ST HILDA’S ASHFORD

THIRD SUNDAY IN EASTER 2023

https://www.facebook.com/StHildaAshford/
THE GATHERING

Introit Hymn

Christ is the King! O friends rejoice!
Brothers and sisters, with one voice
Make all men know he is your choice:
   Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The first Apostles round them drew
Thousands of faithful men and true,
Sharing a faith for ever new:
   Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Then magnify the Lord, and raise
Anthems of joy and holy praise
For Christ's brave saints of ancient days:
   Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

O Christian women, Christian men,
All the world over, seek again
The Way disciples followed then:
   Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Christ through all ages is the same:
Place the same hope in His great name,
With the same faith His word proclaim:
   Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let Love's unconquerable might
God's people everywhere unite
In service to the Lord of light.
   Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

[George Bell]
The Greeting

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

All Amen

Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you

All and also with you.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

All He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Words of welcome are said; we pray with Junior Church.

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

Christ our Passover Lamb has been sacrificed for us. Let us therefore rejoice by putting away all malice and evil and confessing our sins with a sincere and true heart.

All Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name.

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.

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

Risen Christ, you filled your disciples with boldness and fresh hope: strengthen us to proclaim your risen life and fill us with your peace, to the glory of God the Father.
All Amen.
THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading – Acts 2 vv 14a, 36 - 41

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them:

Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.’

Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, ‘Brothers, what should we do?’ Peter said to them, ‘Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.’ And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, ‘Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.’ So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.
New Testament Reading – 1 Peter 1 vv 17 - 23

If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

All Alleluia.
I am the first and the last, says the Lord, and the living one; I was dead, and behold I am alive for evermore.

All Alleluia.

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

All Glory to you, O Lord.

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, ‘What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?’ They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, ‘Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?’ He asked them, ‘What things?’ They replied, ‘The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.’ Then he said to them, ‘Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all
that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?’ Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, ‘Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.’ So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, ‘Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?’ That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, ‘The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!’ Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon – All sit
The Creed – We stand

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

All We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. 
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. 
We look for the resurrection of the dead, 
and the life of the world to come. 
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.

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, 
you know our needs before we ask, 
and our ignorance in asking:
have compassion on our weakness, 
and give us those things 
which for our unworthiness we dare not, 
and for our blindness we cannot ask,
for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.
All Amen.
THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

The Peace – All stand

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, ‘Peace be with you.’
Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia.

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

We have a gospel to proclaim,
   Good news for men in all the earth,
The gospel of a Saviour’s name:
   We sing his glory, tell his worth.

Tell of his birth at Bethlehem,
   Not in a royal house or hall,
But in a stable dark and dim:
   The Word made flesh, a light for all.

Tell of his death at Calvary,
   Hated by those he came to save,
In lonely suffering on the cross:
   For all he loved, his life he gave.

Tell of that glorious Easter morn,
   Empty the tomb, for he was free:
He broke the power of death and hell
   That we might share his victory.
Tell of his reign at God’s right hand,
   By all creation glorified:
He sends his Spirit on his Church
   To live for him, the Lamb who died.

Now we rejoice to name him King:
   Jesus is Lord of all the earth.
This gospel message we proclaim;
   We sing his glory, tell his worth.

[Edward Burns © 1968 The Lorenz Corporation]

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

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power,
the glory, the splendour, and the majesty;
for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.

All    All things come from you,
    and of your own do we give you.

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 your Son our Lord.
For he is your living Word;
through him you have created all things from the beginning,
and formed us in your own image.
Through him you have freed us from the slavery of sin,
giving him to be born of a woman and to die upon the cross;
you raised him from the dead
and exalted him to your right hand on high.
Through him you have sent upon us your holy and life-giving Spirit,
and made us a people for your own possession.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you
because you raised him gloriously from the dead.
For he is the true paschal lamb who was offered for us,
and has taken away the sin of the world.
By his death he has destroyed death,
and by his rising to life again he has restored to us everlasting life.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with All the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious 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.

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,
and as we follow his example and obey his command,
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us his body and his 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.*

Therefore, heavenly Father,
we remember his offering of himself
made once for all upon the cross;
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;
we look for the coming of your kingdom,
and with this bread and this cup
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Great is the miracle of faith:

*All*

*Christ has died:*
*Christ is risen:*
*Christ will come again.*

Accept through him, our great high priest,
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts
in the presence of your divine majesty,
renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love
and unite us in the body of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Through him, and with him, and in him, 
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, 
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

Rejoicing in God’s new creation, 
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,

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

The president says the invitation to communion

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

All Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The president and people receive communion.
Communion Hymns

**Anthem:** O taste and see how gracious the Lord is.

*Broken for me, broken for you,*  
*the body of Jesus broken for you.*

He offered his body, he poured out his soul;  
Jesus was broken, that we might be whole.

