

ST HILDA'S ASHFORD



THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

WITH BAPTISM OF
CHARLIE MICHAEL FOSTER McMILLAN

10AM 7TH DECEMBER 2025

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>

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 toddlers' corner in the north aisle which young children are very welcome to use, and there activity sheets are available to occupy them.

Please indicate to the priest if you want a gluten free wafer during communion

We encourage parishioners to donate via PARISH GIVING:

<https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/ashford-st-hilda-ashford/>



St Hilda's is a Registered Charity No. 1134119

CCLI License no. 708985

One License no. A-739460

Copyright Archbishops' Council of the Church of England

THE GATHERING

Introit Hymn

Long ago, prophets knew
Christ would come, born a Jew
Come to make all things new;
Bear his people's burden,
Freely love and pardon.

Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!

Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!

When he comes,

When he comes,

Who will make him welcome?

God in time, God in man,
This is God's timeless plan:
He will come, as a man,
Born himself of woman,
God divinely human.

Chorus

Mary, hail! Though afraid,
She believed, she obeyed.
In her womb God is laid;
Till the time expected
Nurtured and protected.

Chorus

Journey ends! Where afar
Bethlem shines, like a star,
Stable door stands ajar.
Unborn Son of Mary,
Saviour, do not tarry!

Chorus

[F. Pratt Green © 1971 Stainer & Bell Ltd]

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 in Messy Church).

We rejoice today with the family of Charlie
as they thank God for the gift of life
and bring their child for baptism.

God our Creator, we thank you for the wonder of new life
and for the mystery of human love.

We give thanks for all whose support and skill
surround and sustain the beginning of life.

As Jesus knew love and discipline within a human family,
may this child grow in strength and wisdom.

As Mary knew the joys and pains of motherhood,
give these parents your sustaining grace and love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen

The Lighting of the Advent Candle

Today is the Second Sunday of Advent and we will light
the second candle for love.

We light the first and second candles

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

Let us hear our Lord's blessing on those who follow him.

Blessed are the poor in spirit,
All for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn,
All for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek,
All for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness,
All for they shall be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful,
All for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart,
All for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers,
All for they shall be called children of God.

Blessed are those who suffer persecution for righteousness' sake,
All for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

When the Lord comes,
he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness,
and will disclose the purposes of the heart.

(Silent reflection)

In the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

All **O King enthroned on high,
filling the earth with your glory:
holy is your name,
Lord God almighty.
In our sinfulness we cry to you
to take our guilt away,
and to cleanse our lips to speak your word,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
who in his great mercy
has promised forgiveness of sins
to all those who with heartfelt repentance and true faith
turn to him: have mercy on you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and bring you to everlasting life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The Collect -

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

Almighty God,
purify our hearts and minds,
that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as
judge and saviour
we may be ready to receive him,
who is our Lord and our God.

All **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading -Isaiah ch 11 vv 1 - 10

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.
His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.
The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.
They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain;
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

New Testament Reading - Romans ch 15 vv 4 - 13

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

‘Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles,
and sing praises to your name’;

and again he says,

‘Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people’;

and again,

‘Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
and let all the peoples praise him’;

and again Isaiah says,

‘The root of Jesse shall come,
the one who rises to rule the Gentiles;
in him the Gentiles shall hope.’

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
Announces that the Lord is nigh;
Come then and hearken, for he brings
Glad tidings from the King of kings.

Then cleansed be every Christian breast,
And furnished for so great a guest!
Yea, let us each our hearts prepare
For Christ to come and enter there.

For thou art our salvation, Lord,
Our refuge, and our great reward;
Without thy grace our souls must fade,
And wither like a flower decayed.

Stretch forth thine hand to heal our sore,
And make us rise, to fall no more;
Once more upon thy people shine,
And fill the world with love divine.

All praise, eternal Son, to thee
Whose advent sets thy people free,
Whom, with the Father, we adore,
And Spirit blest, for evermore.

