



St Hilda's
Ashford

St Hilda's News

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If you would like help or to speak to a member of the ministry team please contact:

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Welcome to the November issue of St Hilda's News and a huge Thank You to those who have contributed to this edition of St Hilda's News.

As always, we want to hear from you, so please tell us about your hobbies, activities, big birthdays and other celebrations.

Send all contributions to the Parish Office, either by email or post.

There are a lot of activities this month in Church so come along and join in or visit and view the knitted poppies which will again be displayed for Remembrance.

The Editors

A Prayer for Peace at this time of Remembrance

O God of the nations,
as we look to that day when you will gather people
from north and south, east and west,
into the unity of your peaceable Kingdom,
guide with your just and gentle wisdom all who take counsel
for the nations of the world,
that all your people may spend their days in security, freedom, and
peace,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

The Life of your Ordinand Part Two

It has been another month full of new things and experiences. I have managed to write my first essay and submit it on time. I must confess it was a battle before I could turn my head around it and just let go of fear and pressure (which definitely was my own) and start writing. I did have some excellent help of Barak, even though I don't always appreciate his furry presence in the middle of my books or on my laptop. He has the tendency of turning up, covering the screen or playing with my pens, when I really think I am too busy and want to stay focused.



Actually, it is sometimes the same with our relationship with God. God is always there poking us gently, as a reminder that we can be busy and letting God be part our business as well as our quiet times. We are never alone, and it is a blessing to have a God who want to be part of everything in our lives.



And you have noticed, I have moved to be standing behind the altar on Sundays and Wednesdays. It is nothing new for me to leading service or worship, but to be positioned behind the altar is. It is a strange mix of feeling comfortably at home and a bit misplaced at the same time. My Lutheran brain is definitely colliding with the Anglican brain here. I will grow into it I am sure, but it becomes clear that I am learning a new custom and culture. Being a Lutheran deacon is a bit different from being an

Anglican deacon and I am getting my head around it slowly. May St Hilda, the patron of culture and learning, guide me gently, together with your patience and support. Most of the times after a sweet little mix up, I giggle at myself, sitting on the train heading home. One day I will get it all right.

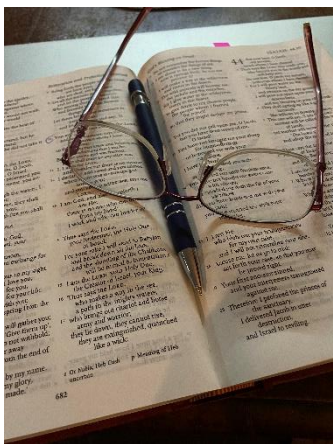
On my walk home from the train I pass a few shops and grocery stores. Outside the groceries I often meet a couple of homeless guys. I'll call them Gary and David. Two really nice guys, sitting outside a Tesco and a Sainsbury's, not very close to each other. Normally I stop chatting to them and if I have some change, I give it to them, or on my way to buy my milk, I buy some bits and pieces for them too.

Now a few Wednesdays ago, I came home with a bag full of leftovers from our lovely communal lunch. I was quite happy I didn't need to plan for a few meals or snacks. Still

reflecting on a good conversation about how we can spread the word about our communal lunches a few of us had earlier. I came to think about how we spread the Good News overall, inviting people to take part in generous fellowship and why we actually do what we do. I ended up with the women at the empty tomb on Easter morning. In my mind I asked myself: what if the women had stayed by the tomb, just waiting for others to come and witness the wonder of the risen Christ? And if nobody would come, then what? Do we take their testimony for granted? What if it was me standing there by the empty tomb, suddenly carrying something wonderful beyond what's comprehensible...



We can share the love of God in many ways, and we can meet Christ in many different people. Sometimes we might not be aware of it, because we are focused on another how and who. There are quite a few 'Garys' and 'Davids' out there.



When I finally came home my bag with the leftovers was almost empty. Gary always says "Bless you miss Vicar (I've given up explaining to him I'm not a vicar or even priested yet). You know what Gary; it is I who am blessed. You embrace and accept my sharing. A sharing of God's love through leftovers and chats.

I think the greatest worldly lessons this month has do to with coffee and toothpaste. Note to self: if somebody ask you to make them coffee, do remember that the preference in strength is most likely very different from mine. And by all means, do remember to brush your teeth before putting that black dog collar on. Toothpaste stains shine like little stars on the black.

Until next part, take a moment to breathe in the wonders of life and know God is right there with you.

Helen

Feed My Sheep

Feed My Sheep will return in January 2022. Unless anything derails us! See the December St Hilda's News for further details.

