

ISSUE 14 · JUNE 2026



# CHRIST OUR HOPE

Newsletter of Christ our Hope Liverpool

## Passing the mantle

HELEN EDWARDS



The familiar words of Micah 6:8 have been with me for so long, but in The Message they strike even deeper.

They've guided me through my years as a disciple of Jesus, as deacon and priest, and as Rector of Christ our Hope.

As I look back on my time in COHL, my heart is full. I'm so thankful for the people I've had the privilege to serve alongside. You have shown me Christ in your kindness, your perseverance, your humour, your faithfulness. You have taught me more than you know. You have held me up in seasons of joy and in seasons that were far from easy. Working with you has been one of the great joys of my ministry.

Will's reflection at the APCM on Elijah passing the mantle in 2 Kings felt deeply timely. God has always guided His people, and He continues to guide us now. As I step away from 21 years of ministry in this deanery, I'm thankful to be handing the mantle to such a committed and gifted team.

As Andrew and I move on—Andrew into full retirement and me stepping down from full-time paid ministry—we do so with immense gratitude. We pray that Christ our Hope will continue to be just that: your hope, your centre, your strength. And we pray that by His Spirit, God will grow Christ-centred communities where every person can flourish. Thank you, for everything.

**Do what is fair and just.  
Love with compassion  
and loyalty. Don't take  
yourself too seriously—  
take God seriously.**

Micah 6:8

## This issue:

Passing the mantle  
PAGE 1

Introducing...  
PAGE 2

What's coming up?  
PAGE 3

Invite someone to  
church!  
PAGE 4

We thank God for the pioneering service Helen has devoted to Christ Our Hope Liverpool. Join us in praying for Helen & Andrew as they enter their next chapter.

# Introducing...

## New Rector of Christ Our Hope: Revd Will Gibbons

### Tell us about yourself!

I'm married to Anna, a primary school teacher, and we have 3 children. I love music, football and holidays! I was ordained in St David's Cathedral 15 years ago, served as a curate in Carmarthen before moving to Wigan in 2013. I came to West Derby in 2023 to be Vicar at St Andrew's Clubmoor and Area Dean.



### What are you excited about/looking forward to?

Forming the new parish felt a bit like trying to reach the Promised Land, with the consultation feeling like circling the desert. In March 2025, we finally crossed over and now we are taking possession of all that has been entrusted to us. The parish of Christ our Hope Liverpool is a good land - I believe there is an abundance of opportunity as we take courage, collaborate, and contemplate the glory of the Lord.

### If you had a superpower, what would it be and why?

Telekinesis sounds useful! Apparently known as the 'Swiss army knife of superpowers', it would enable me to fly, generate heat (useful for church buildings) or ice (useful for refreshments) and declutter in an instant. What's not to love?!

## Deanery Youth & Children's Worker: Ethan Miller

### Tell us about yourself!

My name is Ethan, I live in Clubmoor with my wife Lucia. I spend my time playing long tedious board games, and writing songs. I started as a volunteer with St Andrew's Youth in September 2024 and have nearly completed my PhD which looks into helping young people form their faith through bible study.



### What are you excited about/looking forward to?

I am looking forward to my new role as Youth and Children's Deanery Hub Lead, and supporting every church in our deanery to welcome and worship with children and young people. I'm also looking forward to welcoming our Youth Scholars and helping them grow and develop into confident leaders.

### If you had a superpower, what would it be and why?

If I could have any superpower, I would have the ability to time travel so I could visit different time periods! (I loved Dr Who growing up...)

## Want to get involved?

We are all called to serve God in our communities. *Are you feeling called to share your skills to make a difference?* Please talk to your Vicar about how you can get involved.

**Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.**

1 TIMOTHY 4:12



# Communications Gathering

You are warmly invited to join us for a practical and encouraging gathering as part of the Christ our Hope Liverpool family, as we learn how to share the story God is writing among us.

At Christ our Hope Liverpool, we long to see lives transformed by Jesus, communities renewed, and people drawn into belonging and discipleship. This session will explore how simple, clear communication can help remove barriers, welcome newcomers, and share the hope we have in Christ.

We will share ideas, learn practical tools, and encourage one another as we grow in confidence and unity. This is for anyone who cares about helping others feel invited, included, and connected.

**Date:** 15th September 2026

**Time:** 7.30pm

**Address:** St Cuthbert's Church, Langley Cl, L12 0NB

Book in through Church Suite by scanning the QR code below



## Lineup

Philipa Hanna - Moses Brothers - Emily Darby - Y Faith - Fieldlily - Samuel Jackson-Reed - One Hope Project - Evie Loose - Nuns n Moses - Glasby - Follow on Facebook for more updates!

## Something for everyone

Live music from the main stage  
Creative arts workshops  
Youth Tent to connect and hang out  
Spirit Cafe - great coffee, chat & prayer  
Bouncy Inflatatables  
Camping all weekend!

## Be on the team?

Where the kitchen is the best place at a party, team is the best place to be at Surfstage. Whether a little or a lot, if you can volunteer you'll make a difference. Head to the website to find out more: [www.surfstage.co.uk](http://www.surfstage.co.uk)



A handmade music & arts festival celebrating faith, music & community!

ARTS TENT

Join us in our field in Parbold for a handmade celebration of music, arts, food and fun.

YOUTH TENT

It's the kind of event that's really easy to invite anyone to – neighbours, colleagues, friends, and family – whether they're familiar with church or not.

KIDS TENTS

SPIRIT CAFÉ

It's relaxed, welcoming, and full of good things that bring people together.

FESTIVAL SALON

SURF ARCADE

Day entry and all the activities are **free** and camping is only £25 per adult for the weekend.

BOUNCY INFLATABLES

Book now!



**4-5 July 2026**

The Field // 1-3 Alder Lane // Parbold  
// Nr Wigan // WN8 7NL

# Who can you invite to church



Our mission is to share the love of God with those around us by introducing people to Jesus. Cut out the section below and invite someone to church.



## Come to church this week!

See our Sunday Services below, or for our midweek services and activities, head to [achurchnearyou.com](http://achurchnearyou.com)

All Saints Stoneycroft - 10am Holy Communion

St Andrew Clubmoor  
9am Holy Communion 10.45am Morning Worship

St Anne Stanley - 10am Holy Communion

St Cuthbert Croxteth Park - 10am Holy Communion

St David Childwall - 10.30am Holy Communion

The Good Shepherd - 11am Morning Worship

Christ Church Norris Green - 10.30am Morning Worship

## Prayer Points

Join us in praying for the items below, believing God can do immeasurably more than we could ask or understand.

- For our new Bishop of Warrington, Simon Robinson, as he begins his ministry here in Liverpool.
- For the children and young people in our parish in the midst of exams.
- For the health and wellbeing of our Clergy team as they lead us.
- For Revd Helen Edwards as she moves on from Christ Our Hope.
- For Revd Will Gibbons as he prepares to take on the role of Team Rector of Christ Our Hope.
- For our Churchwardens who will be installed by the Bishop at the Visitations.
- For Ethan Miller as he begins the role of Deanery Youth Worker.
- For our upcoming Communications event, that strong communicators will step up to lead this area.
- For our Social Justice projects that aim to feed the hungry, support the lonely, tend to children and parents and much more.

