

Readings for this Sunday
19 July 2020 – The Sixth Sunday After Trinity

Rom. 8. 12-25
Matt. 13. 24-30, 36-43

Sunday Services at St Hildeburgh's

Each Sunday at 10am, Rev'd Paul will conduct a said service of Holy Communion in church. This will be conducted in line with Church of England guidance and may change as things develop. The Church Centre remains closed for the time being.

St Hildeburgh's Church
Open for Individual Private Prayer

In line with government advice, St Hildeburgh's church is now open for individual private prayer every week - Monday to Friday 9am to 12 noon and Sunday from 9am to 12 noon.

Parish Register

There are no entries in the Parish Register this week.

Weekly Beacon



News from St Hildeburgh's
The Parish Church of Hoylake
Sunday 19 July 2020
The Sixth Sunday After Trinity

THE COLLECT FOR TODAY

Merciful God,
you have prepared for those who love you
such good things as pass our understanding:
pour into our hearts such love toward you
that we, loving you in all things and above all things,
may obtain your promises,
which exceed all that we can desire;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

A Note from Rev'd Paul

As we reopen the church according to Church of England instructions, it is very important to abide by the regulations for social distancing that have been marked out in church. 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.

Wirral Foodbank

Demand for support from the Wirral Foodbank has increased substantially and your donations are needed more than ever. You can donate non-perishable foodstuffs by leaving them in the porch at: The Vicarage, 1 Stanley Road, Hoylake, Wirral CH47 1HL.

Gift Aid

Are you a taxpayer? Did you know that we can claim an additional 20% of your donation back from the Inland Revenue under the Gift Aid Scheme? If you would like to Gift Aid your donation, please **include your name and address** in any correspondence.

Alternatively, if you are making a direct payment to our bank account please send your name and address to the Church Office for the attention of the Treasurer. www.sthildeburgh.parish.office@gmail.com.

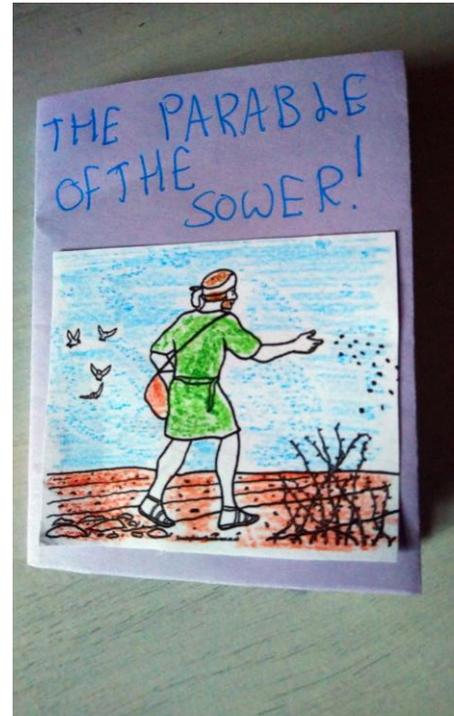
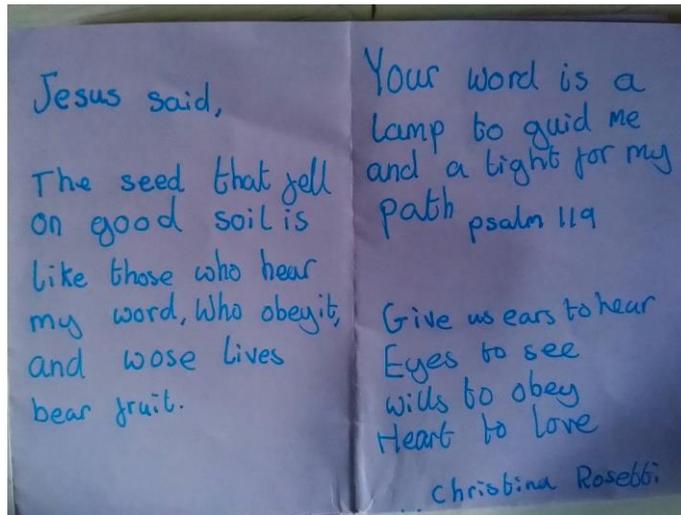
A Notice About Giving from The Treasurer