I am planning to move this to a Tuesday afternoon. And this will be the last Tuesday in the month. Can people let me know if that works for them.

Many thanks

Rosalyn Young

Signs and Symbols



Chi and Rho are the first two letters (XP) of "Christ" in Greek ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ. (*Christos*).



And so the two were put together. The ChiRho symbol. (KEE-roe")

It was used by the early Christians.

The first public use of the Chi Rho symbol was on the labarum, the shield of Constantine's warriors in the Battle of Milvian Bridge on October 28, 213 AD. Emperor Constantine (reigned 306-337) and his troops saw a miraculous sign in the sky the day before the battle. Emperor Constantine won the Battle of Milvian Bridge and believed he won because of the symbol of Christ, the Chi Rho, upon the shields of his men. Several months later, Constantine in the Edit of Milan declared Christianity legal in the Roman Empire. The almost three hundred years of Imperial Persecution against Christians were over.

But even before Constantine and the early Christians, the Chi Rho symbol is believed to have been worshipped by pagans in ancient Greece. They did so in their belief that the symbol bestowed good fortune. Pagan Greek scribes marked passages deemed relevant with the Chi Rho sign, signifying "Chreston," which translates to "good."

The symbol was also featured on the coins of Ptolemy III around 246 to 222 B



Sometimes it had the letters

A

alpha and

Ω

omega added. The first and last

letters of the Greek alphabet.

They are also represented as



Jesus refers to himself: "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End." (Revelation 22:13).

Christchurch Priory – *Bobbie Bedford*

Last week Mariane and I went on a coach trip to Christchurch, the first one in over 18 months. We were fortunate to have wonderful weather and had a lovely walk by the river. One of the places on our list to visit was Christchurch Priory, it's absolutely beautiful, there were people to welcome visitors and pass on information regarding the Priory. One of the more intriguing pieces of information was this.

In Anglo-Saxon times Christchurch was known as Toinham/Twynham which meant town/hamlet between two rivers. A mysterious carpenter joined the workforce cutting timber beams for the Nave roof. One day the team cut a beam too short but the next day this beam had miraculously lengthened and been placed in its position and the mysterious carpenter was never seen again. It was assumed that the carpenter was Jesus and in a charter of 1160 the town changed its name from 'Twynham' to 'Christ's Church'.

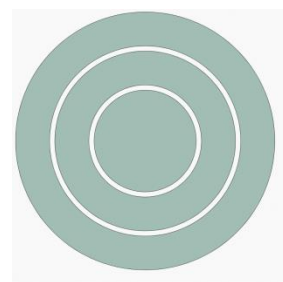
If you get the chance to visit Christchurch, do visit the Priory there is so much history contained in one building.

31st October - 4th Sunday before Advent

Sheep and Lambs Together Creative and Reflective activities for All Ages

Read **Mark 12.28-34**

- Draw a large circle and then two smaller rings inside that. Get everyone a circle picture and ask them to write: 'Love God' inside the inner circle. Talk together about how we show our love for God.
- Discuss that the middle circle is for ourselves. Write your own name and/ write or draw things about yourself. Things that you do: things that make you – YOU! Talk about ways we can be kind to ourselves and show love to ourselves.
- Finally, the outer circle is for 'our neighbour' – people you want to pray for, e.g., friends and family, the people in your street, but also our global neighbours and people we have never even met. Finish by praying for all these people, and adding words/pictures to the outer circle.



Almighty God,
 you have knit together your elect
 in one communion and fellowship
 in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord:
 grant us grace so to follow your blessed saints
 in all virtuous and godly living
 that we may come to those inexpressible joys
 that you have prepared for those who truly love you;
 through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
 who is alive and reigns with you,
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 one God, now and for ever.
 Amen

2 Corinthians 5:7

for we walk by faith, not by sight.

7th November - 3rd Sunday before Advent

Sheep and Lambs Together Creative and Reflective activities for All Ages

Read **Mark 12.38-44**

You will need: one sign with '31,000 Vietnamese dong', and one sign with '£5'.

- Ask two volunteers to each hold a sign. Say that these two people are going to give their money to charity. Ask: Who is being the most generous? Reveal that the one who sounds like they are giving less (£5) is actually giving five times more than the other. How come?
- Ask everyone to think about another scenario. Someone earns £8,000 a month and someone else, £800. The first is going to give £1,000 to charity. The other person is going to give £5. Ask: Who is being the most generous?
- Ask for another two volunteers. Each will give the same amount of money to charity. Ask one to act really smug and brag about how generous they are. Ask the other to be silent. Ask: Who is being the most generous?



Maybe you could support a charity this week in some way?

