

St Hilda's Ashford



PARISH EUCHARIST

LENT 5

This service is being live streamed via the St Hilda's facebook page
<https://www.facebook.com/StHildaAshford/>

THE GATHERING

Introit Hymn

*Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore his sacred name.*

**Come, brethren, follow where our Captain trod,
Our King victorious, Christ, the Son of God.
*Lift high the cross...***

**Led on their way by this triumphant sign,
The hosts of God in conquering ranks combine.
*Lift high the cross...***

**Saved by this Cross whereon their Lord was slain,
The sons of Adam their lost home regain.
*Lift high the cross...***

**From north and south, from east and west they raise
In growing unison their song of praise.
*Lift high the cross...***

**O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
As thou hast promised, draw men unto thee
*Lift high the cross...***

**Let every race and every language tell
Of him who saves our souls from death and hell.**

*Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore his sacred name.*

*George W. Kitchin, 1827-1912, and Michael R. Newbolt, 1874-1956
© 1974, Hope Publishing Co.*

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 and introduction.

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.**

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.

All **Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you and against our neighbor
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.

All **Amen.**

The Collect

Gracious Father,
you gave up your Son
out of love for the world:
lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion,
that we may know eternal peace
through the shedding of our Saviour's blood,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading – Isaiah 43: 16 - 21

Thus says the LORD,
who makes a way in the sea,
a path in the mighty waters,
who brings out chariot and horse,
army and warrior;
they lie down, they cannot rise,
they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:
Do not remember the former things,
or consider the things of old.
I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness

and rivers in the desert.
The wild animals will honor me,
the jackals and the ostriches;
for I give water in the wilderness,
rivers in the desert,
to give drink to my chosen people,
the people whom I formed for myself
so that they might declare my praise.

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading – Philippians 3: 4b – 14

even though I, too, have reason for confidence in the flesh.
If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ

Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading – John 12: 1 - 8

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.**

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my

burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

The Creed

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

We pray to the Lord for courage to give up other things
and to give ourselves to him this Lent.

At the end

All **Merciful Father,
accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

The Peace

Since we are justified by faith,
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
who has given us access to his grace.

All **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

How deep the Father's love for us,
How vast beyond all measure,
That he should give his only Son
To make a wretch his treasure
How great the pain of searing loss,
The Father turns his face away,
As wounds which mar the Chosen One
Bring many sons to glory.

Behold the man upon a cross,
My sin upon his shoulders;
Ashamed I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held him there
Until it was accomplished;
His dying breath has brought me life -
I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything,
No gifts, no power, no wisdom;
But I will boast in Jesus Christ,
His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from his reward?
I cannot give an answer,
But this I know with all my heart
His wounds have paid my ransom.

Stuart Townend© 1995 Thankyou Music

Taking of the Bread and Wine

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.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

All The Lord be with you
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.**

Father, we give you thanks and praise
through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, your living Word,
through whom you have created all things;
who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our Saviour.

By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh;
as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin,
he lived on earth and went about among us;
he opened wide his arms for us on the cross;
he put an end to death by dying for us;
and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life;
so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.

For in these forty days
you lead us into the desert of repentance
that through a pilgrimage of prayer and discipline
we may grow in grace
and learn to be your people once again.
Through fasting, prayer and acts of service
you bring us back to your generous heart.
Through study of your holy word
you open our eyes to your presence in the world
and free our hands to welcome others

into the radiant splendour of your love.

As we prepare to celebrate the Easter feast
with joyful hearts and minds we bless you for your mercy
and join with saints and angels for ever praising you and
saying:

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.*

All Great is the mystery of faith:
**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 St Hilda and 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

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

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us peace.

Giving of Communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God

who takes away the sin of the world.

Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

All **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

The people and president receive communion.

Communion Hymns

O thou, who at thy Eucharist didst pray

That all thy Church might be forever one,

Grant us that every Eucharist to say

With longing heart and soul, "Thy will be done."

Oh, may we all one Bread, one Body be,

One through this Sacrament of unity.