A big thank you to all of you who have helped to support church funds at a time when there have been no collections at church services. Your contributions help us to maintain our support for the local community. Please use any of these methods of payment:

- 1. Direct Payment to our Bank**
This is the easiest method for everybody if you have computer access or are able to travel to your branch.
Our Account Name:
Hoylake Parochial Church Council
Sort Code : **40-25-08**
Account Number : **20445800**
- 2. If you would like to set up a new gift aided donation contact George Dafnis on 632-5927.** He will supply the necessary form and information.
- 3.** If you do not have computer access please enclose your donation in an envelope and post it through the vicarage front door.
"Cheques should be made payable to Hoylake PCC"
If you already subscribe to the envelope system, please use your normal weekly envelope.
The postal address is The Vicarage, 1 Stanley Road, Hoylake, CH47 1HL if you are self isolating.
- 4. If you have any further queries please contact Lytton Goodwin on 632-6923**

Voyagers at Home

This Sunday we thought about the parable of the sower. We talked about how God wants us to grow in following him, and how this means we have to be careful to obey his word and not let it get crowded out.



We made mini books which tell the story of the sower and his seed.

Love and prayers,

Christine.

St Hildeburgh's On Line

Your **Weekly Beacon** is available on the website, together with the latest edition of **StHildeburgh's Dispatch** newsletter.

Important information from Merseyside Police is also available on <https://www.sthildeburgh.net/news.html>

FLOWER OF THE WEEK: HYPERICUM **TWELFTH IN A SERIES**

Text by Peter Surridge.

HYPERICUMS of varying kinds grow all over the world, from Chinese mountains to English country lanes, where their vivid yellow flowers with bristling stamens can be seen in hedge-banks and woodland edges.

In Britain alone there are several wild types, including the shrub tutsan, often grown in gardens for its flowers and dark red berries, half a dozen perennials, a less common trailing kind and one that thrives with its roots under water. One of the native species, *Hypericum perforatum*, has poisonous leaves.

In ancient times, the plant was supposed to keep evil spirits away and, at the midsummer festival of Walpurgisnacht, the flowers were placed above images to ward off evil. Hence the name hypericum, from the Greek *hyper* meaning above and *eikon*, picture. The festival was supplanted by the feast of St John on June 24 and the plant became known as St John's wort, a term still used for some of the wild species.

Most of the garden favourites come from other countries or have been bred in the UK. These include free-flowering, trouble-free shrubs with one thing in common – showy yellow flowers that brighten shrubberies and mixed borders from midsummer until autumn, lasting to the first frosts in some cases.

Hypericum calycinum, the familiar Rose of Sharon, is an evergreen that grows 45cm (18in) tall, is spread by runners and makes good groundcover, even in shade, though it can become too invasive in small areas. The larger shrubs look particularly good at the edges of lawns or in open-plan front gardens. One of the best is *Hypericum* 'Hidcote', growing to a dome shape 1.2m (4ft) high and rather wider. It is generally evergreen but the leaf-tips can be burned by coastal gales. The golden flowers are exceptional, with rounded, overlapping petals forming a large saucer shape.

Hypericum x inodorum is of similar height but upright with dark leaves, often tinted bronze, and clusters of small blooms with fluffy stamens followed by dark red berries. The variety 'Ysella' has yellow leaves. The water-lover is *Hypericum elodes*, which makes a discreet plant for the pond margin with woolly grey-green leaves and small flowers that appear sporadically throughout summer.

For the rock garden, *Hypericum olympicum*, supposedly from Mount Olympus, is a dainty plant which reaches only 22cm (9in) in height and 30cm (1ft) in width. The buttercup yellow flowers come out in high summer and last many weeks. The flowers of *Hypericum x moserianum* 'Tricolor' are also small but the shoots, tinted with red, open to reveal leaves in an eye-catching mixture of cream, pink and green. It grows 30cm tall and 60cm across (1ft x 2ft) and is semi-evergreen but needs a sheltered position to look its best. Hypericum shrubs can be propagated from cuttings taken in August.



