

ST HILDA'S ASHFORD



THE TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

10AM 23RD AUGUST 2026

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 toddler's 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

All for Jesus! all for Jesus!

**This our song shall ever be;
For we have no hope nor Saviour
If we have not hope in thee.**

**All for Jesus! thou wilt give us
Strength to serve thee hour by hour:
None can move us from thy presence
While we trust thy love and power.**

**All for Jesus! at thine altar
Thou dost give us sweet content;
There, dear Saviour, we receive thee
In thy holy sacrament.**

**All for Jesus! thou have loved us,
All for Jesus! thou hast died,
All for Jesus! thou art with us,
All for Jesus, glorified!**

**All for Jesus! All for Jesus!
This the Church's song shall be
Till at last the flock is gathered
One in love, and one in thee.**

[W. J. Sparrow-Simpson

*Tune: © 1955 Lorenz Publishing Company, a division of The Lorenz
Corporation (Admin. by Music Services)*

*Reprinted / podcast / streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE
#A-739460. All rights reserved.]*

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

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

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*

God of constant mercy,
who sent your Son to save us:
remind us of your goodness,
increase your grace within us,
that our thankfulness may grow,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading – Exodus ch1 v8 – ch2 v10

Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. He said to his people, 'Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land.' Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labour. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labour. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them.

The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, 'When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live.' But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, 'Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?' The

midwives said to Pharaoh, 'Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them.' So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, 'Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live.'

Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him for three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. 'This must be one of the Hebrews' children,' she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, 'Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?' Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Yes.' So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.' So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, 'because', she said, 'I drew him out of the water.'

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Second Reading – Romans 12:1-8

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgement, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

**'Thou art the Christ, O Lord,
The Son of God most high!
For ever be adored
That Name in earth and sky,
In which, though mortal strength may fail,
The saints of God at last prevail.**

O surely he was blest
With blessedness unpriced,
Who, taught of God, confessed
The Godhead in the Christ;
For of thy Church, Lord, thou didst own
Thy saint a true foundation-stone.

Thrice fallen, thrice restored!
The bitter lesson learnt,
That heart for thee, O Lord,
With triple ardour burned.
The cross he took he laid not down
Until he grasped the martyr's crown.

O bright triumphant faith,
O courage void of fears,
O love most strong in death,
O penitential tears!
By these, Lord, keep us lest we fall,
And make us go where thou shalt call.

[W. Walsham How]

Gospel Reading – Matthew 16:13-20

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

All Glory to you, O Lord.

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of

Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.’ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Post-Gospel: *Taizè chant*

**Confitemini Domino, quoniam bonus,
Confitemini Domino, Alleluia**

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

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

Christ is our peace.

He has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross.

We meet in his name and share his 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.

**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 blessed 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.

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.

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:

**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.**

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery 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

As our Saviour taught us,
in the language of our hearts we pray:

We say the Lord's Prayer in our preferred language

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

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 We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord,
trusting in our own righteousness,
but in your manifold and great mercies.
We are not worthy
so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table.
But you are the same Lord
whose nature is always to have mercy.
Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ
and to drink his blood,
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,
and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us.
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

Song: One bread, one body

*[John Michael Talbot & Terry Talbot
© 2005 Troubadour For The Lord Music]*

Prayers after Communion

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

God of all mercy,
in this eucharist you have set aside our sins
and given us your healing:
grant that we who are made whole in Christ
may bring that healing to this broken world,
in the name of 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 22-23

THE DISMISSAL

We sing St. Hilda's prayer using an Anglican chant:

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 se'curity ' for my ' spirit.

I trust in ' thee O ' Lord : I say Thou art my God, my ' times
are ' in thy ' hand.

Amen

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

**All my hope on God is founded;
He doth still my trust renew,
Me through change and chance he guideth,
Only good and only true.
God unknown, he alone
Calls my heart to be his own.**

**Pride of man and earthly glory,
Sword and crown betray his trust;
What with care and toil he buildeth,
Tower and temple fall to dust.
But God's power, hour by hour,
Is my temple and my tower.**

**God's great goodness aye endureth,
Deep his wisdom, passing thought:
Splendour, light and life attend him,
Beauty springeth out of naught.
Evermore from his store
New-born worlds rise and adore.**

Daily doth th'almighty Giver
 Bounteous gifts on us bestow;
His desire our soul delighteth,
 Pleasure leads us where we go.
 Love doth stand at his hand;
Joy doth wait on his command.

