

**Readings for this Sunday**  
**13 December 2020**  
**The Third Sunday of Advent**

1 Thess. 5. 16-24  
John 1. 6-8, 19-28



*Photo courtesy of Nigel Hall*

**Parish Register**

**Funeral**

16 December – John Williams  
Landican Crematorium at 10am

**Weekly Beacon**



**News from St Hildeburgh's**  
**The Parish Church of Hoylake**  
**Sunday 13 December 2020**  
**The Third Sunday of Advent**

**The Collect**

O Lord Jesus Christ,  
who at your first coming sent your messenger  
to prepare your way before you:  
grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries  
may likewise so prepare and make ready your way  
by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just,  
that at your second coming to judge the world  
we may be found an acceptable people in your sight;  
for you are alive and reign with the Father  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

## Church Services

With the ending of the most recent lockdown Rev'd Paul will be conducting a service of Holy Communion on Sundays at 10am unless the situation changes. If you feel unable to come to church the **Sunday service will still be available to view on line on our website [www.sthildeburgh.net](http://www.sthildeburgh.net) and on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/sthildeburgh>** Please DO NOT sit on the chairs marked with an 'X' – the other chairs have been socially distanced in accordance with instructions. This is for everyone's safety in the current pandemic.

The church remains open for individual private prayer Monday to Friday from 10am to 12noon.

**Please note face coverings must be worn in church at all times.**

## COVID 19 Guidance

Places of worship can remain open in Tier 2 areas subject to the following control measures:

- You must not socialise with people from outside of your household or support bubble while you are inside the church building unless a legal exemption applies.
- Social distancing (2 metres) must be observed at all times.
- Face coverings must be worn by members of the congregation unless a legal exemption applies.
- Doors and windows must remain open to allow for air circulation.
- If you have a mobile phone please remember to scan the NHS QR Test and Trace Code which is displayed on posters at the main entrance, church centre door and choir door.

## Christmas Services at St Hildeburgh's

**DUE TO THE ONGOING PANDEMIC,  
NUMBERS IN CHURCH ARE  
RESTRICTED**

**PLEASE COME EARLY TO ALL  
SERVICES TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT**

20 December at 4pm	Nine Lessons & Carols
24 December at 11.30pm	Midnight Eucharist
25 December at 8am	Holy Communion
25 December at 10am	Family Communion
<b>THERE ARE NO SERVICES ON SUNDAY 27 DECEMBER</b>	

**Church will be open on Sunday 27 December for private prayer only from 10am to 12 noon.**

**Due to Coronavirus restrictions the Christingle Service and the Crib Service will not take place this year.**

## Wirral Foodbank

Thank you for your donations of food which have now been delivered to the Foodbank. The work of the Foodbank continues and your donations are needed more than ever.

