

# ST HILDA'S ASHFORD



## PARISH EUCHARIST

### THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

THIS SERVICE IS BEING LIVE STREAMED VIA THE  
ST HILDA'S FACEBOOK PAGE

<https://www.facebook.com/StHildaAshford/>

## Gaudete Sunday

The third Sunday of Advent is known as “Gaudete Sunday.”

Its name is taken from the entrance antiphon of the Mass, which is:

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice.

Indeed, the Lord is near.

This is a quotation from [Philippians 4:4-5](#), and in Latin, the first word of the antiphon is *gaudete* (Latin, “rejoice”; it's also pronounced with three syllables: *gau-de-te*)

Advent is the season of preparing for the arrival of the Lord Jesus, and by the third Sunday of Advent, we are most of the way through the season. Thus it is appropriate to rejoice as we see the goal of the season approaching: “The Lord is near.”

## **The Greeting**

In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**All Amen**

The Lord be with you

**All and also with you.**

*Words of welcome or introduction are said.*

## **The Lighting of the Advent Candles**

### *The Third Candle*

The third candle is pink and symbolizes joy. It is called the “Shepard’s Candle,” and is pink because rose is a liturgical color for joy. The third Sunday of Advent is Gaudete Sunday and is meant to remind us of the joy that the world experienced at the birth of Jesus, as well as the joy that the faithful have reached the midpoint of Advent.

### **Prayer of Preparation – *Sit or kneel***

**All Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you,  
and worthily magnify your holy name;  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

## **Prayers of Penitence**

Let us hear our Lord’s blessing on those who follow him.

Blessed are the poor in spirit,  
**for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

Blessed are those who mourn,  
**for they shall be comforted.**

Blessed are the meek,  
**for they shall inherit the earth.**

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness,  
**for they shall be satisfied.**

Blessed are the merciful,  
**for they shall obtain mercy.**

Blessed are the pure in heart,  
**for they shall see God.**

Blessed are the peacemakers,  
**for they shall be called children of God.**

Blessed are those who suffer persecution for righteousness' sake,  
**for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

When the Lord comes,  
he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness,  
and will disclose the purposes of the heart.

*(Silent reflection)*

In the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

**O King enthroned on high,  
filling the earth with your glory:  
holy is your name,  
Lord God almighty.  
In our sinfulness we cry to you  
to take our guilt away,  
and to cleanse our lips to speak your word,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
who in his great mercy  
has promised forgiveness of sins  
to all those who with heartfelt repentance and true faith  
turn to him: have mercy on you,  
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,  
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,  
and bring you to everlasting life,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All Amen.**

**The Collect** - *The Collect for the Week is said after a moment of silence*

God for whom we watch and wait,  
you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son:  
give us courage to speak the truth,  
to hunger for justice,  
and to suffer for the cause of right,  
with Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All Amen.**

## **THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

### **Old Testament Reading – Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-end**

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me,  
because the Lord has anointed me;  
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,  
to bind up the brokenhearted,  
to proclaim liberty to the captives,  
and release to the prisoners;  
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor,  
and the day of vengeance of our God;  
to comfort all who mourn;  
to provide for those who mourn in Zion—  
to give them a garland instead of ashes,  
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,

the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.  
They will be called oaks of righteousness,  
the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.  
They shall build up the ancient ruins,  
they shall raise up the former devastations;  
they shall repair the ruined cities,  
the devastations of many generations.

For I the Lord love justice,  
I hate robbery and wrongdoing;  
I will faithfully give them their recompense,  
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.  
Their descendants shall be known among the nations,  
and their offspring among the peoples;  
all who see them shall acknowledge  
that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed.  
I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,  
my whole being shall exult in my God;  
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,  
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,  
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,  
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.  
For as the earth brings forth its shoots,  
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,  
so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise  
to spring up before all the nations.

*At the end the reader says*

This is the word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

### **New Testament Reading – 1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24**

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do

not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil.

May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

*At the end the reader says*

This is the word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

### **Gospel Reading – John 1: 6-8, 19-28**

*When the Gospel is announced the reader says*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

**All Glory to you, O Lord.**

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, “I am not the Messiah.” And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the prophet?” He answered, “No.” Then they said to him, “Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?” He said,

“I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness,  
‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’”

as the prophet Isaiah said.

Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, “Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?” John answered them, “I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.” This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All Praise to you, O Christ.**

**The Sermon** – *All sit*

**The Creed** – *All Stand*

Let us declare our faith in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**All** I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.  
Amen.

**Prayers of Intercession** – *We sit or kneel*

In joyful expectation of his coming to our aid  
we pray to Jesus.

