

# ST HILDA'S ASHFORD



**2ND SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT**

**AND**

**PATRONAL FESTIVAL**

**19 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.*

## **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

Now thank we all our God,  
With heart and hands and voices,  
Who wondrous things hath done,  
In whom his world rejoices;  
Who from our mothers' arms  
Hath blessed us on our way  
With countless gifts of love,  
And still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God  
Through all our life be near us,  
With ever joyful hearts  
And blessed peace to cheer us;  
And keep us in his grace,  
And guide us when perplexed,  
And free us from all ills  
In this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God  
The Father now be given,  
The Son, and him who reigns  
With them in highest heaven;  
The One eternal God,  
Whom earth and heaven adore;  
For thus it was, is now,  
And shall be evermore.

*[Martin Rinkart tr. Catherine Winkworth]*

## **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.*

## **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

God so loved the world  
that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ  
to save from our sins  
and to be our advocate in heaven,  
and to bring us to eternal life.  
Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith,  
firmly resolved to keep God's commandments  
and to live in love and peace with all

**All Most merciful God,  
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
we confess that we have sinned  
in thought, word and deed.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart.  
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.  
In your mercy  
forgive what we have been,  
help us to amend what we are,  
and direct what we shall be;  
that we may do justly,  
love mercy,  
and walk humbly with you, our God.  
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 Patronal Festival is said after a moment of silence*

O God of peace,  
by whose grace the abbess Hilda  
was endowed with gifts of justice, prudence, and strength  
to rule as a wise mother  
over the nuns and monks of her household:  
Raise up these gifts in us,

that we, following her example and prayers,  
may build up one another in love  
to the benefit of your church;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**All Amen.**

## **THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

### **Old Testament Reading – Isaiah 61 v 10 – 62 v 5**

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,  
my whole being shall exult in my God;  
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,  
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,  
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,  
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.  
For as the earth brings forth its shoots,  
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,  
so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise  
to spring up before all the nations.

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,  
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,  
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,  
and her salvation like a burning torch.  
The nations shall see your vindication,  
and all the kings your glory;  
and you shall be called by a new name  
that the mouth of the Lord will give.  
You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord,  
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

You shall no more be termed Forsaken,  
and your land shall no more be termed Desolate;  
but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her,  
and your land Married;  
for the Lord delights in you,  
and your land shall be married.  
For as a young man marries a young woman,  
so shall your builder marry you,  
and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride,  
so shall your God rejoice over you.

*At the end the reader may say*

This is the word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

### **New Testament Reading** – Acts 4 vv 32 – 35

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

*At the end the reader may say*

This is the word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**



## **Gospel Reading** – Luke 14 vv 7 - 14

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

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

When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honour, he told them a parable. ‘When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honour, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, “Give this person your place”, and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, “Friend, move up higher”; then you will be honoured in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.’

He said also to the one who had invited him, ‘When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbours, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.’

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.

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

*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

Blessed are the peacemakers:  
they shall be called the children of God.  
We meet in the name of Christ and share his 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*

**Jesus shall reign where'er the sun  
Does his successive journeys run;  
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore,  
Till moons shall wax and wane no more.**

**People and realms of every tongue  
Dwell on his love with sweetest song,  
And infant voices shall proclaim  
Their early blessings on his name**

**Blessings abound wherever he reigns;  
The prisoner leaps to lose his chains;  
The weary find eternal rest,  
And all the sons of want are blest.**

**Let every creature rise and bring  
Peculiar honours to our King;  
Angels descend with songs again,  
And earth repeats the long Amen.**

*[Isaac Watts]*

*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.**

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.*

Christ is the bread of life:

**All** **When we eat this bread and drink this cup  
we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus  
until you come in glory.**

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.

Bring us at the last with 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**

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**

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.

**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**

Lord Jesus Christ,  
You have come to us,  
You are one with us,  
    Mary's Son;  
Cleansing our souls from all their sin,  
Pouring your love and goodness in;  
Jesus, our love for you we sing,  
    Living Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ,  
Now and every day  
Teach us how to pray,  
    Son of God.  
You have commanded us to do  
This in remembrance, Lord, of you:  
Into our lives your power breaks through,  
    Living Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ,  
You have come to us,  
Born as one with us,  
    Mary's Son;  
Led out to die on Calvary,  
Risen from death to set us free,  
Living Lord Jesus, help us see  
    You are Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ,  
I would come to you,  
live my life for you,  
    Son of God.  
All your commands I know are true,  
Your many gifts will make me new,  
Into my life your power breaks through,  
    Living Lord.

