ST HILDA’S ASHFORD

THE FEAST OF ALL SAINTS

05 NOVEMBER 2023

https://www.facebook.com/StHildaAshford/
Welcome to St Hilda’s. We are delighted that you are able to share in our morning worship today,

If you are new to the church please do take time to introduce yourself to the people at the back of the church and to the ministry team at the end of the service. We would be delighted to meet you.

If you are able please join us for tea or coffee after the service so we can get to know one another.

Should you need any help during the service please do not hesitate to ask those around you and we are sure they will be able to support you.

For children, Junior Church meets in the Church Hall during the first part of the service, and there is a children's corner in the north aisle which they are very welcome to use.

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**Praying for peace in Israel and Gaza**

*Bishop Sarah encourages us to join in with Archbishop Hosam Naoum of Jerusalem, who has offered the following prayer:*

O God of all justice and peace, we cry out to you in the midst of the pain and trauma of violence and fear which prevails in the Holy Land.

Be with those who need you in these days of suffering; we pray for people of all faiths – Jews, Muslims and Christians and for all people of the land.

While we pray to you, O Lord, for an end to violence and the establishment of peace, we also call for you to bring justice and equity to the peoples. Guide us into your kingdom where all people are treated with dignity and honour as your children – for to all of us you are our Heavenly Father.

In Jesus’ name we pray,

Amen
THE GATHERING

Introit Hymn

For all the Saints who from their labours rest,
Who thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy Name, O Jesu, be forever blessed.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Thou wast their Rock, their Fortress and their Might;
Thou, Lord, their Captain in the well fought fight;
Thou, in the darkness drear, their one true Light.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

O blest communion! fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
Yet all are one in thee, for all are thine.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

The golden evening brightens in the west;
Soon, soon to faithful warriors cometh rest:
Sweet is the calm of Paradise the blest.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

But lo! there breaks a yet more glorious day;
The Saints triumphant rise in bright array:
The King of glory passes on his way.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
Singing to Father, Son and Holy Ghost:
Alleluia, Alleluia!

[W. Walsham How]
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.

Rejoice, people of God, praise the Lord!
Let us keep the feast in honour of all God’s saints,
in whose victory the angels rejoice and glorify the Son of God.

Words of welcome or introduction are said.
(Junior Church have Messy Church in the hall.)

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 confess to God the sins and shortcomings of the world;
its pride, its selfishness, its greed;
itself evil distortions and hatreds.
Let us confess our share in what is wrong,
and our failure to seek and establish that peace
which God wills for all his children.

All Lord God,
we have sinned against you;
we have done evil in your sight.
We are sorry and repent.
Have mercy on us according to your love.
Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin.
Renew a right spirit within us
and restore us to the joy of your salvation,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.
Gloria in Excelsis

Glory to God in the highest,

All and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

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

God of holiness,
your glory is proclaimed in every age:
as we rejoice in the faith of your saints,
inspire us to follow their example
with boldness and joy;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.
THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Old Testament Reading – Revelation 7 vv 9 – 17

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

‘Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!’

And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, singing,

‘Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and might be to our God for ever and ever! Amen.’

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, ‘Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?’ I said to him, ‘Sir, you are the one that knows.’ Then he said to me, ‘These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.’
New Testament Reading – 1 John 3 v 1 – 3

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God’s children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Gospel Reading – Matthew 5 v 1 - 12

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

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:
‘Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

‘Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

‘Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

‘Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

‘Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

‘Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

‘Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

‘Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

‘Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon
The Creed

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

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

May the God of peace sanctify you:
may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness
that you may be blameless before him
at the coming of our Lord Jesus with his saints.

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*

How sweet the name of Jesus sounds
In a believer's ear!
It soothes his sorrows, heals his wounds,
And drives away his fear.

It makes the wounded spirit whole,
And calms the troubled breast;
'Tis manna to the hungry soul,
And to the weary rest.

Dear name! the rock on which I build,
My shield and hiding-place,
My never-failing treasury
Filled with boundless stores of grace.
Jesus! my Shepherd, Brother, Friend,
    My Prophet, Priest, and King,
My Lord, my Life, my Way, my End,
    Accept the praise I bring.

Weak is the effort of my heart,
    And cold my warmest thought;
But when I see thee as thou art,
    I'll praise thee as I ought.

Till then I would thy love proclaim
    With every fleeting breath;
And may the music of thy name
    Refresh my soul in death.

[John Newton]

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

As the grain once scattered in the fields
    and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside
are now united on this table in bread and wine,
    so, Lord, may your whole Church soon be gathered together
from the corners of the earth
    into your kingdom.

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.
It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should always sing of your glory, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. For you are the hope of the nations, the builder of the city that is to come. Your love made visible in Jesus Christ brings home the lost, restores the sinner and gives dignity to the despised. In his face your light shines out, flooding lives with goodness and truth, gathering into one in your kingdom a divided and broken humanity. Therefore with all who can give voice in your creation we glorify your name, for ever praising you and singing:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

*All  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.**

We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

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

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine. Again he praised you, gave it to them 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.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith: All Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms and bring us with Hilda and all the saints to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever. Amen.
The Lord’s Prayer

With saints and martyrs through the ages, let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has 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,

All 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

I heard the voice of a great multitude crying, Alleluia.
The Lord our God has entered into his kingdom.

All Blessed are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb.

