



St Hilda's
Ashford

Weekly Newsletter

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We are looking for more contributions from the St Hilda's community, if you would like to contribute, please either call, email or send an article to the Parish Office.

If you would like help or to speak to a member of the ministry team please contact:

- Parish Office Tel - 01784 253525
 Email - office@sthilda.org
- Father Joseph can be contacted on 01784 254237

Fr. Joseph is currently on holiday with his family enjoying a well deserved break, so if you require anything please call the Parish Office in the first instance during this time.

Thank you

www.sthilda.org

It appears the gremlins were about last week...

The article below should have stated that Fr. Joseph turned 50 on Sunday 16 AUGUST!

Birthday Celebrations



It appears that August 2020 is the time to celebrate special birthdays not only within the St Hilda's Church family but more significantly in the Fernandes family. A week after Rebecca celebrated her 21st, Fr. Joseph turns 50 on Sunday 16 August.

As you are aware Fr. Joseph is currently on holiday with his family enjoying a well deserved rest and I'm sure he will find time to enjoy a glass or two to celebrate.



Happy Birthday Fr. Joseph

Choirs glad to return to church services

Changes to government guidelines on the performing arts were announced last Friday



SOME choirs made a prompt and joyful return to church services on Sunday, after changes to government guidelines on the performing arts were announced on Friday. These were reviewed and then endorsed by the Church of England in new guidance issued on Monday.

It is not yet clear which of the scientific studies of droplet transmission commissioned by the Department for Digital, Media, Culture and Sport gave the Government confidence to "reconsider appropriate mitigations". Results are eagerly awaited from Declan Costello, an ear, nose, and throat surgeon and choral singer, who has been conducting stringent trials. Lay vicars from Salisbury Cathedral have also taken part in experiments.

Crucially, it is now permissible for both professional and non-professional singers and musicians to perform individually or in small groups inside and outside of buildings, in line with the recommendations for physical distancing and hygiene set out by the Government in its performing-arts guidance.

The C of E guidance makes it clear: "This includes those who regularly volunteer to do music and singing, as part of a choir, for example, to perform as a part of worship."

Congregations are not yet permitted to sing. Wherever possible, the guidance says, people should continue to distance physically from those with whom they do not live; venues, performers, and audiences should be matched to ensure that two-metre distancing applies; and the number of performers should be limited.

Those assisting with worship through music or singing “do not always need to wear a face covering, but face coverings or screens should be used if physical distancing cannot be maintained”.

Singing and music can now be a part of ceremonies such as weddings, but with the caution: “People should avoid singing, shouting, raising voices, and/or playing music at a volume that makes normal conversation difficult or that may encourage shouting. This is important to mitigate the potential for increased risk of transmission — particularly from droplets and aerosol transmission.”

The guidance confirms that organs can be played for services, practices, and general maintenance. Worship bands can play, with the same physical distancing observed, and, again, with the stricture that the music should not be so loud that people have to shout above it. Microphones and PA systems can be used — optimally individual lapel or static microphones rather than hand-held.

Organisations are still encouraged to work outdoors whenever possible, and the suggestion remains that, where music plays a big part in worship, and recordings are available, this should be considered as an alternative to live singing. But the new guidance, described by the RSCM on Monday as “encouraging”, has given a lifeline to choirs to return to worship, at least in part.

The church of St Bartholomew the Great, Smithfield, in London, which has a professional choir of eight, was quick off the mark on Sunday, with a return of the full choir. The Rector, the Revd Marcus Walker, heard on the radio on Saturday that the guidance had changed, and rang the director of music, Rupert Gough, to ask, “Do you think we can?” The answer, he said, had been, “We can.”

They positioned the singers in the transept, socially distanced, away from the congregation and not facing each other. All had printed off their own copies of the music. “We arrived to Parry’s ‘I Was Glad’,” the Rector said on Monday. “Obviously, there were tears. I remembered the first time [during lockdown] that the choir sang from home, and how that brought the first shard of light in the darkness of the pandemic.”

The choir also sang Mozart’s *Missa Brevis*. Members of the congregation, most of whom had not been expecting the choir, said that it made the church feel whole again, Fr Walker said. It was also the occasion of the licensing of the Revd Jonathan Livingstone as Hospitaller for St Bartholomew’s Hospital. Now, the church is planning its first choral evensong next Sunday, on the eve of its patronal festival.

