

ST HILDA'S ASHFORD



THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

10am 25 AUGUST 2024

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

Welcome to St Hilda's. We are delighted that you are able to share in our morning worship today,

If you are new to the church please do take time to introduce yourself to the people at the back of the church and to the ministry team at the end of the service. We would be delighted to meet you.

If you are able please join us for tea or coffee after the service so we can get to know one another.

Should you need any help during the service please do not hesitate to ask those around you and we are sure they will be able to support you.

There is a children's corner in the north aisle which children are very welcome to use, and there activity sheets are available to occupy them.

Praying for peace in Israel and Gaza

Bishop Sarah encourages us to join in with Archbishop Hosam Naoum of Jerusalem, who has offered the following prayer:

O God of all justice and peace, we cry out to you in the midst of the pain and trauma of violence and fear which prevails in the Holy Land.

Be with those who need you in these days of suffering; we pray for people of all faiths – Jews, Muslims and Christians and for all people of the land.

While we pray to you, O Lord, for an end to violence and the establishment of peace, we also call for you to bring justice and equity to the peoples. Guide us into your kingdom where all people are treated with dignity and honour as your children – for to all of us you are our Heavenly Father.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

THE GATHERING

Introit Hymn

Soldiers of Christ, arise,
And put your armour on,
Strong in the strength which God supplies
Through his eternal Son;

Strong in the Lord of Hosts,
And in his mighty power,
Who in the strength of Jesus trusts
Is more than conqueror.

Stand then in his great might,
With all his strength endued;
And take, to arm you for the fight,
The panoply of God.

Leave no unguarded place,
No weakness of the soul,
Take every virtue, every grace,
And fortify the whole.

From strength to strength go on,
Wrestle and fight and pray;
Tread all the powers of darkness down
And win the well fought day.

That, having all things done,
And all your conflicts past,
Ye may o'ercome through Christ alone,
And stand entire at last.

[Charles Wesley]

The Greeting

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

All Amen

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

All and also with you.

Words of welcome are said. (Junior Church are on their summer break.)

Prayer of Preparation

**All Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Prayers of Penitence

God so loved the world
that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ
to save us from our sins
and to be our advocate in heaven,
and to bring us to eternal life.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith,
firmly resolved to keep God's commandments
and to live in love and peace with all.

***All* Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.**

**We are truly sorry
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us, forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name.
Amen.**

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Gloria in Excelsis

We say:

All Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

The Collect - *The Collect for the Week is said after a moment of silence*

Almighty God,
you search us and know us:
may we rely on you in strength
and rest on you in weakness,
now and in all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading – 1 Kings 8 vv 22 – 30, 41 – 43

Then Solomon stood before the altar of the Lord in the presence of all the assembly of Israel, and spread out his hands to heaven. He said, 'O Lord, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth beneath, keeping covenant and steadfast love for your servants who walk before you with all their heart, the covenant that you kept for your servant my father David as you declared to him; you promised with your mouth and have this day fulfilled with your hand. Therefore, O Lord, God of Israel, keep for your servant my father David that which you promised him, saying, "There shall never fail you a successor before me to sit on the throne of Israel, if only your children look to their way, to walk before me as you have walked before me." Therefore, O God of Israel, let your word be confirmed, which you promised to your servant my father David.

'But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Even heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you, much less this house that I have built! Have regard to your servant's prayer and his plea, O Lord my God, heeding the cry and the prayer that your servant prays to you today; that your eyes may be open night and day towards this house, the place of which you said, "My name shall be there", that you may heed the prayer that your servant prays towards this place. Hear the plea of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray towards this place; O hear in heaven your dwelling-place; heed and forgive.

'Likewise when a foreigner, who is not of your people Israel, comes from a distant land because of your name —for they shall hear of your great name, your mighty hand, and your

outstretched arm—when a foreigner comes and prays towards this house, then hear in heaven your dwelling-place, and do according to all that the foreigner calls to you, so that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and fear you, as do your people Israel, and so that they may know that your name has been invoked on this house that I have built.

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

New Testament Reading – Ephesians 6 vv 10 - 20

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armour of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armour of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading – John 6 vv 56 - 69

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live for ever.’ He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

When many of his disciples heard it, they said, ‘This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?’ But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, ‘Does this offend you? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the

spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But among you there are some who do not believe.’ For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. And he said, ‘For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father.’

Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. So Jesus asked the twelve, ‘Do you also wish to go away?’ Simon Peter answered him, ‘Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon – All sit

The Creed

Let us declare our faith in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

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

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.

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.

Prayers of Intercession

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 – *All stand*

We are the body of Christ.
In the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.
Let us then pursue all that makes for peace
and builds up our common life.

