

ST HILDA'S ASHFORD



MOTHERING SUNDAY 2023

<https://www.facebook.com/StHildaAshford/>



From *The Altar Piece* in Gloucester Cathedral by Iain McKillop

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 untied 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 – *We sit*

The Creed – *We stand*

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 up other things
and 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 – *We stand*

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
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

All ye who seek a comfort sure
In trouble and distress,
Whatever sorrow vex the mind,
Or guilt the soul oppress,

Jesus, who gave himself for you
Upon the cross to die,
Opens to you his sacred heart;
O to that heart draw nigh.

Ye hear how kindly he invites;
Ye hear his words so blest -
"All ye that labour come to me,
And I will give you rest."

O Jesus, joy of saints on high,
Thou hope of sinners here,
Attracted by those loving words
To thee I lift my prayer.

Wash thou my wounds in that dear blood
Which forth from thee doth flow;
New grace, new hope inspire, a new
And better heart bestow.

[C18th Latin tr Edward Caswall © Hymns Ancient & Modern Ltd]

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

Come down, O love divine,
Seek thou this soul of mine,
And visit it with thine own ardour glowing;
O Comforter, draw near,
Within my heart appear,
And kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

O let it freely burn,
Till earthly passions turn
To dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
And let thy glorious light
Shine ever on my sight,
And clothe me round the while my path illuming.

Let holy charity
Mine outward vesture be,
And lowliness become mine inner clothing;
True lowliness of heart,
Which takes the humbler part,
And o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.

And so the yearning strong,
With which the soul will long,
Shall far outpass the power of human telling;
For none can guess its grace,
Till he become the place
Wherein the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling.

[Bianco de Siena tr. R. F. Littledale]

Sing we of the blessed 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 blessed,
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]

When in our music God is glorified,
And adoration leaves no room for pride,
It is as though the whole creation cried
Alleluia!

How often, making music, we have found
A new dimension in the world of sound,
As worship moved us to a more profound
Alleluia!

So has the Church, in liturgy and song,
In faith and love, through centuries of wrong,
Borne witness to the truth in ev'ry tongue,
Alleluia!

And did not Jesus sing a psalm that night
When utmost evil strove against the Light?
Then let us sing, for whom he won the fight,
Alleluia!

Let ev'ry instrument be tuned for praise!
Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise!
And may God give us faith to sing always
Alleluia!

*[Fred Pratt Green © Words: 1972 Stainer & Bell Ltd
Music: 1972 Hope Publishing Company]*

Prayers after Communion

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. **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.

Notices

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

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:
Refrain

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.
Refrain

[F. S. Pierpoint]

SERVICE TIMES

Wednesday 22nd March 11.00am

Sunday 26th March 10.00am

!!! Clocks go forward 1 hour this morning !!!

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

Please remember in your prayers this week:

THE SICK:

Michael Brown	Melvyn Jansen	Bernice
Lizio Cassar	Pat Kyle	Christine
Ros Clifton	Pauline Milton	Elaine
Saffi Cobham	Ray Nation	Libby
Joan Davies	Betty Vince	Nic
Wilfred Galloway	Barbara Warne	Solange
Vicky Hall		

If you would like a name added to the prayer list, please contact the Parish Office.

THE RECENTLY DEPARTED:

Davina Bassett	Fr Marco Lopes	Cedric Harris
Shelagh	Collin Taylor	

THOSE IN OUR MEMORIAL BOOK THIS WEEK

Charles Thomas Franklin	Joan Mary Ayres
Joyce Ann Patterson	Trevor James Gray
Helen Mary Davidson	Terence Elbrow
Winifred Catherine Palmer	Gordon Thurlow James Pritchard
Stanley Hardy	Michael Alan Young

Please pray for our ALMA twin Parish, Holy Cross Murrupula

NOTICES

The Parish Office is available by phone or email. Visitors by appointment only.

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.

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 all welcome to join us for our Lent study course.

PCC Meeting - Tuesday 21st March at 7pm

Feed My Sheep - Tuesday 28th 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.

The programme for the first half of the year is:

Mar 28th	Hymn Writers
Apr 25 th	Tyndale and the English Bible
May 23rd	Names for Jesus
June 27th	Jargon Busting
July 25 th	Popes – part 2

Children's Society Collecting Boxes

If you have a Children's Society collecting box, please bring it to Church and leave it on the table at the back of Church for the contents to be emptied, counted and banked by the **end of March**. Thank you.

Chris Davenport.

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 back of church and return it to the parish office by Palm Sunday (**2nd April**).

The flower team will be arranging the Easter lilies in Church on Easter Saturday, 8th 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.

THE ELECTORAL ROLL

Our APCM will take place on 30th April 2023. At an APCM, only those on the Electoral Roll may take part in the voting for Churchwardens and PCC Members.

If you consider that St Hilda's is your regular place of worship and would like to be included on our Electoral Roll, please do complete an Electoral Roll application form. These can be obtained either from me after the Sunday service, or from the office. The Electoral Roll will be closed for revision on **9th April 2023**, and applications will have to have been received by that date.