The choir of Westminster Abbey also returned, in part: six lay vicars were positioned in the Lantern, and the congregation gathered in the nave at the west end of the church. The plan is to build up the music stage by stage to a full choral schedule over the coming weeks and months.

The choir posted a message on Twitter on Sunday: “152 days since we sang our last service, we’re thrilled to be back rehearsing Byrd’s Mass for Three Voices for this morning’s

Eucharist. For now, we're fewer in number, socially distanced and remote from the congregation but it's wonderful to be back and singing together again."

Christian group preparing for huge rise in homelessness as ban on evictions comes to an end

A Christian homeless charity has warned there will be a "significant rise" in homelessness once the Government's ban on evictions in England and Wales ends on 23rd August.

The ban was originally in place until 25th June but was extended to Sunday.



Ealing Soup Kitchen, which operates St John's Church in Ealing, London for the homeless and vulnerable, told Premier Christian News it's getting ready to serve a huge influx of people.

Andrew McLeay from the charity said: "We're trying to see where we can put people. Obviously, we're not in the business of shaming individuals or landlords for doing what they feel they need to do, but it still leaves people now out in the cold effectively.

"Now we're trying to work alongside the council and trying to work alongside private businesses and individuals who have contacts with that area."

Meanwhile, McLeay said he has already started to see more people needing help as some landlords have been evicting tenants anyway.

"The ban on evictions is something that is slightly controversial anyway because we've found that quite a few of the people who are in private accommodation have already been evicted despite the bans," he said.

"Quite a few of the guys that come along feel a little nonchalant, I suppose, about the whole process because they feel as though the government already let them down already not doing what they promised that we're going to do."

A group of 21 MPs have written to the rough sleeping minister Luke Hall, demanding that the government ensures local authorities can fund accommodation for the homeless for at least one year.

"Some local authorities are in the process of confirming and funding accommodation for rough sleepers for another year, however it is so important that all councils are able to provide this," they wrote.

"We cannot put a cut-off on showing all those in need compassion at this time."

The letter signed by Labour, DUP and Lib Dem MPs, also called for the Vagrancy Act, which criminalises begging on streets, to be abolished.

"We need to treat all rough sleepers with as much compassion as possible at any time, and especially in the present circumstances - there is no need for the Act to remain in place," they added.

A spokesperson for the Ministry of Housing, Communities, and Local Government said: "The Government has taken unprecedented action to support the most vulnerable people in our society during the pandemic.

"Nearly 15,000 rough sleepers have been housed in emergency accommodation since the beginning of the pandemic.

"We've also ensured no tenants have been evicted at the height of Covid.

"We will continue to provide appropriate support to those who have been particularly affected by coronavirus when court proceedings start again including the requirement for landlords to provide more information about their tenants' situation when seeking an eviction, with judges able to adjourn a case if this information isn't provided."

McLeary urged Christians to be praying for the vulnerable during this time.

"This recession has meant that there are people who are coming to our soup kitchens now who wear suits," he said.

"There are families with many, many children who come to the soup kitchen now in the line, waiting for a takeaway, which never used to happen.

"So we're expecting double, triple the numbers that we had before which is sad.

"We just need to remember them and hold them up [in prayer]. They are no doubt God's children and hopefully God's going to really work miracles through our charity."

Lord be with every single people struggling with homelessness right now. We pray that you will provide for them like never before.

Help all local councils and charities who will be dealing with a wave of homelessness. Equip them to deal with this and give them wisdom and compassion in every decision they make. Amen.

Loin-cloth flag recalls PoWs' plight for VJ-Day commemoration

A CHURCH in Wales is honoured to house a Union flag made by prisoners of the Japanese during the Second World War, its Rector said this week.

The flag was sewn using materials salvaged from a camp in Indonesia. The men were held there while they worked on the Sumatra railway, known as the "Pekanbaru death railway".

The flag was presented to St Mary's, Swansea, 50 years ago by Captain Sydney Armstrong, president of the South West Wales Far East Prisoner of War Club. Today it hangs on the north wall of the nave. Next to it there is a short description of its history, which was researched by Paul Murray, a parishioner at St Mary's.



