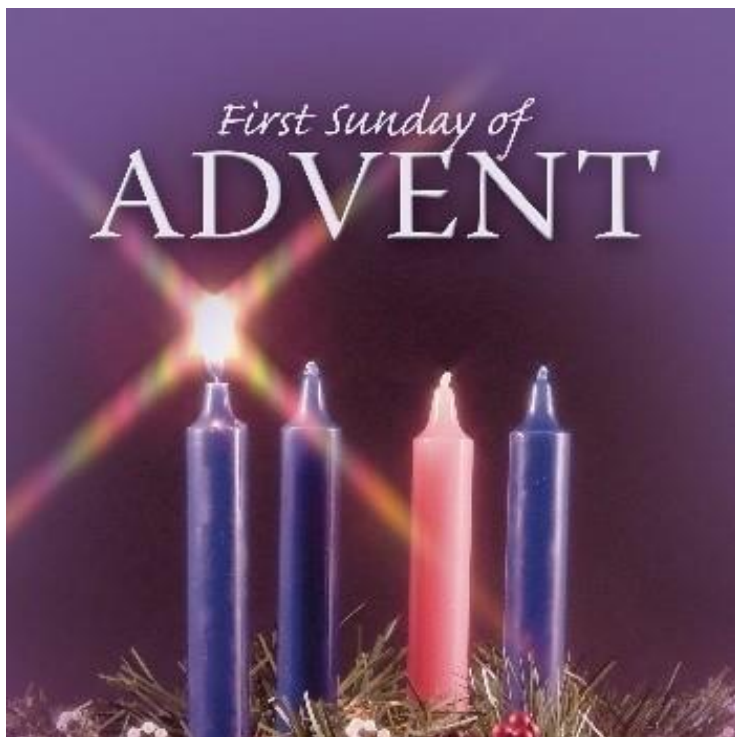


# ST HILDA'S ASHFORD



**ADVENT SUNDAY**

**2022**

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



# **THE GATHERING**

## **Introit Hymn**

Hark a herald voice is calling:  
    'Christ is nigh,' it seems to say;  
'Cast away the dreams of darkness,  
    O ye children of the day!'

Startled at the solemn warning,  
    Let the earth-bound soul arise;  
Christ her Sun, all sloth dispelling,  
    Shines upon the morning skies.

Lo! the Lamb so long expected,  
    Comes with pardon down from heaven;  
Let us haste, with tears of sorrow,  
    One and all to be forgiven;

So when next he comes with glory,  
    And earth's final hour draws near,  
May he then as our defender  
    On the clouds of heaven appear.

Honour, glory, virtue, merit,  
    To the Father and the Son,  
With the co-eternal Spirit,  
    While unending ages run.

*[from the Latin, tr. E. Caswall]*

## **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; we pray with Junior Church.*

## **The Lighting of the Advent Candle**

*First Candle - The prophets of the Old Testament, especially Isaiah, who foretold the birth of Jesus.*

Today is the First Sunday of Advent and we will light the first candle for hope.

*We light the first candle*

## **Prayer of Preparation**

**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 are said after a moment of silence*

Almighty God,  
give us grace to cast away the works of darkness  
and to put on the armour of light,  
now in the time of this mortal life,  
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility;  
that on the last day,  
when he shall come again in his glorious majesty  
to judge the living and the dead,  
we may rise to the life immortal;  
through him who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

### Old Testament Reading – Isaiah 2 vv 1 - 5

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come  
the mountain of the Lord's house  
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,  
and shall be raised above the hills;  
all the nations shall stream to it.  
Many peoples shall come and say,  
'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,  
to the house of the God of Jacob;  
that he may teach us his ways  
and that we may walk in his paths.'  
For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,  
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.  
He shall judge between the nations,  
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;  
they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,  
and their spears into pruning-hooks;  
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,  
neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob,  
come, let us walk  
in the light of the Lord!

*At the end the reader may say*

This is the word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

## **New Testament Reading** – Romans 13 vv 11 - 14

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

*At the end the reader may say*

This is the word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel Reading** – Matthew 24 vv 36 - 44

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

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

‘But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner



of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

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

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.*

## Offertory Hymn

*During this hymn a collection will be taken*

The Lord will come and not be slow;  
His footsteps cannot err;  
Before him righteousness shall go,  
His royal harbinger.

