

ST HILDA'S ASHFORD



**THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT
WITH BAPTISM OF LINK OWEN COX
AND DYLAN MICHAEL COX
10AM 23 MARCH 2025**

<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

Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
Christ, the true, the only light,
Sun of Righteousness, arise,
Triumph o'er the shades of night;
Dayspring from on high, be near;
Day-star, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn
Unaccompanied by thee;
Joyless is the day's return
Till thy mercy's beams I see;
Till they inward light impart,
Glad my eyes, and warm my heart.

Visit then this soul of mine,
Pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
Fill me, Radiancy divine,
Scatter all my unbelief;
More and more thyself display,
Shining to the perfect day.

[Charles Wesley]

The Greeting

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

All Amen

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

All and also with you.

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

We rejoice today with the family of Link Owen and Dylan Michael as they thank God for the gift of life and bring their children for baptism.

God our Creator,
we thank you for the wonder of new life
and for the mystery of human love.
We give thanks for all whose support and skill
surround and sustain the beginning of life.
As Jesus knew love and discipline within a human family,
may these children grow in strength and wisdom.
As Mary knew the joys and pains of motherhood,
give these parents your sustaining grace and love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen

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.**

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 – Isaiah 55: 1 - 9

Ho, everyone who thirsts,
come to the waters;
and you that have no money,
come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price.
Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,
and your labour for that which does not satisfy?
Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.
Incline your ear, and come to me;
listen, so that you may live.
I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.
See, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander for the peoples.
See, you shall call nations that you do not know,
and nations that do not know you shall run to you,
because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel,
for he has glorified you.

Seek the Lord while he may be found,
call upon him while he is near;
let the wicked forsake their way,
and the unrighteous their thoughts;
let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.
For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord.
For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

New Testament Reading –1 Corinthians 10: 1 - 13

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play.” We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed

by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Gradual 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]

Gospel Reading – Luke 13 vv 1 - 9

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 Luke.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.”

Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, ‘See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’ He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon

Presentation of the Candidates

Faith is the gift of God to his people.

In baptism the Lord is adding to our number
those whom he is calling.

People of God, will you welcome these children
and uphold them in their new life in Christ?

All With the help of God, we will.

Parents and godparents, the Church receives
Link Owen and Dylan Michael with joy.

Today we are trusting God for their growth in faith.

Will you pray for them,

draw them by your example into the community of faith
and walk with them in the way of Christ?

P&G With the help of God, we will.

In baptism Link Owen and Dylan Michael
begin their journey in faith.

You speak for them today.

Will you care for them,

and help them to take their place

within the life and worship of Christ's Church?

P&G With the help of God, we will.

The Decision

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness
into his marvellous light.

To follow Christ means dying to sin
and rising to new life with him.

Therefore I ask:

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?

P&G I reject them.

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

P&G I renounce them.

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?

P&G I repent of them.

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

P&G I turn to Christ.

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

P&G I submit to Christ.

Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?

P&G I come to Christ.

Signing with the Cross

Link Owen, Christ claims you for his own.

Receive the sign of his cross.

Dylan Michael, Christ claims you for his own.

Receive the sign of his cross.

Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ Crucified:

**All Fight valiantly, as a disciple of Christ
against sin, the world and the devil
and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life"**

May almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness,
restore in you the image of his glory,
and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ.

All Amen.

**Ubi caritas et amor,
Ubi caritas Deus ibi est.**

Prayer over the Water

Praise God who made heaven and earth

All Who keeps his promise forever

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

All it is right to give our thanks and praise

We thank you, almighty God, for the gift of water
to sustain, refresh and cleanse all life.

Over water the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation.

Through water you led the children of Israel
from slavery in Egypt to freedom in the Promised Land.

In water your Son Jesus received the baptism of John
and was anointed by the Holy Spirit

as the Messiah, the Christ,

to lead us from the death of sin to newness of life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of baptism.

In it we are buried with Christ in his death.

By it we share in his resurrection.

Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit.

Therefore, in joyful obedience to your Son,

we baptize into his fellowship those who come to him in faith.