### ***Urgently Needed Items:***

Tinned meat  
tinned vegetables  
tinned fruit  
custard  
tinned fish

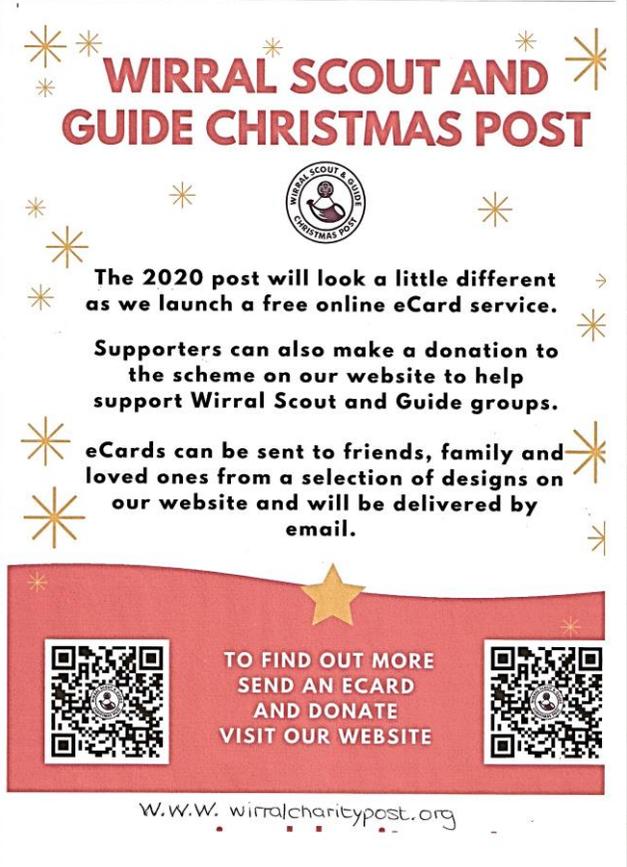
## CHRISTMAS CARDS

In accordance with national guidelines, Christmas cards, cards or any other correspondence must not be left at the back of church for collection by other people.

In the present pandemic situation this poses a serious risk as to transmission of Coronavirus.

## Scout and Guide Charity Christmas Post 2020

Due to the current situation, the normal delivery service is unable to operate, instead an e-Card system is available through the website [www.wirralcharitypost.org](http://www.wirralcharitypost.org).



**WIRRAL SCOUT AND  
GUIDE CHRISTMAS POST**

The 2020 post will look a little different as we launch a free online eCard service.

Supporters can also make a donation to the scheme on our website to help support Wirral Scout and Guide groups.

eCards can be sent to friends, family and loved ones from a selection of designs on our website and will be delivered by email.

TO FIND OUT MORE  
SEND AN ECARD  
AND DONATE  
VISIT OUR WEBSITE

[www.wirralcharitypost.org](http://www.wirralcharitypost.org)

The service is free although there is an optional 'donate' facility for those who wish to support the scheme.

## **Comfort and Joy**

Created by the National Church of England, this year's Christmas campaign, called '**Comfort and Joy**' aims to bring some festive cheer to people and churches everywhere. A wealth of digital and print content is available.

Previous Christmas campaigns that were organised by the Church of England benefitted from excellent results in terms of engagement and recognition and this year's campaign is likely to do even better. Parishes who join in with the campaign will benefit from all of the work and effort that has gone on to bring Comfort and Joy to fruition.

[www.churchofengland.org](http://www.churchofengland.org)

## **'Advent Journey with the Magi'**

The next of our Advent course evenings takes place on Zoom this Wednesday 16 December at 7pm for about half an hour. Led by Rev'd Richard, the evenings are spread over six weeks until the last evening on 23 December. To join the meeting on Wednesday please click on this link:

Topic: Advent

Time: Dec 16, 2020 07:00 PM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/75323595245?pwd=TTI3cTd2YTFIR0txcC9rZDBNNFdkUT09>

Meeting ID: 753 2359 5245

Passcode: bPr0jH

## **CHESTER DIOCESAN NEWS**

The December edition of CDN is available to download now from the Diocesan website –

[www.chester.anglican.org](http://www.chester.anglican.org)



## Voyagers at Home

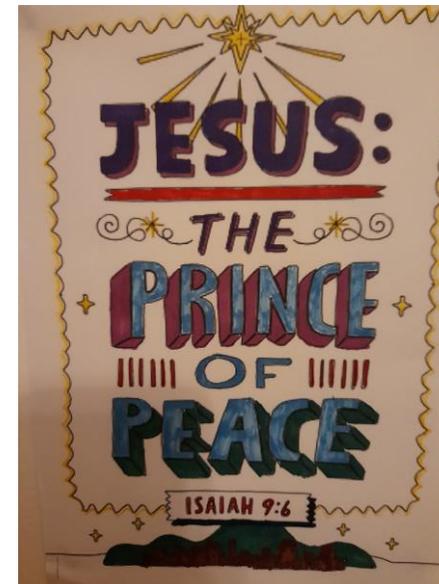
This Sunday in Voyagers we lit our second advent candle and thought about the peace that Jesus brings - peace with God, peace in our own hearts, and peace with one another. It was good to remember this when sometimes the world seems to be full of noise and busyness and division.



