



# A warm welcome to all

April 2026

## Letter from the Rector

The Rector writes

Spring has a wonderful way of reminding us that hope is never far away. As the days grow lighter, the birdsong grows louder, and the gardens begin to stir back into life, we are also celebrating two pieces of very good news in our parish.

First, I'm delighted to share that St Cuthbert's has been awarded the **Silver Eco Church Award** and that **St Thomas' has appointed an Eco champion** so will not be far behind in thinking more strategically about how we care for God's creation: from reducing waste, to how we manage our beautiful graveyards, as well as thinking more carefully about the choices we make about how we live.

The Bible reminds us that humanity is entrusted with the care of the earth. Looking after creation isn't just a fashionable idea - it's part of our calling. The Eco Church Awards recognise work that is done to help care for our world, but it is not the finish line. Rather, it's an encouragement to keep going in caring for the world God loves, not just for us but for future generations.

And the second piece of good news? Easter! Easter is the story of life where we expected death, hope where there seemed to be none, and light breaking through darkness. On Good Friday we remember the cross, when everything appeared lost. But Easter morning tells a different story. The stone is rolled away, the tomb is empty, and Christ is risen.

Easter reminds us that God is always at work bringing new life out of what seems finished. Just as the earth bursts into colour again after winter, the resurrection tells us that renewal is written into the very heart of creation.

Perhaps that's why celebrating Easter and caring for the earth belong so naturally together. Both remind us that life is precious, that hope is real, and that God is not finished with this world yet.

Whether you come to church every week or only occasionally, you would be very warmly welcome to join us at our Easter services. Come and celebrate the joy of resurrection - and take time to notice the signs of new life all around us as well. *With every blessing for a hopeful and joyful Easter.*

### Work on disabled access into the graveyard and Church at St Cuthbert's

We are delighted to announce that we are hoping to start work (final permissions and weather permitting) on creating ramped access from the lychgate into the graveyard around Monday April 13th. The work is planned for 10 weeks and during the work the church building will be closed. Access to the graveyard will be by the side steps from Halsall Road.

**From Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April all Sunday Services** will move to the school hall along with Church Without Walls and Messy Church.

**From Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> April** Thursdays midweek communion at 1.30pm will relocate to St Thomas', Lydiate, and morning prayer at 9.15am will take place in The Bakehouse in the village.

**From Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April** Tuesday's coffee and craft morning is going to move to the Halsall Memorial Hall. Please keep an eye on our Facebook page and website for updates.



**St Thomas's Parent and Toddlers, 10.30am -12 midday.**

**Restarts Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April . You are sure of a warm welcome**



**Every Wednesday 12.30 – 2.30pm (approximately), except Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> April**

**In the Millennium Centre, St Thomas' - warm welcome.**

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

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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## Regular services every Sunday:

### St Cuthbert's in school from 19<sup>th</sup> April

9.30am. Holy Communion  
(1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays, Book of Common Prayer)

*In term time, alongside the main service:*

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday, Church Without Walls  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday, Messy Church

### St. Thomas's

8.00am. Said Holy Communion  
(Book of Common Prayer)

11.00am Parish Eucharist with hymns

*In term time:*

2<sup>nd</sup> Sun, Family Service with Guides  
4<sup>th</sup> 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 - <i>in Bakehouse from 16<sup>th</sup> April</i>
	1.30 pm	St Cuthbert's, Said Holy Communion with prayers for healing <i>in St Thomas' from 16<sup>th</sup> April</i>



### **Maundy Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April**

9.15am St Cuthbert's said Morning Prayer  
1.30pm St Cuthbert's said CW Holy Communion for Maundy Thursday  
7.30pm St Thomas's Holy Communion and vigil to 10pm

### **Good Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April**

11am Joint stations of the cross at Our Lady's Catholic Church, Lydiate  
2pm St Cuthbert's Vigil around the cross

### **Easter Eve, Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April**

7.30pm St Cuthbert's Easter Eve vigil and renewal of baptismal vows



### **Easter Day, Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April**

Usual Sunday Services in both Churches, with Easter Egg Hunts after the main Sunday services at 9.30am St Cuthbert's and 11am St Thomas's



**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April - Launch of Bubble Church, 11.00am in Millennium Centre at St Thomas's.**  
30 minute puppet led service for toddlers and young children. Come and join in the fun.



### **'Thoughtful Tuesday' evenings 7.30-8.30pm Millennium Centre**

14<sup>th</sup> April Prayer meeting for our world and the mission and ministry of the Benefice  
21<sup>st</sup> April talk by Canals and Waterways Trust chaplains with refreshments and raffle. This will run to 9pm  
28<sup>th</sup> April Christian Chatter – come and ponder a bit more about faith in everyday life.



### **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April 7 for 7.30pm, come and have some fun**

Bingo, St Cuthbert's School Hall in aid of Church funds. More information from Sue Goldstraw 07792 479205



### **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May, 7pm: Songs of Love with David Massam and friends**

St Cuthbert's School Hall. Tickets £10. Proceeds to Bebe's Hive and St Cuthbert's Church



### **Eco Church – thought**

“The earth is the Lord's and everything in it, the world and all who live in it”

How are the seeds you received on Mothering Sunday doing? What else could you do to care for insects?

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