Heavenly Father,
 whose blessed Son was revealed
 to destroy the works of the devil
 and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life:
 grant that we, having this hope,
 may purify ourselves even as he is pure;
 that when he shall appear in power and great glory
 we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom;
 where he is alive and reigns with you,
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 one God, now and for ever.
 Amen

2 Thessalonians 3:5

May the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God and to the steadfastness of Christ.

14th November - 2nd Sunday before Advent

Sheep and Lambs Together **Creative and Reflective activities for All Ages**

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Gather together some poppies and a selection of toy figures, maybe a horse and a few other animals. (Lego, playmobile) 2 pieces of brown paper or fabric.

Sit in a circle.

About 100 years ago people started fighting - -

Put down 3 figures in the middle of the circle.

They started fighting for lots of reasons. But once they started, they could not stop. More people joined in.

Put a few more figures and a horse if you have one.

And then more and more until almost the whole world was fighting. Not just soldiers but farmers and policemen, teachers and artists. Even people who didn't like fighting had to fight. . Even horses. Lots of people got very badly hurt. Lots of people died.

Lay the figures on their backs and cover with the brown "cloth"

Everyone was very sad. Then something surprising happened. In the fields where the fighting had happened, red poppies grew.

Lay some poppies on the brown field.

People looked at the beautiful poppies and remembered how beautiful life can be. They shook their heads and said "We must never fight like this again. We must remember this, so it never happens again! These poppies will remind us.!" That was the 1st World War.

But just a few years later the fighting began again. This time there were some bullies.

Place some figure next to the brown field.

They began to hurt people.

Add more figures

“What can we do?” everyone asked. The bullying got worse and worse. “We have to stop them. We will have to fight!” they said. So, the fighting began again.

Add more figures.

Like last time, not only soldiers had to fight, but fire fighters and shopkeepers, bus drivers and dancers.

More figures

But this time the fighting spread so it even hurt people at home. Children and old people, animals and pets. Lots of people were badly hurt. Lots of people died. But the bullies were stopped. That was the 2nd World War.

Cover these figures with another piece of brown cloth/paper.

When the fighting finished everyone shook their heads and said, “We must never fight like this again! We must remember these world wars so they never happen again! We must learn not to fight when we’re cross or scared, but to use our words instead. The beautiful poppies will remind us!”

Point to the poppies on the first cloth.

That’s why we wear our poppies in November. To remember the World Wars. To remember the people who died.

Today there is still fighting all around the world. We remember the people who have died. We remember the soldiers who keep us safe. And we promise to try to learn to use our words and not to fight,

(Diddy Disciples)

You might like to finish with the following:

The Exhortation

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:

Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.

At the going down of the sun and in the morning

We will remember them.

The Two Minute Silence is observed.

The Kohima Epitaph

When you go home, tell them of us and say,

For your tomorrow, we gave our today.

Almighty Father,
 whose will is to restore all things
 in your beloved Son, the King of all:
 govern the hearts and minds of those in authority,
 and bring the families of the nations,
 divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin,
 to be subject to his just and gentle rule;
 who is alive and reigns with you,
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 one God, now and for ever.
 Amen

Matthew 5:9

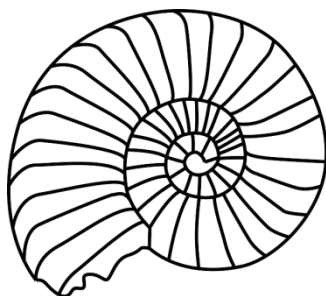
“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

19th November - The Feast Day of St Hilda

Sheep and Lambs Together Creative and Reflective activities for All Ages

Find out about St Hilda – Abbess of Whitby and a Saxon Princess. St Hilda's is dedicated to her so it is our patronal festival.

Make a banner using the shell which is her symbol. Colour them in any way you like.
 Finish with a prayer from St Hilda.



*May I be equal to Your hope of me.
 If I am weak,
 I ask that You send only what I can bear.
 If I am strong,
 may I shrink from no testing
 that shall yield increase of strength
 or win security for my spirit.
 I trust in Thee, O Lord.
 I say, 'Thou art my God.'
 My times are in Thy hand,
 my times are in Thy hand.*

-St. Hilda

21st November - next Sunday before Advent

Sheep and Lambs Together Creative and Reflective activities for All Ages

Christ the King

Read **John 18.33-37**

- Create a quiet, comfortable space and settle everyone in it.
- Ask everyone to close their eyes and focus on their breathing.
Then read the words,
- *'Jesus said, "for this I came into the world, to speak up for the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."'*
Invite everyone to say together: '***We belong to the truth of Jesus, so we listen for Jesus.***'
- Pause for a few moments and repeat the section in italics several times.