*The prayers end with the following:*

Merciful Father

**All** accept these prayers  
for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
Amen.

## THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

**The Peace** — *All stand*

In the tender mercy of our God,  
the dayspring from on high shall break upon us,  
to give light to those who dwell in darkness  
and in the shadow of death  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**All** and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*All may exchange a sign of peace.*

*The table is prepared, and bread and wine are placed upon it.*

As this bread was scattered  
and then gathered and made one,  
so may your Church be gathered into your Kingdom.

**All** Glory to you, O God, for ever.

Wisdom has built her a house;  
she has mixed her wine; she has set her table.  
Glory to you, O God, for ever.

**All** Amen.

### The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you

**All** and also with you

Lift up your hearts.

**All We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right,  
it is our duty and our joy,  
at all times and in all places  
to give you thanks and praise,  
holy Father, heavenly King,  
almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

And now we give you thanks  
because you sent him to redeem us from sin and death  
and to make us inheritors of everlasting life;  
that when he shall come again in power and great triumph  
to judge the world,  
we may with joy behold his appearing,  
and in confidence may stand before him.

Therefore with angels and archangels,  
and with all the company of heaven,  
we proclaim your great and glorious name,  
for ever praising you and *saying*:

**All Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord;  
Hosanna in the Highest.**

All glory be to you, our heavenly Father,  
who, in your tender mercy,  
gave your only Son our Saviour Jesus Christ  
to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption;

who made there by his one oblation of himself once offered  
a full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice, oblation and satisfaction  
for the sins of the whole world;  
he instituted, and in his holy gospel commanded us to continue,  
a perpetual memory of his precious death until he comes again.

Hear us, merciful Father, we humbly pray,  
and grant that, by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
we receiving these gifts of your creation, this bread and this wine,  
according to your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution,  
in remembrance of his death and passion,  
may be partakers of his most blessed body and blood;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,  
took bread and gave you thanks;  
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
*Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.*

In the same way, after supper  
he took the cup and gave you thanks;  
he gave it to them, saying:  
*Drink this, all of you;  
this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it,  
in remembrance of me.*

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died:**

**Christ is risen:**

**Christ will come again.**

Therefore, Lord and heavenly Father,  
in remembrance of the precious death and passion,  
the mighty resurrection and glorious ascension  
of your dear Son Jesus Christ,  
we offer you through him this our sacrifice of praise

and thanksgiving.

Grant that by his merits and death,  
and through faith in his blood,  
we and all your Church may receive forgiveness of our sins  
and all other benefits of his passion.

Although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins,  
to offer you any sacrifice,  
yet we pray that you will accept this  
the duty and service that we owe.

Do not weigh our merits, but pardon our offences,  
and fill us all who share in this holy communion  
with your grace and heavenly blessing;

through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,  
for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

*(Silent reflection)*

Awaiting his coming in glory,  
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

## **The Lord's Prayer**

**All Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done;  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever.**

**Amen.**

## **Breaking of the Bread**

*The president breaks the consecrated bread.*

We break this bread  
to share in the body of Christ.

**All Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

## **Agnus Dei**

**Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
grant us peace.**

## **Giving of Communion**

Jesus is the Lamb of God  
who takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**All Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

*The people and president receive communion.*

## **Prayer after Communion**

*Silence is kept after which the Post-Communion prayer is said.*

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts;  
kindle in us the fire of your Spirit  
that when your Christ comes again  
we may shine as lights before his face;  
who is alive and reigns now and for ever.

**All Amen**

Father of all,  
we give you thanks and praise,  
that when we were still far off  
you met us in your Son and brought us home.  
Dying and living, he declared your love,  
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.  
Amen

*Notices are given.*

## **THE DISMISSAL**

### **Blessing**

May God the Father, judge all-merciful,  
make us worthy of a place in his kingdom.

**Amen.**

May God the Son, coming among us in power,  
reveal in our midst the promise of his glory.

**Amen.**

May God the Holy Spirit make us steadfast in faith,  
joyful in hope and constant in love.

**Amen.**

and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

Our Lord says, 'I am coming soon.'

