

ST HILDA'S ASHFORD



**5TH SUNDAY IN LENT
START OF PASSIONTIDE
10AM 06 APRIL 2025**

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

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

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

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

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

For children, Junior Church meets in the Church Hall during the first part of the service, and there is a children's corner in the north aisle which they are very welcome to use.

THE GATHERING

Introit Hymn

There's a wideness in God's mercy,
Like the wideness of the sea;
There's a kindness in his justice,
Which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth's sorrows
Are more felt than up in heaven;
There is no place where earth's failings
Have such kindly judgment given.

For the love of God is broader
Than the measure of man's mind;
And the heart of the Eternal
Is most wonderfully kind.
But we make his love too narrow
By false limits of our own;
And we magnify his strictness
With a zeal he will not own.

There is plentiful redemption
In the blood that has been shed;
There is joy for all the members
In the sorrows of the Head.
There is grace enough for thousands
Of new worlds as great as this;
There is room for fresh creations
In that upper home of bliss.

If our love were but more simple,
We should take him at his word;
And our lives would be all gladness
In the joy of Christ our Lord.

[F. W. Faber]

The Greeting

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

All Amen

The Lord be with you

All and also with you.

Words of welcome are said. (Junior Church are in the hall for Messy Church).

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.**

Invitation to confession

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

Silence for reflection

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.

All **Amen.**

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

Gracious Father,
you gave up your Son
out of love for the world:
lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion,
that we may know eternal peace
through the shedding of our Saviour's blood,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Old Testament Reading – Isaiah 43 vv 16 - 21

Thus says the Lord,
 who makes a way in the sea,
 a path in the mighty waters,
who brings out chariot and horse,
 army and warrior;
they lie down, they cannot rise,
 they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:
Do not remember the former things,
 or consider the things of old.
I am about to do a new thing;
 now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
 and rivers in the desert.
The wild animals will honour me,
 the jackals and the ostriches;
for I give water in the wilderness,
 rivers in the desert,
to give drink to my chosen people,
 the people whom I formed for myself
so that they might declare my praise.

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

New Testament Reading – Philippians 3 vv 4 - 14

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on towards the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

Lead us heavenly Father, lead us
O'er the world's tempestuous sea;
Guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,
For we have no help but thee;
Yet possessing every blessing
If our God our Father be.

Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us,
All our weakness thou dost know;
Thou didst tread this earth before us,
Thou didst feel its keenest woe;
Self denying, death defying,
Thou to Calvary didst go.

Spirit of our God, descending
Fill our hearts with heavenly joy;
Love with every passion blending,
Pleasure that can never cloy;
Thus provided, pardoned, guided,
Nothing can our peace destroy.

[James Edmeston]

Gospel Reading – John 12 vv 1 - 8

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.
The Lord is a great God,
O that today you would listen to his voice.
Harden not your hearts.

All Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

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

All Glory to you, O Lord.

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, 'Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?' (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, 'Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon

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

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

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

Since we are justified by faith,
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
who has given us access to his grace.

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

**And can it be that I should gain
An interest in the Saviour's blood?
Died he for me, who caused his pain?
For me, who him to death pursued?
Amazing love! How can it be,
That thou, my God, shouldst die for me?
*Amazing love! How can it be,
That thou, my God, shouldst die for me?***

'Tis myst'ry all: th'Immortal dies:
Who can explore his strange design?
In vain the firstborn seraph tries
To sound the depths of love divine.
'Tis mercy all! Let earth adore,
Let angel minds inquire no more.
*'Tis mercy all! Let earth adore;
Let angel minds inquire no more.*

He left his Father's throne above
So free, so infinite his grace;
Emptied himself of all but love,
And bled for Adam's helpless race;
'Tis mercy all, immense and free,
For O my God, it found out me!
*'Tis mercy all, immense and free,
For O my God, it found out me!*

