

ST HILDA'S ASHFORD



**MOTHERING SUNDAY
WITH BAPTISM OF ELLIE-ANN
JASMIN GRIFFITHS
10AM 30 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.

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

Angel voices ever singing
Round thy throne of light,
Angel harps, forever ringing,
Rest not day nor night;
Thousands only live to bless thee,
And confess thee Lord of might.

Thou who art beyond the farthest
Mortal eye can scan,
Can it be that thou regardest
Songs of sinful man?
Can we feel that thou art near us
And wilt hear us? Yea, we can.

For we know that thou rejoicest
O'er each work of thine;
Thou didst ears and hands and voices
For thy praise design;
Craftsman's art and music's measure
For thy pleasure all combine.

In thy house, great God, we offer
Of thine own to thee;
And for thine acceptance proffer
All unworthily
Hearts and minds and hands and voices
In our choicest psalmody.

Honour, glory, might and merit,
Thine shall ever be,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
Blessed Trinity;
Of the best which thou hast given
Earth and Heaven render thee.

[Francis Pott]

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.

Our Lord Jesus Christ has told us
that to enter the kingdom of heaven
we must be born again of water and the Spirit,
and has given us baptism as the sign and seal of this new
birth.

Here we are washed by the Holy Spirit and made clean.

Here we are clothed with Christ,
dying to sin that we may live his risen life.

As children of God, we have a new dignity
and God calls us to fullness of life.

Prayer of Preparation

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

Invitation to confession

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

Silence for reflection

Your love gives us life from the moment of conception.
We fail to live as your children.
Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

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

All Christ, have mercy.

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

All Lord, have mercy.

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

All Amen.

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

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

All Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Old Testament Reading – Exodus 2 vv 1 - 10

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

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

woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, 'because', she said, 'I drew him out of the water.'

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

New Testament Reading – Colossians 3 vv 12 - 17

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

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Gradual 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]

Gospel Reading – John 19 vv 25 - 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

Presentation of the Candidate

Ellie-Ann Jasmin, do you wish to be baptized?

E-A I do.

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 this candidate and uphold her in his new life in Christ?

All 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?

E-A I reject them.

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

E-A I renounce them.

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

E-A I repent of them.

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

E-A I turn to Christ.

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

E-A I submit to Christ.

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

E-A I come to Christ.

Signing with the Cross

Ellie-Ann Jasmin, 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.

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 this candidate 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.

Ellie-Ann Jasmin, is this your faith?

E-A This is my faith.

Baptism

Ellie-Ann Jasmin, 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

Those who are baptized are called to worship and serve God.

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship,
in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

E-A With the help of God, I will.

Will you persevere in resisting evil,
and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the
Lord?

E-A With the help of God, I will.

Will you proclaim by word and example
the good news of God in Christ?

E-A With the help of God, I will.

Will you seek and serve Christ in all people,
loving your neighbour as yourself?

E-A With the help of God, I will.

Will you acknowledge Christ's authority over human society,
by prayer for the world and its leaders,
by defending the weak, and by seeking peace and justice?

E-A With the help of God, I will.

May Christ dwell in your heart(s) through faith,
that you may be rooted and grounded in love
and bring forth the fruit of the Spirit.

All Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

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

The prayers may use the response:

All God of love, hear our prayer.

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: Ellie-Ann
Jasmin, 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.**

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

**Faithful Shepherd, feed me
In the pastures green;
Faithful Shepherd, lead me
Where thy steps are seen.**

**Hold me fast, and guide me
In the narrow way;
So, with thee beside me,
I shall never stray.**

**Daily bring me nearer
To the heavenly shore;
May my faith grow clearer,
May I love thee more.**

**Hallow every pleasure,
Every gift and pain;
Be thyself my treasure,
Though none else I gain.**

**Day by day prepare me
As thou seest best,
Then let angels bear me
To thy promised rest.**

[T B Pollock]

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.

All confirmed Anglicans, as well as all baptized Christians who truly believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and are in a state of grace, are welcome to receive communion, provided they would normally do so in their own church. If you are not receiving communion today, you are warmly invited to come forward for a blessing; please indicate this by bringing your order of service with you.

