

St Hilda's Ashford



PARISH EUCHARIST

MOTHERING SUNDAY

This service is being live streamed via the st hilda's facebook page
<https://www.facebook.com/StHildaAshford/>

Today is Mothering Sunday. Traditionally, this Sunday has been a day of celebration, within the austere period of Lent. It is *Laetare* Sunday. The word comes from the Latin *laetare*, the singular imperative of *laetari*: "to rejoice". It gets its name from the first few words (incipit) of the traditional Latin entrance (Introit) for the Mass of the day. "Laetare Jerusalem" ("Rejoice, O Jerusalem") is Latin from Isaiah 66:10. It is also known as Rose Sunday, either because the golden rose sent by Popes to Catholic sovereigns used to be blessed at this time, or because the use of rose-coloured (rather than purple) vestments permitted on this day.

THE GATHERING

Introit Hymn

Angel voices ever singing
 Round thy throne of light,
Angel harps, forever ringing,
 Rest not day or night;
Thousands only live to bless thee,
 And confess thee
 Lord of might.

Thou who art beyond the farthest
 Mortal eye can scan,
Can it be that thou regardest
 Songs of sinful man?
Can we feel that thou art near us
 And wilt hear us?
 Yea, we can.

For we know that thou rejoicest
 O'er each work of thine;
Thou didst ears and hands and voices
 For thy praise design;
Craftsman's art and music's measure
 For thy pleasure
 All combine.

In thy house, great God, we offer
 Of thine own to thee;
And for thine acceptance proffer
 All unworthily
Hearts and minds and hands and voices
 In our choicest
 Psalmody.

**Honour, glory, might and merit,
Thine shall ever be,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
Blessed Trinity;
Of the best which thou hast given
Earth and Heaven
Render thee.**

Francis Pott

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 may be said.

Prayer of Preparation

All Loving, compassionate Father,
As a mother hen gathers her chicks,
So you draw the whole human faith to yourself.
Bring us together now, Lord,
that we may today and forever be untied under your wing
in all sorrows and joys.

Amen

Invitation to confession

When the Lord comes, he will bring to light the things now
hidden in darkness, and will disclose the purposes of the heart.
Therefore, in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

Silence for reflection

Your love gives us life from the moment of conception.
We fail to live as your children.
Lord, have mercy.
All Lord, have mercy.

You call us to do good. We seek our own good.
Christ, have mercy.
All Christ have mercy.

You hear us when we cry for help. We ignore the cries of
others.
Lord, have mercy.
All Lord, have mercy.

May the Father of all mercies
cleanse *us* from *our* sins,
and restore *us* in his image
to the praise and glory of his name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Collect

God of love,
passionate and strong,
tender and careful:
watch over us and hold us
all the days of our life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading – Exodus 2: 1 – 10

Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. "This must be one of the Hebrews' children," she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?" Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Yes." So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, "because," she said, "I drew him out of the water."

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading – 2 Corinthians 1: 3 – 7

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God. For just as the sufferings of

Christ are abundant for us, so also our consolation is abundant through Christ. If we are being afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation; if we are being consoled, it is for your consolation, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we are also suffering. Our hope for you is unshaken; for we know that as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our consolation.

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading – Luke 2: 33 – 35

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

The Lord is a great God, O that today you would listen to his voice. Harden not your hearts.

All **Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

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

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

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

The Creed

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

All **We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.
We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.
We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.
We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

We pray to the Lord for courage to give up other things
and to give ourselves to him this Lent.

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

The Peace

Blessed are the peacemakers: they shall be called children of
God.

We meet in the name of Christ and share his peace.

All The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.
Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

Offertory Hymn

**Faithful Shepherd, feed me
In the pastures green;
Faithful Shepherd, lead me
Where thy steps are seen.**

**Hold me fast, and guide me
In the narrow way;
So, with thee beside me,
I shall never stray.**

**Daily bring me nearer
To the heavenly shore;
May my faith grow clearer,
May I love thee more.**

**Hallow every pleasure,
Every gift and pain;
Be thyself my treasure,
Though none else I gain.**

**Day by day prepare me
As thou seest best,
Then let angels bear me
To thy promised rest.**

T B Pollock

Taking of the Bread and Wine

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.

