

ST HILDA'S ASHFORD



CHRISTMAS DAY EUCHARIST 2022

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

THE GATHERING

Introit Hymn

O come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him,
Born the King of angels:
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!

God of God,
Light of Light,
Lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Very God,
Begotten, not created:
Refrain

Child, for us sinners
Poor and in the manger,
Fain we embrace thee, with awe and love;
Who would not love thee,
Loving us so dearly?
Refrain

Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
Glory to God
In the highest:
Refrain

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
Born this happy morning,
 Jesu, to thee be glory given;
 Word of the Father,
Now in flesh appearing.

*O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!*

*[Latin 18th century
tr. Frederick Oakeley and others]*

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 Christmas Candle

Light and peace in Jesus Christ our Lord

All Thanks be to God.

Today is Christmas Day, in which we recall the hope we
have in Christ. Today we light again the candles of hope,
peace, love and joy.

(Each candle will be lit as the reader speaks)

Blessed are you, sovereign Lord, King of peace:
to you be praise and glory for ever.
The new light of your incarnate Word
gives gladness in our sorrow,
and a presence in our isolation.
Fill our lives with your light,
until they overflow with gladness and praise.

All Blessed be God for ever.

(We light the fifth candle, to mark the Birth of Christ)

People of God: shout and sing!
Tell the good news of peace on earth.
Lord, bring us today into Christ's peace.
All God's people shout:

Amen!

Angels dance
and the bright star shines.
All creation bows to the Lord of all.
Lord, bring us today into Christ's light.
All God's people shout:

Amen!

One with us,
yet born to save,
he will show us the way to God.
Lord, bring us today into Christ's love.
All God's people shout:

Amen!

People of God: shout and sing:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Amen.

Invitation to confession

Hear the words of the angel to Joseph:
'You shall call his name Jesus,
for he will save his people from their sins.'
Therefore let us seek the forgiveness of God
through Jesus the Saviour of the world.

Lord of grace and truth,
we confess our unworthiness
to stand in your presence as your children.
We have sinned:

All **forgive and heal us.**

The Virgin Mary accepted your call
to be the mother of Jesus.
Forgive our disobedience to your will.
We have sinned:

All **forgive and heal us.**

Your Son our Saviour
was born in poverty in a manger.
Forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.
We have sinned:

All **forgive and heal us.**

The shepherds left their flocks
to go to Bethlehem.
Forgive our self-interest and lack of vision.
We have sinned:

All **forgive and heal us.**

The wise men followed the star
to find Jesus the King.
Forgive our reluctance to seek you.
We have sinned:

All **forgive and heal us.**

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. **Amen.**

The Collect - *our Prayer for the Day*

Lord Jesus Christ,
your birth at Bethlehem
draws us to kneel in wonder at heaven touching earth:
accept our heartfelt praise
as we worship you,
our Saviour and our eternal God.

.All Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Old Testament Reading – Isaiah 52 vv 7 - 10

How beautiful upon the mountains
are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,
who brings good news,
who announces salvation,
who says to Zion, 'Your God reigns.'
Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices,
together they sing for joy;
for in plain sight they see
the return of the Lord to Zion.
Break forth together into singing,
you ruins of Jerusalem;
for the Lord has comforted his people,
he has redeemed Jerusalem.

The Lord has bared his holy arm
before the eyes of all the nations;
and all the ends of the earth shall see
the salvation of our God.

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

New Testament Reading – Hebrews 1 vv 1 - 12

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

For to which of the angels did God ever say,

‘You are my Son;
today I have begotten you’?

Or again,

‘I will be his Father,
and he will be my Son’?

And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says,

‘Let all God's angels worship him.’

Of the angels he says,
‘He makes his angels winds,
and his servants flames of fire.’

But of the Son he says,
‘Your throne, O God, is for ever and ever,
and the righteous sceptre is the sceptre of your
kingdom.
You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness;
therefore God, your God, has anointed you
with the oil of gladness beyond your companions.’

And,
‘In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth,
and the heavens are the work of your hands;
they will perish, but you remain;
they will all wear out like clothing;
like a cloak you will roll them up,
and like clothing they will be changed.
But you are the same,
and your years will never end.’

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading – John 1 vv 1 - 14

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

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

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

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. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

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.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist?

All We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again?

All We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world?

All We believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

All This is our faith.

**We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

Lord, in your mercy

All hear our prayer.

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*

Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given,
and his name shall be called the Prince 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

**What Child is this, who, laid to rest
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds worship and angels sing:
Haste, haste, to bring him praise,
The Babe, the son of Mary.**

**Why lies he in such mean estate,
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Come, have no, fear, God's son is here,
His love all loves exceeding:
Nails, spear shall pierce him through,
The cross be borne for me, for you:
Hail, hail the Saviour comes,
The Babe, the Son of Mary.**

**So bring him incense, gold and myrrh,
All tongues and peoples own him,;
The King of kings salvation brings,
Let every heart enthrone him:
Raise, raise your song on high,
While Mary sings a lullaby.
Joy, joy for Christ is born,
The Babe, the Son of Mary.**

(W. Chatterton Dix)

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

Word made flesh, life of the world,
in your incarnation you embraced our poverty:
by your Spirit may we share in your riches.
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 glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,
mighty creator, ever-living God.