Communion Hymns

**The King of love my Shepherd is,
Whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his
And he is mine forever.**

**Where streams of living water flow
My ransomed soul he leadeth,
And where the verdant pastures grow,
With food celestial feedeth.**

**Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,
But yet in love he sought me,
And on his shoulder gently laid,
And home, rejoicing, brought me.**

**In death's dark vale I fear no ill
With thee, dear Lord, beside me;
Thy rod and staff my comfort still,
Thy cross before to guide me.**

**Thou spread'st a table in my sight;
Thy unction grace bestoweth;
And O what transport of delight
From thy pure chalice floweth!**

**And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise#
Within thy house forever.**

[H. W. Baker]

Anthem: When in our music God is glorified.

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

**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]

**Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless his holy name.
Bless the Lord, my soul, He rescues thee from death.**

[© 1982 Ateliers et Presses de Taizé]

Prayers after Communion

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

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

All Amen.

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

Mothering Sunday posies are blessed and distributed

Notices - see pages 27 - 31

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.

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

I cannot tell how he whom angels worship
Should stoop to love the peoples of the earth,
Or why as shepherd he should seek the wand'rer
With his mysterious promise of new birth.
But this I know, that he was born of Mary,
When Beth'lem's manger was his only home,
And that he lived at Nazareth and laboured,
And so the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is come.

I cannot tell how silently he suffered,
As with his peace he graced this place of tears,
Or how his heart upon the cross was broken,
The crown of pain to three and thirty years.
But this I know, he heals the broken-hearted,
And stays our sin, and calms our lurking fear,
And lifts the burden from the heavy laden,
For yet the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is here.

I cannot tell how he will win the nations,
How he will claim his earthly heritage,
How satisfy the needs and aspirations
Of east and west, of sinner and of sage.
But this I know, all flesh shall see his glory,
And he shall reap the harvest he has sown,
And some glad day his sun shall shine in splendour
When he the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is known.

I cannot tell how all the lands shall worship,
When, at his bidding, ev'ry storm is stilled,
Or who can say how great the jubilation
When ev'ry heart with perfect love is filled.

**But this I know, the skies will thrill with rapture,
And myriad, myriad human voices sing,
And earth to heav'n, and heav'n to earth, will answer:
"At last the Saviour, Saviour of the world is King!"**

[William Young Fullerton

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Please remember in your prayers this week:

THOSE FOR WHOM OUR PRAYERS HAVE BEEN ASKED:

Michael Brown	John Hunt	Edith Smith
Ben Bishop	Matthew Hutnell	Delia Woodley
Stan Bishop	Pat Kyle	Ben
AnneMarie Bough	Mary Mills	Daniella
Tony Diggins	Ray Nation	David
Barbara Dunbar	Pat Parish	Fiona
Maureen Firth	Massimo Pellizzari	Mince and her children
Sheila Freeman	Lena Richardson	Paddy
Gemma Hart	Martine Simpson	Peter

THE RECENTLY DEPARTED

Elaine Taylor Mary Mason

THOSE IN OUR MEMORIAL BOOK THIS WEEK

Thomas Charles McLennan	Joan Mary Harden	Ethel Ellen Barlow
Iris Muriel Anne Hands	Dorothy Hollister	Doris May Hedges
Patricia Myrtle Oldfield	Doris Sims	Barbara Smith
Dora Winifred Swiney	Mary Straughan	
Patricia Johanna Forsbrey	Nick Iona	

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, Iran and Nigeria.

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

SERVICE TIMES next week

Wednesday 2nd April 11.00am

Sunday 6th April 10am

Junior Church will be in the Hall for Messy Church

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 **tomorrow 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.

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.

Feed My Sheep - Tuesday 27th May at 2:30pm

*** There will be no meeting in April. ***

Our topic will be: **Letters of Peter John and James**

Do come and join us .We meet in the Small Hall 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

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
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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



St Hilda's Church
Ashford

PRESENTS

RED HOT STRINGS

IN CONCERT



7.30pm
Saturday 3rd May 2025

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Contact Information

Vicar

Fr. Julius Anozie
vicar@sthilda.org

+447359 876498

Licenced 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:

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TW15 3QL

Telephone: 01784 253525 Email: office@sthilda.org

Website: www.sthilda.org

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