**October 2025**

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| ***Letter from the Rector*** | | | | | |
| *The Rector writes.*  A friend of mine has been going through a hard time lately. She moved house last December, since when she has become embroiled in a simmering dispute in her apartment block. I shall spare you the sorry details, but thankfully she was able to escape for a couple of weeks recently and came north to stay with her sister and brother-in-law. She had a busy but enjoyable time and has returned home with renewed strength, determined not to let the dispute drag her down. Time out did her good.  My friend was fortunate in having a sister who would support her in this way. But it reminds me that we all, at times, need to step aside and get a fresh perspective on life. Although most of us are uneasy with change, it is often a variation from routine that restores and refreshes us. This may come in the form of a well-earned holiday; or maybe a day trip somewhere special; or perhaps an evening out with friends for a meal or a visit to the theatre. For others, a new home or a new job is called for. We may all seek stillness and solitude through quiet days or retreats.  There are many ways in which we can enjoy a change of scene, for anything from a few moments to a complete life-changing move. As we celebrate once again the harvest safely gathered in and as the nights draw in, here’s something to think about.  During the autumn, why not seek something a bit different that might change your perspective? If you have not been to a church service for a long while, why not give it a go? If you regularly come but have sat in the same seat for donkey’s years, why not try another spot in the pews to see if it changes what you see or hear? If you have never been to Christian Chatter or another ‘Thoughtful Tuesday’ event, why not give one of them a go?  It’s a paradox of our faith that God never changes, yet he makes all things new! Maybe, in a small way, he can show you something new this autumn, even amidst your familiar home and church routines.  *Prayers and blessings, Susan*  **Talk on the Rose Queens of Halsall,** Tuesday 7th October at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall.  Free entry but donation to church funds welcome. There will be a small cake stall and raffle.    **Harvest Supper for the United Benefice**  Saturday 11th October 7.30pm. St Cuthbert’s School Hall. Tickets £15 from Pam Carr  &  **Every Tuesday 8.45am to 11.30am (approx.), St Cuthbert’s Church, choir vestry**  Come and chat, have a brew, ponder life and if you want to bring your own craft to make.  Meet old friends and make some new ones; take the opportunity to have a moment in church.  Entrance by the back door of the church.    **Thoughtful Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm in the Millenium Centre…**  Prayer meeting for the United Benefice - 14th October  Free Talk with raffles and refreshments – 21st October, Walking in St Francis’ footsteps  Christian Chatter - 28th October    **Tuesdays during term time, St Thomas’ Parent and Toddlers, 10.30am -12 midday. Lydiate Guide Centre**    **Every Wednesday 12.30 – 2.30pm (approximately), St Thomas’ warm welcome in Lydiate Guide Centre**  A simple lunch followed by time to chat or simply be. All welcome.  **Pearl of Africa Choir concert, Wednesday 15th October 6pm St Cuthbert’s Church, Halsall**  Free entry but a donation of around £5 suggested. Craft stall. Tea and coffee and raffle. | | | | | |
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| **October 2025** | | | | | |
| *Date* | *Time* | *Place* | | *Service* | |
| Wednesday 1st October | 11.00am | St Thomas’ Lydiate | | Said CW Communion | |
| Thursday 2nd October | 9.15am  1.30pm | St Cuthbert’s Halsall  St Cuthbert’s Halsall | | Morning Prayer  Said Holy Communion with prayers for healing | |
| **Sunday 5th October**  **Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity** | 8.00am | St Thomas’ Lydiate | | Said BCP Holy Communion | |
| 9.30am | St Cuthbert’s Halsall | | BCP Holy Communion (**Church without walls**) | |
| 11.00am | St Thomas’ Lydiate | | Common Worship Holy Communion | |
| Wednesday 8th October | 11.00am | St Thomas’ Lydiate | | Said CW Holy Communion | |
| Thursday 9th October | 9.15am  1.30pm | St Cuthbert’s Halsall  St Cuthbert’s Halsall | | Morning Prayer  Said Holy Communion with prayers for healing | |
| **Sunday 12th October Harvest Festival** | 8.00am | St Thomas’ Lydiate | | Said BCP Holy Communion | |
| 9.30am | St Cuthbert’s Halsall | | **Harvest Celebration with school** | |
| 11.00am | St Thomas’ Lydiate | | **Harvest Church Parade** | |
|  | 4.00pm | St Cuthbert’s Halsall | | **Harvest songs of praise** | |
| Wednesday 15th October | 11.00am | St Thomas’ Lydiate | | Said CW Holy Communion | |
| Thursday 16th October | 9.15am  1.30pm | St Cuthbert’s Halsall  St Cuthbert’s Halsall | | Morning Prayer  Said Holy Communion with prayers for healing | |
| **Sunday 19th October**  **Healthcare Sunday** | 8.00am | St Thomas Lydiate | | Said BCP Holy Communion | |
| 9.30am | St Cuthbert’s Halsall | | BCP Holy Communion **(Messy Church)** | |
| 11.00am | St Thomas’ Lydiate | | Common Worship Holy Communion | |
| Weds 22nd October | 11.00am | St Thomas’ Lydiate | | Said CW Holy Communion | |
| Thursday 23rd October | 9.15am  1.30pm | St Cuthbert’s Halsall  St Cuthbert’s Halsall | | Morning Prayer  Said Holy Communion with prayers for healing | |
| **Sunday 26th October**  **Last Sunday of Trinity** | 8.00am | St Thomas’ Lydiate | | Said BCP Holy Communion | |
| 9.30am | St Cuthbert’s Halsall | | Common Worship Holy Communion | |
| 11.00am | St Thomas’ Lydiate | | All age Eucharist | |
| Wednesday 29th October | 11.00am | St Thomas’ Lydiate | | Said CW Holy Communion | |
| Thursday 30th October | 9.15am  1.30pm | St Cuthbert’s Halsall  St Cuthbert’s Halsall | | Morning Prayer  Said Holy Communion with prayers for healing | |
| **Saturday 1st November**  All Saints’ Day:  All Souls’ memorials | 11.00am  4.00pm  7.00pm | St Thomas’ Lydiate  St Thomas’ Lydiate  St Cuthbert’s Halsall | | Confirmation Rehearsal  Said CW communion with reading of names  Service of light with reading of names | |
| **Sunday 2nd November**  **Fourth Sunday before Advent** | 8.00am | | St Thomas’ Lydiate | | Said BCP Holy Communion |
| 9.30am | | St Cuthbert’s Halsall | | BCP Holy Communion **(Church without walls)** |
| 11.00am | | NO SERVICE at St Thomas’s | | |
| **4.00pm** | | St Thomas’ Lydiate | | **United Benefice Confirmation Service and**  **Holy Communion, with Bishop Ruth Worsley** |
| ***Looking Further ahead***  **Sunday 16th November** – ‘Songs of Love’ by David Massam and friends – 4pm St Thomas’ Lydiate.  Tickets £10. Money raised to go to Bebe’s Hive and St Thomas’ school prayer garden  **Tuesday 18th November** – a talk about the horses stabled at Lathom during WW1  7.30pm, St Thomas’ Millenium Centre. Donation and raffle on the night. | | | | | |
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Have you noticed how amazing and biodiverse our graveyards are looking, thanks to our wonderful volunteers?

Come and help tidy up on **Saturday 4th October, 10-12 midday both at St Thomas’s** **and St Cuthbert’s**.

Let’s celebrate God’s goodness in creation by getting our hands dirty! There will be tasks suitable for all abilities.