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

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here.

All **His Spirit is with us.**

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.**

Blessed are you, Lord God,
our light and our salvation;
to you be glory and praise for ever.

From the beginning you have created all things
and all your works echo the silent music of your praise.

In the fullness of time you made us in your image,
the crown of all creation.

You give us breath and speech, that with angels and archangels
and all the powers of heaven
we may find a voice to sing your praise:

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.

How wonderful the work of your hands, O Lord.
As a mother tenderly gathers her children,

you embraced a people as your own.
When they turned away and rebelled
your love remained steadfast.
From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour, born of Mary,
to be the living bread,
in whom all our hungers are satisfied.
He offered his life for sinners,
and with a love stronger than death
he opened wide his arms on the cross.

On the night before he died,
he came to supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he gave you thanks.
He broke it and gave it to them, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,
he gave you thanks, and said:
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:

All

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

Father, we plead with confidence
his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross;
we remember his dying and rising in glory,
and we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand.
Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you
these gifts of your creation;
may they be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence,

form us in the likeness of Christ,
and build us into a living temple to your glory.
Remember, Lord, your Church in every land.
Reveal her unity, guard her faith,
and preserve her in peace.
Bring us at the last with St Hilda and all the saints
to the vision of that eternal splendour
for which you have created us;

through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
by whom, with whom, and in whom,
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting
praise:

All **Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever.
Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Standing at the foot of the cross, and as our Saviour taught us,
so we pray:

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 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

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

All **Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.**

The people and president receive communion.

Communion Hymns

**The King of love my Shepherd is,
Whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his
And he is mine forever.**

**Where streams of living water flow
My ransomed soul he leadeth,
And where the verdant pastures grow,
With food celestial feedeth.**

**Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,
But yet in love he sought me,
And on his shoulder gently laid,
And home, rejoicing, brought me.**

In death's dark vale I fear no ill

With thee, dear Lord, beside me;
Thy rod and staff my comfort still,
Thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spread'st a table in my sight;
Thy unction grace bestoweth;
And O what transport of delight
From thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
Within thy house forever.

H. W. Baker

Sing we of the blessèd Mother
Who received the angel's word,
And obedient to his summons
Bore in love the infant Lord;
Sing we of the joys of Mary
At whose breast that child was fed
Who is Son of God eternal
And the everlasting Bread.

Sing we, too, of Mary's sorrows,
Of the sword that pierced her through,
When beneath the cross of Jesus
She his weight of suffering knew,
Looked upon her Son and Saviour
Reigning high on Calvary's tree,
Saw the price of man's redemption
Paid to set the sinner free.

Sing again the joys of Mary
When she saw the risen Lord,
And in prayer with Christ's apostles,

**Waited on his promised word:
From on high the blazing glory
Of the Spirit's presence came,
Heavenly breath of God's own being,
Manifest through wind and flame.**

**Sing the chiefest joy of Mary
When on earth her work was done,
And the Lord of all creation
Brought her to his heavenly home:
Virgin Mother, Mary blessed,
Raised on high and crowned with grace,
May thy Son, the world's redeemer,
Grant us all to see his face.**

*G B Timms © Words: 1975 English Hymnal Company (Oxford University Press);
Music: 1942, Renewed 1970 Oxford University Press*

Prayer after Communion

Loving God,
as a mother feeds her children at the breast
you feed us in this sacrament with the food and drink of
eternal life: help us who have tasted your goodness
to grow in grace within the household of faith;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen**

All **Faithful God, in baptism you have adopted us as your
children, made us members of the body of Christ and chosen
us as inheritors of your kingdom: we thank you that in this
Eucharist you renew your promises within us, empower us by
your Spirit to witness and to serve, and send us out as
disciples of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Notices

Blessing

May the Lord who brought us all to birth, strengthen us for daily life.