Come to my table and with me dine,  
eat of my bread and drink of my wine.

This is my body given for you;  
eat it rememb'ring I died for you.

This is my blood I shed for you,  
for your forgiveness, making you new.  

[Janet Lund © 1978 Sovereign Music UK]

I danced in the morning when the world was begun,  
And I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,  
And I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth;  
At Bethlehem I had my birth.

* Dance, then, wherever you may be,*  
*I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,*  
*And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,*  
*And I'll lead you all in the dance, said he*

I danced for the scribe and the pharisee,  
But they would not dance and they wouldn't follow me.  
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John -  
They came with me and the dance went on.

*Refrain*
I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame;
The holy people said it was a shame.
They whipped and they stripped and they hung me on high;
They left me there on a cross to die.

_Refrain_

I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black -
It's hard to dance with the devil on your back.
They buried my body and they thought I'd gone,
But I'm the Dance, and I still go on.

_Refrain_

They cut me down and I leapt up high;
I am the life that will never, never die;
I'll live in you if you'll live in me -
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.

_Dance, then, wherever you may be,
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
And I'll lead you all in the dance, said he_

[Sydney Carter  Words: Stainer & Bell Ltd, Music: Stainer & Bell Ltd]

**Prayers after Communion**

_Silence is kept after which the post-Communion prayer is said._

Living God,
your Son made himself known to his disciples
in the breaking of bread:
open the eyes of our faith,
that we may see him in all his redeeming work;
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

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

The God of peace,
who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus,
that great shepherd of the sheep,
through the blood of the eternal covenant,
make you perfect in every good work to do his will,
working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight;
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 the peace of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia!

All Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!
Recessional Hymn

Ye choirs of new Jerusalem,
    Your sweetest notes employ,
The Paschal victory to hymn
    In strains of holy joy.

How Judah's Lion burst his chains,
    And crushed the serpent's head;
And brought with him, from death's domains,
    The long-imprisoned dead.

From hell's devouring jaws the prey
    Alone our Leader bore;
His ransomed hosts pursue their way
    Where he hath gone before.

Triumphant in his glory now
    His sceptre ruleth all,
Earth, heaven, and hell before him bow,
    And at his footstool fall.

While joyful thus his praise we sing,
    His mercy we implore,
Into his palace bright to bring
    And keep us evermore.

All glory to the Father be,
    All glory to the Son,
All glory, Holy Ghost, to thee,
    While endless ages run.

[St. Fulbert of Chartres tr. Robert Campbell]
SERVICE TIMES
Wednesday 26th April 11am
Sunday 30th April 10.00am

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

Please remember in your prayers this week:

THE SICK:
Ann Bilais       Vicky Hall       Bernice
Michael Brown    Melvyn Jansen   Christine
Lizio Cassar     Pat Kyle        Elaine
Ros Clifton      Pauline Milton  Nic
Saffi Cobham    Ray Nation       Solange
Joan Davies      Barbara Warne

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

THE RECENTLY DEPARTED:
Diane Owen       Wilfred Galloway  Rita Ford
Fr. Stephen Blood Betty Vince     Libby Mills
Delphine Scrivener

See page 27 for details of Fr. Blood's funeral.

THOSE IN OUR MEMORIAL BOOK THIS WEEK
St George         Kenneth Goldsmith
Peggy Pinfold    Elvina Maud Stone
Heather Susan Crozier  Winifred Ellen Louise Barnes
Richard Alan West Doris Hilda Durham
Edward Norman Phillips William George Frank Durham
Mary Milton       Pauline Pearl Levey

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.*

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**Mother Helen Calner**

Next week will be Helen's last with us. It has been a joy to have her ministering to us, and we wish her well in the future.

Please pray for Helen and those who will be made priest with her by Emma, Bishop of Kensington at St. Paul's Church, Hammersmith at 2pm on 17th June.

Helen will offer her first Mass on Sunday 2nd July at 10.30am at St. Philip's Church, Earls Court: all mostly welcome!