We made some Nativity scenes which will sit under our Christmas tree.

This is our prayer for this week:

Lord Jesus, Light of the world,  
the prophets said you would bring peace  
and save your people in trouble:  
Give peace in our hearts at Christmas-tide  
and show all the world God's love. Amen.



Love and prayers,  
Christine

## **FLOWER (AND BERRY) OF THE WEEK: HOLLY.** **31st in a series.**

*Text by Peter Surridge.*

When Christmas was established as just after the winter solstice, the custom grew of bringing holly branches into the house at the start of the celebration because they were supposed to ward off evil throughout the 12 days of the feast.



***Left: Plentiful berries...  
the holly variety J.C. van Tol.***

Now, many years later, that tradition is maintained. But why stop at *buying* holly branches for decoration? Plant a tree for future Christmases. In small gardens holly trees can be controlled by judicious pruning and in large ones they can be allowed grow freely. Hollies flourish in virtually any soil or conditions as long as the roots don't get waterlogged. They look good all year, tolerate pollution, are fine for topiary and make impenetrable hedges. For foliage more eye-catching than the familiar glossy green, garden centres sell a dazzling range with gold and silver splashed leaves, as well as berries of different colours.

Hollies flower in late spring, producing clusters of small, cup-shaped white blossoms. Most hollies available are variations on the native species, *Ilex aquifolium*. Generally, only female hollies bear berries and they need a male bush not too far away to ensure good pollination.

Some of the variegated kinds are female so it is possible to combine berries with bright leaves.



***Above: Self-fertile...Ilex Pyramidalis.***

To mention just a few of the dazzlers: Golden Queen is a superb male form with reliably gold variegations; Argentea Marginata is a female variety with leaves outlined in cream; Golden Milkboy is a male variety with spiny leaves with a large gold splash in the centre; and Handsworth New Silver is a female bearing shapely leaves with a neat cream border. These female plants have green leaves but unusual berries: Bacciflava and Fructu Luteo – yellow; and Amber - apricot-coloured.

There are a few self-fertile forms that do not require another tree for the production of berries, including Pyramidalis and J.C. van Tol (which has plentiful scarlet berries), but their foliage tends to lack the attractive prickles.

Container-grown hollies can be planted in winter during a mild spell. They are easy to get established when planted in holes enriched with well-rotted manure or garden compost and watered thoroughly for a year afterwards whenever the ground is dry.

## **Citizens Advice Wirral**

**Citizens Advice Wirral are pleased to continue to deliver information and advice to Wirral residents.**

Our **Ask Us Wirral information and advice** service is being delivered by phone or email and includes specialist benefits, debt and housing advice.

To access Ask Us Wirral phone **0300 33 00 111** Please note the phone lines are likely to be busy and you may need to leave a message and our team can get back to you. If you can't get through on our local number, you can try national Citizens Advice number **03444 111 444**

You can also fill out our **webform** [www.askuswirral.org.uk/enquiry-webform/](http://www.askuswirral.org.uk/enquiry-webform/)

For **Information** about sick pay, your rights if you are off sick, self-isolating or home working and other useful information about what Coronavirus what it means to you go to [www.citizensadvice.org.uk/health/coronavirus-what-it-means-for-you/](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/health/coronavirus-what-it-means-for-you/)

If you have now become unemployed or are self-employed but your income has dropped, please call our Help to Claim team on **0800 144 8 444**

## **Contact St Hildeburgh's**

### **Vicar**

Rev'd PAUL ROSSITER

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### **Church Office**

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Tel: 0151 632 5339

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## **Weekly Beacon**

If you wish to contribute an article or place a notice in the Weekly Beacon please e-mail [sthildeburgh.parish.office@gmail.com](mailto:sthildeburgh.parish.office@gmail.com)

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