In addition, if you are already on the Electoral Roll and any of your details have changed, please would you let me know in writing, so that the register may be updated. If you have email, you can do this via the office, too, at: office@sthilda.org

Jane Dobbie, *Electoral Roll Officer*
01784 252051

SERVICES in HOLY WEEK

**Palm Sunday 2nd April 10am - Parish Eucharist and
Blessing of Palm Crosses**

Monday 3rd April 7pm - Compline

Tuesday 4th April 7pm - Compline

Wednesday 5th April

11am - Eucharist

7pm - Sung Compline

Maundy Thursday 6th April 7pm - Eucharist

Good Friday 7th April

10am - 5pm - Stations of the Cross

1.30pm - Choral devotion and Eucharist

Easter Eve 8th April 8pm - Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday 9th April 10.00am - Parish Eucharist

St. Hilda's Breakfast - Saturday 22nd April at 9:30am

Come along and enjoy good food and fellowship.

More details later

Brass Band Concert - Saturday 22nd April at 7.30pm

A date for your diary: Staines Brass Band and Ascot Brass Band are planning a joint concert to be held in St. Hilda's Church. More details later.

Ambling through Acts course –Thursday 4th May at 7.30pm

There will be no meeting in April as the first Thursday that month is Maundy Thursday

St Hilda's Newsletter - Editor wanted.

Unfortunately Karen is unable to continue as editor; we thank her for her hard work producing the recent editions.

This means we are again looking for an editor, who needs to be computer literate and prepared to spend about 8-10 hours a month producing the newsletter. Volunteers please speak to Fr. Joseph; for more information about what is involved ask Rosemary Greenwood.

Parish administrator

Our parish administrator is Laura Goodman. Her office hours are:

Monday:	3.30-5pm
Wednesday:	3.30-6.30pm
Friday:	3.30-6.30pm
Saturday:	9.45-11.15am

Any appointments in person must be booked.

WANTED - Clothing for Bronzefield

They are looking for leggings, leggings, leggings, winter coats, plain T-shirts and long-sleeved tops, and shoes and boots in sizes 5 and 6. Please put any donations in the blue bin at the back of church - they will be separated out from other donations.

Local Elections Thursday 4th May 2023

Note that to vote in person at these elections you will need to show photographic ID such as a Driver's Licence, Passport or Older Person's Bus Pass. If you do not have any suitable ID you can apply by 25th April for a free Voter Authority Certificate. You do not need ID for a postal vote - the deadline to apply for this is 5pm on 18th April.

See the leaflet included with the recent Council Tax bill for more details, or see www.spelthorne.gov.uk/elections, or phone the Electoral Services Team on 01784 444218

CAR POOL?

Can you offer a lift to church for someone who can no longer drive?

Do you need a lift to church?

Can you and a neighbour share a car journey to church?

Would you be prepared to co-ordinate a car sharing scheme?

For both practical and environmental reasons we would like to start a car sharing scheme. If the answer to any of these questions is "Yes", please see Rosemary Greenwood.

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.

The Food Bank is currently short of:

- Shower gel, Shampoo

- Kitchen & bathroom spray cleaners

- J cloths

- Small packs of washing powder and capsules

- Toilet cleaner

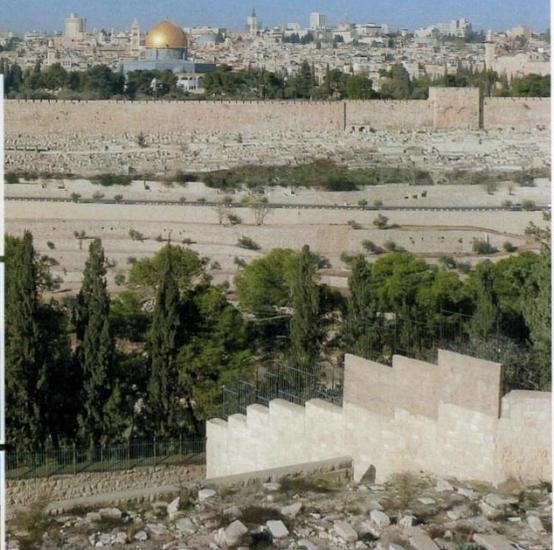
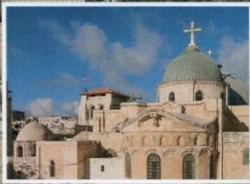
- Kitchen rolls and toilet rolls

- and tinned vegetarian meals such as Macaroni cheese and

- Vegetarian curry

A PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND

10 days based in Jerusalem & Galilee



5 - 14 March 2024

**With Father Steve Gayle
& Father Joseph Fernandes**

For full details call or email

Tel: 07903 175038 or 01784 254237

steveagayle@yahoo.com or vicar@sthilda.org



McCabe
PILGRIMAGES

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Churchwarden

Bobbie Bedford

PCC Secretary

Liz Brian

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PCC Treasurer

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PA to Fr Joseph

Mariane Tank pa@sthilda.org

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Chris Davenport

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