

ST HILDA'S ASHFORD



SECOND SUNDAY IN EASTER

07 APRIL 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

**Love's redeeming work is done;
Fought the fight, the battle won:
Lo, our Sun's eclipse is o'er!
Lo, he sets in blood no more!**

**Vain the stone, the watch, the seal,
Christ has burst the gates of hell;
Death in vain forbids his rise;
Christ has opened paradise.**

**Lives again our glorious King;
Where, O Death, is now thy sting?
Dying once, he all doth save;
Where thy victory, O grave?**

**Soar we now where Christ has led,
Following our exalted Head;
Made like him, like him we rise;
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies.**

**Hail the Lord of earth and heaven!
Praise to thee by both be given:
Thee we greet triumphant now;
Hail, the Resurrection thou!**

[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.

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

Christ our Passover Lamb has been sacrificed for us.
Let us therefore rejoice by putting away all malice and evil
and confessing our sins with a sincere and true heart.

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

**Glory to God in the highest,
All 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*

**Risen Christ,
for whom no door is locked, no entrance barred:
open the doors of our hearts,
that we may seek the good of others
and walk the joyful road of sacrifice and peace,
to the praise of God the Father.**

All Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading – Acts 4 vv 32 - 35

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

New Testament Reading – 1 John 1 v1 - 2 v 2

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us— we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading – John 20 v 19 - end

Alleluia, Alleluia.

I am the first and the last, says the Lord, and the living one; I was dead, and behold I am alive for evermore.

All Alleluia.

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

All Glory to you, O Lord.

When it was evening on the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.' But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe. 'A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.' Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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 We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

All Jesus our exalted Lord has been given all authority.
Let us seek his intercession that our prayers may be
perfected by his prayer.

The prayers end with the following:

Merciful Father,
All **accept these prayers,**
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

The Peace – *All stand*

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples
and said, 'Peace be with you.'
Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia.

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 the Lord is risen again!
Christ hath broken every chain!
Hark, the angels shout for joy,
Singing evermore on high,
Alleluya!

He who gave for us his life,
Who for us endured the strife,
Is our Paschal Lamb today!
We too sing for joy, and say
Alleluya!

He who bore all pain and loss
Comfortless upon the Cross,
Lives in glory now on high,
Pleads for us, and hears our cry.
Alleluya!

He whose path no records tell,
Who descended into hell;
Who the strong man armed hath bound,
Now in highest heaven is crowned.
Alleluya!

Now he bids us tell abroad
How the lost may be restored,
How the penitent forgiven,
How we too may enter heaven.
Alleluya!

Thou, our Paschal Lamb indeed,
Christ, today thy people feed;
Take our sins and guilt away,
That we all may sing for ay,
Alleluya!

[Michael Weisse, tr. Catherine Winkworth]

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.

It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy,
at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise,
holy Father, heavenly King, almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

For he is your living Word;

through him you have created all things from the beginning,
and formed us in your own image.

Through him you have freed us from the slavery of sin,
giving him to be born of a woman and to die upon the cross;
you raised him from the dead and exalted him to your right
hand on high.

Through him you have sent upon us your holy and life-
giving Spirit,
and made us a people for your own possession.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you
because you raised him gloriously from the dead.

For he is the true paschal lamb who was offered for us,
and has taken away the sin of the world.

By his death he has destroyed death,
and by his rising to life again he has restored to us
everlasting life.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and singing:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
All God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,
and as we follow his example and obey his command,
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us his body and his blood;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
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, heavenly Father,
we remember his offering of himself
made once for all upon the cross;
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;
we look for the coming of your kingdom,
and with this bread and this cup
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Great is the miracle of faith:

All **Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.**

Accept through him, our great high priest,
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts
in the presence of your divine majesty,
renew us by your Spirit,
inspire us with your love
and unite us in the body of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
we worship you, Father almighty,
in songs of everlasting praise:

All **Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever
Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Rejoicing in God's new creation,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour 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

**Lamb of God,
All 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

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

All Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The president and people receive communion.