Long my imprisoned spirit lay
Fast bound in sin and nature's night;
Thine eye diffused a quickening ray,
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;
My chains fell off, my heart was free,
I rose, went forth, and followed thee.
*My chains fell off, my heart was free,
I rose, went forth, and followed thee.*

No condemnation now I dread;
Jesus, and all in him, is mine!
Alive in him, my living Head,
And clothed in righteousness divine,
Bold I approach th'eternal throne,
And claim the crown, through Christ my own.
*Bold I approach th'eternal throne,
And claim the crown, through Christ my own.*

[Charles Wesley]

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

As this bread was scattered
and then gathered and made one,
so may your Church be gathered into your Kingdom.

All Glory to you, O God, for ever.

Wisdom has built her a house; she has mixed her wine;
she has set her table.

All Glory to you, O God, for ever.

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you

All and also with you

Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give thanks and praise.

Father, we give you thanks and praise
through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, your living Word,
through whom you have created all things;
who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our
Saviour.

By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh;
as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin,
he lived on earth and went about among us;
he opened wide his arms for us on the cross;
he put an end to death by dying for us;
and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life;
so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.

For in these forty days
you lead us into the desert of repentance
that through a pilgrimage of prayer and discipline
we may grow in grace
and learn to be your people once again.
Through fasting, prayer and acts of service
you bring us back to your generous heart.
Through study of your holy word
you open our eyes to your presence in the world
and free our hands to welcome others
into the radiant splendour of your love.
As we prepare to celebrate the Easter feast
with joyful hearts and minds we bless you for your mercy
and join with saints and angels for ever 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, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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.*

Great is the mystery of faith :

All Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and
thanksgiving,

we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of St Hilda and all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through 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. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Standing at the foot of the cross,
and as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**All Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

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

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

Agnus Dei

Jesus, Lamb of God

All have mercy on us.

**Jesus, bearer of our sins,
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, redeemer 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.

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

Anthem: Ave verum corpus

[W. A. Mozart]

**Father of heaven, whose love profound
A ransom for our souls has found,
Before thy throne we sinners bend:
To us thy pardoning love extend.**

**Almighty Son, incarnate Word,
Our Prophet, Priest, Redeemer, Lord,
Before thy throne we sinners bend:
To us thy saving grace extend.**

**Eternal Spirit, by whose breath
The soul is raised from sin and death,
Before thy throne we sinners bend:
To us thy quickening power extend.**

**Thrice Holy! Father, Spirit, Son,
Mysterious Godhead, Three in One,
Before thy throne we sinners bend:
Grace, pardon, life to us extend.**

[Edward Cooper]

**Glory be to Jesus,
Who, in bitter pains,
Poured for me the life-blood
From his sacred veins.**

**Grace and life eternal
In that blood I find;
Blessed be his compassion,
Infinitely kind.**

**Blest through endless ages
Be the precious stream,
Which from endless torment
Doth the world redeem.**

**Abel's blood for vengeance
Pleaded to the skies;
But the blood of Jesus
For our pardon cries.**

**Oft as it is sprinkled
On our guilty hearts,
Satan in confusion
Terror-struck departs.**

**Oft as earth exulting
Wafts its praise on high,
Hell with terror trembles,
Heaven is filled with joy.**

**Lift ye then you voices;
Swell the mighty flood;
Louder still and louder
Praise the precious Blood.**

[Italian (author unknown) tr. Edward Caswall]

Prayers after Communion

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

Lord Jesus Christ,
you have taught us
that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters
we do also for you:
give us the will to be the servant of others
as you were the servant of all,
and gave up your life and died for us,
but are alive and reign, now and for ever.

All Amen.

**All Father of all,
we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off
you met us in your Son and brought us home.
Dying and living, he declared your love,
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;
we who drink his cup bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
so we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

Blessing

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness,
to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him;
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 peace of Christ.

All Thanks be to God.