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

**Christ is made the sure foundation,
And the precious corner-stone,
Who, the two walls underlying,
Bound in each, binds both in one,
Holy Sion's help forever,
And her confidence alone.**

**All that dedicated city,
Dearly loved by God on high,
In exultant jubilation,
Pours perpetual melody,
God the One in Threefold glory,
Singing everlastingly.**

To this temple, where we call thee,
Come, O Lord of hosts, today;
With thy wonted loving-kindness,
Hear thy people as they pray;
And thy fullest benediction
Shed within its walls for ay.

Here vouchsafe to all thy servants
Gifts of grace by prayer to gain;
Here to have and hold for ever,
Those good things their prayers obtain,
And hereafter, in thy glory,
With thy blesséd ones to reign.

Laud and honour to the Father,
Laud and honour to the Son,
Laud and honour to the Spirit,
Ever Three and ever One;
One in love, and One in splendour,
While unending ages run.

[Latin c 7th Century tr. J. M. Neale]

The table is prepared, and bread and wine are placed upon it.

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power,
the glory, the splendour, and the majesty;
for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.

All All things come from you,
and of your own do we give you.

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you

All and also with you

Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give thanks and praise.

Father, you made the world and love your creation.

You gave your Son Jesus Christ to be our Saviour.

His dying and rising have set us free from sin and death.

And so we gladly thank you,

with saints and angels praising you, and saying:

All Holy, holy, holy Lord,

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.

We praise and bless you, loving Father,

through Jesus Christ, our Lord;

and as we obey his command,

send your Holy Spirit,

that broken bread and wine outpoured

may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.

He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;

do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, gave it to them 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.*

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross.
Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection
until he comes in glory.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

**All Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life:
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Lord of all life,
help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.
Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with Hilda and all the saints
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,
for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

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

We say:

**All Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away 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

Jesus is the Lamb of God

who takes away the sin of the world.

Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**All Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

The president and people receive communion.

Communion Hymns

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]

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

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

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

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

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

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

[Charlotte Elliott]

Gracious Spirit, Holy Ghost,
Taught by thee, we covet most
Of thy gifts at Pentecost
Holy, heavenly love.

Love is kind, and suffers long,
Love is meek, and thinks no wrong,
Love than death itself more strong;
Therefore, give us love.

Prophecy will fade away,
Melting in the light of day,
Love will ever with us stay;
Therefore, give us love.

Faith will vanish into sight;
Hope be emptied in delight;
Love in heaven will shine more bright;
Therefore, give us love.

Faith and hope and love we see
Joining hand in hand agree;
But the greatest of the three,
And the best, is love.

**From the overshadowing
Of thy gold and silver wing
Shed on us, who to thee sing,
Holy, heavenly love.**

[Christopher Wordsworth]

Prayers after Communion

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

God our creator,
you feed your children with the true manna,
the living bread from heaven:
let this holy food sustain us through our earthly pilgrimage
until we come to that place
where hunger and thirst are no more;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

**All Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory.
Amen.**

Notices - see pages 23 - 27

THE DISMISSAL

Blessing

The peace of God, which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds
in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All In the name of Christ. Amen.

Recessional Hymn

Ye holy angels bright,
Who wait at God's right hand,
Or through the realms of light,
Fly at your Lord's command,
Assist our song,
For else the theme
Too high doth seem
For mortal tongue.

Ye blessèd souls at rest,
Who ran this earthly race,
And now, from sin released,
Behold the Saviour's face,
God's praises sound,
As in his sight
With sweet delight
Ye do abound.

**Ye saints, who toil below,
Adore your heavenly King,
And onward as ye go
Some joyful anthem sing;
Take what he gives
And praise him still,
Through good or ill,
Who ever lives!**

**My soul, bear thou thy part,
Triumph in God above,
And with a well-tuned heart
Sing thou the songs of love!
Let all thy days
Till life shall end,
Whate'er he send,
Be filled with praise.**

[Richard Baxter and others]

SERVICE TIMES

Wednesday 28th August 11am

Sunday 1st September 10.00am

Junior Church resume with Messy Church and blessing school bags
(see below - page 25 - for more details)

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>

Please remember in your prayers this week:

THOSE FOR WHOM OUR PRAYERS HAVE BEEN ASKED:

Michael Brown	Massimo Pellizzari	David
Ros Clifton	Lena Richardson	Fiona
Gemma Hart	Derek Scott	Esperado (son of Fr. Domingos)
John Hunt	Martine Simpson	King Charles
Pat Kyle	Ben	Catherine, Princess of Wales
Ray Nation		

If you would like a name added to or removed from the prayer list, please contact the Parish Office. If you know of someone ill or in hospital in need of prayer and support please tell our LLM Rosalyn Young (contact details on back cover).

THE RECENTLY DEPARTED

Josephine Taylor Wendy Gary Philbrick Mary

THOSE IN OUR MEMORIAL BOOK THIS WEEK

Sydney Frederick Hyam Morris	Mother Theresa	Lily Isabella Seabright
George Ernest Lawrence	William Arthur Banks	Ena Hardy
Margaret Husband	Violet May Manns	

Please pray for our ALMA twin Parish, Holy Cross Murrupula
and for Christians facing persecution in countries such as North Korea,
Somalia, Libya, Eritrea and Yemen.

