

ST Hilda's  
Warley Woods

***1<sup>st</sup> February 2026***

***Epiphany 4***

In here you'll find today's hymns and readings, and this week's notices to use alongside the Epiphany Holy Communion order of service.

Prayer ministry will be available during the distribution of Holy Communion. Our prayer ministry team is small at the moment. We are still committed to offering prayer and for the time being we will be using a short Celtic prayer for healing. Anyone is welcome to come and receive prayer.

*Opening Hymn: Morning has broken*

*Number 260 in Common Praise*

## *Collect*<sup>1</sup>

One: You are the God, the Dispeller of darkness and  
unbelief,  
the quencher of thirsty palates,  
the provider of bread to relieve our aching  
hunger.  
In your upside-down, back-to-front world  
our wisdom is mere foolishness  
and our best attempts count for nothing.  
But there is nowhere your love does not reach.  
It is our priceless refuge,  
our reason to boast and hope,  
and oxygen for us gasping souls.  
We do not know whether we are coming or going  
in our busy, activist worlds,  
but in your Spirit-filled world we are assured  
that you are only ever coming.

**Many: Amen**

## *First Reading: Malachi 3:1-5*

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. <sup>2</sup> But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; <sup>3</sup> he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the

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<sup>1</sup> Graham Turner, *Alternative Collects: Prayers to a Disruptive & Compassionate God*, Sacristy Press, 2018

descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. <sup>4</sup> Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

<sup>5</sup> Then I will draw near to you for judgement; I will be swift to bear witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired workers in their wages, the widow, and the orphan, against those who thrust aside the alien, and do not fear me, says the Lord of hosts.

*Gradual hymn: Immortal, invisible, God only wise*

*Number 474 in Common Praise*

*Gospel Reading: Matthew 5:1-12*

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. <sup>2</sup> Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

<sup>3</sup> 'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup> 'Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

<sup>5</sup> 'Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup> 'Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

<sup>7</sup> 'Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

<sup>8</sup> 'Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

<sup>9</sup> 'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

<sup>10</sup> 'Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup> 'Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. <sup>12</sup> Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

*Offertory Hymn: For the beauty of the earth*

*Number 253 in Common Praise*

*Communion hymn: The kingdom of God is justice and peace*

The kingdom of God is justice and peace  
and joy, in the Holy Spirit  
Come Lord,  
and open in us  
the gates of your kingdom

*Taize*

*Final hymn: O lord my God, when I in awesome wonder*

*Number 262 in Common Praise*

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## NEWS AND NOTICES

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### **UPCOMING SERVICES**

Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> February 10: 00am:	Holy Communion
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> February 10:30am:	Family Service, Racial Justice
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> February 10:00am:	Holy Communion
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> February 10:30am:	Holy Communion

### **TAKING DOWN CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS**

Immediately after the service today we will be taking down the decorations and taking the tree outside. If you're able to help please do. We will also need to move the chairs back into rows, again any help is appreciated. Ian Dickinson and Jenni will direct the chair arrangement!

### **OPEN CHURCH – SUNDAYS**

Church will now remain open on Sundays after the morning service until around 5pm. If you are the last one out and have a key please do not lock up!

### **LENT COURSE**

On Wednesdays in Lent there will be an opportunity to meet together to deepen our faith as we reflect on the theme for the week learning together. This is suitable for those who are new to faith and those who have been following Jesus for a long time. We will meet in choir vestry from 7:30pm to 9pm. Refreshments will be available. If you would like to come and can give a lift, or you need a lift please speak to Jenni and we can see if we can coordinate this.

The dates will be

25<sup>th</sup> February, 4<sup>th</sup> March, 11<sup>th</sup> March, 18<sup>th</sup> March and 25<sup>th</sup> March.

### **NEW FOR 2026 - BREATHING SPACE**

“Breathing Space” is a new monthly gathering for contemplative, silent prayer. This is an ancient Christian practice of being attentive

to the presence of a loving God within us and around us, and offers us a time of stillness and peace in our noisy and distracted world. Each gathering will begin with a short introductory reading leading into 20mins silent prayer, following our breath or reciting a prayer word to still our minds. We end with 5 – 10 mins of conversation about the practice.

