

## **Sunday Services in February 2019**

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> February      Evensong 6.30pm  
Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> February      Holy Communion 10am  
Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> February      Holy Communion 10am  
Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> February      Morning Prayer 10am

## **Sunday Services in March 2019**

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March      Evensong 6.30pm  
Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March      Holy Communion 10am  
Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March      Holy Communion 10am  
Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March      Morning Prayer 10am  
Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March      Family Service for Mothering Sunday  
10am

Holy Communion is celebrated every Thursday at 10am in the Church. Everyone is welcome. Refreshments are served in the Church after the Service on Thursday and Sunday.

Take a look at the Forton website [Fortonchurch.org.uk](http://Fortonchurch.org.uk)

Copy date for next newsletter March 22<sup>nd</sup>

## ***ALL SAINTS CHURCH FORTON***

Dear Friends,

When we were moving, we sent our son Richard (the ruthless one of the family, no sentiment ever governs his decisions) to clear out the attic. He handed me a box, well to be truthful it was thrown out of the attic, containing papers. When I said that I had better go through them he remarked that as I hadn't touched them for 26 years, he couldn't see why I would want to keep them. As I went through them, I suddenly thought he was right, why was I keeping them? They were my university notes, now 50 years out of date and no one in the family was interested in theology, so out they went.

We all do it. We all hold onto the past. We never learn to let it go. It is one of things easier said than done. It's easy to throw out old papers now out of date. But what do you do about that first toy you bought your child? Or that ornament which reminds you of someone you love who is no longer with you? It is difficult to let go of the past.

We can't always be tied to the past. Our future, and our present cannot be entirely dictated by the past. We mustn't let ourselves be ensnared by the past.

And that's one of the things we celebrate at the start of a New Year. It's a new one. It's not the old one being repeated (well it can be if we let it). It is clean, fresh, no mistakes. That's why we make new year's resolutions so that we can make a fresh start.

So as the new year begins, lets learn to let go of the past, not just papers or material things, but perhaps memories which direct our feelings or actions. We can offer all these things to God and ask him to give us the strength which will help us deal with the future as it comes along.

If it's not too late, may I on behalf of myself, my wife jane and all our family, wish you a happy and peaceful new year.

Your Priest and Friend,  
Edward

### **From the Register**

We send our condolences to the families of Mavis Lucas and Ida Talbot whose funerals took place in January, and to the family of Michael Bentley whose service of thanksgiving takes place in February.

### **Christmas 2018**

The Christmas celebrations began with the coffee morning which was held at Forton Cricket Club. We raised £354.90 for church funds. Thank you to all who supported the event and to Marion and Wendy Robinson for making and donating greetings cards, these are available in church. The carol singers raised £340.00 this will be sent to The Donna Louise Children's Hospice.

The church was beautifully decorated and enjoyed by the congregation at the services. Following their visit around the parish Mary and Joseph with the sheep arrived back in church for the Crib Service on Christmas Eve and at Midnight Mass.

### **February Fun Night**

Our fun night will take place at Forton Cricket Club on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> February tickets are £12.50 and are available from Barbara Gough.

### **Dates for your diary**

8<sup>th</sup> March a concert with Newport Male Voice Choir look out for more details.

29<sup>th</sup> March Quiz night at Forton Cricket Club

### **Church and Churchyard Tidy Up**

The churchyard tidy up will be on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2019 commencing at 9.30am. Everyone is welcome to come and join us, please bring gardening tools, especially strimmer's.

### **PCC**

The next PCC meeting will be on 13<sup>th</sup> March at the home of Barbara Gough.

The Annual Church Parochial meeting will be held on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April at 11am following the morning service. At this meeting the

accounts are submitted and a review of the year given. Church Wardens, Officers and members are elected at the meeting.

### **Special services in Lent**

The Lent group which will be led by Hilary will meet on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> March and 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> April at the home of Ann Biddle. The Diocesan Lent Course will be followed.

### **Mother's Day**

The service for Mother's Day will be a family service there will be no communion families are most welcome to this service.

### **Flowers in the churchyard**

The season of Christmas ends at the end of January and it would be appreciated if Christmas flowers could be removed by the end of January.

### **Graves**

As we will be starting to cut the grass in the church yard, we would ask that flowers are on the headstone surround and not on the grass. Thank you

### **Contact details**

Preb. Edward Ward		01952 814886
Hillary Phillips	Reader	01785 824432
Janet Guest	Church Warden	01952 820080
John Airth	Church Warden	01952 813577
Arthur Ellis	Book Sales	01952 813099
Ann Airth	Newsletter	01952 813577