Then talk for a few minutes about the importance of telling the truth in our everyday lives. Finish by returning to the prayer circle and the words in italics.

Almighty Father,
whose will is to restore all things
in your beloved Son, the King of all:
govern the hearts and minds of those in authority,
and bring the families of the nations,
divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin,
to be subject to his just and gentle rule;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen

John 4:24

God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."

28th November - Advent Sunday

Sheep and Lambs Together **Creative and Reflective activities for All Ages**

Read **Luke 21.25-36**

- Print off or display some signs and symbols of hope: eg flower buds, rainbow in a window, candlelight in the darkness, sun shining through clouds, a new baby and anything else you might like to use.
- Look at the pictures together and ask everyone what each image reminds them of. Emphasise the sign of hope in each.
- Discuss what signs of hope we see in our everyday lives. They may be even smaller than those in the images.



Almighty God,
give us grace to cast away the works of darkness
and to put on the armour of light,
now in the time of this mortal life,
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility;
that on the last day,
when he shall come again in his glorious majesty
to judge the living and the dead,
we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen

1 Peter 1:15

Therefore prepare your minds for action; discipline yourselves; set all your hope on the grace that Jesus Christ will bring you when he is revealed.



YCCN Relay - from Tyne to Tweed



You may remember that in August the Young Christian Climate Network relay (from Cornwall with the G7 talks to Glasgow and the COP26 talks) came through Ashford and the walkers stayed the night at St. Hilda's.

The purpose of the relay is to ask the UK government to:

1. Reinstate foreign aid budget to pre-COVID levels
2. Secure agreement from rich countries to at least double the decade-old promise of \$100bn a year for climate finance
3. Ensure finance for climate-induced loss and damage
4. Push for debt cancellation so climate-vulnerable nations can better confront the climate crisis and other urgent priorities

I took part in the relay from Reading to London, and found it so worthwhile that I went back for a second dose, much further north. The people involved were different, the scenery was very different, but the inspiration, and hospitality were the same.

I travelled to Newcastle the day before that stage of the walk started, which gave me time to explore some of the Tyne bridges, and to watch a film screened by Christian Aid as part of the relay: *Thank you for the rain*. This is about, and partly filmed by, a subsistence farmer in Kenya who is passionate about tree planting, and who is being affected by climate change now. The first drought is broken by a storm which removes the roofs from 30 huts in the village, including his. Another year the rains come with floods which destroy most of the crops and young trees. Without crops he cannot pay school fees for his children. While he travels to encourage other villages to plant trees, his wife and young children are left to work the farm. He attended the Paris COP20 talks representing farmers, and at first was encouraged, but as the talks went on without much action, he became dispirited: "I would like to take some of the leaders home and show them what it is like to be a farmer like me". It was very thought-provoking.

Next morning I was at the cathedral again, with my rucksack, to meet my fellow walkers and resume the relay.



Adam (the tall one in the centre of the picture) was the YCCN representative for the stage. He recently started working for a housing association, and was using up all his leave for the walk. He, Adrian, Stephen, Stephan and I walked the seven days to Holy Island so were provided with accommodation; I went one more day to Berwick-upon-Tweed, Adam continued to Edinburgh, and Adrian and Stephan will be close to Glasgow as I write this. Gilly and her spaniel Martha joined us for three days, and others for a day or two.

The Dean blessed us, and fifteen walkers set out led by Adrian while I acted as back-marker. The first day's walk was mainly urban. We were given refreshments in the courtyard of the Newcastle Quaker Meeting House (which dates from 1698), and lunch at St. Aidan's church in Wide Open; here we were given a lovely welcome by members of the congregation, some school children, and the local MP and some councillors. The MP is one of the very few who has agreed to back the YCCN "asks".

The route continued northward, eventually reaching some countryside, where our presence distracted a herd of bullocks which the farmer was trying to move to winter quarters! After a pause we were able to carry on, ending the day's walk at Cramlington station, from where the day walkers had a choice of transport home and the five of us were driven back to St. Aidan's for refreshments at the vicarage, supper in the church hall, and sleeping quarters split between the vicarage and the hall.

Next day, after breakfast in the hall (the toaster kept setting off the fire alarm!), we were driven back to Cramlington and joined by one other walker. As I had planned the route for the day, I was the designated leader - which made me slightly nervous as I had had no

chance to walk it in advance. However, we only had to back-track slightly a couple of times. It was a hot, sunny day - in October. We followed green routes through Cramlington, some field and road walking, then crossed the River Blythe on very solid concrete stepping stones. There was a pleasant path by the river to Bedlington where we bought lunch and picnicked in a small park, and later crossed the River Wansbeck and followed this to the coast where we had a break enjoying the sandy beach before continuing a short way up the coast to our destination of St. Andrew's and St. Mark's Ecumenical church in Newbiggin. Here we were welcomed by the minister and a helper, shown where everything (including the food for supper and breakfast) was and left to our own devices.