*[Patrick Appleford © Words and music: 1960 Josef Weinberger Ltd]*

**Anthem:** Ave Verum Corpus

[W. A. Mozart]

**Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One is here.  
Come, bow before him now, with reverence and fear.**

**In him no sin is found, we stand on holy ground.**

**Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy one is here.**

**Be still, for the glory of the Lord is shining all around;  
He burns with holy fire, with splendour he is crowned.**

**How awesome is the sight, our radiant King of light!**

**Be still, for the glory of the Lord is shining all around.**

**Be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place;  
He comes to cleanse and heal, to minister his grace.**

**No work too hard for him, in faith receive from him.**

**Be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place.**

*[David J. Evans © 1986 Kingsway's Thankyou Music]*

**May the grace of Christ our Saviour,  
And the Father's boundless love,  
With the Holy Spirit's favour,  
Rest upon us from above.**

**Thus may we abide in union  
With each other and the Lord,  
And possess in sweet communion,  
Joys which earth cannot afford.**

**To the God whose wisdom made us,  
To the Son who set us free,  
To the sanctifying Spirit,  
Glory, endless glory, be!**

*[John Newton]*

## Prayers after Communion

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

Gracious Lord,  
in this holy sacrament  
you give substance to our hope:  
bring us at the last  
to that fullness of life for which we long;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

**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 peace of God,  
which passes all understanding,  
keep your hearts and minds  
in the knowledge and love of God,  
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord;  
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

Christ is our Cornerstone,  
On him alone we build;  
With his true saints alone  
The courts of heaven are filled:  
On his great love our hopes we place  
Of present grace and joys above.

Oh, then with hymns of praise  
These hallowed courts shall ring;  
Our voices we will raise  
The Three in One to sing;  
And thus proclaim in joyful song  
Both loud and long, that glorious Name.

Here may we gain from heaven,  
The grace which we implore;  
And may that grace, once given,  
Be with us evermore,  
Until that day when all the blest  
To endless rest are called away.

*[Latin c. 7th century tr. John Chandler]*

## SERVICE TIMES

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 11am

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November 10am - St. Hilda's Day

The Sunday morning service is livestreamed and can be viewed later 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	David
Lizio Cassar	Pat Kyle	Elaine
Ros Clifton	Finley Makriel	Rachel
Saffi Cobham	Ray Nation	Solange
Joan Davies	Lena Richardson	

*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**

Alfred Leonard Dale	Florence Elizabeth Mills	Anne Hollinson
William Henry Hunter	Irene Amelia Eade	Raymond John Granger
Alan Dudley Rogers	William Warrender	William Northwood
Arthur William Allport	Lucy Baker	
Penelope K B Waterton	Orde Dobbie	

### **THOSE RECENTLY CONFIRMED**

Ariana, Chrissie, Sadie, Daniel, Katie, Sarah, James, Noah, Johnathan, Gabriel

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

## NOTICES

### **\*\*\* Vacancies for Altar Servers \*\*\***

We are currently seeking volunteers to join the team of Altar Servers. St Hilda's Church currently has a team of 7 altar servers, down from the 12 we used to have pre Covid. Primarily servers are required for the 10 o'clock Sunday services but they also assist with the Wednesday morning 11 o'clock service and other special services e.g., confirmation, candles of remembrance, St Hilda's day, Easter Eve and Midnight Mass. Support and training will be given to undertake this role. If interested please either speak to me or to any of the current servers.

Thank you. Alan Sloan (Head Server)

### **\*\*\* More Help Wanted \*\*\***

The team serving refreshments after Sunday services would appreciate more help. If you can volunteer please speak to Valerie Scott or Paula.

### **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.  
We are starting a 6-week Advent-to Epiphany course this week: you are very welcome to come and join us even if for just one session.

### **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

**Ambling through Acts course –Thursday \*\*14th\*\* December**

(7:30pm usually 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 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 **February/March** issue is **Sunday 7th January 2024**. Please send your contributions to: [editor@sthilda.org](mailto:editor@sthilda.org)

**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

**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.





# GREEK NIGHT

St Hilda's Church presents

# A merry meze

**Saturday 16th December**  
**7.00pm**

Greek food and Christmas carols

St Hilda's Church  
Ashford, TW15 3QL  
Tickets £12 / Bar / Raffle



St Hilda's  
Ashford



Tickets from [office@shilda.org](mailto:office@shilda.org)



### Advent and Christmas Services

Every Sunday except 24th 10am Parish Eucharist  
Every Wednesday 11am Holy Communion

*Sunday 3rd 3pm Lodge Bros Memorial Service*

Sunday 10th 4pm Christingle Service

*Wednesday 13th 4pm Ashford CofE School*

*Friday 15th all day St. James School*

Sunday 17th 6pm Carol Service

Sunday 24th 10am Crib Service

11pm Midnight Mass (with the Bishop of Kensington)

Christmas Day 10am Holy Communion



# Contact Information

## Vicar

*Vacant*

## Licensed Lay Minister

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

## Churchwarden

Paula Gething

## PCC Secretary

Liz Brian

Email: [secretary@sthilda.org](mailto:secretary@sthilda.org)

## PCC Treasurer

Vicky Palmer

[treasurer@sthilda.org](mailto:treasurer@sthilda.org)

## Church Hall Bookings

Chris Davenport

01784 252170

## The Parish Office:

St Hilda's Church, Stanwell Road, Ashford, Middlesex  
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Telephone: 01784 253525 Email: [office@sthilda.org](mailto:office@sthilda.org)

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CCLI: 708985

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