The president and people 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]

God be in my head, and in my understanding;
God be in mine eyes, and in my looking;
God be in my mouth, and in my speaking;
God be in my heart, and in my thinking;
God be at mine end, and at my departing.

[from Sarum Book of Hours]
Let saints on earth in concert sing
    With those whose work is done;
For all the servants of our King
    In earth and heaven are one.

One family, we dwell in him,
    One Church, above, beneath;
Though now divided by the stream,
    The narrow stream of death.

One army of the living God,
    To his command we bow;
Part of the host have crossed the flood,
    And part is crossing now.

E’en now to their eternal home
    There pass some spirits blest,
While others to the margin come,
    Waiting their call to rest.

Jesu, be thou our constant Guide;
    Then, when the word is given,
Bid Jordan’s narrow stream divide,
    And bring us safe to heaven.

[Charles Wesley and others]

Prayers after Communion

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

God, the source of all holiness and giver of all good things:
may we who have shared at this table
as strangers and pilgrims here on earth
be welcomed with all your saints
to the heavenly feast on the day of your kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
*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 Christ who makes saints of sinners, who has transformed those we remember today, raise and strengthen you that you may transform the world; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All In the name of Christ. Amen
Recessional Hymn

The Church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord;  
She is his new creation by water and the word:  
From heaven he came and sought her to be his holy Bride,  
With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.

Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth,  
Her charter of salvation one Lord, one faith, one birth;  
One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,  
And to one hope she presses with every grace endued.

'Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,  
She waits the consummation of peace forevermore;  
Till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest,  
And the great Church victorious shall be the Church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union with God the Three in One,  
And mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won:  
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we  
Like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with thee.

[Samuel Stone]
SERVICE TIMES
Wednesday 8th November 11am
Sunday 12th November 10am
The Sunday morning service is livestreamed and can be viewed later on our Facebook page
Following the teaching of ‘Loving thy Neighbour’ - If you feel unwell, we ask that you do
not attend in person so that we can maintain the health and safety of all who attend
the services.

Please remember in your prayers this week:

THE SICK:
Michael Brown Melvyn Jansen Jonothan Wren
Lizio Cassar Pat Kyle David
Ros Clifton Finley Makriel Elaine
Saffi Cobham Ray Nation Rachel
Joan Davies Lena Richardson Solange

If you would like a name added to or removed from the prayer list, please
contact the Parish Office. If you know of someone ill or in hospital in need of
prayer and support please tell our LLM Rosalyn Young (contact details on back
cover).

THE RECENTLY DEPARTED
Ryan

THOSE IN OUR MEMORIAL BOOK THIS WEEK
Julia Anne McLennan Annie Dorothy Stevens Marie Eva Brown
William Hunt Walter George Mills Charles Esau Davenport
George Alfred Hands Charles Henry White Robert S Phillipson
Albert Williamson Oldfield G Evelyn Baker Leonard Henry Taylor

THOSE PREPARING FOR CONFIRMATION
Ariana, Chrissie, Sadie, Daniel, Katie, Sarah, James, Noah, Johnathan

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

*** Covid Precautions ***
As Covid infections are increasing again, the PCC would like to remind you that masks and bottles of hand sanitizer are available at the back of church if you wish to use them.
During the Peace, please be considerate to those who feel vulnerable and only shake hands with people who are happy with the contact.

Community Lunch - Wednesday at 12 noon
Join us in church 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 Group – Wednesday at 8.00pm
We meet in Church on most Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm.
Note that this week we start half an hour later, to allow for the Confirmation preparation.
You are very welcome to come and join us.
We are looking at some of the Psalms for the next few weeks, so each session will be stand-alone, making this a good time to come and see what we do.

Mothers' Union Lunch - Tuesday 7th November at 12.15

Community Breakfast - Saturday 11th November at 9.30am
Join us for breakfast, chat and talk in Church.

PCC Meeting - Tuesday 14th November at 7.15pm

Sunday 19th November at 12 noon
Bring-and-share lunch to celebrate St. Hilda's Day.
Feed My Sheep - Tuesday 28th November at 2.30pm
Do come and join us. We meet on the 4th Tuesday, from 2.30pm – 4pm in Church with tea, coffee and cake, to explore topics on Christian themes. A donation of a £1 is welcomed to cover the cost of the refreshments.

Nov 28th Pick and Mix

St Hilda’s Newsletter
The latest issue of the Newsletter is available via the St. Hilda's web site (under "About Us"). We put a few printed copies at the back of church: please leave these for people without internet access and for visitors.

Contributions have been so few that we will be producing this every two months instead of monthly, and unless more people provide material the Newsletter will end.

This is your magazine - if you want it to continue, start writing!

The deadline for items for the December/January issue is Sunday 5th November. Please send your contributions to: editor@sthilda.org

Ambling through Acts course – Thursday 7th 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 Parish Office is available by phone or email.
Any appointments in person must be booked.
Our parish administrator is Laura Goodman. Her office hours are:
Monday: 3.30-5pm
Wednesday: 3.30-6.30pm
Thursday 6.30-9.30pm
Saturday: 9.45-11.15am
Contact Information

Vicar
Vacant

Licenced Lay Minister
Rosalyn Young  rosalyn@sthilda.org

Churchwarden
Paula Gething

PCC Secretary
Liz Brian
Email:  secretary@sthilda.org

PCC Treasurer
Vicky Palmer
Email:  treasurer@sthilda.org

Church Hall Bookings
Chris Davenport  01784 252170

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