

Readings for this Sunday
21 June 2020 – The Second Sunday After Trinity

Eph. 6. 1-4
Matt. 10. 24-39

Church Services



In line with national directives, we regret that all services in church have been postponed for the time being.

Rev'd Paul is available, and you can contact him on 0151 632 3897. He has tried to contact everyone but there may be some people he has missed.

Weekly Beacon



News from St Hildeburgh's
The Parish Church of Hoylake
Sunday 21 June 2020
The Second Sunday After Trinity

THE COLLECT FOR TODAY

Lord, you have taught us
that all our doings without love are nothing worth:
send your Holy Spirit
and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love,
the true bond of peace and of all virtues,
without which whoever lives is counted dead before you.
Grant this for your only Son Jesus Christ's sake,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.



Are you in need of prayer?

Text or WhatsApp your prayer to 07513170210 and it will be shared with people in the diocese to pray. Or you can email your prayer to the team at Foxhill foxhill@chester.anglican.org. Prayers received will be distributed across the diocese to volunteers to pray in their own time as part of a daily rhythm of prayer.

St Hildeburgh's On Line Prayer Board

If you would like to leave a prayer on the Prayer Board please go to our website: www.sthildeburgh.org and click on 'On Line Prayer Board'.

Light a Virtual Candle

You can light a virtual candle by going to the Church of England's website www.churchofengland.org

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 only**.

The days and times of opening for individual Private Prayer are as follows:

Mondays	9am to 12noon
Tuesdays	9am to 12 noon
Wednesdays	9am to 12 noon and 4pm to 6.30pm
Thursdays	9am to 12 noon
Fridays	9am to 12 noon
NOT OPEN ON SATURDAYS	
Sundays	9am to 12 noon



Wirral Foodbank

Demand for support from the Wirral Foodbank has increased substantially and your donations are needed more than ever.

Urgently needed items:

Tinned meat.
Tinned vegetables
Tinned fruit
Custard

You can donate non-perishable foodstuffs by leaving them in the porch at:

**The Vicarage,
1 Stanley Road,
Hoylake
Wirral CH47 1HL.**

Another full pallet of food from our community.

Keep it coming and thank you

A typical food parcel contains:

Breakfast cereals
Soup
Pasta
Rice
Pasta sauce
Tinned Beans
Tinned Meat
Tinned Vegetables
Tinned Fruit
Tea or Coffee
Sugar
Biscuits
Snacks



YOUR HELP NEEDED!

As Rev'd Paul mentioned in the Weekly Beacon recently, several people from other countries have been staying here in Hoylake. Could you help to provide the following items to make their stay more comfortable please?

The items are:

Men's trainers
Men's underpants
Men's toiletries

Please leave your donations in the porch at:

The Vicarage, 1 Stanley Road, Hoylake, CH47 1HL.

Thank you.

St Hildeburgh's Dispatch

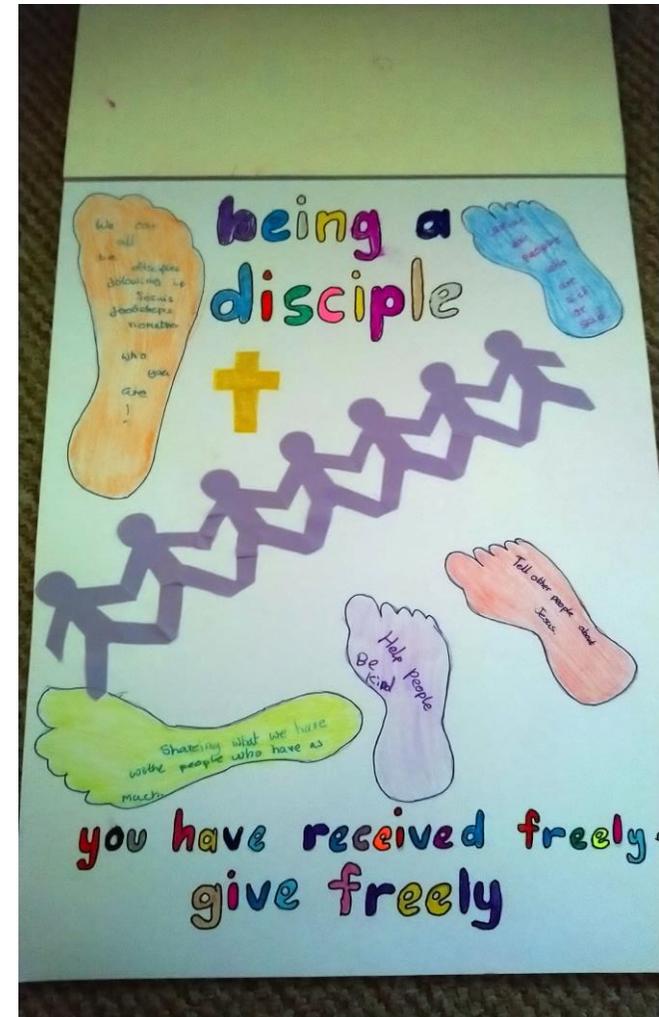
The latest edition of 'St Hildeburgh's Dispatch' (No. 6) is now available on our website – www.sthildeburgh.net/dispatches