Saturday was a greyer day. We were joined by a family: Dan and Alison who are both ministers and their younger children Caed (pronounced Kade, derived from Caedmon) and Calla. We started along the beach to avoid a Fun Run on the promenade, then around the edges of a power station and the remains of the Alcan aluminium works, to Cresswell. We were rather behind schedule here so we had an early lunch stop at the Drift Café. For the next stretch we walked on the beach: miles of sand backed by the dunes of Druridge Bay. We made a tea stop at the Country Park, and as we resumed the walk it started to rain. As the tide was also coming in, we retreated to the path behind then through the dunes and so came to the village of Amble. Here the family left us to return home - after a fish and chip supper - and the five of us found our way to St. Cuthbert's Church. The vicar met us, gave us a quick history of the village while we sat in the church, then took us to the church hall in the next street where his wife provided tea and biscuits. Later we went to the vicarage for an impressive three-course meal.

On Sunday morning we went back to the vicarage for a good breakfast, then made our way back to the church where we were joined by more walkers. (We think 24 people walked part of this day, but there was so much coming and going that it was difficult to keep track). Gilly had organised, and led, this section. The walkers were introduced to the congregation at the start of the service; the vicar explained what we were doing and why, blessed us, and we went on our way.



by Amble harbour

The next stop was Warkworth where we joined the congregation of St. Lawrence's church for coffee after their service, then followed a cycle route as the shortest way to Alnmouth. Here we were welcomed at the Franciscan Friary and were invited to join the brothers for midday prayers (rather delayed thanks to us) and lunch - where we were allowed to talk instead of keeping silence as the brothers usually did. I was sitting next to Br. Paul, who used to be a master organ builder; one day he was working on the organ in a nunnery and a nun came up with a message for him: "God wants you to be a Franciscan Friar". He was rather taken aback, but more than 30 years later looked very happy in his calling.

Two of the brothers and the cook (who used to be a press office to parliament, and to the Bishop of London) joined us for the afternoon's walk along the beach, the cliff top, and finally inland past RAF Bulmer helicopter station to the church of St. Peter and St. Paul in Longhoughton. This is an ancient church with some Saxon stonework still visible. We were welcomed by the churchwardens, and had refreshments and a short service before the rest of the walkers left. One warden offered us the use of the shower at his house (very welcome!) and also provided breakfast the next day. The other warden gave us a generous evening meal at his house. We slept in the church, which was so well heated that I was glad of the draught under the door I was sleeping by!

On Monday Gillie led again and one other of Sunday's walkers re-joined us for the first part, down a path back to coast and along the cliff top to Craster. Here we were given lunch by a couple in their holiday cottage, and were joined by the local Green Councillor. The next stretch was very popular, leading past Dunstanburgh Castle, then we turned inland to Embleton where we were given refreshments in the playground of the primary school as the children were leaving. Seven adults, six children and a couple more dogs joined us for the final couple of miles over the fields (in light rain) back to beach where we had a short closing prayer, and into Low Newton.



Here one of the parents, Hattie, welcomed us into their house and provided refreshments before we went up the road to St. Mary's Church - the one remaining "tin tabernacle"

church in the area - for an evening service, then back to Hattie's. She and some friends provided a generous buffet supper with everyone who had been to the service invited. Her husband Simon was home by then. I have rarely seen anyone, let alone a couple, with such open, happy faces, but their life has not been easy: Simon is a Royal Marine and Hattie used to be an Aid Worker in areas such as South Sudan. For the first few years of their married life they were often apart for months at a time. This is the first year their nine-year-old son has started the autumn term at the same school two years running. They agreed that once they started a family one of them should be a full-time parent. For now, this is Hattie, but she has been retraining in accountancy with a view to working for a charity to ensure that the best use is made of donations, and Simon would then support her career as she has supported his.

We were driven back to Embleton to sleep in the church hall. We were told that the Northern Lights were likely to be seen that evening, but unfortunately it was too cloudy.

