunday School



WHY AM I HERE?
St Michael's & All Angels Church Much Hoole

ALPHA COURSE- ALL WELCOME
Wednesdays from 5th October - 16th November,
7pm-8.30pm

In our Platinum Jubilee Lodge

Food, good conversation and friendship

**find out some more about Christianity,
explore faith, and ask questions**

Contact Rev Ann Templeman
antempleman@live.co.uk | 07877659156 | www.hooleparishchurch.com



Service - Sunday 27th November



St Michael's Bell Tolls for the Death of Our Queen...

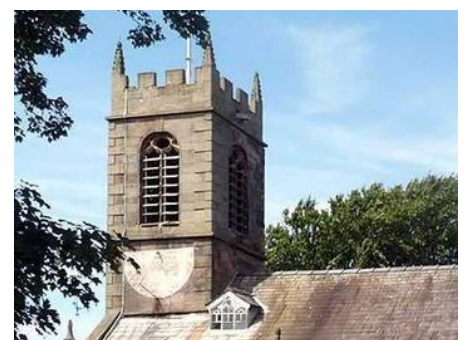
Stan Pickles

If Lockdown taught us anything it was that sometimes we have to do things a little differently. In some ways we were reminded of this in the ten days which followed the announcement of her late Majesty's death until her funeral. Some of the things which normally happened just did not take place, conversely there were things taking place at that time, and at the funeral itself, which the majority of people had never witnessed before.

The morning after the Queen's death an announcement told us that on that day church bells would be rung from 12.00noon until 1.00pm. Normally our church bell simply hangs in the tower, and we hear it chiming out the time each hour mechanically, it is not normally rung manually. However, that day was different, and that early morning announcement gave us the opportunity to join in this nationwide tribute to the Queen. So, a hasty phone call followed by a short notice on the Church website resulted in about twenty people gathering in the church gallery on the approach to midday.

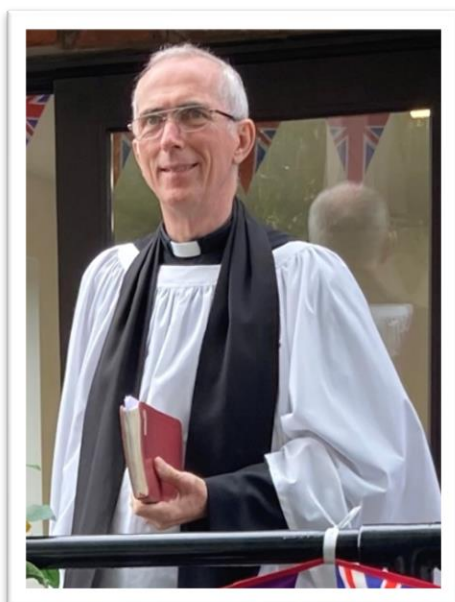
None were experienced bell ringers, one or two had pulled a bell rope occasionally, but after the bell had mechanically chimed 12.00 o'clock, most of those assembled took a turn at ringing the bell. Once it was swinging, letting the bell do the work was the secret, with just a little pressure on the rope to keep the rhythm going was sufficient. Very little was said, whispered comments were made to indicate whose turn was next.

The bell was rung for one hour, stopping just in time for the automatic chiming system to remind us that it was now 1.00pm. So it was that on September 9th 2022 the bell in our church tower, which normally marks the passing of time, along with other church bells nationwide, marked the passing of our longest serving monarch, a reign of seventy years.



Our New Platinum Jubilee Lodge

Opened and Dedicated by The Venerable
Mark Ireland, Archdeacon of Blackburn



“Mansions are in the news...”

I read a feature in the paper this week about the royal mansions around the country, and which members of the Royal Family would move into which, now that Charles has acceded to the throne.

And when the body of the late Queen Elizabeth was brought into Westminster Hall on Wednesday, the Bible reading was from John 14, when Jesus spoke to his disciples about his death, and he said, ***‘Let not your hearts be troubled. Ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house are many mansions: if it were not so I would have told you.’***

And I suppose that when I heard those words as a boy, I always thought that Jesus was using a picture of palatial buildings and saying that God’s house is so big that within it was a big mansion for each one of us.

However, that is not what the word mansion means in this context. The word mansion comes from the Latin word 'mansio' which means a lodge or dwelling place. A mansio was a building beside a major Roman road, where you lodged overnight, before continuing on your journey the next day.