May the Lord who provides for all our needs sustain us day by day.

May the Lord whose steadfast love is for all, send us out to live and work for others.

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

All **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Recessional Hymn

I cannot tell how he whom angels worship
Should stoop to love the peoples of the earth,
Or why as shepherd he should seek the wand'rer
With his mysterious promise of new birth.
But this I know, that he was born of Mary,
When Bethl'em's manger was his only home,
And that he lived at Nazareth and laboured,
And so the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is come.

I cannot tell how silently he suffered,
As with his peace he graced this place of tears,
Or how his heart upon the cross was broken,
The crown of pain to three and thirty years.
But this I know, he heals the broken-hearted,
And stays our sin, and calms our lurking fear,
And lifts the burden from the heavy laden,
For yet the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is here.

I cannot tell how he will win the nations,
How he will claim his earthly heritage,
How satisfy the needs and aspirations
Of east and west, of sinner and of sage.
But this I know, all flesh shall see his glory,
And he shall reap the harvest he has sown,
And some glad day his sun shall shine in splendour
When he the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is known.

I cannot tell how all the lands shall worship,
When, at his bidding, ev'ry storm is stilled,
Or who can say how great the jubilation
When ev'ry heart with perfect love is filled.
But this I know, the skies will thrill with rapture,
And myriad, myriad human voices sing,
And earth to heav'n, and heav'n to earth, will answer:
"At last the Saviour, Saviour of the world is King!"

*William Young Fullerton© Words: Public Domain;
Music: 1996 Kevin Mayhew Ltd*

The ministers and people depart.

SERVICE TIMES

Wednesday 30th March 11am

Sunday 3rd April 8am (Book of Common Prayer)

Sunday 3rd April 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	Pat Kyle	Rev. Peter Taylor
Robb Clarke	Pauline Lewis	Carla Wells
Ann Considine	Chris Maddock	Sheila West
Julia Cowley	Mrs McCammon	Philip Willerton
Michael Dixon	Libby Mills	Chick Wilson
Anna Elwell	Raymond Nation	Peter Wilson
Jack Everett	Pat Parish	Jo Wood
Peter Garner	Peggy Pinfold	Erin
Eileen Gilbert	Elizabeth Savill-Burgess	Izzy
Juilet Griffith	Delphine Scrivener	Nic
Alison Griffiths	Riley Shaw	Baby Reuben
Vicky Hall	Emily Smith	Bob
Jean Iddiols	Elsie Stone	Margaret
Jane Johnson	Roy Stone	

THE RECENTLY DEPARTED

George Nicholas	Rita Wright	Joyce Scott
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THOSE IN OUR MEMORIAL BOOK THIS WEEK

Robert John Hands	Kathleen Mildred G Nunn	Brian Sidney Pinfold
Glyn Bickerdike	Fred Veitch	Thomas Charles McLennan
Dorothy Hollister	Doris Sims	Mary Straughan
Iris Muriel Anne Hands	Patricia Myrtle Oldfield	

Please pray for our ALMA twin parish, Holy Cross Murrupula, who have suffered after cyclone Gumba

NOTICES

The Parish Office is available by phone weekdays 9am – 5pm

Church Opening

St Hilda's is open for public worship services.

We are no longer operating a ticket booking system for services, however, it will remain in place for Church events for catering purposes. Masks are optional.

Following the teaching of 'Loving thy Neighbour' - If you feel unwell, we ask that you do not attend so that we can maintain the health and safety of all who attend the services.

Food Bank Donations

Please use the wooden chest at the rear of the Church to place any donations for the local food bank, such as tinned and dried goods and toiletries.

Ambling through Acts course – Thursday 7th April

(7:30pm on the first Thursday of each month)

Led by Fr Steve, a study of the Acts of the Apostles will entail a close reading of the text. We will see the unfolding story of the beginnings of the church through the eyes of the writer, try to discern his purposes, discover new things, and learn that though the context has changed, human nature remains much the same. Hence, the struggles of those first followers may find resonances in our own day as we live out our individual lives of discipleship and participate together in the life of the church.