[Charles Coffin tr. John Chandler]

Gospel Reading - Matthew ch 3 vv 1 - 12

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew
All Glory to you, O Lord.

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

‘The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
“Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.”’

Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, ‘You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, “We have Abraham as our ancestor”; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

‘I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.’

After the reading:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Chant: Prepare ye the way of the Lord

The Sermon – All sit

Baptism

The Baptism party moves to the font while the choir sing

Taizé chant: **Ubi caritas et amor, ubi caritas Deus ibi est**

Presentation of the Candidate

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 Charlie and uphold him in his new life in Christ?

All With the help of God, we will.

Parents and godparents, the Church receives Charlie with joy. Today we are trusting God for his growth in faith.

Will you pray for him, draw him by your example into the community of faith and walk with him in the way of Christ?

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

In baptism Charlie begins his journey in faith.

You speak for him today.

Will you care for him, and help him to take his place within the life and worship of Christ's Church?

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

The Decision

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

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

Therefore I ask:

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?

P&G I reject them.

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

P&G I renounce them.

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

P&G I repent of them.

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

P&G I turn to Christ.

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

P&G I submit to Christ.

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

P&G I come to Christ.

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.**

Baptism

Charlie Michael Foster, 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. **Amen.**

Signing with the Cross

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. **Amen.**

Commission

We have brought Charlie to baptism knowing that Jesus
died and rose again for him and trusting in the promise that
God hears and answers prayer. We have prayed that in
Jesus Christ he will know the forgiveness of his sins and the
new life of the Spirit.

As he grows up, he will need the help and encouragement
of the Christian community, so that he may learn to know

God in public worship and private prayer, follow Jesus Christ in the life of faith, serve him neighbour after the example of Christ, and in due course come to confirmation.

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

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

The Welcome

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism:
Charlie, by one Spirit we are all baptized into one body.

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

We return to our seats while the choir sing

Taizé chant: Ubi caritas et amor, ubi caritas Deus ibi est

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

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

The peace of the Lord be always with you
All and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

Offertory Hymn

During this hymn a collection will be taken. You can use the QR code on page 2, and on the back of the chairs, for online donations.

**O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.**

Rejoice! Rejoice!

Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

**O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free
Thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell thy people save,
And give them victory over the grave.**

Refrain

**O come, thou Day-spring, come and cheer
Our spirits by thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.**

Refrain

O come, thou Key of David, come,
And open wide our heavenly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery.

Refrain

O come, O come, great Lord of might,
Who to thy tribes on Sinai's height
In ancient times once gave the law
In cloud and majesty and awe.

Rejoice! Rejoice!

Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

[Cologne 1710, based on the ancient Advent Antiphons

tr. J. M. Neale]

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.
Glory to you, O God, for ever.

All **Amen.**

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.**

You are worthy of our thanks and praise,
Lord God of truth,
for by the breath of your mouth
you have spoken your word,
and all things have come into being.

You fashioned us in your image
and placed us in the garden of your delight.
Though we chose the path of rebellion
you would not abandon your own.

Again and again you drew us into your covenant of grace.
You gave your people the law and taught us by your prophets
to look for your reign of justice, mercy and peace.

As we watch for the signs of your kingdom on earth,
we echo the song of the angels in heaven,
evermore praising you and singing:

**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.**

Lord God, you are the most holy one,
enthroned in splendour and light,
yet in the coming of your Son Jesus Christ
you reveal the power of your love
made perfect in our human weakness.

Embracing our humanity,
Jesus showed us the way of salvation;
loving us to the end, he gave himself to death for us;
dying for his own, he set us free from the bonds of sin,
that we might rise and reign with him in glory.

On the night he gave up himself for us all
he took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
*Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.*

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
*Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.*
Therefore we proclaim the death
that he suffered on the cross,
we celebrate his resurrection, his bursting from the tomb,
we rejoice that he reigns at your right hand on high
and we long for his coming in glory.

As we recall the one, perfect sacrifice of our redemption,
Father, by your Holy Spirit let these gifts of your creation
be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;
form us into the likeness of Christ
and make us a perfect offering in your sight.