The Far East Prisoner of War Union Jack on the north wall of the nave of St Mary's, Swansea. Behind it are the regimental colours of the 1st Battalion of the Welsh Guards

“The Pekanbaru railway became known as the ‘forgotten death railway’ because it was outside the battle area,” he said. “It is not known how many Indonesian forced workers, or ‘*Romushas*’, died in the construction of the railway, but it was many tens of thousands, and they were buried on the spot where they died, often by the side of the railway.”

In all, he said, “706 PoWs died before VJ Day, with a further 110 deaths in the following months. There were 182 deaths among the British. After the war, all these bodies, apart from one, were exhumed and now rest at the Jakarta War Cemetery.”

The white in the hand-made flag came from the prisoners’ loincloths, while the blue came from

mosquito nets owned by the guards. The red came from the lining of the straw hats of the Indonesian native troops. The flag was used in the burial ceremony for troops at the camp after it was liberated.

Canon Ian Rees, Rector of St Mary’s, said that the church was honoured to be able to preserve and display the flag. “It reminds us of the great sacrifice made by others and the struggles they faced.”

The Archbishop of Wales, the Rt Revd John Davies, in an address for the National Service of Thanksgiving for VJ Day to be held at Llandaff Cathedral, pays tribute to those held captive by the Japanese. People should “continue to work for and call for a world where brutality and ignorance lie in the dust, defeated by the noble quest for justice and truth, and for freedom from tyranny in any shape or form.”

Atomic Bomb: the shock of a victory so gained

Christian disquiet at the power unleashed to defeat Japan was pronounced. From the *Church Times* of 10 August 1945



The bombing of Nagasaki on 9 August 1945. The bomb killed 40,000 instantly and achieved a final death toll of nearly 74,000 and almost 75,000 injuries

BEFORE a congregation of about thousand Oxford undergraduates, the late Archbishop Temple, twelve or thirteen years ago, argued out the evidence for a spiritual, or at least a qualitative, view of the universe as against a materialistic conception The essence of his argument ran like this. Man can see the stars; the stars shine on man.

But man knows he can see the stars, whereas the stars do not know they shine on man. That is, man beats the stars.

This simple argument, couched in the language of popular philosophy to-day, would come fairly near the head of any argument for a religious view of nature. It asserts the superiority of quality over quantity but at the same time this primitive stage of an age-old argument does not proceed to differentiation between qualities or to the choice of quality, in short, to morality, or the distinction between good and evil.

This is relevant in the highest degree to the astonishing news of Tuesday's press that the Western Allies had teamed up the best scientists they could muster to smash the atom, and with it smash their enemies. After years of secret study a test bomb was constructed and placed on a steel tower in the desert of New Mexico.

When it was exploded forest rangers more than one hundred and fifty miles away thought there had been an earthquake. A pilot flying three hundred and fifty miles away saw the flash, which to those ten miles away was more intense than daylight. An enormous cloud billowed 40,000 feet up to the stratosphere, and all that remained was a hole in the ground. The experiment, thus far successful, was then applied to the Japanese.

This application recalls the practice of vivisection on condemned prisoners at Alexandria in the early centuries of the Christian era and in the German concentration camps up till a few months ago.

But there was a difference. Beforehand, the Japanese nation was given an ultimatum which it rejected. Accordingly a single atomic bomb, with a blasting power equal to that of two thousand of the eleven-ton bombs carried by the R.A.F., was dropped on the Honshu town of Hiroshima opposite Kure. Four square miles of the town were obliterated in an instant, and some two or three hundred thousand men, women and children were massacred in the explosion.

Since then, Nagasaki has been hurled after Hiroshima into the pit of dissolution. Anglo-American destructiveness has certainly put Attila and Jenghiz Khan in the shade.



PAAAs part of the Japanese surrender, soldiers march in formation past American occupation forces on Atsugi airfield

become a perpetual fountain of world prosperity."



Residents of New York City greet the news of the Japanese surrender on 14 August 1945

Mr Churchill in inimitable language has pointed the moral. "This revelation of the secrets of nature", he wrote while still in office, "long mercifully withheld from man, should arouse the most solemn reflections in the mind and conscience of every human being capable of comprehension. We must indeed pray that these awful agencies will be made to conduce to peace among the nations, and that instead of wreaking measureless havoc upon the entire globe they may

In short, man beats the stars; man beats nature; but can man beat himself? The message of Jesus Christ is that only by the power of the Almighty, revealed first in nature, then by the prophets and finally in the Incarnation, can man beat himself, or, as the psychologist may prefer to put it, sublimate his immoralities. Meantime the atomic bomb should be outlawed as soon as possible by general agreement, like poison gas.