Breathing Space will take place on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month: 20<sup>th</sup> Feb, 20<sup>th</sup> March, at 10-10.45am in the vestry. Please enter the church through the back door in the car park.

It is open to all who are seeking peace and who long for connection with God and community.

### **HOLY COMMUNION SERVER(S) NEEDED**

We are seeking a new member (or perhaps members!) to join our team of Holy Communion servers. This role includes assisting with the preparation of the altar, helping with the distribution of Holy Communion and clearing at the end of the service. Due to the nature of our building Servers need to be able to use stairs. Full training will be given, including Basic Awareness Safeguarding which is imperative for any volunteer role in the church. Please speak to Jenni or Ian if this interests you.

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: PARISH SAFEGUARDING TEAM**

Our current team, Anne Harris, PARISH SAFEGUARDING COORDINATOR (PSC) and Mike Baynham, PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER (PSO) are looking for help with managing our Safeguarding needs, including the writing and reviewing of policies. Anne Harris will eventually be stepping down and we are seeking to recruit in time for a smooth handover from Anne and for the next PSC to work alongside Mike Baynham and others as part of a team.

These roles are; to work with the incumbent and PCC in promoting safeguarding within the parish, and to ensure that church leaders are implementing the Church of England's safeguarding guidance. The Parish Safeguarding Coordinator is the key link person between the parish and the Diocesan Safeguarding Team, and the PSOS support

this role. These roles requires an enhanced DBS and completion of several training modules offered by the Diocese. Good computer literacy is essential for this as it includes working with a database. If you think this might be something you would be interested in and God is calling you to consider it, please speak to Anne Harris or Jenni Crewes. We can offer you more detailed role descriptions. Please pray for the right people to be recruited for this essential aspect of parish life, and whether this could be you.

**Scriptural Reasoning with the Dialogue Society, 1<sup>st</sup> February 6-8 (see Jenni for the address)**

A few of us have taken part in Scriptural Reasoning with Muslim neighbours and we are looking forward to more evenings together. We usually share some snacks as we look at scriptures from the Hebrew Bible, New Testament and Qur'an, sharing thoughts, questions and ideas. The group is open to anyone – you don't need to be an expert or scholar! For more information, including the address for this time, please ask Jenni.

**WOMEN'S THEOLOGY**

Mother Diane our curate and Mother Charlotte Gibson, who works for the diocese of Birmingham, run a Women's Theology Group fortnightly during term times. We meet on Thursday evening at St George's vicarage Edgbaston and on Friday morning at Evoke Cafe on Harborne High St. It's open to anyone who identifies as a woman and is 18 years of age and over. It's ecumenical, which means people come from a variety of churches in the local area. No preparation is necessary and it's suitable for all levels of knowledge and ability. Each week is a separate session so you can come as and when you like. We look at women's stories in the Bible and see how God shows the good news of themselves to the women and ourselves. If anyone is interested in coming along, speak to Mother Diane and she can give you more details. The next dates are 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> January, and 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> February.

### **Conservatoire Concerts January –April 2026**

These concerts offer the chance to hear a wide range of music, with free entry. However, donations are welcome to help cover costs of heating, licenses and performer expenses. There is the chance to talk to some very talented musicians over a cup of tea or coffee and biscuits after their recitals, which you will not get in a concert hall!

Dates are:

Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> January, 19:30-20:30, Vocal Ensemble

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February, 13:00-13:45, Solo Soprano Vocalist with Accompaniment

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> February, 19:30-20:30, Jazz Pianist

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March, 13:00-13:45, Organist

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March, 19:30-20:30, Brass Quintet

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April, 19:30-20:30, Viola and Piano

Please do your best to come and support these musicians.

If you wish to be kept up to date about concerts, please contact [sthildasconcerts@gmail.com](mailto:sthildasconcerts@gmail.com) and we will add you to our mailing list, or ask Angela, Terry or Marian.