What Jesus is saying to his disciples is that when they die they will lodge with the Father, resting with him, and that they will remain asleep until that great and glorious day of resurrection when those who have died in the faith of Christ will rise again and the whole of creation will be made perfect in a new heaven and a new earth under the perfect rule of Christ the King.

And so the Christian hope of resurrection is much more substantial than simply going to heaven when we die, it is about resting in the presence of God until the day of resurrection when we shall return to earth to be re-embodied in our new resurrection body and reign with Christ in a world cleansed from all sin, restored to its original perfection, where we shall glorify God and enjoy him for ever.

Now I am thrilled that you have decided to call your fantastic new building 'the Platinum Jubilee Lodge' –because it honours the 70-year reign of our late Queen, who has died in the faith of Christ and is now lodging in the presence of God, awaiting the day of resurrection, when Christ will come again as judge of heaven and earth.

And although our new building has been very wisely built in brick and stone on a firm foundation to withstand any of the storms mentioned by Jesus, and to suit its surroundings to please the planning authorities, the title Platinum Jubilee Lodge reminds all of us that no earthly building is forever, that all things pass away.

We lodge on earth for a time, and then we go to lodge with Christ in God's loving presence before that final day when we are resurrected to reign with him on earth forever.

The early Christians did not talk about death, but about falling asleep, which was not a euphemism, but a way of expressing this Christian hope. I knew someone who lived in London and used to take the family to Scotland for their holidays. They found the best way to transport their young children was to get them ready for bed and then load them into the car in their pyjamas and dressing gowns and then set off to drive through the night. And then, when they eventually arrived in their holiday home, they would gently lift the sleeping children from the car and place them in bed. The children, who had fallen asleep driving through the grotty bits of inner London would wake up to find themselves in a stunningly beautiful place by the sea.

And that is our Christian hope. When our time comes, we shall fall asleep in this life, surrounded by pain and suffering of this world, and having rested in the arms of God, we shall wake on the last day in his stunning new creation.

So please don't get too attached to your lovely new lodge. It is there to remind us all that we are merely lodgers here on earth, that the Lodge is a place to prepare ourselves and others for that great and final journey when one day, like the late Queen Elizabeth, we shall fall asleep in the loving arms of Jesus and wake up in his glorious new creation.

PRAYER FOR DEDICATION OF THE PLATINUM JUBILEE LODGE

Jesus said, 'You believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. I will come again, and received you unto myself, that where I am you may be also.'

Let us pray

God our Father, we dedicate this Platinum Jubilee Lodge to you this day, in memory of our beloved Sovereign Lady Queen Elizabeth. May this Lodge be for us a constant reminder that our earthly life is but a pilgrimage, and so fix our hearts and minds on the Lord Jesus, that when this life is over, we may come to

lodge in your loving arms, as does our late Queen, awaiting that great and glorious day when you shall make all things new in Christ, and we shall rise to reign with him in glory.



Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

And now it is my privilege to cut this ribbon and declare the Platinum Jubilee Lodge open!

And now let us close our worship by singing the National Anthem, which is a prayer for our new king, and as we sing let's pray that God will so touch the heart of Charles, that like his mother before him he may follow in the footsteps of Jesus the Servant King.



It was a Great Celebration too...



“A really great place...”

“It’s been worth waiting for...”



“And a bit different to building a chicken shed....”



Paul Wignall, who saw the entire project through, and whose talk at the church service was a joyous experience and explained everything. He also made some delicious hot dogs and burgers afterwards...

“Well, it’s been a learning curve, and a bit different to building a Chicken shed!

I would like to quickly run through the construction of the Lodge, although the best people to talk you through this would be Harry Sutton & Matt Davidsonso if they’d like to join me! Ha. Ha...I'm only joking gents!

After a location was chosen and planning was granted our first step in construction was to obtain working drawings.

Due to trying our best to protect the trees, our only option was what is called a Raft Foundation. We had structural drawings made, the result of this was a foundation that would literally out live us all.

The church has stood here for 400 years, and I would not be surprised if the foundation for the lodge will last for 800 years!

A great deal of chin scratching, and a hive of activity commenced.

The original wall was removed, and I took it home for safe keeping. The ground was broken by Matt Davidson and his team, armed with diggers and dumpers.

Soil and Clay was removed, steel was bent, and concrete poured. We soon had our immense foundation.

This is when Harry Sutton and his team (led by Donny his foreman) arrived with the timber frame construction.

The frame went up quickly. Slate roofing went on to give weight and strength to the structure. Soon we were ready for the outer skin of reclaimed Brick and stone.