Now sanctify this water that, by the power of your Holy Spirit,
they may be cleansed from sin and born again.

Renewed in your image, may they walk by the light of faith
and continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Lord;

to whom with you and the Holy Spirit

be all honour and glory, now and for ever.

All Amen.

Profession of Faith

Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess together with these candidates the faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

All I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

All I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

All I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Baptism

Link Owen, I baptize you
in the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All Amen.

Dylan Michael, I baptize you
in the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All Amen.

May God, who has received you by baptism into his Church,
pour upon you the riches of his grace,
that within the company of Christ's pilgrim people
you may daily be renewed by his anointing Spirit,
and come to the inheritance of the saints in glory.

All Amen.

Commission

We have brought Link Owen and Dylan Michael to baptism knowing that Jesus died and rose again for them and trusting in the promise that God hears and answers prayer. We have prayed that in Jesus Christ they will know the forgiveness of their sins and the new life of the Spirit.

As they grow up, they will need the help and encouragement of the Christian community, so that they may learn to know God in public worship and private prayer, follow Jesus Christ in the life of faith, serve their neighbour after the example of Christ, and in due course come to confirmation.

As their parents and godparents, you have the prime responsibility for guiding and helping them in their early years. This is a demanding task for which you will need the help and grace of God.

Faithful and loving God,
bless those who care for these children
and grant them your gifts of love, wisdom and faith.
Pour upon them your healing and reconciling love,
and protect their home from all evil.
Fill them with the light of your presence
and establish them in the joy of your kingdom,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All 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 Welcome and Peace

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism:
Link Owen and Dylan Michael,
by one Spirit we are all baptized into one body.

**All We welcome you into the fellowship of faith;
we are children of the same heavenly Father;
we welcome you.**

We are all one in Christ Jesus.
We belong to him through faith,
heirs of the promise of the Spirit of 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

**Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with thee;
Thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not;
As thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.**

Great is thy faithfulness!

Great is thy faithfulness!

*Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed thy hand hath provided,
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

**Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above,
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.**

Refrain

**Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine with ten thousand beside!**

Refrain

[Thomas O. Chisholm]

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. **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

Draw near with faith.

Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ
which he gave for you,
and his blood which he shed for you.

Eat and drink

in remembrance that he died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts
by faith with thanksgiving.

The president and people receive communion.

Communion Hymns

Just as I am, without one plea
But that thy blood was shed for me,
And that thou bidd'st me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, though tossed about
With many a conflict, many a doubt,
Fighting within, and fears without,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;
Sight, riches, healing of the mind,
Yea, all I need, in thee to find
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve:
Because thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come.

**Just as I am (thy love unknown
Has broken every barrier down),
Now to be thine, yea thine alone,
*O Lamb of God, I come.***

**Just as I am, of that free love
The breadth, length, depth and height to prove,
Here for a season then above,
*O Lamb of God, I come.***

[Charlotte Elliott]

**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!**

**Lord Jesus, give us grace
On earth to love thee more,
In heaven to see thy face,
And with thy saints adore.**

[William Bullock and H. W. Baker]

**Firmly I believe and truly
God is Three, and God is One;
And I next acknowledge duly
Manhood taken by the Son.**

**And I trust and hope most fully
In that Manhood crucified;
And each thought and deed unruly
Do to death, as he has died.**

**Simply to his grace and wholly
Light and life and strength belong,
And I love supremely, solely,
Him the holy, him the strong.**

**And I hold in veneration,
For the love of him alone,
Holy Church as his creation,
And her teachings are his own.**

**Adoration ay be given,
With and through the angelic host,
To the God of earth and heaven,
Father, Son and Holy Ghost.**

[John Henry Newman. Music © Oxford University Press]

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.
Amen.**

| |
|------------------------------------|
| Notices – see pages 27 - 33 |
|------------------------------------|

THE DISMISSAL

Blessing

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you,
scatter the darkness from before your path,
and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

Giving of a Lighted Candle

God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness
and has given us a place with the saints in light.

You have received the light of Christ;
walk in this light all the days of your life.