Everyone is very welcome to attend. There will be refreshments at the end. We will finish by saying Compline (Night Prayer) together round about 9pm. I hope to see you there. Please bring a bible – ideally the NRSV, but any version will do.

Mayor's Brass Band Concert Saturday 9th April at 7.30pm

Staines Lammas Brass Band and the Mayor of Spelthorne invite you to the Mayor's Concert on Saturday 9th April at 7.30pm in St Hilda's Church. Tickets at £10 are available on www.stainesbrassband.co.uk or by phoning 07811 927410.

If you have a query about the evening, please contact Chris Davenport.

Good Friday Children's Workshop

On Good Friday, April 15th from 12noon until 3pm there will be a Children's Workshop including craft, music and worship in the Church Hall. The children need to bring a packed lunch in a clearly named container – we will provide drinks. Children under 5 should be accompanied by an adult. Please ensure all children have an up to date identification form detailing current emergency contacts. To enrol please go to the web site and follow the link.

Christine Taylor and the Junior Church team

Easter Lilies

We will be having our traditional display from Easter Sunday, if you would like to purchase a lily in memory of a loved one please complete the form which can be found at the rear of the church and return it to the parish office by Palm Sunday (10th April).

The flower team will be arranging the Easter lilies in Church on Easter Saturday, 16th April, from 9.30am. We would be grateful for any greenery you can spare from your gardens and if you would like to help arrange the lilies but are not on the flower team we would love to see you, many hands make light work as the saying goes. You can contact Pauline on 01932 785327 if you have any questions.

If you previously dedicated a lily or sponsored a poppy during the Covid lockdown then the money already given for these is being transferred to dedicate a lily in this display.

Feed my Sheep –Tuesday 26th April 2.30pm – 4pm

The theme is Prayers and Praying.

Community Lunch – every Wednesday

Join us for the Community Lunch at midday. If you are able to come forward and help, even once a month, please do liaise with Bobbie.

Bible Study – every Wednesday

Bible Study group meet in Church at 7.30pm. All welcome.

Paving Slabs needed

If anyone has any spare slabs that could be used in the Memorial Garden, please see Paula Gething.

Pilgrimage to Westminster Abbey – Date TBC

A parish pilgrimage is being arranged to Westminster Abbey, please sign up on the sheet at the rear of the Church or contact the office. A date will be arranged if we have enough interest.

St Hilda's News

The next issue will be in April. We are still looking for a new editor(s) to take over.

Sponsor a church chair

It is not too late to sponsor a chair or a trolley as we would still like purchase more.

If you can help, please complete the form at the rear of the Church.

- £90 covers the cost of a chair
- £225 covers the cost of a stacking trolley

Easter Services at St Hilda's



Palm Sunday 10th April
Parish Eucharist 9.30am

11th, 12th & 13th April
Compline 7.30pm – 8pm

Good Friday 15th April
Stations of the Cross 10am – 5pm
Junior Church – 12 - 3pm
Proclamation of the Cross – 3pm

Easter Day
Parish Eucharist – 9.30am

CHURCHES TOGETHER WALK OF WITNESS – 10.40am (meet at St Hilda's to walk into Ashford. Service at 11am)

Contact Information

Vicar

Fr Joseph Fernandes

vicar@sthilda.org

Vicarage 01784 254237

Parish Office 01784 253525

Mobile 07999 053433

Licenced Lay Ministers

Carolyn Clark carolyn@sthilda.org

Rosalyn Young rosalyn@sthilda.org

Churchwardens

Bobbie Bedford

Frances Forsbrey

PCC Secretary

Denise Buttigieg

PCC Treasurer

Darran Buttigieg

Parish Administrator

Denise Buttigieg

Church Hall Bookings

Chris Davenport

01784 252170

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