Voyagers At Home

This Sunday in Voyagers we learned about discipleship.



Just like the disciples in Matthew 10, we are learners - learning to walk in Jesus's footsteps. Like all learners we make mistakes, but God still uses us, and we keep going, one step at a time with Jesus.



We made a poster showing some of the things that disciples do today.

Love and prayers,
Christine

News from our linked parish Aru – Democratic Republic of Congo

Dear Praying Friends,

Some time has passed since the last update but we do have some up to date news about how the current Covid - 19 crisis is affecting Aru and Boga.

The pandemic hardly seems to have reached the two dioceses, unlike the rest of DRC, where to date there have been 4,259 confirmed cases and 90 deaths. But underlying this good news is buried the ongoing suffering of this part of the country, known as Ituri. Yes, there have only been two cases of the virus, but the lockdown in the country is having a devastating effect in Ituri:

- As in the UK, churches are closed so that Christians can't meet together. Boga Diocese is encouraging pastors to form groups of twenty to meet together for worship, Bible Study and prayer and home cells are growing and active. People are hungry and thirsty for the Word of God. On the other hand, the lack of pastoral care is leading some to false teaching.
- Movement and travel are severely limited, with serious effects on the economy. This is detrimental to the lives of ordinary people, as well as having repercussions for church giving. The forest and rivers are returning to their natural state with no-one to care for the environment and there is flooding. Some men have resorted to drinking and violence.
- Schools have been closed since 19th March. As well as the obvious effects on learning, parents are having difficulties in discipline. Some young people are starting to roam around and get into bad behaviour.

Meanwhile, the security situation remains very unstable. Since the lockdown, 600 people have been killed in Djugu and on the Ituri/North Kivu border by the militia and armed groups. Pillage, torture, massacre, arson, destruction of churches and schools and sexual violence (even on small children) have been perpetrated. The militia circulate freely through the villages without challenge. Unsurprisingly, many have fled into the bush or entered camps for displaced people, such as in Bunia.

Bishop William writes: *'At night, we sleep with one eye closed and the other open, one ear under the pillow and the other open to hear what is going on outside the house. Any noise outside the house makes the heart double its beat!'*

He continues: *'I hear from the news about riots in the United States because of the killing of an American of African origin in Minneapolis by his brother, an American of European origin. It is sad and unfortunate for that to happen and the whole country, if not the whole world, are in motion and agitation. I am sorry to say that there are thousands of Africans killed by Africans every year. And the world is quiet and not moved. I wish that the world could rise and mobilise against the killings in Eastern Congo, where I live.'*

PLEASE PRAY

- For those affected by the violence, whether grieving, in fear of their lives or having to live away from their homes.
- For the safety of the camps for displaced persons, where there is poverty, overcrowding and disease (there was a serious outbreak of measles in the Bunia camp last year).
- For those suffering the effects of the Covid lockdown and that normal life will be able to return soon.
- For leaders of the Congolese army, UN troops and government, that they will be serious about tackling the unrest as well as the coronavirus crisis.
- Thank God for Christian leaders, such as Bishop William and Jean Bagada, Diocesan Secretary, and other pastors, and for the small church groups that have sprung up.
- Finally, pray for justice and peace for the people of Ituri.

Our hearts and prayers go out to our brothers and sisters in need, may they be assured of God's presence in the struggle.

God bless,

Carys – Carys Addison, ABC Link Hub Administrator

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**

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.