**All Shine as a light in the world
to the glory of God the Father.**

Go in the light and peace of Christ.

All Thanks be to God.

Recessional Hymn

**Glorious things of thee are spoken,
Sion, city of our God;
He whose word cannot be broken
Formed thee for his own abode:
On the Rock of Ages founded,
What can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded,
Thou may'st smile at all thy foes.**

**See, the streams of living waters,
Springing from eternal love,
Well supply thy sons and daughters,
And all fear of want remove:
Who can faint while such a river
Ever flows their thirst to assuage?
Grace, which like the Lord the giver,
Never fails from age to age.**

**Saviour, if of Sion's city,
I through grace a member am,
Let the world deride or pity,
I will glory in thy name:
Fading is the worldling's pleasure,
All his boasted pomp and show;
Solid joys and lasting treasure
None but Sion's children know.**

[John Newton]

Please remember in your prayers this week:

THOSE FOR WHOM OUR PRAYERS HAVE BEEN ASKED:

| | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Michael Brown | John Hunt | Martine Simpson |
| Ben Bishop | Matthew Hutnell | Delia Woodley |
| Stan Bishop | Pat Kyle | Ben |
| AnneMarie Bough | Mary Mills | Daniella |
| Tony Diggins | Ray Nation | David |
| Maureen Firth | Pat Parish | Fiona |
| Sheila Freeman | Massimo Pellizzari | |
| Gemma Hart | Lena Richardson | |

THE RECENTLY DEPARTED

Mary Mason Rev. Peter Keslake

THOSE IN OUR MEMORIAL BOOK THIS WEEK

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Terence Elbrow | Robert John Hands |
| Gordon Thurlow James Pritchard | Kathleen Mildred Grace Nunn |
| Michael Alan Young | Brian Sidney Pinfold |
| James William Shoulder | Glyn Bickerdike |
| Edward William Davies | Fred Veitch |

**Please pray for our ALMA twin Parish, Holy Cross Murrupula, and for
Fr. Domingos and his family**

also for Christians facing persecution in countries such as North Korea,
Somalia, Libya, Eritrea, Yemen and Iran.

for more details see <https://www.opendoorsuk.org/>

SERVICE TIMES next week

Wednesday 26th March 11.00am

Mothering Sunday 30th March 10am

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

https://www.facebook.com/StHildaAshford/live_videos

or see: <https://www.youtube.com/@sthildachurch8263>

NOTICES

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

Messy Church on 6th April

At Messy Church on 6th of April one of the activities is to make musical instruments to use on Palm Sunday. If possible, but not essential, could the children bring a small lidded plastic bottle or container. We will also be having a kind of agape breakfast as the final activity .

Church Spring Cleaning

Each year we dust, clean and polish the parts of the church that the weekly cleaners don't get to. Many hands make light work so we would like to ask for your help, either on a Sunday morning after the service or during the week when the church is open.

There is a list of tasks at the back of church so you can choose what you feel you are able to do. In addition at the end, usually the week before Palm Sunday, we clear the chairs and wash and polish the floor. This needs to be done over several days, including the 2 vestries and the church hall. If you are able to help - can you please indicate on the list. Thank you in advance for helping to maintain our beautiful church building.

Easter Lilies

This year as in previous years we will be offering you the chance to purchase a lily stem in memory of those dear to you. Forms are available at the back of church for completion and return to the Parish office by Palm Sunday 13th April.

The names of all those for whom a lily has been donated will be displayed in the memorial corner and the flower team will arrange the lilies in pedestals around the church for viewing on Easter Sunday.

Flower Team and Flower Pots

The Flower Team will be meeting at 9.30am on Easter Saturday, please let me know if you will be available to help arrange the lilies. Please bring any greenery you can from your garden.

The Flower Team will be up and running properly after Easter. Alison and I are currently finalising a rota.

We would be very grateful for pots and troughs of colourful Spring flowers, as Alison explained last Sunday, please deliver to the church by Palm Sunday (13th April).

