ST HILDA'S ASHFORD



MOTHERING SUNDAY 10 March 2024

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.

Today is Mothering Sunday. Traditionally, this Sunday has been a day of celebration, within the austere period of Lent. It is *Laetare* Sunday. The word comes from the Latin *laetare*, the singular imperative of *laetari*: "to rejoice". It gets its name from the first few words (incipit) of the traditional Latin entrance (Introit) for the Mass of the day. "Laetare Jerusalem" ("Rejoice, O Jerusalem") is Latin from Isaiah 66:10. It is also known as Rose Sunday, either because the golden rose sent by Popes to Catholic sovereigns used to be blessed at this time, or because the use of rose-coloured (rather than purple) vestments permitted on this day.

THE GATHERING

Introit Hymn

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord: Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice; Tender to me the promise of his word; In God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his name: Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done; His mercy sure, from age to age the same; His holy name, the Lord, the mighty One.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might: Powers and dominions lay their glory by; Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight, The hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word: Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure. Tell out my soul, the greatness of the Lord To children's children and for evermore.

[Timothy Dudley-smith © 1961 Dudley-Smith, Timothy]

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 are said; we pray with Junior Church.

Prayer of Preparation

All Loving, compassionate Father,
As a mother hen gathers her chicks,
So you draw the whole human faith to yourself.
Bring us together now, Lord,
that we may today and forever be united under your wing in all sorrows and joys.
Amen.

Invitation to confession

When the Lord comes, he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness, and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Therefore, in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

Silence for reflection

Your love gives us life from the moment of conception.

We fail to live as your children.

Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

You call us to do good. We seek our own good. Christ, have mercy.

All Christ, have mercy.

You hear us when we cry for help. We ignore the cries of others. Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

May the Father of all mercies cleanse you from your sins, and restore you in his image to the praise and glory of his name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

The Collect - The Collect is said after a moment of silence

God of love, passionate and strong, tender and careful: watch over us and hold us all the days of our life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Old Testament Reading – Exodus 2 vv 1 - 10

Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him for three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. 'This must be one of the Hebrews' children,' she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, 'Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?' Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Yes.' So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.' So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, 'because', she said, 'I drew him out of the water.'

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

New Testament Reading – Colossians 3 vv 12 - 17

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading - John 19 vv 25b - 27

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

The Lord is a great God,

O that today you would listen to his voice.

Harden not your hearts.

All Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

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

All Glory to you, O Lord.

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.' Then he said to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

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 We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named. We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love. We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on high. We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

We pray to the Lord for courage to give ourselves to him this Lent.

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

ΑII

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

The peace of the Lord be always with you 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

For the beauty of the earth,
For the beauty of the skies,
For the love which from our birth
Over and around us lies:
Lord of all, to thee we raise
This our sacrifice of praise.

For the beauty of each hour,
Of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale, and tree and flower,
Sun and moon and stars of light:
Lord of all, to thee we raise
This our sacrifice of praise.

For the joy of ear and eye,
For the heart and brain's delight,
For the mystic harmony
Linking sense to sound and sight:
Refrain

For the joy of human love,
Brother, sister, parent, child,
Friends on earth and friends above,
For all gentle thoughts and mild:
Refrain

For thy Church, that evermore
Lifteth holy hands above,
Offering up on every shore
Her pure sacrifice of love:
Refrain

For each perfect gift of thine,
To our race so freely given,
Graces human and divine,
Flowers of earth and buds of heaven.
Lord of all, to thee we raise
This our sacrifice of praise.

[F. S. Pierpoint]

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

As this bread was scattered and then gathered and made one, so may your Church be gathered into your Kingdom.

All Glory to you, O God, for ever.

Wisdom has built her a house; she has mixed her wine; she has set her table.

All Glory to you, O God, for ever.

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:

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.

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.

Great is the mystery of faith:

All Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

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. Remember, Lord, your Church in every land. Reveal her unity, guard her faith, and preserve her in peace. Bring us at the last with St 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

Standing at the foot of the cross, 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 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 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 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.

Communion Hymns

Anthem: O taste and see how gracious the Lord is

[R. Vaughn Williams

Sing we of the blessèd Mother
Who received the angel's word,
And obedient to his summons
Bore in love the infant Lord;
Sing we of the joys of Mary
At whose breast that child was fed
Who is Son of God eternal
And the everlasting Bread.

Sing we, too, of Mary's sorrows,
Of the sword that pierced her through,
When beneath the cross of Jesus
She his weight of suffering knew,
Looked upon her Son and Saviour
Reigning high on Calvary's tree,
Saw the price of man's redemption
Paid to set the sinner free.