Recessional Hymn

It is a thing most wonderful,
Almost too wonderful to be,
That God's own Son should come from heav'n,
And die to save a child like me.

And yet I know that it is true:
He chose a poor and humble lot,
And wept, and toiled, and mourned, and died
For love of those who loved him not.

But even could I see him die,
I could but see a little part
Of that great love, which, like a fire,
Is always burning in his heart.

**It is most wonderful to know
His love for me so free and sure;
But 'tis more wonderful to see
My love for him so faint and poor.**

**And yet I want to love thee, Lord;
O light the flame within my heart,
And I will love thee more and more,
Until I see thee as thou art.**

[W. Walsham How]

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Please remember in your prayers this week:

THOSE FOR WHOM OUR PRAYERS HAVE BEEN ASKED:

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

THE RECENTLY DEPARTED

Elaine Taylor Mary Mason

THOSE IN OUR MEMORIAL BOOK THIS WEEK

Hilda Donnachie	Herbert Chandler	Herbert Chandler
Lucy Webb	Alan Charles Fuller	Alan Charles Fuller
May Davidson	Daphne Alvira Downie	Daphne Alvira Downie
Joan Cooke	Pauline Lewis	Pauline Lewis

**Please pray for our ALMA twin Parish, Holy Cross Murrupula, and for
Fr. Domingos and his family**

also for Christians facing persecution in countries such as North Korea,
Somalia, Libya, Eritrea, Yemen, Iran and Nigeria.

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

SERVICE TIMES next week
Wednesday 9th April 11.00am
Palm Sunday 13th April 10am

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

https://www.facebook.com/StHildaAshford/live_videos

or see: <https://www.youtube.com/@sthildachurch8263>

NOTICES

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

Easter Lilies

This year as in previous years we will be offering you the chance to purchase a lily stem in memory of those dear to you. Forms are available at the back of church for completion and return to the Parish office by Palm Sunday 13th April.

The names of all those for whom a lily has been donated will be displayed in the memorial corner and the flower team will arrange the lilies in pedestals around the church for viewing on Easter Sunday.

Flower Team and Flower Pots

The Flower Team will be meeting at 9.30am on Easter Saturday, please let me know if you will be available to help arrange the lilies. Please bring any greenery you can from your garden.

The Flower Team will be up and running properly after Easter. Alison and I are currently finalising a rota.

We would be very grateful for pots and troughs of colourful Spring flowers, as Alison explained last Sunday, please deliver to the church by Palm Sunday (13th April: **next Sunday**).

Pauline Milton

Community Lunch in church - Wednesday at 12 noon

Do join us!

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

Bible Study Group - Wednesday at 7.45pm.

We meet in our new venue: the **Hawley room** in the church hall: use the side door (which opens outwards) and follow the corridor left and left again. We meet most Wednesday evenings.

We will be continuing our look at John's Gospel, following the last hours of Jesus' life on earth. You are very welcome to join us.

There will not be a Mothers' Union Lunch in April

Ambling through Acts course – Thursday 10th April at 7.30pm

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

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

St. Hilda's Breakfast - Saturday 12th April at 9:30am

Do come along and enjoy good food and fellowship.

There will be a list at the back of church: if you intend to come please sign it so we know how many to cater for.

Suggested donation £5, payable on the day.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting - Sunday 27th April at 11.30am

There are a number of vacancies for the Parochial Church Council. If you would like to know more about it please speak to any member of the current PCC. Liz Brian has nomination forms if you decide you would like to stand for election: you must be at least 16, an actual communicant, and have been on the electoral roll of St. Hilda's for at least 6 months.