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

NOTICES

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

STOP PRESS

If anyone is available **TOMORROW - Monday 26 August** - we need as many people as possible for a couple of hours from 10am at the church for work in the gardens at number 34 and the Vicarage.

For further details please contact Paula on 07788 258871.

No Community Lunch this week

Because so many people will be away we will not be having the lunches during August.

They will resume the following Wednesday 4th September.

Bible Study Group: Wednesday at 7.45pm

We meet in Church on most Wednesday evenings. At the moment we are looking at the writings of the prophet Hosea.

You are very welcome to join us.

Ambling through Acts course – Thursday 29th August at 7.30pm

(Usually 7:30pm on the first Thursday of each month - note that the next session has been moved forward to this week.)

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.

The Cuckmere Pilgrim Path - this Saturday 31st August

A small group of us hope to walk this 12 mile circular route around seven ancient churches in East Sussex. Other walkers would be welcome, but must be prepared for a 600ft hill and nettles!

If you are interested in joining us contact Rosemary Greenwood.

Blessing School Bags - Sunday 1st September at 10am

The annual blessing of school bags in preparation for the new school year will take place in church at the start of next Sunday's service, before Junior Church goes to the hall for Messy Church.

The children will be given a Luggage Tag with a verse printed on it so even if they forget their bag/pencil case the tag can be blessed, personalised and attached to their bags.

St Hilda's Newsletter

The latest issue of the Newsletter is available via the St. Hilda's web site (under "About Us"). Please leave the printed copies for people without internet access and for visitors.

The newsletter is now produced every two months, and unless more people provide material the Newsletter will end.

The deadline for items for the October/November issue is **Next Sunday 1st September**. Please send your contributions to: editor@sthilda.org

Community Lunch - Wednesday 4th September 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.

Mothers' Union Lunch: Tuesday 10th September at 12 noon

PCC Meeting: Tuesday 10th September at 7.15pm for 7.30

St. Hilda's Breakfast - Saturday 14th September at 9:30am

Do come along and enjoy good food and fellowship.

Nearer the time 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.

Feed My Sheep - Tuesday 24th September 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.

24th Sept St Hilda’s Church Window – part 2

22nd Oct St Andrew

26th Nov Christmas Carols

Food Bank Donations

Donations for the Food Bank at the Salvation Army may be placed in the wooden chest next to the book stand at the back of church. They are currently asking for:

Toilet rolls

Toiletries - shampoo, shower gel, deodorant etc.

Long life milk

Biscuits

Tinned meat

Pasta

Microwaveable rice

Other items are welcome.

The Parish Office is available by phone or email.

Any appointments in person must be booked.

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

Monday: 3.30-5pm

Wednesday: 3.30-6.30pm

Thursday 6.30-9.30pm

Saturday: 9.45-11.15am

The Wardens would like to share the following letter with you:



The Venerable Richard Frank
Archdeacon of Middlesex

Archdeacon Middlesex Office
Regus, 3rd Floor, Regal House
70 London Road
Twickenham, TW1 3QS

07931 533581
archdeacon.middlesex@london.anglican.org
www.london.anglican.org

Dear Friends

I am truly sorry that the delay between the most recent round of interviews and being able to announce your new priest has caused concern.

We do have a new, full-time stipendiary, priest for St Hilda's, whom we are excited to be welcoming to the diocese as soon as possible. However, the person offered the post is currently ministering elsewhere in the Church of England and the delay in announcement has been caused by the bureaucratic and administrative hurdles to be overcome in transferring their immigration status to the Diocese of London's licence. Once this transfer has been achieved, we will be delighted to announce the appointment publicly and to name a date for them to join St Hilda's.

The diocesan team is working hard, with the candidate themselves, to progress things as rapidly as possible, but the national processes are slow and there are no shortcuts. We remain entirely confident that we will get a successful outcome before too long, and we are excited at the prospect of your new priest finally being able to get started in the community of St Hilda's.

In the meantime, Bishop Emma and I are hugely grateful to the Churchwardens, PCC, ordained and lay ministers who are caring for the life of the parish. Please do continue to support them with your efforts and prayers. I am grateful, most of all, for your prayers for your new priest, even before you know their name – I know they are already praying for you.

Every blessing

Richard Frank (Ven)

17th August 2024

Contact Information

Vicar

Vacant

Licensed Lay Minister

Rosalyn Young rosalyn@sthilda.org

Churchwardens

Paula Gething

Stuart Young

PCC Secretary

Liz Brian

Email: secretary@sthilda.org

PCC Treasurer

Khadijeh

treasurer@sthilda.org

Church Hall Bookings

Chris Davenport

01784 252170

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Website: www.sthilda.org

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