Sing again the joys of Mary
When she saw the risen Lord,
And in prayer with Christ's apostles,
Waited on his promised word:
From on high the blazing glory
Of the Spirit's presence came,
Heavenly breath of God's own being,
Manifest through wind and flame.

Sing the chiefest joy of Mary
When on earth her work was done,
And the Lord of all creation
Brought her to his heavenly home:
Virgin Mother, Mary blessèd,
Raised on high and crowned with grace,
May thy Son, the world's redeemer,
Grant us all to see his face.

[G B Timms

© Words: 1975 English Hymnal Company (Oxford University Press); Music: 1942, Renewed 1970 Oxford University Press]

And now, O Father, mindful of the love
That bought us, once for all, on Calvary's tree,
And having with us him that pleads above,
We here present, we here spread forth to thee
That only offering perfect in thine eyes,
The one true, pure, immortal sacrifice.

Look, Father, look on his anointed face,
And only look on us as found in him;
Look not on our misusings of thy grace,
Our prayer so languid, and our faith so dim;
For lo, between our sins and their reward
We set the passion of thy Son our Lord.

And then for those, our dearest and our best,
By this prevailing presence we appeal;
O fold them closer to thy mercy's breast,
O do thine utmost for their souls' true weal;
From tainting mischief keep them white and clear
And crown thy gifts with strength to persevere.

And so we come: O draw us to thy feet
Most patient Saviour, who canst love us still;
And by this food, so aweful and so sweet,
Deliver us from every touch of ill:
In thine own service make us glad and free,
And grant us nevermore to part from thee.

[William Bright]

Prayers after Communion

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

Loving God,
as a mother feeds her children at the breast
you feed us in this sacrament
with the food and drink of eternal life:
help us who have tasted your goodness
to grow in grace within the household of faith;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

All Faithful God,

in baptism you have adopted us as your children, made us members of the body of Christ and chosen us as inheritors of your kingdom: we thank you that in this Eucharist you renew your promises within us, empower us by your Spirit to witness and to serve, and send us out as disciples of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Mothering Sunday posies are blessed and distributed

Notices - see pages 22 - 27

THE DISMISSAL

Blessing

May the Lord who brought us all to birth, strengthen us for daily life.

May the Lord who provides for all our needs sustain us day by day.

May the Lord whose steadfast love is for all, send us out to live and work for others.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

Go in the peace of Christ.

All Thanks be to God.

Recessional 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 blessèd 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]

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SERVICE TIMES

Wednesday 13th March 11.00am Sunday 17th March 10am

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

Please remember in your prayers this week:

THE SICK:

Michael Brown John Hunt Lena Richardson

Ros Clifton Pat Kyle David Saffi Cobham Ray Nation Fiona

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

Mark Goff Pat Deanes Vicky Hall Mary Eyers Pamela Middleton Sheila West

Dolores Didrickson Norton

Sheila West's funeral will be in St. Hilda's Church tomorrow:

Monday 11th March at 11.15am

THOSE IN OUR MEMORIAL BOOK THIS WEEK

Peter William Blundell James Chippendale Nellie Fifield
James Forsbrev Constance Harrison Freddie Francis

Sheila Du Bock Joy Irene Constance Strange

Dennis Glover Ramon George Kitto

Please pray for our ALMA twin Parish, Holy Cross Murrupula

and for Christians facing persecution in countries such as North

Korea, Somalia, Libya, Eritrea and Yemen for more details see https://www.opendoorsuk.org/

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

NOTICES

*** Church Spring Cleaning ***

During Lent we will spring clean the church on Sundays after the service. If you can, your help with high sweeping, and later with polishing the floors, will be greatly appreciated.

Reports for APCM

The Annual Church Parochial Meeting will be held on Sunday 28th April. Would all group leaders please ensure that they get reports to me by TODAY: **Sunday 10th March**. Please send to **lizbrian17@aol.com**.

*** Easter Lilies ***

If you would like, in memory of a loved one, to purchase a lily to be included in our traditional display from Easter Sunday, please fill in one of the forms available at the back of church by Palm Sunday 24th March. Suggested donation £5.

For further information see the form.

Mothers' Union Lunch - Tuesday 12th March at 12.15pm

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 *** 7.45pm ***

We meet in Church on most Wednesday evenings; we are changing the start of the meeting 7.45pm.

You are very welcome to come and join us for our Lent study course: *Approaching Jesus*.

Date for your diary - <u>RED HOT STRINGS in concert Sat 27th April</u> at St. Hilda's. See posters in church for more details.

Tickets £15 from http://ticketsource.co.uk/st-hildas-church-ashford, or on sale in church.

Feed My Sheep - Tuesday 26th March 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.