Now a big part of what we have tried to do is to keep the lodge in-keeping with the church. This was brilliantly harnessed on paper by Richard Bramley our Architect. However, between the paper stage and an actual building there are, as you can imagine one or two steps. After several, shall we say energetic conversations, it was agreed that using the reclaimed stone from the wall would be our preferred option for the plinth wall.

Now laying random recycled stone is very different from a laying square cut stone wall and I was left feeling a little apprehensive that the brick layers that were expecting to lay square bricks were going to receive something quite different.

At home I washed the stone, I sorted the stone into sizes, then I put the stone onto pallets and loaded it onto my trailer and set off to deliver it back to the church and show the brickies our chosen material.

What happened next blew me away. The three rough handed brick layers turned out to be some of the nicest men I have ever met. I think they were genuinely enjoying the atmosphere of the church yard, and I had a big sigh of relief. They relished the challenge and I think you will all agree the blend of old and new is striking.

Things then picked up at another pace with today the 18th looming.

Electricians, plasterers, joiners, and a multitude of other skills have been employed. Not to mention the skill of bringing electricity, water and WIFI not only from the back of the church to the front, but then through 'Tom Wignall's garden.... being very careful not to disturb my grandmother's plants, and then across the graveyard.

Whilst all this was going on, there was a bit of an elephant in the room.

To correctly run the lodge and toilet we needed to install a water treatment plant and have somewhere to discharge it to. The sewer is on the wrong side of the churchyard. We had to find a pipe! Harry dug for it, Matt dug for it (twice I think) sensors and expensive scanners were used, even water divining was used! And it told us, with absolute certainty that there MIGHT be a pipe!!

Undeterred I asked Matt for a digger and a driver, and we cut a trench 6 foot deep. After a couple of hours and a significant amount of head scratching, the bucket of the digger hit it. We had found our pipe! Nobody will have seen it for over 100 years. But that was the answer to our prayers.

Matt and his team quickly did an excellent job of installing our new plant, and a really tidy job of reinstating the car park.

All of a sudden we had just a week to go: but everything was coming together. Apart from the flooring (I had forgotten the flooring!), so I phoned a family friend, Glen from Express Carpets, and flooring was quickly chosen and delivered in ultra-quick time. But I needed some help to lay the floorboards, so I did what came naturally and asked my father-in-law, Alan Forshaw, who leapt to the challenge and we both spent two days on our hands and knees: we now have a wonderful floor...Thanks Alan. Andy Smith has done a great job of installing WIFI and I believe we are online now. The lodge has been cleaned by a team of volunteers and is now ready for use.

There has been an enormous effort to help fundraise and an immense amount of Community spirit. We've had Village Walks, A Jubilee Picnic, Buy a Brick, Clay Pigeon Shoots and of course the very generous donations from the Parish Councils & Diocese. THANK YOU, all who supported our cause.

We're nearly there, so please buy a burger or a sausage after the service, generously donated by our friends at Woods Farm Shop.

I'd like to thank the Archdeacon for the acorn of this project, and Ann and Peter for making it grow and for giving us all a gentle nudge, or in some cases a mighty heave in the right direction.

Last thing to say is like all great community spaces whether it be the church, the village hall, the local pub, or our Lodge: we'll lose it if we don't use it. I hope the Platinum Jubilee Lodge & St Michael's Church will be used by generations to come. "

And the Kids Love the Lodge too...

I cannot begin to explain how exciting it is for the children and young people to have their own space! We have added 10 minutes onto every Sunday School session as we don't have to walk to school anymore, all our equipment is where we need it to be, rather than all in my house, and we can make a noise without disturbing anyone, which we couldn't do when we were outside church!

For the older children we have been meeting in church, which gives very little space to DO very much because the pews get in the way! Now we can chat in more comfort, use the TV to play songs, without having to have every little tiny detail planned, and it is a much easier space to invite other people to, rather than a formal church building.

Having the space for children and young people to meet will transform the work we can do as a church. As a more relaxed space than the church, it will be less threatening for new people, and we can reach out to the community even more than ever before.

Liz



Tea & Coffee Rota

- 13th November – Gill and Volunteer
- 20th November – Steve and Hilary
- 27th November – John and Honey
- 4th December – Lyn and Carol
- 11th December – Mike and Joan
- 18th December – Gill and Nina

ST MICHAEL'S FLOWER GROUP

All Good Gifts Around us are Sent from Heaven Above

Julie Eastham

Harvest is a busy time for the Church Flower Group. This year, locally grown yellow chrysanthemums created the colour scheme, alongside greenery from local gardens and the churchyard- including hips and haws (rosehips and hawthorns), contorted hazel, dried seed heads, grasses and grains - all capturing the beauty of Harvest. Fresh fruit and vegetables were generously donated by Wood's Farm Shop and Burney's, potatoes from Gores and eggs from H.Wignall & Sons.