Tuesday morning began with a help-yourself breakfast in the hall, then the five of us were driven to High Newton where we set off in drizzle which lifted before long. We walked back to the coast and walked mainly along the beach via Beadnell to Seahouses, seeing clouds of starlings, pigeons, waders, and gulls along the way. We picnicked on a bench overlooking the harbour, then carried on up the coast, mainly on the beach, to Bamburgh, with the view of the Farne Islands changing as we walked. We crossed the sand dunes by the castle, and made our way through the village to have coffee and cakes with the vicar of St. Aidan's church, then had to walk quickly for the final miles through the fields, over the east coast railway line and the A1, to Belford to meet our lift back to Seahouses. Here we were given the run of the Methodist church; we provided our own supper (from the Co-op two doors away) but our hosts had left us plenty for breakfast.

On Wednesday we were driven back to Belford and joined by five walkers; one lady was crippled from a complication from shingles so she and her friend only joined us for a short way. The route continued inland, avoiding Budle Bay, and joined St. Cuthbert's Way. We had a picnic lunch in a small community garden in Fenwick, next to a recently-opened shop which seemed to cater to passing hikers and tourists, with refreshments and souvenirs. We re-crossed the A1 and the railway, and came to the coast close to the causeway to Holy Island (Lindisfarne). Here two of the walkers left us to get a bus home. The tide was low, so we chose to follow the pilgrim route across the mud-flats rather than walk on the road. This is more than two miles long, marked by tall posts, with two refuges for anyone who gets caught by the tide. Four of the six of us walked it bare-foot.



As we neared the land, we could hear curlews calling on our left, and seals on our right.

Walking along the shore (and again next morning) there were a number of dead guillemots; these have been reported all along the north east coast. The cause of death is not known, but the suspicion is that they have starved to death because climate change (and over-fishing) has depleted the stocks of the fish they feed on.

Our hosts that night was the St Vincent de Paul society, in the buildings where they run summer camps for children: proper beds (as the only woman I was given a room to myself), showers, and the volunteers looking after us even offered to wash our clothes! They provided refreshments when we arrived, supper, a cooked breakfast, and even packed lunches. They would be hosting the International Pilgrimage to COP26 a couple of days later.

Because of the tide times, we could not leave Holy Island until lunchtime on Thursday, which gave us time to explore while it was an island, before the day's tourists arrived. I was up in time to see sunrise over the Ferne Islands: glorious! The walk off the island along the causeway was rather less glorious: there was a strong cold wind, the road and the area around it was slippery from the sea, and there was a constant stream of cars approaching us - we wondered where they would all park.

Stephen left us once we were back on the mainland, to get a bus home: we missed his quiet company. Martin, who had crossed the mudflats with us before getting a bus home to Berwick, joined us a little later and led us the rest of the way, along the edge of the tidal area, along a dyke, then tracks and country roads behind the sand dunes, then along the cliff top, all with the strong, cold wind off the land - while the sea was calm! As we came into Spittle, just before Berwick, we watched Gannets plummeting into the sea right by the beach.

Martin took us to his house for refreshments. It was dark by the time he and his wife set us on our way to the Youth Hostel which was our accommodation for the night. In the morning, we parted as my companions for the week went with their hosts to breakfast before crossing into Scotland (with a piper and lots of publicity) while I took the train home - passing in 40 minutes what took us eight days to walk!

Please pray for all the pilgrims who are converging on Glasgow to show that the faith communities want action, and for all the delegates who will be making decisions which will affect the lives of our children and grandchildren and future generations.

Rosemary Greenwood



Once again The Mothers' Union is supporting The United Nations' 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence and Abuse. This international campaign runs from 25th November (International day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women – until the 10th December – International Human Rights Day.

The Mothers' Union will once again join with over 6,000 organisations from approximately 187 countries to raise awareness of, and call for an end to, gender based violence and abuse in all forms and in all societies.

Gender based violence can affect any person at any time and statistics demonstrate that women and girls are particularly at risk. Every day of the year The Mothers' Union works alongside communities to help end domestic abuse and gender based violence and to support those affected by it. For these 16 days we focus on women and girls, recognising the value of men and women, reflecting, praying and acting together to call for an end to violence in all its forms.

For the Lord is a God of justice

Isaiah 30:18b

*Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight.
Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes
of him to whom we must give account.*

Hebrews 4 :13

For all sorts of material on this topic please go to the Mothers' Union website
<https://www.mothersunion.org/global-day-2021>

Here you will find a comprehensive list of GBV helplines and how to respond within Britain and Ireland.