26th Mar Jerusalem in the Time of Jesus 23rd Apr St Hilda's Church Window 28th May Non Canonical Gospels

25th June Jargon Busting 23rd July Celtic Spirituality

Ambling through Acts course - Thursday 4th April

(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.

PCC Meeting- Tuesday 9th April at 7.15pm for 7.30pm

Parish Breakfast - Saturday 13th April at 9.30am

Do come along and enjoy good food and fellowship.

Suggested donation £5, payable on the day

St Hilda's Newsletter

The latest issue of the Newsletter is available via the St. Hilda's web site (under "About Us"). Please leave the printed copies for people without internet access and for visitors.

The newsletter is now produced every two months, and unless more people provide material the Newsletter will end.

The deadline for items for the June/July issue is Sunday 5th May.

Please send your contributions to: editor@sthilda.org

<u>UPDATE ON CHURCH HALL ROOF REPLACEMENT</u> Work planned from 25th March to 13th May (approx)

Works to Replace the church hall roof and install solar panels will start on 25th March and will take approximately SIX WEEKS.

The scaffolding will arrive during that week and a compound set up at the top end of the car park. The bins will need to be temporarily relocated to the area behind the gate. The compound will be protected by Heras Fencing.

From Monday 2nd April the car park will be OUT OF ACTION during weekdays, except for funerals. All church and hall users will need to find alternative parking for this period. This is necessary for safety reasons to allow the roofing contractors free movement. Access to the church will be via the pedestrian gate ONLY and access to the church hall will ONLY be via the pedestrian gate in Stanwell Road.

During the weekends, the car park will be partially open but visitors are asked to take care on site and to avoid the compound and scaffolding areas. The contractors will use the toilets at the front of the hall during the holidays and the rear of the hall at other times.

To take off the existing roof and install a new roof will take 7 working days – we therefore need to put the hall out of action for up to TWO WEEKS. This also allows for a few days delay in case of wet weather. We will have scaffolding up for approximately SIX WEEKS.

Work will commence on the roof on Tuesday 2nd April. The whole building will be out of bounds while the contractors are exchanging the roof sheets which will hopefully be no more than two weeks from 2nd April and within the school holidays. Whilst the building will be out of bounds during the day, some activity will be allowed in the Small Hall (Thornton Room) outside of working hours. Access will ONLY be through the side door.

The scaffolding will surround 3 sides of the hall, meaning the main door will also be out of use while the scaffolding is in place.

Once the roof sheets have been replaced, the remaining time is required to seal the roof, flashings etc. and also to install the solar

panels. This may take up to SIX weeks. Therefore at least until the week of 13th May, the scaffolding and the compound will remain in place. Restrictions to access via the main door and the car park will remain in place until further notice or until the scaffolding and compound has been removed.

The church hall roof has leaked for many years and the internal damage is very visible. This work is mostly being paid for by a grant from Spelthorne Borough Council. We are aware it is likely to be disruptive, we are working very hard to keep the disruption to a minimum but would ask for your patience, particularly with the restrictions we have to impose on the car-park. The work is long-overdue, but safety of users is paramount.

Paula Gething Churchwarden 1st March 2024

Junior Church during Roof Repairs

On **Easter Sunday** there is no Junior Church however we will provide some activity sheets to occupy the children whilst in Church.

Due to repairs to the Hall roof we are unable to use the Hall during April, however there will be a Junior Church activity in Church, although there will be **no April Messy Church**. **May's Messy Church** will go ahead as usual on May 5th with the theme of Pentecost.

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

The deadline for items for the Service Sheet is noon on Thursday.

Join us for

Holy Week at St Hilda's



Sunday 24th March

10am – Holy Communion With Procession and Blessing of Palms



7pm - Short reflection followed by Compline

Monday 25th March

Tuesday 26th March

Wednesday 27th March



Thursday 28th March

7pm – Holy Communion Institution of the Lord's Supper and Washing of feet

8-8.30pm Watch



Friday 29th March

9am-5pm - Church open -Stations of the Cross

10.30am – Churches Together Walk of the Witness Departing St Hilda's

12-3pm - The Three Hours

2-3pm - Children's Activity in the Church Hall



Sunday 31st March

10am – Holy Communion Followed by Junior Church Easter Egg hunt

Web: www.sthilda.org Email: office@sthilda.org Tel: 01784 253525



Clarendon School PTA would like to share this event with us:



Contact Information

Vicar

Vacant

Licenced Lay Minister

Rosalyn Young rosalyn@sthilda.org

Churchwarden

Paula Gething

PCC Secretary PCC Treasurer

Liz Brian Vicky Palmer

Email: <u>secretary@sthilda.org</u> <u>treasurer@sthilda.org</u>

Church Hall Bookings

Chris Davenport 01784 252170

The Parish Office:

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Website: www.sthilda.org

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