Communion Hymns

**My Jesus, my Saviour,
Lord, there is none like you.
All of my days I want to praise
The wonders of your mighty love.
My comfort, my shelter,
Tower of refuge and strength,
Let every breath, all that I am,
Never cease to worship you.**

**Shout to the Lord, all the earth, let us sing
Power and majesty, praise to the King.
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar
At the sound of your name.
I sing for joy at the work of your hands.
Forever I'll love you, forever I'll stand.
Nothing compares to the promise
I have in you.**

[Darlene Zschech © 1993 Wondrous Worship]

**Now is eternal life,
If risen with Christ we stand,
In him to life reborn,
And holden in his hand;
No more we fear death's ancient dread,
In Christ arisen from the dead.**

**For God, the living God,
Stooped down to man's estate;
By death destroying death,
Christ opened wide life's gate.
He lives, who died; he reigns on high;
Who lives in him shall never die.**

**Unfathomed love divine,
Reign thou within my heart;
From thee nor depth nor height,
Nor life nor death can part;
My life is hid in God with thee,
Now and through all eternity.**

[G. W. Briggs © 1931 Oxford University Press]

**Happy are they, they that love God,
Whose hearts have Christ confessed,
Who by his Cross have found their life,
And 'neath his yoke their rest.**

**Glad is the praise, sweet are the songs,
When they together sing;
And strong the prayers that bow the ear
Of heaven's eternal King.**

**Christ to their homes giveth his peace,
And makes their loves his own;
But ah, what tares the evil one
Hath in his garden sown!**

**Sad were our lot, evil this earth,
Did not its sorrows prove
The path whereby the sheep may find
The fold of Jesu's love.**

**Then shall they know, they that love him,
How all their pain is good;
And death itself cannot unbind
Their happy brotherhood.**

[Robert Bridges based on the Latin of Charles Coffin]

Prayers after Communion

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

Lord God our Father,
through our Saviour Jesus Christ
you have assured your children of eternal life
and in baptism have made us one with him:
deliver us from the death of sin
and raise us to new life in your love,
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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 24 - 27

THE DISMISSAL

Blessing

The God of peace,
who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus,
that great shepherd of the sheep,
through the blood of the eternal covenant,
make you perfect in every good work to do his will,
working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight;
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 the light and peace of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia

All Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!

Recessional Hymn

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;
To his feet thy tribute bring.
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
Who like me his praise should sing?
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise the everlasting King.

Praise him for his grace and favour
To our fathers in distress;
Praise him still the same for ever,
Slow to chide, and swift to bless.
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise him! Praise him!
Glorious in his faithfulness.

**Father-like, he tends and spares us;
Well our feeble frame he knows;
In his hands he gently bears us,
Rescues us from all our foes.
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise him! Praise him!
Widely as his mercy flows.**

**Angels, help us to adore him;
Ye behold him face to face;
Sun and moon, bow down before him,
Dwellers all in time and space.
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise with us the God of grace.**

[H F Lyte]

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SERVICE TIMES

Wednesday 10th April 11am

Sunday 14th April 10.00am

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

Please remember in your prayers this week:

THE SICK:

Michael Brown	Pat Kyle	Fiona
Ros Clifton	Ray Nation	King Charles
Saffi Cobham	Lena Richardson	Catherine, Princess of Wales
John Hunt	David	

Esperado (only son of Fr. Domingos of Murrupula)

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

Betty Collins	Graham Thompson	Mark Goff
Pat Deanes	Sheila West	

THOSE IN OUR MEMORIAL BOOK THIS WEEK

Lucy Webb	Jean Cockings	Alan Charles Fuller
May Davidson	Patricia June Shelley	Daphne Alvira Downie
Joan Cooke	Delphine Scrivener	Pauline Lewis
Frederick John Rickson	Herbert Chandler	

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

Mothers' Union Lunch - Tuesday 9th April at 12.15pm

PCC Meeting- Tuesday 9th April at 7.15pm for 7.30pm

Community Lunch - Wednesday at 12 noon

Join us in church for the Community Lunch at midday

If you are able to come forward and help, even once a month, please do liaise with Bobbie.

Bible Study Group –Wednesday at 7.45pm

We meet in Church on most Wednesday evenings.

You are very welcome to join us.

