



A warm welcome to all

May 2026

Letter from the Rector

The Rector writes:

There are moments, which are easily missed, when the beauty of creation reveals itself with a clarity that stops us in our tracks. I was reminded of this recently while watching a greater spotted woodpecker, on the bird feeder in the vicarage garden. Its plumage, finely patterned in black and white with a striking touch of red, seemed almost too intricate to be accidental. Testament to the richness and detail woven into the natural world around us.

Encounters like this invite us not only to admire but also to reflect. The countryside we are privileged to share is not simply a backdrop to our lives; it is a living, breathing community of which we are a part. From the smallest bird to the oldest tree, each element plays its role in a delicate balance that has been shaped over generations. Yet this balance is not guaranteed. The landscapes we cherish depend on thoughtful care and stewardship. Farmers, in particular, carry a heavy responsibility, working the land not only to produce food but also to maintain the health of the countryside.

As a community, we each have a role to play. Whether it is choosing to support local produce, respecting footpaths and wildlife habitats, or simply taking the time to notice and value what is around us, these small acts contribute to a larger culture of care. By working together, we can help ensure that future generations will also have the chance to witness the quiet beauty of a woodpecker and to feel that same sense of wonder.

We seem to be living through a time of huge uncertainty in so many areas of our lives. Now more than ever we need to create spaces and times when we can pause, ponder and look to God our creator and sustainer. Maybe you could even join in the Dawn Chorus walk on 2nd May?!

Every blessing, Susan



Every Tuesday 10am to 11.30am (approx.)

Memorial Hall, Halsall (whilst work on path is ongoing)

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



Tuesdays in term time, 10.30am -12 midday St Thomas's Parent and Toddlers, Millennium Centre.

£4 a family towards refreshments and craft



**Every Wednesday 12.30 – 2.30pm (approx), In the Millennium Centre
St Thomas' warm welcome.**

A simple lunch followed by time to chat, laugh or simply be. All welcome.



Saturday 2nd May 4.00am, Dawn Chorus walk.

Meet at the Lychgate at St Cuthbert's. See Sue Goldstraw for more information



Friday 15th May 7.30-9.30pm, Line Dancing

St Thomas' Millennium Centre. £5 a ticket.

Whether a novice or expert come along and join in the fun. See Val Blakemore for more information.



Monday 25th May 1pm to 5pm at The Saracen's Head, Halsall

Duck Race with St Cuthbert's School.

Stalls, music and fun for all. Come along and get your own back on the Rector!

Monthly newsletter for St Thomas' Lydiate and Downholland and St Cuthbert's Halsall
Parish Administrator David Coffey. Office hours usually Wednesday and Thursday mornings.
Tel: 0151-526-2292 email: admin@st-thomas-lydiate.co.uk



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St Cuthbert's

In St Cuthbert's School during the path work

9.30am. Holy Communion

(1st & 3rd Sundays, Book of Common Prayer)

In term time, alongside the main service:

1st Sunday, Church Without Walls

3rd Sunday, Messy Church

**On 3rd May 9.30am Sunday Service
and Annual Meetings will be in Memorial Hall**

St. Thomas's

8.00am. Said Holy Communion

(Book of Common Prayer)

11.00am Parish Eucharist with hymns

In term time:

2nd Sun, Family Service with Scouts & Guides

3rd Sunday Bubble Church for toddlers

4th Sunday, All-age service

Regular midweek services:

Wednesdays	11am	St Thomas's, Said Holy Communion
Thursdays	9.15 am	St Cuthbert's, Said Morning Prayer in The Bakehouse
	1.30 pm	St Cuthbert's, Said Holy Communion with prayers for healing (held at St Thomas's during the work on the path)

Special Services this month

Sunday 10th May Rogation Sunday

Joint service with St Cuthbert's at 9.30am **in St Cuthbert's School**, with walk along the canal or crafts.

Guest speaker Howie Pickering, Waterways Chaplain. Jacob's Join lunch. *There will be no 11am Service at St Thomas'*

Thursday 14th May Ascension Day (In addition to mid-week communion at 1.30pm)

Holy Communion 7pm St Thomas's - marking the start of 'Thy Kingdom Come'.

Sunday 24th May Pentecost

Celebration of the birthday of the Church and the gift of the Holy Spirit.



'Thoughtful Tuesday Evenings' 7.30pm St Thomas' Millennium Centre.

Have you ever wondered about prayer, how we live out our faith in the world, or what the Bible is all about..?

On the second, third and fourth Tuesday of the month we gather to do just that.

Tuesday May 12th We pray for the world and our community

Tuesday May 19th Come and ponder about end-of-life care with Susan

Tuesday May 26th We continue to explore Paul's Letter to the Colossians



Eco Church

Come and support the Butterflies and Bees Brigade

Saturday 30th May at Rainbag Cottage, Carr Moss Lane, Halsall L39 8RZ - 1pm to 4pm

Lots for families to do to engage with bees, bugs and butterflies. Tickets £5 adults, £10 a family



Both PCCs have been thinking about what being an 'inclusive Church' might look like.

We know there are many barriers to enabling people to come to church as well as feel part of it, from heating to sound systems, from all-age worship to the issues of steps and pews...

After the 'Radical Welcome' course we have made a commitment to be more intentional in our welcome to others. You will start to see the above logo being used around our churches as well as the logo for the LGBTQ+ community.

If you have any questions or any concerns, please talk to Susan.

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