Children from St. Michael's School decorated baskets full of food products during their school Harvest service. These, along with the baskets left during the Sunday Service, were distributed to people in the village. This year these included families from Ukraine, Ribble Court, and Mill Court Care homes. St. Michael's School used some of the donations as a fundraiser for the Bishop's Harvest Appeal; a Harvest basket was provided for the Harvest Supper and Quiz raffle and St Catherine's Hospice Kitchens received all the remaining fresh produce. All other produce went to the food bank.



The Flower Group Ladies preparing for the Harvest Festival

TO ALL SPONSORS OF THE FLOWER FUND

(Past, present, and future)

Barbara Wood



Following on from the article on this subject in our September/October issue of the magazine, can I reiterate the following please:

- Do you normally donate to the flower fund?
- Did you donate in the past?
- Would you like to donate in the future? If so, would

you please contact me to confirm your chosen method of donation if you have not already done so.

This would greatly assist in helping us:

- Lisa Redshaw Secretary to the Flower Fund
- Myself Treasurer to the Flower Fund
- Andy Smith Treasurer to the PCC

to ensure all donations to this **restricted** fund are recorded and processed accurately.

We are encouraging as many sponsors and donors as possible to convert from cash or cheque donations to one of the following:

- Standing Order online
- Standing Order by paper form - I can supply the form you need
- Online bank transfer (BACs)

In the meantime, can I give ALL sponsors and donors this reassurance:

If you wish to continue to donate via cash or cheque, that is absolutely perfectly fine, we understand that online banking is not for everyone. We just need to know your chosen method for the above reasons.

Any queries or concerns at all, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Many thanks

Barbara

Treasurer to the Flower Fund

07745 208617 bw12252@hotmail.com

Flower Group Rota

13th November – Lisa & Julia

20th November – Lisa

27th November – Lisa & Gillian

3rd December – All

4th December – Gillian



Rev Peter Templeman – Notes from the Pulpit

“The eyes follow you round the room”



It won't be long now before many of us start scouring the shops for Christmas presents. There are a small number (a very small number of people!) who are so organised that they have all their presents wrapped up, and their Christmas Cards ready, by the end of September.

Many more will be shopping right up to the last minute looking for inspiration for a gift that will be well received. And there's just the occasional married couple who say to one another – shall we go without giving presents to each other this Christmas.

As Peter goes on to write he makes the contrasting point about the idea of Christmas gifts to those given by God the Father to His Son, in words taken from John 17, with, for me, verse 6 a good example:

“I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have your word that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave me I have given to them...”

Later in his sermon Peter writes about a different sort of gift, that of the life of Henry Martyn (see portrait above):

There are many examples of a great work [and life] over the last 2,000 years. Let me give you one example, Henry Martyn. He was born in 1781 and went as a student and scholar to St John's College, Cambridge (as I did). He won every academic prize, and had, potentially, a very glittering career before him. He chose instead to go to India to be a missionary. He died at the age of 31.

Henry Martyn's portrait hangs just outside the dining hall in St John's College, and it is a portrait – like many - where the eyes follow you round

the room. And when I was Chaplain at St John's and went into the dining hall I always looked at that picture.

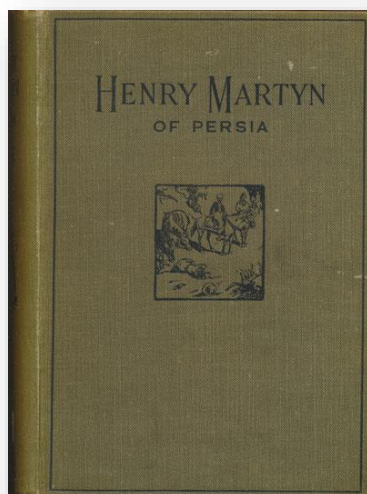
The portrait would remind me of a life well lived and a work completed- an inspiration to me in whatever I was involved with.