A prayer for the 27th November Mothers' Union Global Day of Action

*Lord, today we make a commitment to take a stand:
to say 'no more 1 in 3':
to use our eyes to see where change needs to be made:
to use our voices to challenge injustice in the world.
May we support people experiencing abuse,
enabling them to reach their full potential
and may we call for change.
Amen*

A prayer you might like to use over these 16 days:

*Compassionate God,
may those experiencing all forms of violence
be given courage, hope and the means
to break free from their abuse.*

*We pray for all who live in fear of violence
and despair that life will ever change:*

*Bring to an end their suffering;
restore their sense of worth.
Bring to light deeds of abuse hidden in darkness,
that they may find safety and refuge, free from fear.*

*We pray for all to follow your example
of treating women with equality and respect.
We pray for the dawn of a better world
where justice and peace may flourish. Amen*



Sponsor a church chair

We have selected some fresh, new replacement chairs.

During the last few years, as well as worship, the church has been used for concerts, educational activities, conferences and even a curry and carols evening. We need the building and its furnishings to support the developing uses of the church space and replacing the chairs is a big initiative.

The sale of the old chairs covered approximately half of the cost of the new ones. You can help us with the cost of the new chairs:

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

Features of the new chairs:

- They stack (up to 10 in a stack or 25 on a special dolly)
- They link together at floor level, making them safe and compliant with current regulations
- They are lightweight
- They are upholstered – for comfort and looking good
- The upholstery is wipe-clean
- They come with and without arms, so all the chairs will match
- The chrome finish is an upgrade and will not scratch (like the chairs in the hall)



We will recognise the sponsors of the new chairs in a memorial book / list which will be displayed in church – you can donate either in memory of someone or as an individual donation.

Thank you

If you are interested in sponsoring a chair, please complete a form that can be found:

- At the back of the Church
- On the Website
- Or Contact the Parish Office

Cheques are payable to St Hilda's PCC or you can transfer monies direct;
St Hilda's PCC

Sort Code: 60-01-22

Account Number: 36290696

St Hilda's Presents

The Richard Scholar Recitals – *Marion Scholar*

What a pleasure it was and how interesting to listen to the first of the Richard Scholar Recitals played by Charley Brighton in church on 16 October. It was a lovely programme of new and well-loved favourites, as well as a piece specially composed for the occasion. Each item was played on a different euphonium from Charley's extensive collection which dates from 1891 to 1990. Before each piece he pointed out the differences between the instruments and it was also interesting to compare the different sounds each instrument made.

Charley's wife, Sue, also played one piece on the baritone and the whole recital was accompanied on the piano by Gareth Green. It was a most enjoyable occasion and we look forward to the next recital on 13 November.

The 2nd. Concert in the Richard Scholar Recital Series takes place on November 13th, starting at 12noon. Charley Brighton (Euphonium) returns with Gareth Green at the piano and guest Sue Brighton (Baritone) and the programme will include another premiere with the 1st. performance of 'Aria' by Trevor Halliwell.



Trevor is a fellow of the Trinity College of Music has been a brass teacher for over 40 years and has played cornet with some of the finest brass bands, including Foden's, Brighouse & Rastrick and Wingates.

Also in the programme will be the William Himes 'All That I Am' and a slightly different setting of 'What A Friend We Have in Jesus' alongside music by Leroy Anderson and Frederic Chopin.

More vintage and classic instruments will be in use and on display and refreshments will be served afterwards.

Admission is £5 at the door.

More information is at; www.euphoniumcollective.co.uk

Follow Charley on Facebook and Twitter (@CharleyBrighton)

and listen to previous performances on Soundcloud (www.soundcloud.com/highams)

St Hilda's Entertainers

Sleeping Beauty

St Hilda's Entertainers will be performing the pantomime, Sleeping Beauty. This is a very traditional version, suitable for all ages, with all the right ingredients, including plenty of comedy, drama, romance, songs and audience participation.

Performances are at St Hilda's Hall in December, on
 Friday 3rd at 7.45pm,
 Saturday 4th at 10.30am, 2.30pm and 7pm,
 Friday 10th at 7.45pm, and
 Saturday 11th at 2.30pm and 7pm.

Tickets are £10 for adults and £8 for children and senior citizens. Booking forms will be made available at the back of Church.

You can call, text or WhatsApp our Box Office number: 07894 490640,
 or email: sthildasentertainers@gmail.com with your name, address and phone number, specifying which performance and how many tickets for adults, senior citizens and children, or Chris or Mike Davenport will be happy to accept your order, with payment, and pass it on to the box office.

Be sure to come along. It'll be great fun – Oh Yes It Will!

Mike Davenport

Canaan Ministries are open for any of your needs. Just simply phone or email them and they will look after you. They also offer a delivery service.

