

St Hilda with St Thomas, South Shields

1 February 2026

SEPTUAGESIMA

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Intention: Our Parish and People

9.30am – Sung Mass

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! God called us through the gospel: so that we may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Alleluia, alleluia!

5pm – Evensong and Solemn Benediction at St Michael's

1. Thank you to the clergy who covered services last week while Father Mark was away.
2. Thanks also to Maurice Powell for playing the organ for us this morning.
3. Tuesday 3 February at 10.30am: Meeting of the Chapter of Our Lady and St Cuthbert.
4. Monday 9 – Friday 13 February: The General Synod of the Church of England meets at Westminster.
5. Tuesday 17 February: Shrove Tuesday: Confessions before Lent in the Lady Chapel at 3pm.
6. Ash Wednesday 18 February: Mass and Imposition of Ashes at 10am | Evening Prayer at 5.30pm.

This week's scripture readings at Mass

Malachi 3.1-5 | Hebrews 2.14-18 | Luke 2.22-40

2 Samuel 18.9-10, 14, 24-25, 30-19.3 |

Mark 5.21-end

2 Samuel 24.2,8-17 | Mark 6.1-6

1 Kings 2.1-4, 10-12 | Mark 6.7-13

Ecclesiasticus 47.2-11 | Mark 6.14-29

1 Kings 3.4-13 | Mark 6.30-34

God of heaven, you send the gospel to the ends of the earth and your messengers to every nation: send your Holy Spirit to transform us by the good news of everlasting life in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Churchwardens: Mrs J Mulley (456-7461)
Mr P Grainger (454-3955)
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The Parish Church of St Hilda with St Thomas, South Shields

Market Place, South Shields, NE33 1DX

sthilda.org.uk | achurchnearyou.com/13711 | YouTube: Churches South Shields

A Forward in Faith Parish in the Episcopal Care of the Bishop of Beverley

This week's services and prayer intentions

[Services in italics at St Hilda's Church]

Monday 2 February

**PRESENTATION OF THE LORD
DEDICATION FESTIVAL**

Intention: Historic Churches Trust

7.30pm Blessing of Candles,

Procession and Solemn Mass

Preacher: Father Stephen Edmonds SSC

Tuesday 3 February

St Blaise

Intention: Coastguard

5.30pm Evening Prayer

6.00pm Mass

Wednesday 4 February

Feria

Intention: Universities and Colleges

10.00am Mass

5.30pm Evening Prayer

Thursday 5 February

St Agatha

Intention: Additional Curates Society

11.00am Mass (BCP)

Friday 6 February

St Paul Miki and

his companions

Intention: Church in Japan

Saturday 7 February

Feria

Intention: Market Stall holders

10.00am Mass

Sunday 8 February

SEXAGESIMA

SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

Intention: Our Parish and People

Sung Mass at 9.30am

SEPTUAGESIMA

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

COLLECT

God our creator, who in the beginning commanded the light to shine out of darkness: we pray that the light of the glorious gospel of Christ may dispel the darkness of ignorance and unbelief, shine into the hearts of all your people, and reveal the knowledge of your glory in the face of Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING 1 Kings 17.8-16

A reading from the first book of the Kings.

Then the word of the Lord came to Elijah, saying, ‘Go now to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and live there; for I have commanded a widow there to feed you.’ So he set out and went to Zarephath. When he came to the gate of the town, a widow was there gathering sticks; he called to her and said, ‘Bring me a little water in a vessel, so that I may drink.’ As she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, ‘Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand.’ But she said, ‘As the Lord your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of meal in a jar, and a little oil in a jug; I am now gathering a couple of sticks, so that I may go home and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die.’ Elijah said to her, ‘Do not be afraid; go and do as you have said; but first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterwards make something for yourself and your son. For thus says the Lord the God of Israel: The jar of meal will not be emptied and the jug of oil will not fail until the day that the Lord sends rain on the earth.’ She went and did as Elijah said, so that she as well as he and her household ate for many days. The jar of meal was not emptied, neither did the jug of oil fail, according to the word of the Lord that he spoke by Elijah.

PSALM Verses from Psalm 36

Thy mercy, O Lord, reacheth unto the heavens : and thy faithfulness unto the clouds.

Thy righteousness standeth like the strong mountains : thy judgements are like the great deep.

Thou, Lord, shalt save both man and beast; How excellent is thy mercy, O God : and the children of men shall put their trust under the shadow of thy wings.

They shall be satisfied with the plenteousness of thy house : and thou shalt give them drink of thy pleasures, as out of the river.

For with thee is the well of life : and in thy light shall we see light.

O continue forth thy loving-kindness unto them that know thee : and thy righteousness unto them that are true of heart.

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 1.18-end

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, ‘I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.’ Where is the one who is

wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling-block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, 'Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.'

GOSPEL John 2.1-11

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

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' And Jesus said to her, 'Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.' His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' Now standing there were six stone water-jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, 'Fill the jars with water.' And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, 'Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.' So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, 'Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.' Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Generous Lord, in word and eucharist we have proclaimed the mystery of your love: help us so to live out our days that we may be signs of your wonders in the world; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**