Peter

Edited by Steve Newman



St John's College Cambridge Early 1800s



FROM ST MICHAEL'S PARISH REGISTERS

The Departed

*We give thanks for the lives of those who have died and pray
for their families and friends*

13th August

**THOMAS ALFRED SANDERSON, aged 92, of Much Hoole. The funeral
service was followed by Interment in the Churchyard.**

27th August

**SARAH ANNE SCOTT, aged 76, of Much Hoole. Interment of ashes in
the Churchyard.**

26th September

**CATHERINE MARSHALL aged 99 years of Walmer Bridge. Interment of
ashes in the Churchyard.**

3rd October

**ISOBEL WOOLDRIDGE aged 100 years of Penwortham. Cremation
followed at Charnock Richard.**

10th October

**MARGARET MARINE KENNARD aged 88 years of Much Hoole.
Interment followed in the Churchyard.**



A SPACE FOR PRAYER

We have created 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 leave us a phone number, or you can contact us – details below.

Revd Ann Templeman: 01772 448515, Mob 07877 659156.

Email anntempleman@live.co.uk

Mandy Hughes (Ministry Team): Mob 07791 532461.

Email amandahughes945@gmail.com



UKRAINE PARTNERSHIP

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, PRESTON

Through partnership with churches and individuals across the UK and alongside the Government's 'Homes for Ukraine' scheme, members of All Saints Church in Preston have had the opportunity to help some of our brothers and sisters from Ukraine in a very practical way by providing homes and support to a number of Ukrainian refugees since May. Their aim is to continue to finance and care for these people for as long as necessary given the ongoing uncertainty in Ukraine.

At present there are 38 men, women and children being sponsored by the All Saints church family in Preston. Many of those joining them are members of Kharkiv City Church, a church plant which began in 2019, involved in reaching out to those in need in built-up areas in Kharkiv; the majority of their Ukrainian friends joined us having fled Ukraine as the war began in February 2022.

The initial group travelled by car and then by foot from Kharkiv to Romania and then on to Hungary over a couple of weeks. Wonderfully the Lord sustained and protected them as they travelled nearly 2000km to Budapest, all while awaiting visas to enter the UK. Christians throughout Ukraine, Romania and Hungary opened their homes and served them as they travelled.

The All Saints family are so thankful to be able to partner with them now they have arrived in the UK, and to have welcomed others who have arrived from other parts of Ukraine. This support and comfort is still ongoing and if you would like to contribute to the fund, please contact the church treasurer, Ella Biden at treasurer@allsaintspreston.org.uk (if you were able to gift aid your donation that would be even better). If you would like to give a one-off gift the details are as follows:

Account:	All Saints Preston Parochial Church Council
Bank:	Natwest
Sort Code:	01-67-14
Account No:	02884615
Reference:	Ukrainian Refugees

St Michaels and All Angels Parish Church

CHURCH OFFICERS

Rector: The Reverend Ann Templeman

The Rectory, 69 Liverpool Road, Much Hoole, PR4 4RB

Tel: 01772 448515 and mob: 07877 659156;

anntempleman@live.co.uk

Associate Minister: The Reverend Peter Templeman

Churchwardens:

Mrs Jane Elphick – Tel: 603360, Mob: 07977201199

candjelpick@hotmail.com

Mrs Barbara Wood – Mob: 07745 208617. bw12252@hotmail.com

Vergers:

Mrs Irene Pickles Tel: 615708

Churchwarden Emeritus:

Mr William G.Carr. Tel: 01772 615321. billcarr1935@btinternet.com

Occasional Preacher:

Mrs Margaret Kirkman – Tel: 01772 379219. Mob: 07786543581.

margk1946@gmail.com

Children and Young People's Minister: Liz Boland – Mob: 07903 200204

lizboland@yahoo.co.uk.

PCC Secretary:

Mrs Andrea Susnik – Tel: 615336. E: familysusnik@live.co.uk

PCC Treasurer: Mr Andrew Smith – Tel: 615383. Mob: 07771 983726

andrew.smith8118937@btinternet.com

PCC Assistant Treasurer: Mrs Barbara Wood – Mob: 07745 208617.

bw12252@hotmail.com

Gift Aid Recorder: Mrs Barbara Wood – contact details as above.

Deanery Synod Representatives: Mrs Jean Dewhurst, Mrs Margaret Kirkman and Mrs Kathleen Leigh.

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Mrs Amanda Hughes – Mob: 07791 532461.

amandahughes945@gmail.com

Health and Safety Officer: Colin Wilson



Service Opportunities in Church

Part time church administrators required 6-10 hrs per week – contact Rev Ann for more information. Voluntary help in technology – projector, live streaming etc, publicity – putting up posters, distribution. Help with refreshments, catering, plus help with children's work. And not least, help in cleaning the church.

