

Readings for this Sunday
23 August 2020 The Eleventh Sunday After Trinity

Rom. 12. 1-8
Matt. 16. 13-20

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 service is also available to view on our website. The Church Centre remains closed for the time being.

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

Parish Register

Funeral

26 August – Beverley Sara Addeyman
Landican Crematorium at 11am
St Hildeburgh's at 12 noon
2 September – Enid Crapper
St Hildeburghs at 1pm

Weekly Beacon



News from St Hildeburgh's
The Parish Church of Hoylake
Sunday 23 August 2020
The Eleventh Sunday After Trinity

THE COLLECT FOR TODAY

O God, you declare your almighty power
most chiefly in showing mercy and pity:
mercifully grant to us such a measure of your grace,
that we, running the way of your commandments,
may receive your gracious promises,
and be made partakers of your heavenly treasure;
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.

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

Morning Prayer in Church

**Each Tuesday and Thursday at 10am.
Please bring your own bible.**

**The church remains open for private devotional prayer Monday to Friday
9am to 12 noon.**

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



Lifeboats

PIRATE DAY

AHOY THERE! POP ALONG TO OUR PIRATE STREET EVENT! SOCIALLY DISTANCED STALL

Venue: **FERNDALE ROAD, HOYLAKE**

Date: **SUNDAY 30TH AUGUST** Time: **12 NOON - 5 PM**

RNLI.org #arrrRNLI

The RNLI is the charity that saves lives at sea
Royal National Lifeboat Institution, a charity registered in England and Wales (209603) and Scotland (SC017736)
 registered charity number 20009326 in the Republic of Ireland

Registered with FUNDRAISING REGULATOR

RETIREMENT ACCOLADE FOR RUGBY STAR JANINE

Text by Peter Surridge.

As a proud father, I hope I can get away with a bit of boasting in the Beacon. Not about me but about my daughter Janine McComiskey, who has retired from her distinguished rugby career at the age of 50.

Janine was eight when the Surridge family moved to Hoylake and started worshipping at St Hildeburgh's. She attended Holy Trinity School and West Kirby Girls' Grammar School where she played first XI hockey. She switched to rugby when studying for a languages degree in Sunderland and continued playing when employment took her to Warwickshire, where she became a formidable Number Eight. As captain, Janine led Old Leamingtonians to third in the Women's Premiership and the final of the national knock-out cup. She was selected for training with the England Academy but, despite a promising start, had to withdraw after suffering a back injury.

Meanwhile, she married Neil – at St Hildeburgh's, of course – and continued playing rugby with breaks for the birth of their two children. After the second was born nine years ago, she was diagnosed with cancer and underwent courses of radiotherapy and chemotherapy. Supported by a network of prayers around the country, from Bristol to Scotland and including many people at St Hildeburgh's, she recovered from cancer and but never expected to play rugby again. What changed her mind? She was persuaded to return by her club's highly-regarded coach, James Clarke – now, I understand, a top referee. A message from him, received at Janine's retirement accolade last weekend, said in part: "You were always a pleasure to coach and one of the most skilful, hard-working and honest players I have come across. Tough to ping at the breakdown due to skill and speed. *I will always say, the best player I coached never to pull on an England shirt.*"



Janine with the shield presented to her last weekend.

FLOWER OF THE WEEK: DAHLIA **Seventeenth in a Series**

Text and photos by Peter Surridge.



*Left: Deep
crimson
Semi-Cactus
dahlia
Summer
Night*

MOST gardens boast bright spring bulbs and glorious early summer roses. But, after that spectacular start, too many displays nose-dive with only a stutter of colour. By late August the scene can be distinctly dismal.