This week's news is as fearful a challenge to Christians to pray and work for the conversion of the world as any that has been issued since man crucified his Saviour. If love will not turn men to God, will terror? For human society has now within its grasp the power to destroy both itself and a vast proportion of all life, human, animal and vegetable, on the face of the earth.

Man can beat nature; thereby he may promote his physical well-being or his physical destruction. But only God can save man from himself and from the abominably evil use of the knowledge of nature which He has placed in man's power. Pathetic cries will be heard on all sides, pitiful pleas for safety from a world of unbelief.

Let folk read the Book of Genesis over again, learn what the Fall of Man means in the light of this monstrosity; and then read the Gospel again and come to the feet of an all-pitying Saviour.

Our readers write. . .

Church Times Correspondence 17 August 1945

Sir, — The daily press has so far failed to reflect or indicate the widespread feeling among Christians about the use by the Allies of the atomic bomb. Not one definite Christian to whom I have spoken has approved it.

Deterioration of moral standards through the war has reduced our country's official attitude to the point that the end justifies any means whatever. "To shorten the war and ultimately save lives" was Mussolini's plea in defence of gas against the Abyssinians; Hitler's in defence of flying bombs and rockets.

The fact that we previously gave warning to the populations of the towns concerned is irrelevant. If the Germans had warned Londoners in 1941 to evacuate their city, would they have done so? In most cases, could they have done so? And if the enemy had then used atom bombs on London, how our newspapers would have cried out at "this latest example of German savagery".

DOUGLAS LOCKHART.

St. Bartholomew's Vicarage, Brighton.

Sir, — All the hideous nightmares conjured up by H. G. Wells have now become realities during this past week, as a result of the discovery and perversion of the use of atomic energy, and men's hearts might well fail them as they contemplate the horror of Hiroshima.

But what of the Church? Paradoxical as it may sound, I suggest that this is her finest hour. Will she raise her voice and denounce the wickedness in high places, or meekly acquiesce in this ghastly massacre of God's children?

If ever there was a moral question upon which the Church must decide *ex-cathedra*, I suggest that it is in regard to this awful discovery which must be consecrated for the service of mankind or desecrated for his utter destruction.

May Christians everywhere, and especially in our own Church, pray without ceasing for a right judgment by our leaders in the exercise of the tremendous responsibility of piloting this awful revelation into constructive channels for the benefit of all mankind.

ALBERT E. RUSSELL.

33, Belsize-road, Swiss Cottage, London, N.W. 6.

Sir, — Recent discoveries relating to the control and the operation of atomic energy have filled the hearts of most people with awe; and rightly so. We have been told that, from the urgency of the moment, scientific development has spanned fifty years in a mighty leap, and thus this momentous revelation has been precipitated.

All worthy scientists affirm that unless true moral advance is concurrent with scientific progress, civilization is most certainly doomed.

Surely, Christian people everywhere have the gravest responsibility, and at the same time, perhaps, the most unique opportunity since the days of the early Church. Children of God, empowered by the Spirit of Christ, they are His ambassadors on earth. Let us leap forward, in the urgency of this moment, to the revelation of our opportunity, that His Kingdom may be known upon earth.

G. K.-T.

Sir, — The doomed city of Nagasaki was the cradle of Christianity in Japan. On February 5, 1597, some years after the missionary preaching of Francis Xavier, twenty-six Japanese Christians, the first martyrs of Japan, were crucified at Nagasaki. The torch they lit was never extinguished, though it burnt low for 250 years.

In 1859, when Japan was re-opened to the West, the Gospel message once more started from Nagasaki. What its restraining influence on the nation has been during the eight years of war with China and the West will perhaps never be known. This was the first gift of the West to Nagasaki — the good news of One who is come that “they may have life, and have it more abundantly.” A second gift has followed.

J. G. WANSEY.

The Rectory, Flixton, Lancs.

Sir, — The hypocrisy of Allied commanders passes belief. They allege that fair warning was given to the Japanese before the use of the new weapon. A visible demonstration of its terrible power could easily have been given without the complete effacement of a large town.

J. S. STRONG.

2, Douglas-avenue, New Malden, Surrey.

US military action leading up to The Atomic attacks on Japan.