Any other information can be found on their website www.canaanchristianministries.co.uk/

St Hilda's Entertainers

proudly present their
2021 Pantomime

Sleeping Beauty

at St Hilda's Hall

Friday 3rd December
at 7.45pm

Saturday 4th December
at 10.30am, 2.30pm
and 7.00pm

Friday 10th December
at 7.45pm

Saturday 11th December
at 2.30pm and 7.00pm

Tickets:
£10 (concessions £8)

Box Office:
07894 490640

Bishop's Teaching Evening – The Nicene Creed – A Map for Life

Bishop Graham will be holding a teaching evening on Monday 6th December at 7pm at St Hilda's. You will also be able to join via zoom



Bishop's Teaching Evening



The Nicene Creed – A Generous Orthodoxy



Many churches say the Nicene Creed every week. Written originally in 325 AD, 175 words in the original Greek, each one carefully chosen, it is the only Creed accepted across the entire Christian world, Orthodox, Catholic and Protestant. It is therefore one of the classic statements of the Christian faith that all Christians recognise.

In these teaching evenings, Bishop Graham will explore the background to the Nicene Creed, how it came about, and how it offers us not just a list of doctrines we have to believe in, but a map for the journey of life, telling us what matters about the God who made us, the world we live in, who we are, and how we are relate to each other. The Nicene Creed opens up for us a world that is so much bigger and richer than any secular vision can offer.

Each session will be streamed online, yet also offered live, in person, in a different venue. You can come in person to each event, or you can access and interact with each session online. Each session will be different, so do come to all three, or as many as you can make. The evenings will start in person from 7pm, on Zoom from 7.30pm and conclude by 9pm.

SESSION 1: Wednesday 10th November – St George's Campden Hill

Orthodoxy and Heresy: Why do we need Creeds?

To book this event: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/bishops-teaching-evening-the-nicene-creed-a-generous-orthodoxy-tickets-178540719097>

SESSION 2: Tuesday 23rd November – St Stephen's Twickenham

A Map for Life: The Generosity of Orthodoxy

To book this event: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/bishops-teaching-evening-the-nicene-creed-a-generous-orthodoxy-tickets-178560117117>

SESSION 3: Monday 6th December – St Hilda's Ashford

Living the Creed: The Orthodoxy of Generosity

To book this event: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/bishops-teaching-evening-the-nicene-creed-a-generous-orthodoxy-tickets-178565643647>

*Open to all who live and worship in the Kensington Area of the diocese of London
Zoom links available through Eventbrite booking and email Victoria.oneill@london.anglican.org*

Hope Into Action

Thank you, to everyone who has used the blue bins to donate clothing. The bins will remain in place, please feel free to continue to leave clothing, belts and shoes. The money raised will be put towards the work of Hope into Action locally.

Please – clean clothes, paired shoes, and belts only. We cannot do anything with bedding, towels, curtains, and other soft furnishings.

Food & Fellowship

Women's Breakfast – 12th November

The guest speaker this month is Cllr. Joanne Sexton, Deputy Leader of Spelthorne Council.

Tickets can be booked via the ticket tailor links on our website or Facebook page or by contacting the parish office. There is a suggested donation of £5 to attend the breakfast.

All are welcome.



Community Lunch

Every **Wednesday** at 12pm we hold our community lunch. ALL are welcome and we ask that you book via ticket tailor (or the office) so that we know, for catering, you are joining us.

It is free to come along, however, donations are welcome.

Youth Group – 12th November – 7.15pm (small hall)

Unfortunately, no one could come to the October meeting but we have planned another. Over a drink, pizza & cake we can catch up and as it is close to Remembrance Sunday think about how we remember people who lost their lives in war. Please let Christine Taylor know by email if you can come so she can order enough pizza.

chistinetaylor590@btinternet.com

Services Times for the month of October

Sunday Eucharist – 9.30am

Wednesday Eucharist – 11am

The Sunday service is livestreamed and can be viewed via our Facebook page and YouTube channel (St Hilda's Ashford).

Tickets can be booked for the services via the links on our website and Facebook page or by contacting the Parish Office by 5pm Friday for Sunday's service and 12pm Tuesday for Wednesday's service.

Dates for your Diary

November in St Hilda's

14th	9.30am	Remembrance Sunday Service
12 th	7.15pm	Youth Group meeting
13th	9.30am	Women's Breakfast
	12pm	Euphonium Recital
19th	7pm	Patronal Festival Eucharist
20th	3-5pm	Latin Line Dance
26th	5.30pm	FACT – Time Together – Family Activity
28th		Ashford Jumble Trail

Community lunch – Every Wednesday at midday

Bible Study – Every Wednesday at 7.30pm

Please hold in your prayers and thoughts this week those who are affected by the Corona Virus as well as the family and friends of those below.

The Sick

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