Dahlias are the exception. As brilliant and fresh as any spring bulbs, they transform the garden while most others fade. Colours range from pale lemon, lilac and bronze to fierce shades of orange, purple and red. Some are a few inches tall for bedding or pots, others are giants for the back of the border and there are different-sized varieties for cutting, all flowering for many weeks, from summer until the first frosts. Their blooms range from huge Cactus types 1.5m (5ft) tall with quilled, spiky petals on 20cm (8in) blooms and giant Decoratives with 30cm (12in) flowers to little Pompon, Mignon and Dahlietta forms. Dahlias were discovered by botanists who accompanied the Spanish conquistadors to Mexico although it was 200 years before they were given their modern name in honour of a Swedish botanist, Andreas Dahl. The Aztecs called the plant *accotli*, meaning 'hollow pipe' because the hollow stems of 30-foot (9m) species were used to build aqueducts.

Dahlias' ability to develop different tints, not to mention flower shapes, quickly identified them as natural hybridisers with tremendous potential and seedlings changed hands for sums equivalent to hundreds of thousands of pounds today. Since then, all the forms mentioned above have been bred to suit numerous garden purposes. And we are lucky – they are now dirt cheap by comparison.



*Left: Decorative form
Mr Optimist, scarlet with
golden streaks.*

WOODLAND WALK NOW CLEAR

Anyone taking a stroll along our beautiful woodland path might have had to negotiate nettles and brambles in recent weeks. We are pleased to report that these have now been cleared and the path can be explored again.

DON'T FORGET YOUR FORGET-ME-NOTS!

The top-quality forget-me-not plants offered for sale by St Hildeburgh's Guild in the previous Weekly Beacon are selling well but there's still time to buy some. The plants are potted individually and will be ready for planting out in a few weeks. They will withstand the winter, flower next year and are ideal for borders edges or patio pots. The plants, *Myosotis* Spring Symphony Blue, a free-flowering and long-lasting variety, were grown by Guild secretary Joyce Reade. They are offered in groups of five for £4.50, available from Peter Surridge by phone on 632-5507 or 07778-517759, or email on peter.surridge@talktalk.net. Proceeds will go to the Guild's flower fund for Easter, Harvest and Christmas displays.

WINIFRED, SAINT OF HOLYWELL

St Hildeburgh's windows – Twentieth in a series

Text and photograph by Peter SurrIDGE.

There are many intriguing threads to the tale of the virgin martyr St Winifred or Winefrede (Gwenefrewi in Welsh), who was born in the seventh century. Legend says that a chieftain's son, Caradog (not to be confused with the warrior who defied the Romans for many years in the first century) either was her "suitor" or that she was pestered by his unwanted attentions. Caradog came from Hawarden in what is now Flintshire. When she repulsed him and stated that she intended to become a nun, he struck off her head with his sword. There are two versions of what followed: either that the earth opened and swallowed Caradog or that a local holy man, St Beuno, having restored Winifred's head to her shoulders, invoked the vengeance of Heaven and Caradog was struck dead.

Where Winifred's head had fallen, at Holywell, a spring of water suddenly appeared. It became known as St Winifrede's Well, acquired a reputation for curing disease, attracted thousands of pilgrims and later became known as "the Lourdes of Wales".



St Winifred

Pilgrimages continued until early in the 20th century and, even in recent years, cures are said to have taken place.

After eight years spent at Holywell, Winifred moved to Gwytherin near the source of the River Elwy in Denbighshire and eventually became abbess there. Gwytherin is well worth a visit for St Winifred's (St Gwenefrewi's) Church, a sprawling yew in the churchyard (the "oldest tree in Wales", shown by carbon-dating to be 4,000 years old) and four small but mysterious standing stones close to the church wall. St Winifred's feast day is November 3.

A fine window in Shrewsbury Cathedral depicts Caradog standing gloatingly over the saint's beheaded corpse. St Hildeburgh's window, also of high quality, is on the right of the nave, a short distance back from the Lady chapel entrance. It is one of a group, as mentioned before in this series, "in memory of Matthew Langlands, given by his wife," and installed around 1907.

Contact St Hildeburgh's

Vicar

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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.