For all thy Church, O Lord, we intercede;

**Make thou our sad divisions soon to cease;
Draw us the nearer each to each, we plead,
By drawing all to thee, O Prince of Peace:
Thus may we all one Bread, one Body be,
One through this Sacrament of unity.**

**We pray thee too for wanderers from thy fold;
O bring them back, good Shepherd of the sheep,
Back to the faith which saints believed of old,
Back to the Church which still that faith doth keep:
Soon may we all one Bread, one Body be,
One through this Sacrament of unity.**

**So, Lord, at length when sacraments shall cease,
May we be one with all thy Church above,
One with thy saints in one unbroken peace,
One with thy saints in one unbounded love;
More blessed still, in peace and love to be
One with the Trinity in Unity.**

William Turton

**There's a wideness in God's mercy,
Like the wideness of the sea;
There's a kindness in His justice,
Which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth's sorrows
Are more felt than up in Heaven;
There is no place where earth's failings
Have such kindly judgment given.**

**For the love of God is broader
Than the measure of man's mind;
And the heart of the Eternal
Is most wonderfully kind.**

**But we make His love too narrow
By false limits of our own;
And we magnify His strictness
With a zeal He will not own.**

**There is plentiful redemption
In the blood that has been shed;
There is joy for all the members
In the sorrows of the Head.
There is grace enough for thousands
Of new worlds as great as this;
There is room for fresh creations
In that upper home of bliss.**

**If our love were but more simple,
We should take Him at His word;
And our lives would be all sunshine
In the sweetness of our Lord.**

F. W. Faber

Prayer after Communion

Lord Jesus Christ,
You have taught us
that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters
we do also for you:
give us the will to be the servant of others
as you were the servant of all,
and gave up your life and died for us,
but are alive and reign, now and for ever.

All **Amen**

All **Father of all,
we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off
you met us in your Son and brought us home.
Dying and living, he declared your love,**

**gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;
we who drink his cup bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
so we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Notices

Blessing

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness,
to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him;
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.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Recessional Hymn

**Lord, for the years your love has kept and guided,
Urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way,
Sought us and saved us, pardoned and provided:
Lord of the years, we bring our thanks today.**

**Lord, for that word, the word of life which fires us,
Speaks to our hearts and sets our souls ablaze,
Teaches and trains, rebukes us and inspires us:
Lord of the word, receive your people's praise.**

**Lord, for our land, in this our generation,
Spirits oppressed by pleasure, wealth and care;
For young and old, for commonwealth and nation,
Lord of our land, be pleased to hear our prayer.**

**Lord, for our world; when we disown and doubt him,
Loveless in strength, and comfortless in pain;
Hungry and helpless, lost indeed without him,
Lord of the world, we pray that Christ may reign.**

**Lord for ourselves; in living power remake us,
Self on the cross and Christ upon the throne;
Past put behind us, for the future take us,
Lord of our lives, to live for Christ alone.**

*©Words: 1976 Dudley-Smith, Timothy;
Music: 1976 Michael Baughen - The Jubilate Group*

The ministers and people depart.

SERVICE TIMES

Wednesday 6th April 11am

Sunday 10th April 9.30am

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

Please remember in your prayers this week:

THE SICK:

James Bedford	Jane Johnson	Roy Stone
Robb Clarke	Pat Kyle	Rev. Peter Taylor
Ann Considine	Pauline Lewis	Carla Wells
Julia Cowley	Chris Maddock	Sheila West
Michael Dixon	Mrs McCammon	Philip Willerton
Anna Elwell	Libby Mills	Chick Wilson
Jack Everett	Raymond Nation	Peter Wilson
Peter Garner	Pat Parish	Jo Wood
Eileen Gilbert	Peggy Pinfold	Erin
Juilet Griffith	Elizabeth Savill-Burgess	Izzy
Alison Griffiths	Delphine Scrivener	Nic
Vicky Hall	Riley Shaw	Baby Reuben
Joan Harden	Emily Smith	Bob
Jean Iddiols	Elsie Stone	Margaret

THE RECENTLY DEPARTED

George Nicholas	Rita Wright	Joyce Scott
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THOSE IN OUR MEMORIAL BOOK THIS WEEK

Dora Winifred Swiney	Nick Iona	Ethel Ellen Barlow
Doris May Hedges	Barbara Smith	Hilda Donnachie
Lucy Webb	May Davidson	Joan Cooke
Frederick John Rickson	Jean Cockings	

THOSE BEING BAPTISED

Mason Jon Holliday

Please pray for our ALMA twin parish, Holy Cross Murrupula, who have suffered after cyclone Gumba

NOTICES

**The Parish Office is available by phone weekdays 9am – 5pm
Visitors by appointment only**

Church Opening

St Hilda's is open for public worship services.

We are no longer operating a ticket booking system for services, however, it will remain in place for Church events for catering purposes. Masks are optional.

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.

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.