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

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

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

Do come and join us .We meet in the Small Hall on the 4th Tuesday, from 2.30pm – 4pm with tea, coffee and cake, to explore topics on Christian themes. A donation of a £1 is welcomed to cover the cost of the refreshments

Food Bank Donations

We continue to collect for the Food Bank run by the Salvation Army. Please put donations of food and toiletries in the wooden chest at the back of church. Items most wanted at the moment are:

Pasta sauce	Blackcurrent squash
Porridge	Tinned plum tomatoes
Cornflakes	Tinned sweetcorn

They have “vast quantities” of the following items, so avoid them:

Pasta	Long life milk	Baked Beans
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Helen Calner writes:

Now the time has come for me to be appointed as vicar.

I am appointed vicar of St Augustine of Canterbury in Whitton, so just down the road from you. And something I am very excited about.

As I hold your congregation dearly and am still in touch with some every now and then, I just want to share that they will get an invitation to come and support me on my licensing.

With every blessing

Helen

Red Hot Strings in Concert at St.Hilda's

Saturday 3rd May at 7.30pm

Tickets £20, under 12s free available after Sunday services or see

www.redhotstrings.com

See posters for more details

The Parish Office is available by phone or email.

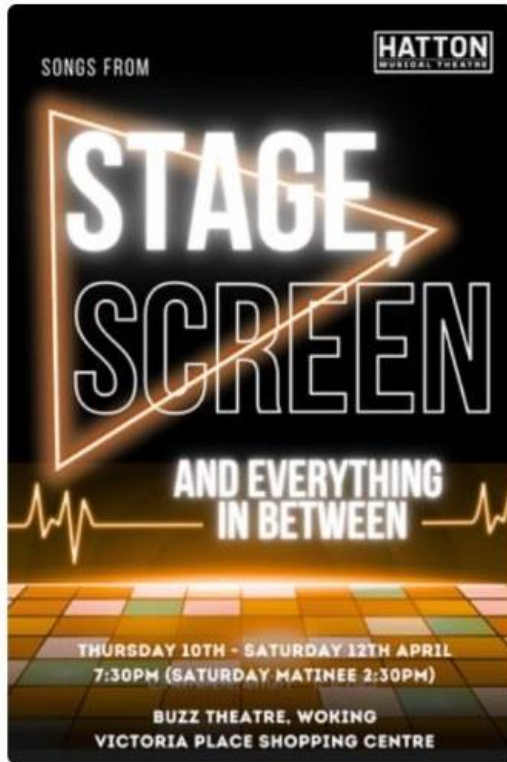
Any appointments in person must be booked.

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

Holy Week Services

Monday 14th	7pm	Choral Evensong
Tuesday 15th	7pm	Choral Evensong
Wednesday 16th	11am	Midweek Eucharist
	7pm	Choral Evensong
Thursday 17th	6.30pm	Washing of the feet with Passover meal
	7pm	Liturgy of Maundy Thursday
	7.45pm	Stripping of the Altar
	8pm-Midnight	The watch
Friday 18th	10am	Walk of Witness with Churches Together
	12 noon	The Crucifixion by St.Hilda's Entertainers
	1pm	7 words on the Cross (Choral meditation)
	2pm	Good Friday Liturgy
Saturday 19th	Noon	Stations of the Cross
	11pm	Easter Vigil
Sunday 20th	10am	EASTER SERVICE



Hatton Musical Theatre are delighted to welcome you to Buzz Theatre in Woking, for our new cabaret

Songs from Stage, Screen and Everything in Between

Thursday 10th April 2025 - Saturday 12th April 2025

Join us to hear toe tapping tunes you know and love from the greatest musicals, as well as Oscar winning songs, movie favourites and modern hits.

With only 4 chances to catch this cabaret, tickets are limited so book now to avoid disappointment!

Book your tickets here:

www.ticketsource.co.uk/hattonmusicaltheatre

or contact Paula or Nick Gething

Contact Information

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Licenced Lay Minister

Rosalyn Young

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Churchwardens

Paula Gething

Stuart Young

PCC Secretary

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PCC Treasurer

Khadijeh

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Church Hall Bookings

Chris Davenport

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