St. Hilary's Church Monthly Bulletin

July

Rectors Message— How To Be Human

Those who witnessed Calum's ordination service at Chester Cathedral in July are unlikely to forget the sermon by David Day. "People are a pain", he began, listing all the ways in which people aggravate and annoy us. "But Jesus looked on the crowd and had compassion on them because they were harassed and helpless like sheep without a shepherd" (Matthew 9v36).

We won't forget the sermon, but will it change the way we see people? I'm writing this article whilst attending a conference in London for church leaders. The title of the conference is "Identity Crisis" – and the key question is "What does it mean to be human?" Many of the conflicts between the church and Western culture revolve around this basic question. The wider world, through education and the media, repeatedly tells us that we are the product of a biological process that makes us no more than clever animals. Medical practice is frequently asking whether a life is worth living if it happens to be an unborn child with a disability or an elderly person with Alzheimer's.

In contrast, the Bible tells us that human beings are created by God to be "in His image", to reflect His character and to be stewards of His world. When humanity rebelled against our Maker, we read that God didn't send us to the scrapheap but planned to restore us, like a spoiled masterpiece, to greater glory. And the gospel story is about God taking on human form (what we call the incarnation) so that through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth He might create a new humanity as His redeemed people.

Brothers and sisters, we are not mere animals. I am no accident of nature. Your life is not meaningless or pointless. On the contrary, we are created by God and deeply loved by Him. We are destined to belong to Him, to love Him and to live in the wonderful He created for us, even though that too is now spoiled by sin. You are precious to God your Creator – shouldn't that make a difference to how you look at yourself in the mirror?

The same goes for the people we think are a pain, the crowds I've seen in the streets of London this week, the folk we see every day. To be human is to be uniquely created by God and loved by Jesus.

How do we who have faith in Christ express our love for Him? According to James 1:26-27, we keep a tight rein on our tongues and we make sure those who have nothing are cared for. If we personally and our nation communally were to live in this counter-cultural way, perhaps the outcomes would be as unpredictable as the election results?

Alan Ward (Rector)

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Coming up this Month

VCT Prayer Walk
Sunday 5th July
3pm—Leaving from St. Hilarys

Messy Church
Saturday 25th July
4pm—St. Hilary's

YF Love Wirral Mission
27th-29th July

Sunday Club
Sunday 5th & 19th July
During 11am service

Boys Brigade
Every Tuesday
5.30pm—St. Hilary's

Bowls Club
Every Wednesday
9.45am—Marine Park

Busy Bees Playgroup
Every Wednesday
1.30-3pm—St Hilary's

Rainbows and Brownies
Every Tuesday
4.15 / 5.30pm

Bell Ringing
Every Wednesday
7.30pm—St. Hilary's

Youth Club
Every Friday
7-9pm—St. Hilary's

Women's Fellowship
Next Meeting in Sept.

Men's Society
Next Meeting in Sept.

Worship in July 2015

Sunday 5th July (Trinity 5)
9.30am—Holy Communion
11.00am—All Age Communion (With Sunday Club)

Sunday 12th July (Trinity 6)
9.30am—Holy Communion
11.00am—All Age Parade Service

Sunday 19th July (Trinity 7)
9.30am—Holy Communion
11.00am—All Age Worship (With Sunday Club)

Saturday 25th July
4.00pm—Messy Church

Sunday 26th July (Trinity 8)
9.30am—Holy Communion
11.00am—All Age Worship

Every Thursday
9.15am—Holy Communion

Every Monday
12.00am—Midday Prayer

Every Tuesday & Friday
9.00am—Morning Prayer

Saturday 25th July

4-6pm

Messy Church St. Hilary's, Wallasey

Themed on the Seaside

Twitter: @StHilary's
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www.sthilarywallasey.org.uk



VCT Prayer Walk

On Sunday 5th July you are invited to join the other churches in Wallasey Village to pray for our community. The walk will be gentle and last about an hour stopping at various places to pray. Please do join us to pray—its a simple way of being a community that witness to our community. Leaving St. Hilary's at 3pm.

Service Time Changing

From Sunday 6th September our All Age Worship will start at 11.15am. When the PCC reviewed our worship from the last year it was felt that delaying the start will allow proper time for those arriving to prepare to worship, as well ensuring there is time for fellowship after the 9.30 service, which has sometimes not been possible. If you have any queries about this please speak to Alan, Calum or one of the churchwardens.

E:Bulletin

You can now receive a copy of this bulletin via the website and email. If you go to our website and then to what's on, your will find our monthly bulletin page where you can download all past editions of the monthly bulletin. You can also sign up to receive this bulletin via email. We will always have paper copies available but the less we print the more trees we save!

Thank You from Calum

Thank You to everyone for your prayers, support, gifts and cards as I was ordained priest last month. As I said on the evening Jess and I love being part of the St. Hilary's family—you have all made us so welcome. A special thanks goes to all those who put a lot of hard work in behind the scenes to make the celebration such a good event! *Calum Piper*







Photo's by Jess Piper and Mike Puttick

Church Update June

Youth Clubs

Youth groups are going very well! I believe that the youth groups are very important and a brilliant way for the church to engage with young people weekly. With really encouraging numbers of young people attending the three groups it is very exciting to see how they develop. I am looking at quality Christian youth material that will be implemented in the y outh groups to help develop the young people's knowledge and understanding of faith.

Schools Work

Weatherhead Pulse has grown and we get on average about fifteen young people every Tuesday. Their knowledge of the Christian faith from these young people is very encouraging and every week conversations are fruitful. Getting some more assemblies here is on the agenda as they are keen to have me back in to do more.

Mosslands Pulse has been going well on Fridays. Numbers have fluctuated at this group as many different groups meet at lunch times. The sessions have been great though as we look to discuss important topics with the boys, and help them understand the Christian faith. Again we are hoping to do more in this school, possibly helping with the sports. Mosslands were great when advertising my football event for the mission and I will use this relationship more when advertising similar events!

Oldershaw have been contacted regarding running a Pulse group there. The head Teacher has approved us doing one here. I hope to start one for September.

Mission (Fusion Football)

The Fusion Football event went really well and we got about thirty young people attend the event. God truly blessed this day, especially with the weather! Thank you everyone who helped! Looking at feedback from the young people they all said they loved using the inflatable football pitch and can't wait to use it in future. Over summer I am planning on using the pitch more and using more activities also, so volunteers will be needed. I will contact the churches with further information.

Sports

I had the amazing opportunity to help provide sports activities for the children whose families were affected by the Chernobyl disaster. It was amazing to see the young people smiling and enjoying themselves and I really felt like this is where sport is at its best!

Love Wirral

Love Wirral are visiting the Wallasey are on the 27th, 28th, and 29th of July. Many different activities are going to be used and I will be using the inflatable football pitch on at least one of the days. Schools work, sports and community clean activities seem to be the bulk of what's going on so if you are interested in more information please contact me.

Prayer

- That the youth groups continue to have good numbers of children and the relationship with the church grows.
- The young people understand and engage with the Christian youth material I use.
- Pulse groups grow and conversations continue to be fruitful. Also pray that Oldershaw allow me to start a group for September.
- Any further Fusion events are well received and the community start to really understand why we are doing Fusion.
- That the Love Wirral team are blessed and the communities they engage with get to experience Jesus's love.

