**September 2025**

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| ***Letter from the Rector*** | | | |
| *The Rector writes.*  It is sobering to recognise that I am at that stage in my life where there is far less time ahead of me than the time I have lived. So, what should we do with the time left to us, however long or short? A question that we all grapple with, regardless of our age or circumstances; whether we are relatively fit or struggling with ill health, whether we have lots of resources or relatively few. What are we doing with the time we have been given? Is what we are doing constructive, enabling us and those around us to flourish?  Our time is a gift, not a right. Having time is a blessing even in the most challenging circumstances, for time allows us the chance to change and to be an agent of change. Time allows us a chance to bless and be blessed. Time is the most precious resource each of us is given. Often, fear stops us using our time as well as we might, or as God longs us to. Fear of making a fool of ourselves, fear of wasting time, fear of being taken advantage of, fear that things will not turn out the way we expected. Yet when we take a risk and use our time to help others, we can often be surprised by what happens next. Those acts of kindness - random or otherwise - have a habit of multiplying.  Whether we are just starting in reception class at school or about to retire, whether we are doing things for the first time or the millionth, our time is a gift to others as much as it is a blessing to us. Giving time to family and friends, giving time to our community, giving time to worship, giving time to pray, giving time away - blesses others and blesses us.  So at the start of a new academic year, and as we look forward to saying thank you for another harvest safely gathered in, let’s strive to use our time wisely and generously.  *Prayers and blessings, Susan*    &  **Every Tuesday 10am to 11.30am, St Cuthbert’s Church, choir vestry**  Come and chat, learn how to knit or crochet or bring your own craft. 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.    **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. See Glen Gardner for more details.  &  **Prayer meeting for the United Benefice - 7.30pm Tuesday 9th September, 26 Mayfayre Ave, Lydiate**  **Christian Chatter - 7.30pm Tuesday 23rd September in the Millenium Centre**    **St Thomas’ Parent and Toddler, restarts Tuesday 23rd September10.30am -12 midday.**    **Friday 5th September Bingo Night**  St Cuthbert’s School Halsall, eyes down at 7.30pm. All welcome. Money raised for St. Cuthbert’s    **Friday 19th September at 6.45pm**  Butterflies and Bees Brigade - An evening on the wild side – in Halsall playing fields Memorial Hall  Home-made curry (bring your own drinks) and speakers. Tickets £7.50 from Carol Ward | | | |
| **September 2025** | | | |
| *Date* | *Time* | *Place* | *Service* |
| Wednesday 3rd Sept | 11.00am | St Thomas’ Lydiate | Said CW Communion |
| Thursday 4th Sept | 9.15am  1.30pm | St Cuthbert’s Halsall  St Cuthbert’s Halsall | Morning Prayer  Said Holy Communion with prayers for healing |
| **Sunday 7th September Back to School Sunday** | 8.00am | St Thomas’ Lydiate | Said BCP Holy Communion |
| 9.30am | St Cuthbert’s Halsall | BCP Holy Communion (**No Church without walls**) |
| 11.00am | St Thomas’ Lydiate | Common Worship Holy Communion |
| Wednesday 10th Sept | 11.00am | St Thomas’ Lydiate | Said CW Holy Communion |
| Thursday 11th Sept | SORRY - NO MID-WEEK SERVICES | | |
| **Sunday 14th September**  **Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity** | 8.00am | St Thomas’ Lydiate | Said BCP Holy Communion |
| 9.30am | St Cuthbert’s Halsall | CW Holy Communion |
| 11.00am | St Thomas’ Lydiate | CW Holy Communion **(No Church Parade)** |
| Weds 17th September | 11.00am | St Thomas’ Lydiate | Said CW Holy Communion |
| Thurs 18th September | SORRY - NO MID-WEEK SERVICES | | |
| **Sunday 21st September**  **Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity** | 8.00am | St Thomas Lydiate | Said BCP Holy Communion |
| 9.30am | St Cuthbert’s Halsall | BCP Holy Communion (with Messy Church) |
| 11.00am | St Thomas’ Lydiate | Common Worship Holy Communion |
| Weds 24th September | 11.00am | St Thomas’ Lydiate | Said CW Holy Communion |
| Thursday 25th September | 9.15am  1.30pm | St Cuthbert’s Halsall  St Cuthbert’s Halsall | Morning Prayer  Said Holy Communion with prayers for healing |
| **Sunday 28th September**  **Fifteenth 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 | All age Eucharist |
| Wednesday 1st October | 11.00am | St Thomas’ Lydiate | Said CW Holy 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 |
| ***Looking Further ahead***  **Talk on the Rose Queens of Halsall**  Tuesday 7th October at 7.30pm in Memorial Hall.  Free entry but donation to church funds welcome. There will be a small cake stall and raffle.  **Harvest celebrations will be on Sunday 12th October as follows:**  8.00am St Thomas’ - BCP Holy Communion  9.30am St Cuthbert’s - Harvest celebration with St Cuthbert’s School  11.00am St Thomas’ - Harvest Church Parade  4.00pm St Cuthbert’s - Harvest Songs of Praise  *All welcome to give thanks for this year’s harvest and for God’s abundant love.*  **Pearl of Africa Choir**  We are hoping the Perl of Africa choir will be able to come and give a concert in St Cuthbert’s Church, Halsall  on Wednesday 15th October. Please save the date and support this amazing choir if you can.  **Sunday 16th November** – ‘Songs of Love’ by David Massam and friends – 4pm St Thomas’ Lydiate.  Tickets will be £10. Money raised to go to Bebe’s Hive and St Thomas’ school prayer garden  **Tuesday 18th November** – a talk about the horses housed at Lathom during WW1  7.30pm, St Thomas’ Millenium Centre. Donation and raffle on the night.    *Why not mark the Season of Creation, which runs from 1 September to 4 October? This is an annual, ecumenical celebration of prayer and action for creation. Try making a commitment to come to our harvest songs of praise and think about why and how we care for our planet.*  *https://seasonofcreation.org/* | | | |
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