After the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour on 7th December 1941, the US carried out a retaliatory attack on Tokyo. This took place on the 18th April 1942. It was the brainchild of Colonel James Doolittle of the US air force. Sixteen B25 twin engine Mitchell bombers were to be launched from an aircraft carrier within range of Japan. Unfortunately, the fleet was spotted by a Japanese scout plane 750 miles from their target. The bombers launched immediately after which the fleet altered course. The raid was successful, but in the

aftermath fifteen of the sixteen planes crash landed in China and one landed in the Soviet Union. Of the eighty crew, three were killed in action, three were executed, and one died in captivity.



During lockdown, I made a model of a B25 bomber painted in General Doolittle's colours. On the internet you can see footage of bombers taking off from the aircraft carriers, a magnificent feat of flying.

Moving on to the battle for Okinawa, the closest island to Japan which they regarded as theirs, The loss of life was terrible; US casualties were 49,000, of which 12,000 were killed. 110,000 Japanese were killed and between 40,000 and 150,000 Okinawans lost their lives.

Realising that an invasion of mainland Japan would lead to an astronomical loss of life on both sides, the decision to drop the first atomic bomb was made. Japan still refused to surrender which led to the dropping of the second bomb which ended the conflict.

Derek Scott

Truth and Tolerance, St Hilda's style

The article in newsletter 14 entitled "Five ways to fight back against fake news" struck a particular chord with me. Not so much for the social media angle – I don't "do" social media - but in respect of the points that were made about listening to and learning from those with whom you disagree and the value of truth.

Back last century in the long-ago mists of time, in the early 1970's, the then curate of St Hilda's, Hugh Bevan (to my eternal shame, I can't actually recall if that's the correct spelling for his surname!) set up a youth discussion group which met on Sunday evenings in members' homes. Originally called Crucifix, subsequently Viewpoint, it brought together the sons and daughters of many of the then stalwarts of St Hilda's – families represented included Bartlett, Beauchamp, Du Bock, Smith (both of my parents, mother particularly, were much involved with St Hilda's), Morris and West amongst others. But it wasn't just St Hilda's people. I'm not sure how or why, but the group attracted quite a few folks who were connected in some way with the Methodist church. And some who were nothing to do with either church but were dragged along by their mates, boyfriends, girlfriends or just got roped in somehow.

Anyway, the discussions and conversations ranged across a very full variety of subject matter and, inevitably, there were some strong disagreements. Not least about politics. I and one other chap in particular were often at the forefront of the political discussions. He, having been brought up in a very leftist household (if I recall correctly, someone in his family had stood for the communist party in the 1945 General Election); me having been brought up in a very Conservative household (my father was a lifelong Conservative activist and supporter). We disagreed profoundly on almost everything that had any sort of political angle. But I

learned a huge amount from him – about his views, why he held them, the philosophy behind them and so on. And I'd like to think that he discovered the same in reverse about what drove my convictions. But however much we disagreed, and whatever harsh words may have been exchanged in the heat of argument, we didn't despise each other for holding different views in the horribly divisive way that so many people sadly seem to do these days. We were actually very good mates, with very similar views on all sorts of other things – proper beer, girls, Chinese food, (some) music, Monty Python and more besides. And thanks to the existence of that group that St Hilda's started, I made lifelong friendships and learned much from people with a different outlook on all sorts of things.



I actually feel very sorry for people who are these days finding themselves in an atmosphere where views different from those they already embrace are rarely heard, who deliberately insulate themselves from anything that may challenge their entrenched opinions. And worse, when different views are expressed, it seems they are not to be respected, explored and learned from as we had the opportunity to do, but used as an excuse for hatred, criticism and in some cases outright bullying and silencing.

The other thing that is very different today is the treatment of facts (definition: "A thing that is known or proved to be true"). Once upon a time, facts were facts. They were indisputable truths. Opinions, of course could vary, and we all know the old adage about lies, damn lies and statistics. But facts, from a reliable source, were acknowledged and whatever side of an argument you were on, facts were, well, facts. We are now in an era of so-called post truth (whatever that means!), where the dismissal of real provable facts that don't suit a particular argument as fake news is commonplace, as are insane conspiracy theories masquerading as facts and an atmosphere wherein statements of irrefutable truth and reality are given no more status than the notion of a flat earth.