St Hildeburgh's On Line – Watch this Space

Last Sunday Rev'd Paul filmed a service of Holy Communion. You can view this service by visiting our website:

<https://www.sthildeburgh.net/onlineservices.html>

If you are experiencing difficulties watching the video from the website it is also available on Facebook at [facebook.com/sthildeburgh](https://www.facebook.com/sthildeburgh)

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>

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/ 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/

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**

BEACON BITES No. 14

For the LORD your God is God..... He executes justice for the fatherless and the widow, and loves the sojourner, giving him food and clothing. Love the sojourner, therefore, for you were sojourners in the land of Egypt. - Deuteronomy 10:17-19

Peter Ham writes:

Now that we are enjoying Summer it is great to see Martins, Swifts and Swallows (pictured) flying around acrobatically, as they hunt for insects on the wing. A walk along Hoylake promenade will almost certainly give good views at the moment. Swallows are migrants. Each year they return, often to the very same nesting site, and start to restructure and repair their mud built nests. Aren't they a welcome sight for sore eyes!

We too are contemplating a return "home" as Church buildings across the land are being lovingly prepared for a return of parishioners - a return of church family. Just like the Swallows nests, our own buildings at St. Hildeburgh's have been restructured to allow the safe tentative resumption of life within their walls. We pray that bit by bit, many of the ministries that the buildings have been used for, will begin again. The migrants (us) will return, after a season of exile.

The Bible talks a lot about exiles and sojourners; indeed because the Jewish nation were exiled and had to sojourn in the wilderness for 40 years before being led home by God, His people (and that means us) in turn are commanded to care for sojourners (see Deuteronomy chapter 10 above).

As we enjoy the migrant Swallows home again for the Summer, and as we ourselves begin to migrate back to our home church buildings, after our sojourn away, let's ALSO continue to obey Gods command to care for those in our midst who are sojourners and migrants from their own communities. Let's continue to seek to serve and welcome those from the Near and Middle East presently trying to make a home in Hoylake.

continued.....



Swallows enrich our lives, as do our new friends in this parish and community. Like the birds, they have left everything behind as they find themselves in a completely new country and God would have us welcome and include them as we seek to use our re-formed church buildings for His very own glory.

CORONAVIRUS SELF-ISOLATION BUDDY SYSTEM

All with a persistent new cough or a fever are asked to self-isolate for 7 days. In the coming weeks everyone over 70 may be asked to self-isolate even if well. It is important that we all follow guidance to protect both ourselves and others.

Health service resources are limited (especially ventilators and staff) so it is important that spread of the virus is kept to levels the health service can fully manage and to limit the suffering it causes. Self-isolation may cause difficulty for some. Those living alone could feel lonely and even if you are not alone, perhaps all the household need to self-isolate so obtaining food, paracetamol etc is a problem.

We are setting up a buddy system to help with this. A buddy would be someone who you can phone either for practical help (going to the shops for you) or just for a chat. Deliveries would need to be left at your door as the buddy could not come in but would have your phone number to tell you the delivery is outside.

Please think now about how you would cope if self-isolating. You may have a nearby relative but they may be in isolation when you call them so I would recommend you have 2 people you could call for support.

Would you like a buddy from the church community whom you could call for support either practical or a chat? If so contact me – Sue Wells 6320539 /07742996985 smwells1959@gmail.com and I will pair you up with a volunteer buddy. Also if you are below 70 and willing to be a buddy to support others as above please get in touch with me. I am sure in the weeks/months ahead there will be those who need our help. We need to pull together in this difficult time.

Sue Wells

LAST CHANCE FOR PLANT-LOVERS

Just five plants are left for sale in aid of St Hildeburgh's Guild flower fund for Easter, Harvest and Christmas displays.

There are two hot chilli peppers, variety Prairie Fire, (***pictured right***) which makes a lovely plant for the house or a warm position outdoors and produces numerous fruits (£1.75 each).



Two young houseplants of *Crassula ovata*, the jade plant or money tree (£2.50 each); and one young blackcurrant plant, 25cm (10in) tall (£2). All are available from Peter Surridge by phone on 632-5507 or 07778-517759, or email on peter.surridge@talktalk.net.

Thank You

Sheila Saunders writes:

Could I please pass on my thanks to Jane, and her wonderful team of cooks, bakers and deliverers, for the delicious soup, sandwich and cake lunches many of us have so much enjoyed for many weeks now. It has been a great achievement of organisation, volunteer effort and thoughtfulness - true practical Christianity! And another invaluable initiative has been the access to Morrison's special delivery service by means of a dedicated phone number in the Beacon. This has meant we have been able to speak to a helpful and friendly member of staff somewhere in the country within minutes and give an order which arrives the following day and is paid for on a card machine. No clicking, no long waits, no stress! Thank you for that too.