Pauline Milton

***** THE ELECTORAL ROLL NOTICE *****

At an APCM, only those who are on the Electoral Roll may take part in the voting for Churchwardens and PCC Members. This year is special, as it has to be a complete revision of the Roll. That means that everyone will need to re-apply. The process will begin at the end of this month, and this is just a friendly warning that there is work to be done.

If you consider that St Hilda's is your regular place of worship I am sure that you would wish to be included on our Electoral Roll. This is to ensure that you are able to take part in the decision-making for the parish. To that end, you will need to complete an Electoral Roll application form. These will be available either from me after the Sunday service, or from the office. The Electoral Roll will be closed for revision on **31st March 2025**, and applications will have to have been received by that date. So you have six weeks before the deadline.

Jane Dobbie, Electoral Roll Officer 01784 252051

Community Lunch in church - Wednesday at 12 noon

Do join us!

If you are able to help, even once a month, please liaise with Bobbie.

Bible Study Group - Wednesday at 7.45pm.

We meet in our new venue: the **Hawley room** in the church hall: use the side door (which opens outwards) and follow the corridor left and left again. We meet most Wednesday evenings.

We will be continuing our look at John's Gospel, following the last hours of Jesus' life on earth. You are very welcome to join us.

Feed My Sheep - Tuesday 25th March at 2:30pm

*** The meeting will be in the Small Hall. ***

Our topic will be: **St. Patrick and St. George**

Do come and join us. We meet on the 4th Tuesday, from 2.30pm – 4pm 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

April: No meeting

27th May: Letters of Peter John and James

Mothers' Union Lunch – Tuesday 8th April at 12 noon

Ambling through Acts course – Thursday 10th April at 7.30pm

(Usually 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.

St. Hilda's Breakfast - Saturday 12th April at 9:30am

Do come along and enjoy good food and fellowship.

There will be a list at the back of church: if you intend to come please sign it so we know how many to cater for.

Suggested donation £5, payable on the day.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting - Sunday 27th April at 11.30am

There are a number of vacancies for the Parochial Church Council. If you would like to know more about it please speak to any member of the current PCC. Liz Brian has nomination forms if you decide you would like to stand for election: you must be at least 16, an actual communicant, and have been on the electoral roll of St. Hilda's for at least 6 months.

Red Hot Strings – Saturday 3rd May

The electric/classic violin duo will be returning to St. Hilda's in May. Tickets cost £20. See posters for more details

Food Bank Donations

We continue to collect for the Food Bank run by the Salvation Army. Please put donations of food and toiletries in the wooden chest at the back of church. Items most wanted at the moment are:

| | |
|-------------|----------------------|
| Pasta sauce | Blackcurrent squash |
| Porridge | Tinned plum tomatoes |
| Cornflakes | Tinned sweetcorn |

They have "vast quantities" of the following items, so avoid them:

| | | |
|-------|----------------|-------------|
| Pasta | Long life milk | Baked Beans |
|-------|----------------|-------------|

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 |

RED HOT STRINGS

IN CONCERT 2025

An electric/classic violin duo, the combined powerhouse of Lisa and Sarah are renowned for bringing classical music into the 21st century.

This female electric LED violin duo are categorically at the top of their game. They have performed for leading brands such as Rolex, Landrover Jaguar and McLaren and have performed with artists such as Adele, Madonna, Rod Stewart and Simply Red.

Do not miss this opportunity to see them live near you!

The Riverhouse Barn, Walton

Friday 25th April 2025

Saturday 26th April 2025



SCAN ME!

St Hilda's Church, Ashford

Saturday 3rd May 2025



SCAN ME!

The Grotto @ Painshill Park

Friday 20th June 2025

Ticket link coming soon!

D'Oyly Carte Island

Saturday 5th July 2025

Ticket link coming soon!

redhotstrings.com

FOLLOW US: @RedHotStrings

Contact Information

Vicar

Fr. Julius Anozie

vicar@sthilda.org

+447359 876498

Licensed Lay Minister

Rosalyn Young

rosalyn@sthilda.org

Churchwardens

Paula Gething

Stuart Young

PCC Secretary

Liz Brian

Email: secretary@sthilda.org

PCC Treasurer

Khadijeh

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>