Look with favour on your people
and in your mercy hear the cry of our hearts.
Bless the earth, heal the sick,
let the oppressed go free
and fill your Church with power from on high.

Gather your people from the ends of the earth
to feast with Hilda and all your saints
at the table in your kingdom,
where the new creation is brought to perfection
in Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

(Silent reflection)

The Lord's Prayer

Awaiting his coming in glory, in the language of your heart
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

We say the Lord's Prayer

Breaking of the Bread

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.

All **Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

Agnus Dei

Jesus, Lamb of God

All **have mercy upon us.**

Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy upon us.

Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us peace

Giving of Communion

The president says the invitation to communion

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

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

**All Most merciful Lord,
your love compels us to come in.
Our hands were unclean, our hearts were unprepared;
we were not fit even
to eat the crumbs from under your table.
But you, Lord, are the God of our salvation,
and share your bread with sinners.
So cleanse and feed us
with the precious body and blood of your Son,
that he may live in us and we in him;
and that we, with the whole company of Christ,
may sit and eat in your kingdom. Amen.**

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

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Faithful Shepherd, feed me
In the pastures green;
Faithful Shepherd, lead me
Where thy steps are seen. | 3. Daily bring me nearer
To the heavenly shore;
May my faith grow clearer,
May I love thee more. |
| 2. Hold me fast, and guide me
In the narrow way;
So, with thee beside me,
I shall never stray. | 4. Hallow every pleasure,
Every gift and pain;
Be thyself my treasure,
Though none else I gain. |

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

[T B Pollock]

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us Your own, your holy people,
Light for the world to see.

Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in Your church gathered today.

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has power to save us.
Make us Your living voice.

Refrain

Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us Your bread, broken for others,
Shared until all are fed.

Refrain

Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us Your building, sheltering others,
Walls made of living stone.

Refrain

Many the gifts, many the people,
Many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
Making Your kingdom come.

Refrain.

[© 1993, 2000, Bernadette Farrell
Published by OCP. All rights reserved]

Thy kingdom come! on bended knee
The passing ages pray;
And faithful souls have yearned to see
On earth that kingdom's day.

But the slow watches of the night
Not less to God belong;
And for the everlasting right
The silent stars are strong.

And lo, already on the hills
The flags of dawn appear;
Gird up your loins, ye prophet souls,
Proclaim the day is near:

The day in whose clear-shining light
All wrong shall stand revealed,
When justice shall be throned in might,
And every hurt be healed;

When knowledge, hand in hand with peace,
Shall walk the earth abroad:
The day of perfect righteousness,
The promised day of God.

[Fredrick Hosmer]

Chant: Prepare ye the way of the Lord

Prayers after Communion

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

Father in heaven,
who sent your Son to redeem the world
and will send him again to be our judge:
give us grace so to imitate him
in the humility and purity of his first coming
that, when he comes again,
we may be ready to greet him
with joyful love and firm faith;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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.**

<i>Banns of Marriage and Notices</i> - see page 27

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.

THE DISMISSAL

St. Hilda's prayer

All **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. Amen

Blessing

May God the Father, judge all-merciful,
make us worthy of a place in his kingdom. **Amen.**

May God the Son, coming among us in power,
reveal in our midst the promise of his glory. **Amen.**

May God the Holy Spirit make us steadfast in faith,
joyful in hope and constant in love. **Amen.**

and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

Our Lord says, 'I am coming soon.'

All Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

May the Lord, when he comes,
All find us watching and waiting. Amen

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
All In the name of Christ. Amen.