Hypericum calycinum (Rose of Sharon) and the outstanding Hypericum 'Hidcote'.

PLANT SALE RAISES OVER £100

The sale of the plants Peter Surridge raised in aid of St Hildeburgh's Guild flower fund for Easter, Harvest and Christmas displays has raised £111.50, including donations. Peter and the Guild officers send grateful thanks to all those who bought plants or donated and wish them success with their purchases. Peter would appreciate return of the pots in due course so that he can grow new plants in them next year when, hopefully, it may be possible to hold the Guild coffee morning again.

'MAJESTIC MEMORIAL AND RARE REREDOS' **St Hildeburgh's windows: Fifteenth in a series**

Text by Peter Surridge

Above the altar, the great east window is one of relatively few that shows Christ in Majesty. The more usual image in churches' altar windows is Christ Crucified or, less commonly, Christ Ascending. The tracery includes an unusual eye-catching arrangement of quatrefoil lights around the main window.

For the east window's dedication, see a tablet on the wall by the baptistry arch. This records the names of the 34 members of the Royal Liverpool Golf Club who died in World War I. A supplementary plaque lists the 15 club members who fell in World War II. A nearby plaque is in memory of the 168 Hoylake men who lost their lives in World War I. The town's population at the start of the war in 1914 was probably fewer than 5,000 so it is likely that at least one in five Hoylake men aged 18-40 died in the war. (Not all golf club members were residents of Hoylake.) The residents' commemorative list includes several instances of two, three and four men bearing the same surname, probably from the same families. The war memorial in the churchyard also remembers them.

Below the east window, the reredos (pronounced rear-doss), the screen behind the altar, is finely carved in oak and combines the theme of Christ the Good Shepherd with statuette images of several important figures from the history of Christianity. The centrepiece is a stone mosaic depicting Christ caring for His flock, which was described in the third article of this series. The mosaic is flanked by two oak panels, the captions of which seem to have been transposed. The panel on the left shows a man overcoming a lion which has attacked his sheep, a fitting illustration for the caption on the right: "*I will save my flock and they shall no more be a prey*" (Ezekiel 34:22). The heroic figure might have been inspired by the biblical account of Samson's battle with a lion: "*The spirit of the Lord came mightily upon him and he rent him with his bare hands*" (Judges 14:6). Meanwhile, the panel on the right appears to depict Jesus, after his resurrection, instructing St Peter, "*Feed my lambs, tend my sheep, feed my sheep*" (John 21:15ff), words which appear beneath the left-hand panel.

In the unusual – possibly unique – reredos, the carved statuettes represent two personages from the Old Testament, two from the New Testament and two from the history of the Church in Britain. At the top left are King David and Moses, while to the right stand St John the Evangelist and St Peter (pictured), who is shown with crook, to indicate that he "shepherded" early Christians and was considered the first bishop of Rome. He also has the "keys of Heaven" at his waist. The lower figures represent two outstanding English bishops: on the left St Chad, who is credited with introducing Christianity to the Mercian kingdom in the seventh century (see the eighth in this series), and on the right Bishop Richard Hooker (pictured), whose monumental 14th-century work, *Ecclesiastical Polity*, provided a solid theological basis for the newly-reformed Church of England and earned him the epithet "judicious Hooker." He is depicted with shepherd's crook traditionally carried by bishops and, of course, that chunky book.

Contact St Hildeburgh's

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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

All advertising and notices are accepted at the discretion of the Editor. **Photograph policy.** We frequently take photographs at St Hildeburgh's for publicity purposes – such as printing in this "Weekly Beacon". If for any reason you would prefer us not to use photographs of any children who may accompany you to church, please mention this to our Vicar, Rev'd Paul Rossiter.