That is not the way that democracy and civilised society should operate. Stimulating hatred of those with different views; the drive to suppress and silence those views; the dismissal of things that you don't want to hear or don't fit your storyline as "fake"; the demands to deprive those who hold different views even of their liberty and livelihoods (or, ultimately, lives), is the hallmark of dictatorship – from barking mad Roman Caesars through medieval despots to Hitler, Stalin, Idi Amin and Pol Pot and, latterly, Putin, Erdogan and Xi Jinping.

In today's world, tragically, we seem to be bound headlong towards an Orwellian nightmare where thought crime is becoming a reality; where the inconvenient truths of history are to be rewritten or buried altogether and where those who might seek to challenge this week's groupthink or today's "woke" conventions are to be denied a platform and destroyed.

We are moving from a world in which the norm, as Voltaire is supposed to have said (but actually didn't) was the view that, "I disapprove of what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it" to "If you don't share my views, you are evil and must be silenced". This is just so wrong. I am eternally grateful that in those far-off days of the 70's, Hugh Bevan and those who were fellow participants in the joy and community that was St Hilda's Crucifix Group, taught me the value of respecting, listening to and learning from people with whom I profoundly disagreed. There are far too many people around these days who could really do with trying that sometime.

Steve Smith August 2020



Congratulations!!!

Lots of reasons to celebrate great news within the St Hilda's Family this week.

Karen Smith is thrilled with her new baby granddaughter, Elodie, born on 16th August, weighing in at 7lbs 5oz. Jess is recovering well and she, Nathan as well sister Imogen are adapting well to their new arrival.



Happy Anniversary to Roy and Elsie Stone who are celebrating 65 years of marriage on 20th August.



Bobbie's grandson Ethan achieved 3 A's in his A level results and is now off to study for a BA in Digital Media Culture and Technology at Royal Holloway, whilst his twin brother Cian received 3 distinctions in his BTEC and is about start an apprenticeship in media, they certainly take after their grandmother.

Congratulations to all others who received their grades last week, hopefully they were all that they hoped for, and we wish them all the very best of luck as they continue their studies at university or enter the job market.

Good luck for all those who are eagerly awaiting their GCSE results this week, and again we pray they are what you hoped for.

Tea and Chat after Sunday Service

We would like to invite you to join us for a virtual Tea and Chat after the service on **Sunday 23 August 2020 at 11.15am**. See below on how to join. Any queries please call the Parish Office.

The meeting is hosted by Zoom.

There are 2 ways in which you can join the Tea and Chat session



1. Join via a computer or tablet, for a video style experience (like Skype)

- Download the Zoom app – www.zoom.us
- Click – Join a Meeting
- Enter the Meeting id – **972 6903 3753**
- Enter password – **397497**

2. Join via telephone – cost of a local call.

- Dial – 0203 051 2874
- Enter Meeting Id – **972 6903 3753** – and follow instructions (you will be asked to press # and 1)
- Password – **397497**

More Tea ... – Weekday Tea and Chat

The second of the weekly Tea and chat sessions where you are able to 'meet up' over a cuppa. In this weekly session, we have introduced a topic for discussion – this week's topic is '**where were you on this day in history – 31st August 1997 (the day Princess Diana died)**'.

If you haven't yet joined one of these sessions – give it a try, you can connect either on-line or via the telephone, we would like to see or hear as many of you as possible and encourage you to join us. We encourage all those who haven't yet joined one of the sessions to do so, and if you have any apprehension in doing so, please call the Parish Office and Denise will guide you through the process – it is quite simple once you've done it once.

This week the Tea and Chat will be held on **Tuesday 25 August @ 10.30am**

The codes are as per the following, to join follow the instructions above

- Meeting id – **925 5635 6203**
- Password – **550303**

Canaan Ministries have re-opened, and are following the latest government legislation in relation to the current guidelines on social distancing.

Please note, that due to the size of the shop we will only be able to allow a maximum of three customers in at any one time, and would ask that you limit your visit to a maximum of 15 minutes at a time, and of course ask you NOT to visit, if you are showing any of the symptoms of Covid 19. However, we will be open Monday to Saturday 10am – 5pm (closing during lunchtime 1pm – 2pm), so there will be plenty of time to see and serve everyone. **Free local home delivery is also possible.**

We would like to thank you all for your continued support, and we hope, your much needed support in the future.