Recessional Hymn

**Hark the glad sound! the Saviour comes,
The Saviour promised long!
Let every heart prepare a throne,
And every voice a song.**

**He comes the prisoners to release,
In Satan's bondage held;
The gates of brass before him burst,
The iron fetters yield.**

**He comes the broken heart to bind,
The bleeding soul to cure;
And with the treasures of his grace
Enrich the humble poor.**

**Our glad hosannas, Prince of peace,
Thy welcome shall proclaim,
And heaven's eternal arches ring
With thy belovèd name.**

[Philip Doddridge]

Please join us for tea or coffee after the service

Please remember in your prayers this week:

THOSE FOR WHOM OUR PRAYERS HAVE BEEN ASKED:

Ben Bishop, Stan Bishop, AnneMarie Bough, Wendy Butt, Tony Diggins, Sheila Freeman, Gemma Hart, John Hunt, Pat Kyle, Ray Nation, John Parish, Massimo Pellizzari, Dorothy Reid, Elsie Stone, Claire West, Jeremy Weston, Delia Woodley, Abby, Ben, Darren, Fiona, Mandy, Pauline, Peter, Ramin, Scarlett

THE RECENTLY DEPARTED:

June Hands, Julie Carr, Susan Finch

THOSE IN OUR MEMORIAL BOOK THIS WEEK:

Gladys Elizabeth Saville, Reginald Charles Baker, Babs [Edith Henrietta] King, Dick Wootton, James Robert Beagley, Alan Leonard Dale, Jessie Eileen McDonald Mundy, Roy Dugmore Clarke, Phyllis Margaret Varden, Marie-Anne Inisan, Ruby Lilian Fulton, Harold Bullough, Henry Franklin, Frank Allaway, David John Taylor, William Douglas Franklin

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/>

Pray for the areas of the world where there is conflict, including:
the Middle East including Gaza, the West Bank, Israel and Iran;
India and Pakistan; Ukraine and Russia; Sudan; Myanmar.

Advent and Christmas Services in December

Sunday 14 th	10:00	Parish Eucharist
	16:00	Contemporary Carol Service with the schools
Sunday 21 st	10:00	Crib Service
	18:00	Traditional Carol Service
Wednesday 24 th	23:00	Midnight Mass
Thursday 25 th	10:00	Christmas Day service

NOTICES

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

Send to [**communication@sthilda.org**](mailto:communication@sthilda.org)

***** Banns of Marriage *****

Esther Sopuluchi Oloko and Onyekachi Julius Anozie

3rd January 2026 - First time of asking

Bible Study Group - Monday 8th December at 7.30pm

We continue our Advent study in the Hawley Room in the church hall.

All are welcome to join us.

Wednesday Eucharist at 11 am followed by Community Lunch (noon)

Ambling Through Acts – Thursday 11th December at 7.30pm

In church. Please bring a bible.

Parish Breakfast – Saturday 13th December 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.

Yaldā at Yuletide – Saturday 20th December at 7pm

Our 2025 Christmas fundraising event. An evening of Persian food followed by carol singing - all in church.

Tickets £12 per adult, children under 12 go free and Nick's Bar will be open.

Young Adults Group Christmas Party – Sunday 21st Dec at 7.30pm

In the church hall.

Confirmation Service – Sunday 17th May 2026

Confirmation class timetable will be released next Sunday.

The Parish Office : Office hours are

Mon: by appointment only,

Tue: 9am-6pm, Wed: 12 noon-4:00pm, Thur: 9am-6pm

Contact Information

Vicar

Fr. Julius Anozie

vicar@sthilda.org

+447359 876498

Lay Minister

Rosalyn Young

rosalyn@sthilda.org

Churchwardens

Alison Garner

Stuart Young

Email: warden@sthilda.org

PCC Secretary

Tyler Pannone

Email: secretary@sthilda.org

PCC Treasurer

Khadijeh

treasurer@sthilda.org

Parish Safeguarding Officer

Nick Gething

safeguarding@sthilda.org

Church Hall Bookings

Chris Davenport

01784 252170

The Parish Office:

St Hilda's Church, Stanwell Road, Ashford, Middlesex
TW15 3QL

Telephone: 01784 253525 Email: office@sthilda.org

Website: www.sthilda.org

Charity Number: 1134119

CCLI: 708985

Follow us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/StHildaAshford/>

Follow us on X <https://twitter.com/StHildaAshford>