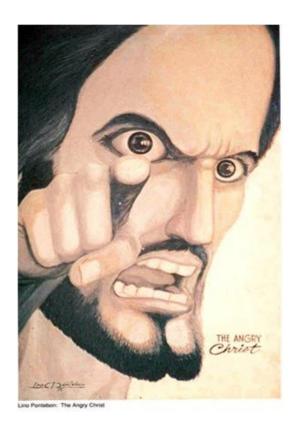
ST HILDA'S ASHFORD



THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT 03 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.

THE GATHERING

Introit Hymn

In the cross of Christ I glory,
Towering o'er the wrecks of time;
All the light of sacred story
Gathers round its head sublime.

When the woes of life o'ertake me, Hopes deceive and fears annoy, Never shall the cross forsake me: Lo it glows with peace and joy.

When the sun of bliss is beaming
Light and love upon my way,
From the cross the radiance streaming
Adds more lustre to the day.

Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure, By the cross are sanctified; Peace is there that knows no measure, Joys that thro' all time abide

[John Bowring]

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. (Junior Church are in the hall for Messy 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.

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 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.

All Amen.

The Collect - The Collect for the week is said after a moment of silence
Eternal God,
give us insight

to discern your will for us, to give up what harms us, and to seek the perfection we are promised in Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Old Testament Reading – Exodus 20 vv 1 - 17

Then God spoke all these words:

I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the Lord your

God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

Honour your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.

You shall not covet your neighbour's house; you shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbour.

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

New Testament Reading – 1 Corinthians 1 vv 18 - 25

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

'I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.'

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling-block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading – John 2 vv 13 - 22

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.

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money-changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, 'Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a market-place!' His disciples remembered that it was written, 'Zeal for your house will consume me.' The Jews then said to him, 'What sign can you show us for doing this?' Jesus answered them, 'Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews then said, 'This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

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

and was made man.

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

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 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

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

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

Disposer supreme, and judge of the earth,
Who choosest for thine the meek and the poor,
To frail earthen vessels, and things of no worth,
Entrusting thy riches which ay shall endure;

Throughout the wide world their message is heard,
And swift as the wind it circles the earth;
It echoes the voice of the heavenly Word,
And brings unto mortals the hope of new birth.

Their cry thunders forth, 'Christ Jesus the Lord!'
Then Satan doth fear, his citadels fall:
As when those shrill trumpets were raised at thy word,
And one long blast shattered proud Jericho's wall.

O loud be the call, and stirring the sound,
To rouse us, O Lord, from sin's deadly sleep;
May lights which thou kindlest in darkness around,
The dull soul awaken, her vigil to keep.

All honour and praise, dominion and might,
To thee, Three in One, eternally be,
Who pouring around us thy marvellous light,
Dost call us from darkness thy glory to see.

[Latin, J. B. de Santeuil tr. Isaac Williams and NEH editors]

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.

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 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.

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness; grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit, and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith:

All Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

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

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

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

Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup, so that we, in the company of 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,
All have mercy on us.

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

Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us peace.

Giving of Communion

The president says the invitation to 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 president and people receive communion.

Communion Hymns

Anthem: If ye love me, keep my commandments

[Thomas Tallis © Oxford University Press 2002]

We love the place, O God,
Wherein thine honour dwells;
The joy of thine abode
All earthly joy excels.

We love the house of prayer
Wherein thy servants meet;
And thou, O Lord, art there
Thy chosen flock to greet.

We love the sacred font,
For there the holy Dove
To pour is ever wont
His blessings from above.

We love thine altar, Lord;
Oh, what on earth so dear!
For there, in faith adored,
We find thy presence near.

We love the word of life,

The word that tells of peace,
Of comfort in the strife,

And joys that never cease.

We love to sing below
For mercies freely given;
But, O, we long to know
The triumph song of heaven!

On earth to love thee more, In heaven to see thy face, And with thy saints adore.

[William Bullock and H. W. Baker]

We sing the praise of him who died,
Of him who died upon the cross;
The sinner's hope let men deride,
For this we count the world but lost

Inscribed upon the cross we see
In shining letters, 'God is love';
He bears our sins upon the Tree;
He brings us mercy from above.

The Cross! it takes our guilt away; It holds the fainting spirit up; It cheers with hope the gloomy day, And sweetens ev'ry bitter cup.

It makes the coward spirit brave,
And nerves the feeble arm for fight;
It takes the terror from the grave,
And gilds the bed of death with light;

The balm of life, the cure of woe,
The measure and the pledge of love,
The sinner's refuge here below,
The angels' theme in heaven above.

[Thomas Kelly]

Prayers after Communion

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

Merciful Lord, grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.

Notices - see pages 24 - 27

THE DISMISSAL

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

Praise the Lord! ye heavens, adore him;
Praise him, angels, in the height;
Sun and moon, rejoice before him,
Praise him, all ye stars and light.
Praise the Lord! for he has spoken;
Worlds his mighty voice obeyed;
Laws which never shall be broken
For their guidance he has made.