Truth from the earth, like to a flower,  
Shall bud and blossom then,  
And justice, from her heavenly bower,  
Look down on mortal men.

Rise, God, judge thou the earth in might,  
This wicked earth redress;  
For thou art he who shalt by right  
The nations all possess.

The nations all whom thou hast made  
Shall come, and all shall frame  
To bow them low before thee, Lord!  
And glorify thy Name!

For great thou art, and wonders great  
By thy strong hand are done:  
Thou in thy everlasting seat  
Remainest God alone.

*[John Milton]*

*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.**

## **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.**

**All You embraced us as your children  
and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.**

In Christ you shared our life  
that we might live in him and he in us.

**All He opened his arms of love upon the cross  
and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.**

On the night he was betrayed,  
at supper with his friends  
he took bread, and 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.*

**All Father, we do this in remembrance of him:  
his body is the bread of life.**

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 for the forgiveness of sins;  
do this in remembrance of me.*

**All Father, we do this in remembrance of him:  
his blood is shed for all.**

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory,  
send your Holy Spirit ☩ that this bread and this wine  
may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son.

**All As we eat and drink these holy gifts  
make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.**

With your whole Church throughout the world  
we offer you this sacrifice of praise  
and lift our voice to join the eternal song of heaven:

**All Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

*(Silent reflection)*

## **The Lord's Prayer**

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour taught us:

**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**

Draw near with faith.  
Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ  
which he gave for you,  
and his blood which he shed for you.  
Eat and drink  
in remembrance that he died for you,  
and feed on him in your hearts  
by faith with thanksgiving.

**All** Most merciful Lord,  
your love compels us to come in.  
Our hands were unclean,  
our hearts were unprepared;  
we were not fit  
even to eat the crumbs from under your table.  
But you, Lord, are the God of our salvation,  
and share your bread with sinners.  
So cleanse and feed us  
with the precious body and blood of your Son,  
that he may live in us and we in him;  
and that we, with the whole company of Christ,  
may sit and eat in your kingdom.  
Amen.

*The president and people receive communion.*

## **Communion Hymns**

**Carol:** This is the truth sent from above

**Come, thou Redeemer of the earth,  
And manifest thy virgin-birth:  
Let every age adoring fall,  
Such birth befits the God of all.**

**Begotten of no human will,  
But of the Spirit, thou art still  
The Word of God, in flesh arrayed,  
The Saviour, now to us displayed.**

O equal to thy Father, thou!  
Gird on thy fleshly mantle now,  
The weakness of our mortal state  
With deathless might invigorate.

Thy cradle here shall glitter bright,  
And darkness glow with new-born light,  
No more shall night extinguish day,  
Where love's bright beams their power display.

O Jesu, Virgin-born, to thee  
Eternal praise and glory be,  
Whom with the Father we adore  
And Holy Spirit, evermore.

*[St. Ambrose, tr. J. M. Neale]*

Taizé: **Wait for the Lord, his day is near  
Wait for the Lord, be strong, take heart.**

## **Prayers after Communion**

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

O Lord our God,  
make us watchful and keep us faithful  
as we await the coming of your Son our Lord;  
that, when he shall appear,  
he may not find us sleeping in sin  
but active in his service  
and joyful in his praise;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All Amen.**



**All** Almighty God,  
we thank you for feeding us  
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.  
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies  
to be a living sacrifice.

Send us out in the power of your Spirit  
to live and work to your praise and glory.  
**Amen**

*Notices*

## **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**

## Recessional Hymn

Hills of the North, rejoice,  
    Echoing songs arise,  
Hail with united voice  
    Him who made earth and skies:  
He comes in righteousness and love,  
He brings salvation from above.

Isles of the Southern seas,  
    Sing to the listening earth,  
Carry on every breeze  
    Hope of a world's new birth:  
In Christ shall all be made anew,  
His word is sure, his promise true.

Lands of the East, arise,  
    He is your brightest morn,  
Greet him with joyous eyes,  
    Praise shall his path adorn:  
The God whom you have longed to know  
In Christ draws near, and calls you now.

Shores of the utmost West,  
    Lands of the setting sun,  
Welcome the heavenly guest  
    In whom the dawn has come:  
He brings a never-ending light  
Who triumphed o'er our darkest night.