Joshua 1: 9 (NRSV)

I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”

Easy Fundraising

Raise funds for St Hilda's while shopping online at no extra cost to yourself.

Use [easyfundraising.org](https://www.easyfundraising.org) and choose St Hilda's as your cause and a percentage of your purchase will be paid to us. Over 4000+ retailers including John Lewis, Argos, M & S, Amazon and Aviva.

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/sthildasashford>

Electoral Roll

If you consider St Hilda's to be your regular place of worship, why not complete an application for enrolment on the Church Electoral Roll. Forms are available from the Parish Office.

Crossroads

Please email Rosemary at crossroads_ashford@hotmail.com if you have anything to be included in the parish magazine. The July/August edition is available on our website.

This weeks services

Sunday Eucharist – 23 August @ 9.30am

This service can be viewed via our Facebook page, our new YouTube channel (St Hilda's Ashford), and Twitter for those of you who are unable to attend in person

Wednesday Eucharist – 26 August @ 9.45am

To attend either service please book a ticket on Eventbrite (link on the website), or call the Parish Office.

Please remember that face coverings are mandatory in Church.

Please see our website (www.sthilda.org) for updates and the weekly service sheet.

Please hold in your prayers and thoughts this week those who are affected by the Corona Virus as well as the family and friends of those below.

The Sick

James Bedford	Jim Hennessey	Delphine Scrivener	Shirley Warrender
Pamela Claridge	Libby Mills	Riley Shaw	Chick Wilson
Robb Clarke	Raymond Nation	Anne Shenton	Peter Wilson
Rebecca Cohen	Michael O'Hagan	Elsie Stone	Jo Wood
Ann Considine	June Prentice	Roy Stone	Nic
Chris Davenport	John Radford	Sandra Swain	Martyn
Michael Dixon	Elizabeth Savill-Burgess	Rev. Peter Taylor	

The Recently Departed

Audrey Cummins

Prayer

Let your merciful ears, O Lord,
be open to the prayers of your humble
servants;
and that they may obtain their petitions
make them to ask such things as shall
please you;
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.
Amen

Puzzle Page

Wordsnake

E	I	D	N	A	C	E	L	T
S	T	R	E	L	K	C	O	A
C	A	A	C	K	E	F	C	V
F	R	Y	E	B	T	E	R	A
L	A	N	A	C	H	I	H	C
A	D	E	D	R	N	I	A	R
L	L	M	S	E	K	F	L	E
O	I	O	K	C	O	F	U	M
N	C	H	E	R	L	L	A	R

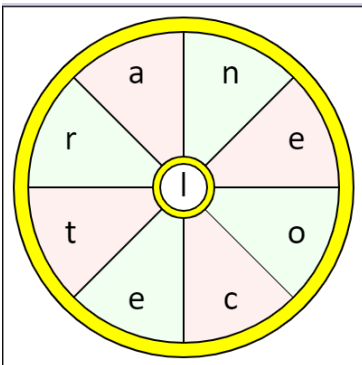
Instructions

Can you find 13 words relating to the subject 'Things worn around the neck'? Start at the Red letter and follow a path, until all the letters are used. The first word is 'Tie'.

Os and Xs

	X	X			X		O	O
						X		
			X					
	O							
							X	
								O
							O	
O	O							

Word Wheel



How many words can you find using the centre letter? There is one 9 letter word, part of the article title by Steve Smith.

Instructions

Complete the grid using 'O' and 'X' symbols without placing three Os or Xs in a line (horizontally, vertically or diagonally) anywhere within the grid.

Riddle

Which word that begins with the letter 'I', and by adding the letter 'A', becomes a new word that is pronounced the same?

Answers from last week

Letter Slide

P					I
R	A	C	K	E	D
I			E		E
E	N	I	G	M	A
D		V			S
		Y			

Sudoku

2	5	4	3	9	6	8	1	7
8	9	3	1	7	4	5	6	2
7	6	1	8	2	5	9	4	3
4	8	9	6	5	2	3	7	1
5	1	7	4	3	8	6	2	9
3	2	6	7	1	9	4	8	5
1	7	8	9	6	3	2	5	4
9	4	5	2	8	7	1	3	6
6	3	2	5	4	1	7	9	8

Word Wheel

10 letter word – **Summertime**

Riddle

Starting, Staring, String, Sting, Sing, Sin, In, I