



A warm welcome to all

July 2023

Letter of the month

I wonder what you think about when you hear the word "pilgrimage?" perhaps it is of one of the famous pilgrim routes like the Camino in Spain or one of the many pilgrim routes in this country to sites such as Canterbury, Durham, or Lindisfarne. But a pilgrimage does not have to be a long walk to a famous holy site. In reality, a pilgrimage is simply about making a journey and intentionally seeking to slow down and be with God. You don't even need to leave the comfort of your armchair, although physically getting out and walking even if it is only around the garden helps the body as well as the mind and spirit engage in the process.

In intentionally entering into the spirit of being a pilgrim we reconnect with the deep wells of faith that have inspired people down the ages. As we take a breath and a step, we reconnect with our spirits, and can be inspired by the ancient wisdom of our countryside and the men and women who have inhabited and moulded it for centuries.

The metaphor of a journey is relevant to us all. We are all trying to find our way in an increasingly complex world. How do we address the challenges of living with the multiple effects of the COVID-19 pandemic? How do we navigate the ever-changing landscape arising from the rapid development of artificial intelligence, or make sense of the changes in society's norms and values?

Like many pilgrims before us it is right that we lament what we may well have lost, whilst also giving thanks for all that has blessed and continues to bless us. By pulling on our metaphorical boots and walking slowly and deliberately, whether actually or in our spirits, let the process refresh weary bones. Let the process of slowing down open you up to new ways to pray, to think about scripture and to engage with the big questions of our faith. We also learn new ways to be with each other and ways to tread lightly on this beautiful place in which we live.
Every blessing, Susan

**Our United Benefice faces many challenges, but we believe that God is calling us to be visionary and create a plan to enable both our churches to be fit for the future, whatever that holds.
We want to dream some dreams and then explore how we make those dreams a reality.**

You may already have responded by filling in one of the sheets given out in church but if not, or you know a neighbour who has some ideas, please tell us what you think.

- What do you value most about St Cuthbert's and St Thomas'?
- What would you change if you could and why?
- If you had all the money and resources you needed what would you do with the church building?
- What church related groups would you have?
- What facilities would you create?

Please let us know what you think by email to:

rectorhalsallandydiate@gmail.com or by post to

The Parish Office, Millenium Centre, Church Lane, Lydiate, L31 4HL.

Please reply by the 31st August 2023.



Support our schools this summer and have some fun....

St Cuthbert's Summer Carnival **Saturday 4th July** from around 12midday with the parade

Haskayne Downholland **Friday 14th July** 2-4pm

Please continue to pray for all our schools. Pray for safe and restoring summer breaks for all. Pray for those about to start school in September and those who are leaving to go to high school in September.

Confirmation 4pm on 26th November 2023 at St Cuthbert's Halsall with Bishop John.

Interested in getting confirmed or want to come along and hear about the building blocks of our faith?

Sunday from 4pm to 5.30pm Millennium Centre, Lydiate 15th, 22nd, 29th October 5th, 12th, 19th November 2023.

More information in the leaflet at the back of church or in the schools.

Monthly newsletter for St Thomas Lydiate and Downholland and St Cuthbert's Halsall

Parish Office: 0151 526 2292 (Monday to Wednesday mornings) website: [www.https://tsncs.church/](https://tsncs.church/)



A warm welcome to all


| Services for July | | | |
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| Date | Time | Place | Service |
| Sunday 2 nd July Fourth Sunday after Trinity | 8.00am | St Thomas' Lydiate | Said BCP Holy Communion |
| | 9.30am | St Cuthbert's Halsall | BCP Holy Communion & Church Without Walls |
| | 11am | St Thomas' Lydiate | Common Worship Holy Communion, celebrating St Thomas' patronal festival |
| Wednesday 5 th July | 11am | St Thomas' | Said CW Holy Communion |
| Thursday 6 th July | 9.15am | St Cuthbert's Halsall | Morning Prayer |
| | 1.30pm | St Cuthbert's Halsall | Said Holy Communion with prayers for healing |
| Sunday 9 th July Fifth Sunday after 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 | Outdoor Parade Service Parish Hall field followed by BBQ |
| Wednesday 12 th July | 11.00am | St Thomas' Lydiate | Said CW Holy Communion |
| Thursday 13 th July | 9.15am | St Cuthbert's Halsall | Morning Prayer <i>Sorry, Communion Service cancelled</i> |
| Sunday 16 th July Sixth Sunday after Trinity | 8.00am | St Thomas Lydiate | Said BCP Holy Communion |
| | 9.30am | St Cuthberts, Halsall | BCP Holy Communion with Messy Church |
| | 11am | St Thomas' Lydiate | Common Worship Holy Communion |
| Wednesday 19 th July | 11am | St Thomas' Lydiate | Said CW Holy Communion |
| Thursday 20 th July | 9.15am | St Cuthbert's Halsall | Morning Prayer |
| | 1.30pm | St Cuthbert's Halsall | Said Holy Communion with prayers for healing |
| Sunday 23 rd July Seventh Sunday after 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 | Family Service - come at 10.30 for refreshments and crafts |
| Wednesday 19 th July | 11am | St Thomas' Lydiate | Said CW holy Communion |
| Thursday 20 th July | 9.15am | St Cuthbert's Halsall St Cuthbert's Halsall | Morning Prayer Said Holy Communion with prayers for healing |
| Sunday 30 th July Eighth Sun after Trinity | 8am | St Thomas' Lydiate | BCP Holy Communion |
| | 10.30am | St Cuthbert's Halsall | Joint service - BCP Holy Communion for all |

Do come and join us and meet old friends and make some new ones

Generous Living

St Thomas' are reforming our **Fundraising/Social Committee** and are looking for new members to join us. Our first meeting is on Tuesday 25th July at 7.30pm in the Church Centre to discuss future fundraising ideas, please come along if you can help in anyway. If you are unable to attend but wish to help, please contact Val Blakemore on valblakemore@hotmail.com

If you have a heart for **children and young people** in our united benefice then please come along to the Millenium Centre, Lydiate, on Sunday 3rd September from 3-5pm. Bring your family and an indoor picnic and your ideas about how we inspire and enable children and young people to flourish in their Christian faith. To register contact Steph on stthomassteph@btinternet.com

| Pause | Ponder | Pray |
|---|---|---|
| Thank God for water.  | Let a little water be brought, wash your feet, and rest yourselves under a tree (Genesis 18 verse 4) | Thank you for the gift of life-giving water, that feeds our souls as well as our bodies. Help us to work for the safe and just provision of water for all. Amen |

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