Shout, as you journey on,  
    Songs be in every mouth,  
Lo, from the North they come,  
    From East and West and South:  
In Jesus all shall find their rest,  
In him the sons of earth be blest.

*[New English Hymnal Editors, based on C. E. Oakley  
© Oxford University Press]*

## SERVICE TIMES

Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November 11.00am

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December 10.00am

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

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

### **THE SICK:**

Lizio Cassar	Pat Kyle	Barbara Warne
Ros Clifton	Pauline Milton	Lisa
Joan Davies	Ray Nation	Nic
Vicky Hal	Roy Stone	
Melvyn Jansen I	Betty Vince	

*If you would like a name added to the prayer list, please contact the Parish Office.*

We pray for Ashford C of E Primary school: the child who died of an infection, the child hospitalised, their families, the staff, other pupils and their parents.

### **THE RECENTLY DEPARTED:**

Mary Congdon	Ray Greenwood	David Mitchell
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### **THOSE IN OUR MEMORIAL BOOK THIS WEEK**

Elsie Mary Pinfold	Thomas Peterson
Laura Wilkinson	Dora Kingston
Reginald Clarke	Ann Davey
David Raymond Warne	Henry Edward Batchelor
Doris May Kerry	Joan Tunstall
Julie Weiszberg	Martin Mills

**Please pray for our ALMA twin Parish, Holy Cross Murrupula**

## NOTICES

The Parish Office is available by phone or email. Visitors by appointment only.

### Church Opening

St Hilda's is open for public worship services.

*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.*

### Community Lunch –Wednesday at 12 noon \*\*\* in church \*\*\*

Join us for the Community Lunch at midday, back in the church.

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.

On **30th November** we will be starting a short Advent study.

### Ambling through Acts course –Thursday 1st December

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

Everyone is very welcome to attend. There will be refreshments at the end. We 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.

### The Mermaid's Tale

St. Hilda's Entertainers present their pantomime on:

Fridays **2nd** and **9th December** at 7.45pm

Saturdays **3rd** and **10th December** at 2.30pm and 7.00pm.

Book online via the website: [www.sthildasentertainers.com](http://www.sthildasentertainers.com),  
or phone 0333 666 3366.

**St. Hilda's Church Nativity Festival - 10th & 11th December**

**Christingle Service - Sunday 11th December at 4pm**

**Turkiye and tinsel - Saturday 17th December at 7pm**

(Like curry & carols): Turkish food (not turkey) and carols. 7pm in the Church. £10. Book through the link on the church website home page or via the Parish Office.

**Carol Service - Sunday 18th December at 4pm**

**Crib Service - Thursday 24th December at 4pm**

**Midnight Mass - Thursday 24th December at 11pm**

**Christmas Day Eucharist - Friday 24th December at 10am**

### **Parish administrator**

Our parish administrator is Laura Goodman; her hours of work are:

Monday: 3-4pm  
Tuesday: 3-4pm  
Wednesday: 10-11am; 2-3pm  
Thursday: 3-4pm  
Friday: 3.30-6.30pm

Note that any appointments in person must be booked.

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

Please send items for the Newsletter to [kmroach45@gmail.com](mailto:kmroach45@gmail.com)

Note that it makes the Editor's job much easier if you submit an item as a Word document rather than in the body of an e-mail.

### **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.

The Food Bank is currently short of:

Shower gel  
Shampoo  
Kitchen roll  
Kitchen & bathroom spray cleaners  
J cloths  
Small packs of washing powder and capsules  
Toilet cleaner  
Kitchen rolls and toilet rolls  
and tinned vegetarian meals such as Macaroni cheese and  
Vegetarian curry

## **Pilgrimage to the Holy Land 5<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

10 days based in Jerusalem and Galilee

With Father Steve Gayle and Father Joseph Fernandes.

See literature at the back of church for more details.

## **Visit to Westminster Abbey – Date TBC**

A parish pilgrimage (but not walking there!) 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.

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# Contact Information

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## Licensed Lay Ministers

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

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

## Churchwarden

Bobbie Bedford

## PCC Secretary

## PCC Treasurer

Christopher Brown

## PA to Fr Joseph

Mariane Tank [pa@sthilda.org](mailto:pa@sthilda.org)

## Church Hall Bookings

Chris Davenport

01784 252170

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