### **This week please pray for;**

- For Scriptural Reasoning on Sunday evening.
- For Ian and Jenni as they take an Open the Book assembly with ecumenical friends in Abbey School on Tuesday
- The family and friends of Allan as his funeral takes place on Tuesday.
- For Jenni and Diane as they offer chaplaincy at Cygnet hospital on Wednesday.
- For all who come to church when it is open, that they may experience God's peace and presence.







## For the Church of England

Bringing together members of General Synod, a wider network of Church of England members, and working with other partner organisations,

*Together for the Church of England*

aims to promote positive change regarding inclusion and encourage democratic engagement in church life.

Join us for a friendly evening to explore what this might look like in Birmingham...

**Thursday 5th February**

**6.30 - 8.30pm**

**John Cadbury House, 190 Corporation St, B4 6QD**

There will be soup, bread, cheese and cake along with some informal input ...

**Fr Barrie Scott** - update from the LGBT+ Chaplaincy

**Rev Emma Sykes** - standing for General Synod

**Nic Tall** - elections, governance and numbers!

It would be helpful to have a rough idea of numbers.

If you can make it, please let us know:

[togetherbham@gmail.com](mailto:togetherbham@gmail.com)





St Hilda's  
Warley Woods

# PANCAKE PARTY

Join us for an evening of food, games, and fun!  
All are welcome.

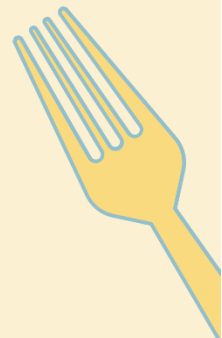
Tuesday 17  
February



5pm -  
7pm

Free entry  
Donations welcomed

St Hilda's Community Hall  
Abbey Road, B67 5NQ  
[www.sainthildawarleywoods.co.uk](http://www.sainthildawarleywoods.co.uk)



## Useful Contacts

Rev'd. Jenni Crewes	Vicar (day off Monday)	07377363915 or 0121 429 1384 <a href="mailto:revjennicrewes@gmail.com">revjennicrewes@gmail.com</a>
Mother Diane Reeves	Curate (working days Wednesday- Sunday)	07977464696 <a href="mailto:dianereeves89@gmail.com">dianereeves89@gmail.com</a>
Mrs Julie Batham	Churchwarden	07931133951, <a href="mailto:juliebatham60@gmail.com">juliebatham60@gmail.com</a>
Mr Ian Dickinson	Churchwarden	07950666654, <a href="mailto:ian_fatbudgie@hotmail.com">ian_fatbudgie@hotmail.com</a>
Mrs Fran Ellis	Reader	0121 429 6267
Liz and Jon	CAMEO	<a href="mailto:sthildascameo@gmail.com">sthildascameo@gmail.com</a>
James Atkinson	Eco Church PEC	<a href="mailto:jda85@hotmail.com">jda85@hotmail.com</a>
Enquires about hiring hall or church		<a href="mailto:sthildasbooking@gmail.com">sthildasbooking@gmail.com</a>
Safeguarding Team		07946 147 703 <a href="mailto:sthildasafeguarding@gmail.com">sthildasafeguarding@gmail.com</a> <a href="https://bit.ly/sthildas-safeguarding">https://bit.ly/sthildas-safeguarding</a>
<u>Safeguarding information</u> 1. Never promise to keep a secret. 2. Assure the person that what they say will be taken seriously. 3. You might say "I will have to talk about what you have told me to the Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator or the Vicar or the Bishop's Safeguarding Advisor, and this will be with as much confidentiality as is possible". <a href="http://www.sainthildawarleywoods.co.uk/SAFEGUARDING.html">http://www.sainthildawarleywoods.co.uk/SAFEGUARDING.html</a>		

To use our church wifi connect to BT-Q9C22K. Password is 'Hilda680'



**Inclusive  
Church**

*St Hilda's is proud to be a member of the Inclusive Church Network.*

### Acknowledgements

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