Ambling through Acts course – Thursday 7th April

(7:30pm on the first Thursday of each month)

Led by Fr Steve, a study of the Acts of the Apostles will entail a close reading of the text. We will see the unfolding story of the beginnings of the church through the eyes of the writer, try to discern his purposes, discover new things, and learn that though the context has changed, human nature remains much the same. Hence, the struggles of those first followers may find resonances in our own day as we live out our individual lives of discipleship and participate together in the life of the church.

Everyone is very welcome to attend. There will be refreshments at the end. We will 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.

Mayor's Brass Band Concert Saturday 9th April at 7.30pm

Staines Lammas Brass Band and the Mayor of Spelthorne invite you to the Mayor's Concert on Saturday 9th April at 7.30pm in St Hilda's Church. Tickets at £10 are available on www.stainesbrassband.co.uk or by phoning 07811 927410.

If you have a query about the evening, please contact Chris Davenport.

Good Friday Children's Workshop

On Good Friday, April 15th from 12noon until 3pm there will be a Children's Workshop including craft, music and worship in the Church Hall. The children need to bring a packed lunch in a clearly named container – we will provide drinks. Children under 5 should be accompanied by an adult. Please ensure all children have an up to date identification form detailing current emergency contacts. To enrol please go to the web site and follow the link.

Christine Taylor and the Junior Church team

Easter Lilies

We will be having our traditional display from Easter Sunday, if you would like to purchase a lily in memory of a loved one please complete the form which can be found at the rear of the church and return it to the parish office by Palm Sunday (10th April).

The flower team will be arranging the Easter lilies in Church on Easter Saturday, 16th April, from 9.30am. We would be grateful for any greenery you can spare from your gardens and if you would like to help arrange the lilies but are not on the flower team we would love to see you, many hands make light work as the saying goes. You can contact Pauline on 01932 785327 if you have any questions.

If you previously dedicated a lily or sponsored a poppy during the Covid lockdown then the money already given for these is being transferred to dedicate a lily in this display.

Feed my Sheep –Tuesday 26th April 2.30pm – 4pm

The theme is Prayers and Praying.

Community Lunch – every Wednesday

Join us 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 – every Wednesday

Bible Study group meet in Church at 7.30pm. All welcome.

Paving Slabs needed

If anyone has any spare slabs that could be used in the Memorial Garden, please see Paula Gething.

Pilgrimage to Westminster Abbey – Date TBC

A parish pilgrimage is being arranged to Westminster Abbey, please sign up on the sheet at the rear of the Church or contact the office. A date will be arranged if we have enough interest.

St Hilda's News

The next issue will be in April. We are still looking for a new editor(s) to take over.

Sponsor a church chair

It is not too late to sponsor a chair or a trolley as we would still like purchase more.

If you can help, please complete the form at the rear of the Church.

- £90 covers the cost of a chair
- £225 covers the cost of a stacking trolley

Easter Services at St Hilda's

Palm Sunday 10th April
Parish Eucharist 9.30am

11th, 12th & 13th April
Compline 7.30pm – 8pm

Maundy Thursday 14th April
7.30pm

The background of the text is a photograph of three crosses silhouetted against a dramatic sunset sky with orange and yellow clouds. The crosses are of varying heights and are positioned in a line across the middle ground.

Good Friday 15th April
Stations of the Cross 10am – 5pm
Junior Church – 12 - 3pm
Proclamation of the Cross Service – 3pm

Easter Vigil – Saturday 16th April – 9pm

Easter Day - Parish Eucharist – 9.30am

CHURCHES TOGETHER WALK OF WITNESS – 10.40am (meet at St Hilda's to walk into Ashford. Service at 11am)

Contact Information

Vicar

Fr Joseph Fernandes

vicar@sthilda.org

Vicarage 01784 254237

Parish Office 01784 253525

Mobile 07999 053433

Licenced Lay Ministers

Carolyn Clark carolyn@sthilda.org

Rosalyn Young rosalyn@sthilda.org

Churchwardens

Bobbie Bedford

Frances Forsbrey

PCC Secretary

Denise Buttigieg

PCC Treasurer

Darran Buttigieg

Parish Administrator

Denise Buttigieg

Church Hall Bookings

Chris Davenport

01784 252170

The Parish Office:

St Hilda's Church, Stanwell Road, Ashford, Middlesex
TW15 3QL

Telephone: 01784 253525 Email: office@sthilda.org

Website: www.sthilda.org

Charity Number: 1134119

CCLI: 708985

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