

St. Michael's Church Shotwick

News Sheet August 2020



Photograph by Caroline Ellison

“Welcoming and active at the heart of the Parish”

A message from Cathy

As lockdown begins to lift, life is starting to open up new possibilities again. Yet for many being in lockdown is still necessary and the uncertainty of what to do for the best is very unsettling.

I do hope that however lockdown has been and is continuing to be for you, that you are finding the weekly emailed services an encouragement and that you still feel part of the church family at St Michael's. My prayer is that for each of you your journey of faith through these difficult times will have been one of seeing God's provision, God's love for you and enabling you to dig deep into His bountiful blessings and hope.

The life and ministry of the parish has continued but in a quite different way, which at times has been challenging. One big challenge that we now face as a parish is the matter of finance and the loss of income due to the fact we are not physically meeting together week by week. As you can imagine this has had a massive effect on our balance sheet together with the loss of income from all our planned social events.

So far we have missed a talk, the Art weekend and a strawberry tea, all which we would have expected to raise within the region £1500. In effect we are running at around a £2000 loss over the 4 months of lockdown and with more social events looking uncertain I felt it necessary to bring this to your attention. Thank you to those who have already been in touch with regards to this concern.

Many of you already kindly commit to St Michael's by regular standing order, for which we are so grateful. **For those who have regularly put their gifts over these last months to one side we wondered if it would be possible for you to send a cheque for the amount collected? Cheques can be made payable to St Michael's Church, Shotwick**

Ideally, we would like encourage those of you with online banking to use that facility for making a payment to support the church and the following details can be used:

Bank National Westminster Bank Plc

Account name: St Michaels Church, Shotwick

Sort Code: 54-30-23

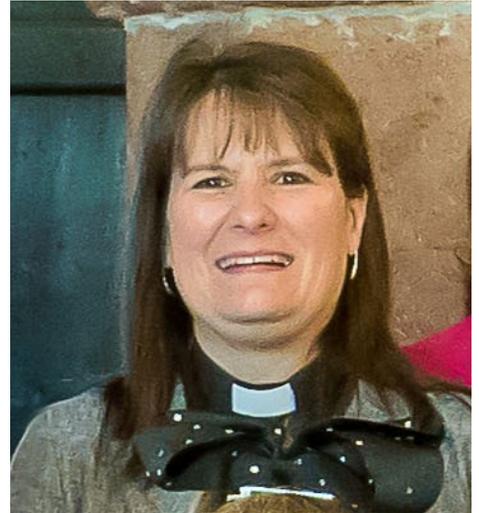
Account Number: 01406426

Use your own name as the reference for the payment.

I am acutely aware that there is uncertainty and job insecurity and for some this may be an inappropriate request as you may have had to step in to support family or friends. However, I trust you will understand that we felt this is something we needed to draw to the attention of the whole church family. If you have any questions regarding the finance please do not hesitate to get in touch with either Caroline our Treasurer or myself

Many thanks for your ongoing support.

Cathy



Services at St Michael's Church

From the beginning of July, churches have been permitted to have services in church again. All the church members were consulted and given the opportunity to say whether they felt ready to return to services in church or would rather wait a while longer to further evaluate the ongoing Covid-19 situation.

The PCC have considered the guidance from the Government and Diocese, alongside this feedback and it was agreed unanimously to delay services in church until at least September. We will reassess again at how our congregation may be able to return safely. We do understand that this may be disappointing for some of you.



The emailed or posted services will continue to be sent out every weekend as long as they are needed.

**The church will continue to be open for private prayer on
Wednesday mornings 11.00am - 12.00 noon
Saturday afternoons 2.00pm - 3.00pm**

A prayer for difficult times

God of presence and of strength.

Help us to know you here with us when we feel anxious or afraid.

When the future feels uncertain or unwieldy,

We know that nothing is unknown to you.

O God, we know you are our rock and our comfort in times of trouble.

Give us wisdom and courage to grow in faith and trust.

Amen

Daily Hope

A Freephone line of hymns, reflections and prayers.

Looking for some daily hope during the lockdown?

The Church of England has a **FREE** telephone line for you to ring to listen to comforting hymns, daily prayers and reflections.