Parish Breakfast - Saturday 13th April at 9.30am

Do come along and enjoy good food and fellowship.

Suggested donation £5, payable on the day

Feed My Sheep - Tuesday 23rd April 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.

23rd Apr	St Hilda's Church Window
28th May	Non Canonical Gospels
25th June	Jargon Busting
23rd July	Celtic Spirituality

RED HOT STRINGS in concert - Saturday 27th April

at St. Hilda's. See posters in church for more details.

Tickets £15 from <http://ticketsource.co.uk/st-hildas-church-ashford>, or on sale in church.

APCM- Sunday 28th April at 11am

The Annual Meeting of Parishioners and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held in church after the Sunday morning service.

Ambling through Acts course – Thursday 2nd May

(7:30pm on the first Thursday of each month)

Everyone is very welcome to attend. There will be refreshments at the end. We finish by saying Compline (Night Prayer) together round about 9pm. I hope to see you there. Please bring a bible – ideally the NRSV, but any version will do.

St Hilda's 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 **June/July** issue is **Sunday 5th May**.

Please send your contributions to: editor@sthilda.org

The Parish Office is available by phone or email.

Any appointments in person must be booked.

Our parish administrator is Laura Goodman. This week her hours are:

Monday: 3.30-5pm

Friday: 3.30-6.30pm

UPDATE ON CHURCH HALL ROOF REPLACEMENT

Work planned from 25th March to 13th May (approx)

Works to Replace the church hall roof and install solar panels started on 25th March and will take approximately SIX WEEKS.

From Monday 2nd April the car park will be OUT OF ACTION during weekdays, except for funerals. All church and hall users will need to find alternative parking for this period. This is necessary for safety reasons to allow the roofing contractors free movement. Access to the church will be via the pedestrian gate ONLY and access to the church hall will ONLY be via the pedestrian gate in Stanwell Road.

During the weekends, the car park will be partially open but visitors are asked to take care on site and to avoid the compound and scaffolding areas. The contractors will use the toilets at the front of the hall during the holidays and the rear of the hall at other times.

To take off the existing roof and install a new roof will take 7 working days – we therefore need to put the hall out of action for up to TWO WEEKS. This also allows for a few days delay in case of wet weather. We will have scaffolding up for approximately SIX WEEKS.

Work will commence on the roof on Tuesday 2nd April. The whole building will be out of bounds while the contractors are exchanging the roof sheets which will hopefully be no more than two weeks from 2nd April and within the school holidays. Whilst the building will be out of bounds during the day, some activity will be allowed in the Small Hall (Thornton Room) outside of working hours. Access will ONLY be through the side door.

The scaffolding will surround 3 sides of the hall, meaning the main door will also be out of use while the scaffolding is in place.

Once the roof sheets have been replaced, the remaining time is required to seal the roof, flashings etc. and also to install the solar panels. This may take up to SIX weeks. Therefore at least until the week of 13th May, the scaffolding and the compound will remain in place. Restrictions to access via the main door and the car park will remain in place until further notice or until the scaffolding and compound has been removed.

The church hall roof has leaked for many years and the internal damage is very visible. This work is mostly being paid for by a grant from Spelthorne Borough Council. We are aware it is likely to be disruptive, we are working very hard to keep the disruption to a minimum but would ask for your patience, particularly with the restrictions we have to impose on the car-park. The work is long-overdue, but safety of users is paramount.

Paula Gething
Churchwarden
1st March 2024

Junior Church during Roof Repairs

Due to repairs to the Hall roof we are unable to use the Hall during April, however there will be a Junior Church activity in Church, although there will be **no April Messy Church**. **May's Messy Church** will go ahead as usual on May 5th with the theme of Pentecost.

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

Contact Information

Vicar

Vacant

Licensed Lay Minister

Rosalyn Young rosalyn@sthilda.org

Churchwarden

Paula Gething

PCC Secretary

Liz Brian

Email: secretary@sthilda.org

PCC Treasurer

Vicky Palmer

treasurer@sthilda.org

Church Hall Bookings

Chris Davenport

01784 252170

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Website: www.sthilda.org

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CCLI: 708985

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