Praise the Lord! for he is glorious;
Never shall his promise fail.
God has made his saints victorious.
Sin and death shall not prevail.
Praise the God of our salvation;
Hosts on high, his power proclaim.
Heaven and earth, and all creation,
Laud and magnify his name!

Worship, honour, glory, blessing,
Lord, we offer to thy name;
Young and old, thy praise expressing,
Join their Saviour to proclaim.
As the saints in heaven adore thee,
We would bow before thy throne;
As thine angels serve before thee,
So on earth thy will be done.

[vv 1,2 Foundling Hospital Collection verse 3 Edward Osler]

St Hilda's is a Registered Charity No. 1134119
CCLI License no. 708985
One License no. A-739460
Copyright Archbishops' Council of the Church of England

SERVICE TIMES

Wednesday 6th March 11.00am

with Mothers' Union

Mothering Sunday 10th 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 Pat Kyle David Ros Clifton Ray Nation Fiona

Saffi Cobham 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

Pat Deanes Vicky Hall Mary Eyers

Pamela Middleton Sheila West Dolores Didrickson Norton

Sheila West's funeral will be in St. Hilda's Church on Monday 11th

March at 11.15am

THOSE IN OUR MEMORIAL BOOK THIS WEEK

Caroline Mary Cutler Walter Edward Stone Mary Martha Jansen

Laura Eileen Thomas Harold E Bishop Gordon Laing
Joan Beryl Corney Florence Hilda Quiller Frederick Quiller

Joan Petrer Anthony Peter Hill

and we remember all those who died of Covid

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/

Today: Day of Reflection for those who died of Covid

Marie Curie is bringing the nation together for the #DayOfReflection, a special moment to remember all who died during the pandemic. For those who lost a loved one during that time, the pain of not being able to say goodbye properly, or to grieve with the support of family and friends, is all too raw. We must come together as a nation to support those who experienced loss, and to pause and reflect.

One of the ways of getting involved is to create a Wall of Reflection with Marie Curie petals. Petals and somewhere to display them in the Memorial Corner will be provided after church: write the name of the person you are remembering on a petal and add it to the display.

You can share a picture of your petal on Instagram or TikTok using #DayOfReflection and tagging @mariecurieuk.

For more options see https://dayofreflection.org.uk/share-a-name/

You can also privately join a Moment of Reflection - a minute's silence - at midday.

A Prayer:

Loving God,

You hold all our times in your hands, our past, our present, our future. Be close to us now as we remember all the difficulties and disappointments of the past years.

Be especially close to all of us who are thinking of someone we loved and knew, but see no longer, whether family, friend, colleague or neighbour.

Help us to trust that they are at peace with you, and comfort us with your presence.

Amen.

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.

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 **April/May** issue is **TODAY: Sunday 3rd March**.

Please send your contributions to: editor@sthilda.org

PCC Meeting- Tuesday 5th March at 7.15pm for 7.30pm

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.

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

Ambling through Acts course - Thursday 7th March

(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.

Parish Breakfast - Saturday 9th March at 9.30am

Do come along and enjoy good food and fellowship.

Suggested donation £5, payable on the day

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 **Sunday 10th March**. Please send to **lizbrian17@aol.com**.

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 Jesus23rd Apr St Hilda's Church Window28th May Non Canonical Gospels

25th June Jargon Busting23rd July Celtic Spirituality

Date for your diary - RED HOT STRINGS in concert Sat 27th April

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 from 3rd March.

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.

Stewardship - Time and Talents

Would you like to do more to support our family of St. Hilda? There are lots of opportunities requiring anything from a few minutes to many hours of your time. Training is given if required. Some of them are:

Altar Server: some extra time before and after the service on duty days.

Sunday refreshments: more extra time before and after the service on duty days.

Wednesday refreshments: 10:30am - 1pm on duty days.

Leading the intercessions: preparation time at your convenience every few weeks.

Reading a lesson in church: a few minutes preparation time. A microphone can be brought to you if you cannot get to the lectern.

Open and close the church on a week day: travel time plus a few minutes morning and early evening on duty days.

Cleaning: need ability to use a vacuum cleaner for about an hour once a week or fortnight.

Gardening: whenever you feel inclined! Tools can be provided.

Technical Support: ad hoc; to support the live stream of the Sunday morning service and updating the church web site.

Chorister: need ability to sing in tune. The ability to read music is helpful but not essential. Practice Friday evening 7 - 8ish, on duty Sunday mornings and festival services - except during August.

Treasurer: need to be numerate and computer-literate. Several hours a month mostly at times of your choosing. Needed as soon as possible, but by APCM (28th April) at the latest.

Church Warden: need to be a responsible, organised leader. Several hours a week. Needed as soon as possible, but by APCM (28th April) at the latest - Paula needs help!

Ask any member of the PCC for more details, or about other ways of helping.

And if you can do none of these, **prayer** is always needed.

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 SecretaryPCC TreasurerLiz BrianVicky Palmer

Email: secretary@sthilda.org treasurer@sthilda.org

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

Follow us on Facebook https://www.facebook.com/StHildaAshford/

Follow us on X https://twitter.com/StHildaAshford