0800 804 8044



THE PRAYER BOOK SOCIETY

The Coronavirus pandemic: A message from the Chairman of the Prayer Book Society

The terrible spread of COVID-19 across the world has brought with it heart-breaking human suffering on all levels, leading to the extraordinary suspension of public worship in the United Kingdom. We are now living through the first period since the time of Oliver Cromwell when the words of the Prayer Book cannot be heard lifted up to God day by day in churches in every corner of England.

The Prayer Book Society, however, continues 'rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer' (Romans 12:12). The Book of Common Prayer returned to our churches after the shadow of the 1650s, and it shall return again after this shadow too. Just as loyal sons and daughters of the English church were sustained by praying with the Prayer Book in their hand during that time, so the Book of Common Prayer can be our faithful guide to the dedication and humble prayer our nation and the world needs from all of us today. The Prayer Book Society will continue to do everything it can to share more widely the light of the Book of Common Prayer at this dark time: please do check back regularly to see what we are offering.

In the meantime, now is a better time than ever to invite all visitors to this website to join in the Prayer Book Society's weekly commitment in praying:

O Lord, we beseech thee, let thy continual pity cleanse and defend thy Church; and, because it cannot continue in safety without thy succour, preserve it evermore by thy help and goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prudence Dailey

Online streaming of BCP services

In these extraordinary days when all our churches are closed for public worship, many clergy are now streaming services online instead.

Please click on link below for details of streamed online Prayer Book services of which we are currently aware.

<https://www.pbs.org.uk/churches-and-services/-1>

Wing Walking

A talk by Roger Devonside - 27 February 2020

Wing Walking



On 27th February Roger Devonside came to St Michael's to give a talk about wing walking, which he did for over twenty years to raise money for charity.

Roger explained that a plane which is to be used for wing walking has to be tested using a dummy before a real person is allowed to go out on the wing, and the display team have a 100% safety record. The plane flies at about 140mph and there can be wind speeds of up to 150mph

The wing walking team follow VFR (visual flight rules), which means that they use physical features such as rivers and contours as their markers. A wing walker has to have complete confidence in the pilot

and anyone who wishes to wing walk has to pay a fee of £500.

Roger has now had to give up wing walking as he has been banned by the Civil Aviation Authority because he is over the height and weight limits for wing walking.

Cathy proposed a vote of thanks to Roger for coming to share his experiences with us and the evening finished with refreshments.

Susan

Exhibition on religious art at the Anglican Cathedral, Liverpool

Religious subjects are not generally associated with Twentieth Century British art but a highly recommended exhibition at Liverpool's Anglican Cathedral last year demonstrated their importance to some artists. *Art, Faith and Modernity* was part of an ongoing programme of exhibitions produced by fine art dealers Liss Llewelyn in partnership with museums and cultural institutions. These exhibitions give people the opportunity to appreciate some lesser known pieces of Modern British Art.

In this particular exhibition the pictures were thought provoking and some of them challenging - note the references to the First World War in *The Good Samaritan* and the detail from *Allegory of War, The Last Judgement*. In *The Good Samaritan* a woman is attending to war weary soldiers, possibly at the Belgian Front. Just visible in the top left hand corner are the feet of a wayside figure of Christ. In *The Last Judgement*, machine guns, aeroplanes and a tank can be seen surrounding what appears to be a council of war.

Art, Faith and Modernity was an interesting exhibition, stimulating and inspiring. My thanks go to George Richards at Liss Llewelyn for permission to use my photographs of the pictures.

Vanessa Stevens



The Good Samaritan

English School



Allegory of War, the Last Judgement

English School



Scene from the Book of Job Helen Blair



Design for Stained Glass Window Francis Spear

TED - Ideas Worth Spreading

<https://www.ted.com/talks>

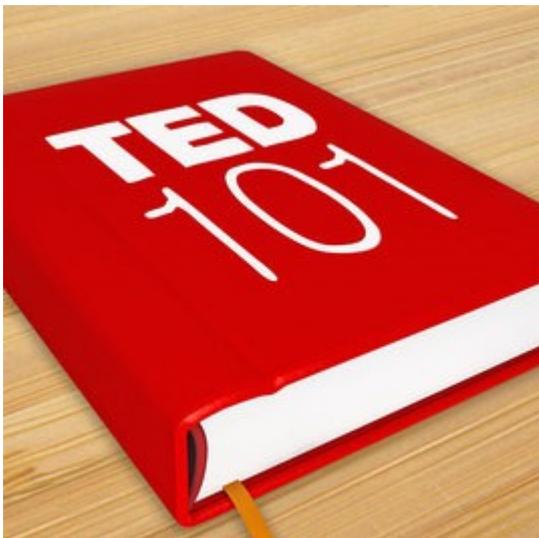
Our organization

TED is a nonprofit devoted to spreading ideas, usually in the form of short, powerful talks (18 minutes or less). TED began in 1984 as a conference where Technology, Entertainment and Design converged, and today covers almost all topics — from science to business to global issues — in more than 100 languages. Meanwhile, independently run TEDx events help share ideas in communities around the world.