We give you thanks and praise for your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who for love of our fallen race humbled himself,
was born of the Virgin Mary by the power of your Spirit,
and lived as one of us.

In this mystery of the Word made flesh
you have caused his light to shine in our hearts,

to give knowledge of your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.
In him we see our God made visible
and so are caught up in the love of the God we cannot see.
Therefore with all the angels of heaven
we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name
and sing our joyful hymn of 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.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit ☩,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;
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

All **Christ has died:**

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole
world;

rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever, 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.

All **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us,
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 the bread of life,
and that life is the light of the world.

**All God here among us,
light in the midst of us,
bring us to light and life.**

Agnus Dei

All 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

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 president and people receive communion.

At St Hilda's, we welcome communicant members of all churches to receive Holy Communion. Alternatively, you are invited to receive a personal blessing. If you would like a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest to help us know your intention. Come one, come all!

Prayers after Communion

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

God our Father,
whose Word has come among us
in the Holy Child of Bethlehem:
may the light of faith illumine our hearts
and shine in our words and deeds;
through him who is Christ the 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.**

THE DISMISSAL

May the Father,
who has loved the eternal Son
from before the foundation of the world,
shed that love upon you his children.

All Amen.

May Christ,
who by his incarnation gathered into one
things earthly and heavenly,
fill you with joy and peace.

All Amen.

May the Holy Spirit,
by whose overshadowing Mary became the God-bearer,
give you grace to carry the good news of Christ.

All Amen.

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. Proclaim the Word made flesh.

All Glory, thanks and praise to God.

Recessional Hymn

God rest you merry, gentlemen.

Let nothing you dismay.

Remember Christ our Saviour

Was born on Christmas Day.

To save us all from Satan's power

When we were gone astray:

O tidings of comfort and joy,

Comfort and joy!

O tidings of comfort and joy!

From God our heavenly Father

A blessed angel came,

And unto certain shepherds

Brought tidings of the same,

How that in Bethlehem was born

The Son of God by name:

Refrain

**And when they came to Bethlehem
Where our dear Saviour lay,
They found him in a manger,
Where oxen feed on hay;
His mother Mary kneeling down,
Unto the Lord did pray:**

Refrain

**Now to the Lord sing praises,
All you within this place,
And with true love and brotherhood
Each other new embrace;
This holy tide of Christmas
All other doth deface
*O tidings of comfort and joy,
Comfort and joy!
O tidings of comfort and joy!***

[Traditional]

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Cover illustration by Andrew Milton

SERVICE TIMES

Wednesday 28th December 11.00am

New Year's Day Sunday 1st 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.

THE RECENTLY DEPARTED:

THOSE IN OUR MEMORIAL BOOK THIS WEEK

Louie Maud Batchelor	Dorothy Madeline Smith
Edward George Clayton	Leonard Lambert
Herbert Salter	Eva Frances Voysey
Isobel Johnson	Brenda Eaglestone
Alfred George Barnes	William Arthur Hearn
Elsie Goodbarne	Richard Scholar
Verna Rose Bembridge	

Please pray for our ALMA twin Parish, Holy Cross Murrupula

NOTICES

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

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

Please note there will be no lunch on 28th December or 4th January.

If you are able to come forward and help, even once a month, please do liaise with Bobbie.

Bible Study

Please note that the Bible Study group will not meet this week. They will resume on Wednesday 4th January at 7.30pm.

Bible Reading Notes

To all who are currently ordering bible reading notes through me I have re-ordered for January - April, 2023 and will hopefully be distributing copies in the next couple of weeks.

If you would like to take daily bible reading as a New Year's Resolution then can I recommend you consider ordering the Bible Reading Fellowship Notes. There are 4 different editions - Guidelines, New Daylight, Day by Day with God (for women) and Bible reflections for older people. The notes are produced 3 times a year in September, January and May. If you are interested I have previous copies so you can browse before making a decision. The cost is £4.70 but I am able to get that reduced to £4.37 and £5.35 for Reflections.

If you would like to know more or would like to be included in the order please speak to me, Liz Brian.

Ambling through Acts course –Thursday 5th January

(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.

St. Hilda's Breakfast - Saturday 14th January at 9:30am

Do come along and enjoy good food and fellowship.

This month's guest speaker will be Fr. Joseph, who will be sharing some reflections about his recent trip to Mozambique.

Please book via the Parish Office or Ticket Tailor (link on the Church web site), so we know how many to cater for. Suggested donation £5, payable on the day.

St Hilda's News

Please send items for the Newsletter to 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.

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.

Food Bank Donations

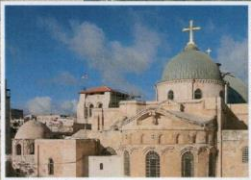
Please use the wooden chest at the rear of the Church to place any donations for the local food bank, such as tinned and dried goods and toiletries.

The Food Bank is currently short of:

- Shower gel
- Shampoo
- Kitchen & 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

A PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND

10 days based in Jerusalem & Galilee



McCabe
PILGRIMAGES

5 - 14 March 2024

**With Father Steve Gayle
& Father Joseph Fernandes**

For full details call or email

Tel: 07903 175038 or 01784 254237

steveagayle@yahoo.com or vicar@sthilda.org

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Bobbie Bedford

PCC Secretary

PCC Treasurer

Christopher Brown

PA to Fr Joseph

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