ORGANISATIONS

Sunday School

Sunday School – St Michael’s Club – begins at 10.30 in church and usually takes place every Sunday.

Leader: Mrs Liz Boland. Mobile: 07903 200204.

lizboland@yahoo.co.uk

Flower Group:

Contact: Mrs Lisa Redshaw – Tel: 614428.

Treasurer: Mrs Barbara Wood – Tel: 07745 208617

Hoole Church Ladies’ Group – meets 7.30, 3rd Tuesday, in The Venue, Hoole Village Hall. Leader: Mrs Erika Penrose.

Tel: 613816. johnanderika.penrose@gmail.com

St Michael’s Men’s Fellowship – meets 7.30, 2nd Tuesday, in The Venue, Hoole Village Hall.

Secretary: Post vacant

Friends of St Michael – Caring for the fabric of our ancient church.

Chair: Mrs Jane Elphick, Tel: 601495.

Secretary: Mr David Turner, Tel: 01772 383344.

Social Committee – Contact: Mr Colin Wilson – Tel: 616978

southview1953@tiscali.co.uk

Hoole St Michael C E Primary School

Head Teacher: Mrs Juliet Price – Tel: 613219.

1st St Michael’s Hoole Scout & Guide Groups – Contact:

Mrs Rebecca Catterall. 1sthoole@gmail.com

St Michael’s Players: Steve & Hilary Newman 07817167627

stevewnewmanwriter@aol.com

Church Website: www.hooleparishchurch.com.

Facebook Page: “St Michael and All Angels Church Hoole”

St Michael and All Angels Church, Liverpool Old Road, Much Hoole, Preston, PR4 5JQ

CHURCH OPENING TIMES

St Michael’s Church is open every day.

Opening times are:

Monday to Saturday inclusive: 9.30am to 4.30pm.

Sunday: 8.00am to 4.30pm.

South Ribble Fairtrade Christmas Market

Friday November 12th & Saturday November 13th

10.00am - 4.00pm

St Andrew's Church Hall
Liverpool Rd, Longton
PR4 5AA



FAIRTRADE
FOUNDATION



WHY AM I HERE?
St Michael's & All Angels Church Much Hoole

ALPHA COURSE- ALL WELCOME
Wednesdays from 5th October - 16th November,
7pm-8.30pm

In our Platinum Jubilee Lodge

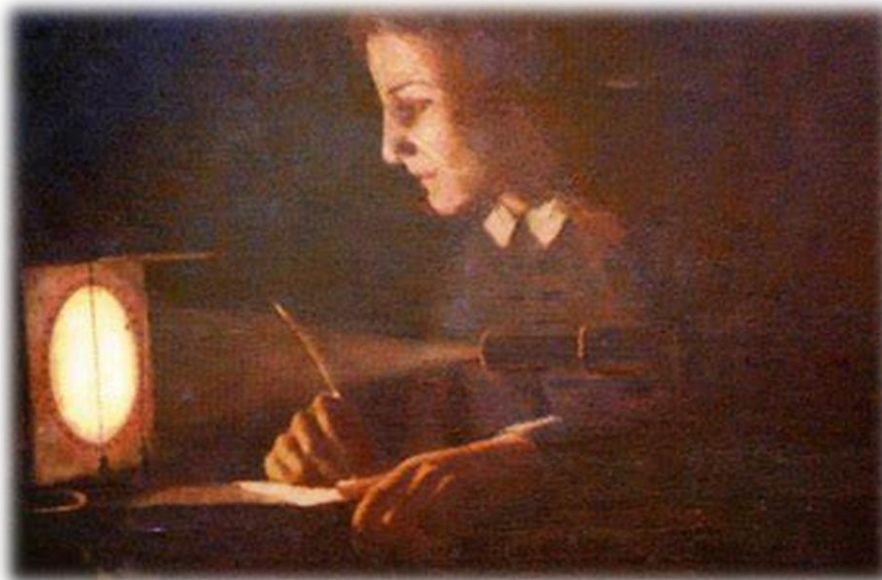
Food, good conversation and friendship

**find out some more about Christianity,
explore faith, and ask questions**

Contact Rev Ann Templeman
antempleman@live.co.uk | 07877659156 | www.hooleparishchurch.com



St Michael and All Angels Church



Jeremiah Horrocks – Astronomer. His story will begin in our December/January issue of St Michael's Times