Our Mission: Spread ideas

TED is a global community, welcoming people from every discipline and culture who seek a deeper understanding of the world. We believe passionately in the power of ideas to change attitudes, lives and, ultimately, the world. On TED.com, we're building a clearinghouse of free knowledge from the world's most inspired thinkers — and a community of curious souls to engage with ideas and each other, both online and at TED and TEDx events around the world, all year long.

In fact, everything we do — from our Conferences to our TED Talks to the projects sparked by The Audacious Project, from the global TEDx and TED Translators communities to the TED-Ed lesson series — is driven by this goal: How can we best spread great ideas?



Playlist (11 talks)

Must-see TED Talks



Playlist (20 talks)

Most popular TED Talks

These 20 talks are the ones that you and your fellow TED fans just can't stop sharing.

Watch now

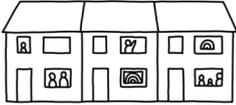
To view these talks please click on the underlined links above whilst also holding down the Ctrl key on your keyboard.

The Beatitudes during Lockdown

BEATITUDES

FOR A GLOBAL PANDEMIC

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO STAY INDOORS



FOR THEY HAVE PROTECTED OTHERS

BLESSED ARE THE UNEMPLOYED AND THE SELF-EMPLOYED



FOR THEIR NEED OF GOD IS GREAT

BLESSED ARE THE CORNER SHOPKEEPERS



FOR THEY ARE THE PURVEYORS OF SCARCE THINGS

BLESSED ARE THE DELIVERY DRIVERS AND THE POSTAL WORKERS



FOR THEY ARE THE BRINGERS OF ESSENTIAL THINGS

BLESSED ARE THE HOSPITAL WORKERS; THE AMBULANCE CREWS, THE DOCTORS, THE NURSES, THE CARE ASSISTANTS, AND THE CLEANERS



FOR THEY STAND BETWEEN US AND THE GRAVE, AND THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS SURELY THEIRS

BLESSED ARE THE CHECKOUT WORKERS



FOR THEY HAVE PATIENCE AND FORTITUDE IN THE FACE OF OVERWORK AND FRUSTRATION

BLESSED ARE THE REFUSE COLLECTORS



FOR THEY WILL SEE GOD DESPITE THE MOUNTAINS OF WASTE

BLESSED ARE THE TEACHERS



FOR THEY REMAIN STEADFAST AND CONSTANT IN DISTURBING TIMES

BLESSED ARE THE CHURCH WORKERS; THE DEACONS, PRIESTS AND BISHOPS



FOR THEY ARE A COMFORTING PRESENCE IN A HURTING WORLD AS THEY CONTINUE TO SIGNPOST TOWARDS GOD

BLESSED ARE THE SINGLE PARENTS,



FOR THEY ARE COPING ALONE WITH THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES AND THERE IS NO RESPITE

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO ARE ALONE.



FOR THEY ARE CHILDREN OF GOD AND WITH HIM THEY WILL NEVER BE LONELY

BLESSED ARE THE BEREAVED,



FOR WHOM THE WORST HAS ALREADY HAPPENED. THEY SHALL BE COMFORTED

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO ARE ISOLATED WITH THEIR ABUSERS



FOR ONE DAY - WE PRAY - THEY WILL KNOW SAFETY

BLESSED ARE ALL DURING THIS TIME WHO HAVE PURE HEARTS; ALL WHO STILL HUNGER AND THIRST FOR JUSTICE; ALL WHO WORK FOR PEACE AND WHO MODEL MERCY



MAY YOU KNOW COMFORT. MAY YOU KNOW CALM. AND MAY THE GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, AND THE LOVE OF GOD, AND THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, BE WITH US ALL. AMEN

TEXT: JAYNE MANFREDI

CartoonChurch.com

Cathy

If you have any stories or photos you would like to share for our next edition, please forward them to Jenny Sneddon at:

jcsned@googlemail.com