Still from man to God eternal
 Sacrifice of praise be done,
High above all praises praising
 For the gift of Christ, his Son.
 Christ doth call one and all:
Ye who follow shall not fall.

[Robert Bridges based on the German of J. Neander]

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:

Emma Aldridge, Terri Aldridge, Emma Bennet, Ben Bishop, Stan Bishop, Cate Brunton Green, Cherise and Quanha Caltier-DuTrieux, Brenda Charlton, Tony Charlton Tony Diggins, Robert Dobbie, Fr. Joseph Fernandes, Allen Findel, Sheila Freeman, Gemma Hart, John and Betty Hunt, Lorna Jackson, Pat Kitto, Jim and June Knight, Pat Kyle, Chris Maddock, Carolyne Namuzira, Ray Nation, Massimo Pellizzari, Rory Reeves, Bernice Ross, Annette Scott, Rosina Smith, Elsie Stone, Christine Taylor, Barbara Warne, Jeremy Weston, Delia Woodley, Abby, Ben, Christine, Darren, Elaine, Fiona, Ramin

If you know of someone who can be removed from this list, please tell Rosemary or email communication@sthilda.org

THE RECENTLY DEPARTED: Rev. Christopher Anthony Rogers, Riley Reeves, Carole Kelly, Claire West

THOSE IN OUR MEMORIAL BOOK THIS WEEK:

Phyllis Irene Crick, Eric Brown, Alice Louise Searle, Reuben Webb, Sydney Frederick H. Morris, Neil Armstrong (*the first man to walk on the moon*), George Ernest Lawrence, Margaret Husband, William Arthur Banks

**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, Lebanon, Israel, Iran; India and Pakistan; Ukraine and Russia; Sudan; Myanmar.

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES in the church

Monday 7.30pm – Bible Study

Tuesday 9am – Morning Prayer*

Wednesday 11.00am – Eucharist

followed by Community Lunch (noon)

Thursday 9am – Morning Prayer*

Sunday 10am – Parish Eucharist

**Leaders and Readers wanted: see list at back of church*

NOTICES

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

Send to communication@sthilda.org

Songs of Praise – THIS EVENING, Sunday 23rd August at 6.30pm

The **Bible Study Group** will start looking at Mark's Gospel this week. Visitors and new members welcome!

Junior Church begins next Sunday, **30th August**, with " Blessing of the School Bags" , in church.

Please bring your school bag, a pencil case or reading book bag or PE bag to the service.

Messy Church returns on **6th September**. And from then on Junior Church and Messy Church will begin in the hall

ST HILDA'S CHURCH, ASHFORD Women's Conference 2026

Conference Theme:

Dorcas: A Woman of Impact (Acts 9:36–42)

Dates: **Friday 11 – Sunday 13 September 2026**

Guest Speaker and Preacher: The Revd Hannah Akibo-Betts

details to follow

Jumble Sale – Saturday 19th September

Help will be required sorting the jumble in the morning, selling it in the afternoon, and clearing up afterwards

Stewardship month - September 2026

Theme: Welcome to St Hilda's

14th September: Ladies' Sunday

A Sunday to celebrate and honour the contribution of all the ladies of St Hilda's, Ashford.

21st September: Invitation Sunday

All church members are requested to invite someone to church whether a family member, friend, neighbour or colleague.

Saturday 26th September: Newcomers' Party

The vicar with the church wardens invites all who joined St Hilda's since 2024 to come for a newcomer's welcome party at the vicarage.

Family Quiz Night – Saturday 26th September at 6.30pm

Tickets on sale in church from this Sunday: £10 per person, or £25 for a family ticket for two adults and up to three children. The ticket includes a jacket potato.

Parish Breakfast – Saturday 3rd October at 9.30am

Bring and Share Harvest Supper – Saturday 10th October

***** WANTED! *** Items for Newsletter**

Please send contributions to editor@sthilda.org

Contact Information

Vicar

Fr. Julius Anozie

vicar@sthilda.org

+447359 876498

Lay Minister

Rosalyn Young

rosalyn@sthilda.org

Churchwardens

Alison Garner

Nick Gething

Email: warden@sthilda.org

PCC Secretary

Tyler Pannone

Email: secretary@sthilda.org

PCC Treasurer

Khadijeh

treasurer@sthilda.org

Parish Safeguarding Officer

Nima

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

Office hours are: Monday by appointment only

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

Notices etc. Email: communcation@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>