FLOWER OF THE WEEK: GERANIUM **EIGHTH IN A SERIES**

Text and photograph by Peter Surridge.

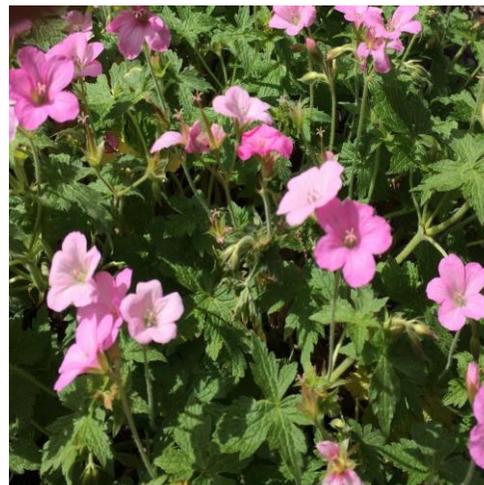
The popular and colourful summer flower often called geranium is in fact the pelargonium, which is grown as an annual. The true geranium is less spectacular but hardy and perennial. Both are members of the broad geranium family, which includes nasturtiums, oxalis and many other flowers, but the geranium is more delicate in appearance, tolerates shade, requires little attention and different species offer a wide range of colours. Many have flowers suffused with darker veins which apparently act as guidelines to direct pollinating insects towards the nectar at the flower's centre.

The name geranium comes from *geranos*, the Greek word for the crane, which refers to the long, beak-like seedpod and confers the common name of cranesbill.

There are more than 600 species and varieties of geranium, from small, mat-forming types for the border edge, graceful upright kinds for farther back in the border, ground-cover types, scrambling varieties, and tiny forms for the rock garden. The flowers range from 6mm (0.5in) to 5cm (2in) across and they come in a whole rainbow of colours, from white, pink and magenta to blue, mauve, deep purple-blue and the deep black-cerise of the superb *Geranium sinensis*. An excellent ground-cover species is *Geranium clarkei* and its Kashmir series of varieties – Blue, Pink, Purple and White.

Flowers are not geraniums' only attraction. Their foliage is also a distinct asset in the garden. They can be glossy, like the tiny alpine, *Geranium dalmaticum*, to furry, like *Geranium renardii*. Many leaves are splashed with purple and they can be deeply cut into maple-like, spidery and feathery patterns making wonderful backgrounds and contrasts for other border plants, even when they are not in flower.

continued.....



Above left:
Geranium Wargrave Pink

Above right:
Geranium Eureka Blue

Left:
Geranium Pink Pouffe

Those that make excellent border plants include the three pictured: Wargrave Pink, Eureka Blue and Pink Pouffe. But, almost without exception, geraniums are easy to grow so choose any that takes your fancy. Just make sure the soil is well-drained – over-wet ground is the one thing geraniums don't like – and follow the nursery's instruction for planting in sun or shade.

'CAPTAIN OF THE HEAVENLY HOST'

St Hildeburgh's windows: Eleventh in a series

Text by Peter Surridge; photograph by Nigel Hall

Caption: St Michael – protector of soldiers.

ST MICHAEL is one of three archangels named in the Bible. He has been honoured from the beginning of Christian history and is also venerated in Judaism. He is considered the angel of the resurrection, receiving all souls on judgment day and weighing them in the balance to ascertain if they have led a virtuous life on Earth. This role is evoked in a negro spiritual which was rendered as the 1960s pop song: "Michael, row the boat ashore. Alleluia!"

A passage from the Bible (Revelations 12:7-9) contributed to Michael's being identified in the West as "captain of the heavenly host" as well as the protector of Christians and soldiers in particular. Above his image is a tracery of the oak leaves of Cheshire surmounted by the badge of the 22nd the Cheshire Regiment. In the East, he is regarded as the guardian of the sick. In ancient times, visions of the saint were reported in Italy, France and England – at St Michael's Mount in Cornwall.



St Michael – protector of soldiers

St Hildeburgh's church contains two other images of St Michael in widely different styles: in the west wall above the baptistry with the sword and scales of justice (one of four fine, painted lancet windows made in 1902-03, each showing an angel); the other in the Lady chapel.

His feast day is September 29 – Michaelmas day.

Contact St Hildeburgh's

Vicar

Rev'd PAUL ROSSITER

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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.