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

May the Lord, when he comes,  
**find us watching and waiting.**  
**Amen.**

## **SERVICE TIMES THIS WEEK**

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December 4pm (Christingle)**

**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December 9.45am**

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December 9.30am**

The Sunday service is livestreamed and can be viewed later our Facebook page

### **Please remember in your prayers this week:**

#### **THE SICK:**

|                |                          |                   |
|----------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| James Bedford  | Jane Johnson             | Roy Stone         |
| Michael Browne | Libby Mills              | Sandra Swain      |
| Robb Clarke    | Raymond Nation           | Rev. Peter Taylor |
| Rebecca Cohen  | June Prentice            | Chick Wilson      |
| Ann Considine  | John Radford             | Peter Wilson      |
| Michael Dixon  | Elizabeth Savill-Burgess | Jo Wood           |
| Peter Garner   | Delphine Scrivener       | Nic               |
| Eileen Gilbert | Riley Shaw               | Martyn            |
| Jim Hennessey  | Anne Shenton             | Joey              |
| Jean Iddiols   | Elsie Stone              | Erin              |

#### **RECENTLY DEPARTED**

Pamela Claridge

#### **THOSE IN OUR MEMORIAL BOOK THIS WEEK**

|                          |                       |                            |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| William Douglas Franklin | Herbert Jack Cole     | Kathleen Ivy Benge         |
| Violet Varley Pradey     | Florence May Oldfield | William Arthur Hearn       |
| Paula Scotchford         | Gordon Firth          | Sydney Albert William Byne |
| Tom Pradey               | Ronald Francis        | Lionel Eldred Fulton       |
| Thomas John Taverner     | Nan Purvey            | Yerolemos G Pouffou        |
| Cyril Holliday           | Verna Rose Bembridge  | Norman Alfred Why          |

**Please pray for those affected by the Corona Virus**

## NOTICES

The Parish Office is closed to visitors, we are still available by phone daily. Please note we now have a new office email [sthilda28@gmail.com](mailto:sthilda28@gmail.com) or continue to use [office@sthilda.org](mailto:office@sthilda.org)

### **Church Opening**

St Hilda's is now open for public worship services please book via the website links or contact the office.

### **St Hilda's Memorial Tree**

We would like to thank Waitrose, Egham for their kind donation again this year of a Christmas Tree for our Memorial Tree. The Church will be open between 10.30am – 11.30am each Saturday up until Christmas so that you can come in to dedicate a star on the tree. Please bring your own pen (there will be a supply of stars but feel free to bring your own).

### **Salvation Army appeal**

The Salvation Army are also supporting local families in need with hampers on Christmas day contributions can also be made at the just giving link or food donations suitable for an afternoon tea style hamper.

[www.justgiving.com/fundraising/staineschristmasappeal](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/staineschristmasappeal) or  
<https://bit.ly/36h90hi>

### **Holy Land Pilgrimage – 15<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

A new date for the pilgrimage has been set, there is an information sheet available at the rear of the Church which gives further details of the pilgrimage and how to book.

### **St Hilda's News**

Please do send reflections, stories and others to Denise at the Parish Office. It can be a short piece, but the more variety we have the more interesting for everybody. The deadline for the week is midday Tuesday.

### **Sunday Tea & Chat & More Tea (midweek)**

After the service at 11.15am on Sunday and 10.30am on Tuesdays the zoom codes are in the newsletter. If unsure please call the office.

### **Crossroads**

Please email Rosemary at [crossroads\\_ashford@hotmail.com](mailto:crossroads_ashford@hotmail.com) if you have anything you would like to include in the parish magazine. The December issue is now on the website



*St Hilda's would like to offer you a warm welcome to our church this Christmas. All Christmas services are now open to book.*

**December 13<sup>th</sup> (4pm)**

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

**December 24<sup>th</sup>**

**(3pm) CRIB SERVICE**

**(11pm) FIRST MASS OF CHRISTMAS**

**December 25<sup>th</sup> (9.30am)**

EUCCHARIST

**DUE TO CORONA VIRUS TRACK & TRACE RULES ATTENDANCE AT ALL SERVICES MUST BE PRE-BOOKED VIA TICKET TAILOR OR BY CONTACTING THE PARISH OFFICE ON 01784 253525**

**THE WEARING OF MASKS IS MANDATORY IN CHURCH**

## Contact Information

### Vicar

Fr Joseph Fernandes

[vicar@sthilda.org](mailto:vicar@sthilda.org)

Vicarage 01784 254237

Parish Office 01784 253525

Mobile 07999 053433

### Licenced Lay Ministers

Carolyn Clark [carolyn@sthilda.org](mailto:carolyn@sthilda.org)

Rosalyn Young [rosalyn@sthilda.org](mailto:rosalyn@sthilda.org)

### Churchwardens

Bobbie Bedford

Frances Forsbrey

### PCC Secretary

Denise Buttigieg

### PCC Treasurer

Darran Buttigieg

### Parish Administrator

Denise Buttigieg

### Church Hall Bookings

Please contact the Parish Office

### The Parish Office:

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