Please also pray for Revd. Pippa Turner and the people of St. Philip's Church among whom Helen will serve.
Annual Parochial Church Meeting - Sunday 30th April at 12 noon

The Annual Meeting of Parishioners and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting of St Hilda's Church will be held on 30th April, 2023.

Copies of the previous meetings, Reports for 2022 and the Financial Statement have been sent to PCC members and copies will be available at the meetings.

If you would like a copy e-mailed to you in advance please request this from the Parish Office on sthilda28@gmail.com.
If you have any other business that you would like to raise at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting please notify in writing to the PCC Secretary 72 hours prior to the meeting. E-mails to Liz Brian - PCC Secretary on secretary@sthilda.org or lizbrian17@aol.com.

Liz Brian - PCC Secretary.

WANTED: a Parish Safeguarding Officer

We are looking for a new Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) to take up the role from the APCM at the end of April.

The PSOs "play an essential role in fulfilling the Parish’s commitment to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and adults at risk. The PSOs are the key link between the Diocese and the Parish concerning safeguarding matters. They will have an overview of all church activities involving children, young people and vulnerable adults and will seek to ensure the implementation of all relevant safeguarding policies and guidance in the Parish, ensuring that all allegations or suspicions of abuse are taken seriously and responded to in a timely manner."

If you would consider this role and would like more information please speak to a member of the PCC.
Feed My Sheep - Tuesday 25th April 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.

The programme for the first half of the year is:
- Apr 25th  Tyndale and the English Bible
- May 23rd  Names for Jesus
- June 27th  Jargon Busting
- July 25th Popes – part 2

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 7.30pm
We meet in Church on most Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm. Everyone is welcome to join us.

Ambling through Acts course –Thursday 4th May at 7.30pm
(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.

Sing along with MAMMA MIA! –Saturday 13th May at 7pm
In St. Hilda's church, with Ploughman's Supper, Bar and Raffle. Tickets £10 via the web site www.sthilda.org or at the back of church.
**Beating the Bounds - Rogation Sunday 14th May at 2.30pm**
We will meet at the Church, leaving at 2.30pm, have a gentle walk round the bounds of the Parish, and end with Fish & Chips back at the church. There will be a sign-up sheet so we know numbers for Fish & Chips.

**May Play - 19th & 20th May**
Our play this year is the hilarious ‘Murder In Play’, written by Simon Brett. Performances are in St Hilda’s Hall on Friday 19th May at 7.45pm and Saturday 20th May at 2.30pm and 7.00pm. Tickets - £12 (concessions £10) - can be booked online via the St Hilda’s Entertainers website, following the Box Office link, or by phoning 0333 666 3366.

**Parish administrator**
Our parish administrator is Laura Goodman. Her office hours are:

- **Monday:** 3.30-5pm
- **Wednesday:** 3.30-6.30pm
- **Friday:** 3.30-6.30pm
- **Saturday:** 9.45-11.15am

Any appointments in person must be booked.
Funeral of Fr. Stephen Blood - Wednesday 10th May at 11.30am

Fr. Blood's daughter Gillian writes: We would like to extend the invitation to everyone who knew him. It would be very helpful if people could let us know if they are coming (e-mail gillian.bowman@live.co.uk or phone 07956 026591).

The funeral will take place at 11.30am on 10 May at:
  All Saints Church
  Church Lane
  Kings Langley
  Herts  WD4 8JS

Followed by the Committal at 1pm at:
  South Chapel
  West Herts Crematorium
  High Elms Lane
  Watford  WD25 0JS

We should then be very pleased if everyone would join us to continue to remember and celebrate Stephen’s life: venue TBC on the day.

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land  5th-14th 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.

Local Elections Thursday 4th May 2023
Note that to vote in person at these elections you will need to show photographic ID such as a Driver's Licence, Passport or Older Person's Bus Pass.
See the leaflet included with the recent Council Tax bill for more details, or see www.spelthorne.gov.uk/elections, or phone the Electoral Services Team on 01784 444218
Contact Information

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Vicarage 01784 254237 Mobile: 07999 053433

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Rosalyn Young rosalyn@sthilda.org

Churchwarden
Bobbie Bedford

PCC Secretary
Liz Brian Email: secretary@sthilda.org

PCC Treasurer
Christopher Brown Email: treasurer@sthilda.org

PA to Fr Joseph
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Chris Davenport 01784 252170

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