

# St Hilda with St Thomas, South Shields

15 March 2026

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT MOTHERING SUNDAY REFRESHMENT SUNDAY

*Intention: Our Parish and People*

9.30am – Sung Mass with Blessing of Flowers

*In Lent, we omit the Gloria*

*Gospel Acclamation:* Praise, and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ. I am the light of the world, says the Lord: whoever follows me will have the light of life. Praise, and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

6pm – Cross of Christ Service – A meditation for Choir and Congregation.

1. Tuesdays in Lent: Stations of the Cross at 7pm on 17 & 24 March.
2. Wednesday 18 March at 7pm: Society of Mary meets at St Michael's for Solemn Mass for St Joseph's Day. All welcome, followed by refreshments.
3. Friday 20 March at 6pm: Evensong and Procession to the Shrine of St Cuthbert on St Cuthbert's Day at Durham Cathedral.
4. Lent Boxes supporting the work of Mission Direct are available at the back of Church.
5. Donations towards Easter flowers will be gratefully received.
6. Palm Sunday 29 March: Chrism Mass at St Aidan's, Grangetown at 6pm.
7. Save the Date: Saturday 18 July: The Bishop of Beverley's Festival at York Minster.

*This week's scripture readings at Mass*

Isaiah 65.17-21 | John 4.43-end

Tobit 13.1b-7 | Matthew 10.16-23

Isaiah 49.8-15 | John 5.17-30

2 Samuel 7.4-16 | Romans 4.13-18 |

Matthew 1.18-end

Ezekiel 34.11-16 | Matthew 18.12-14

Jeremiah 11.18-20 | John 7.40-52

Merciful Lord, you know our struggle to serve you: when sin spoils our lives and overshadows our hearts, come to our aid and turn us back to you again; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

This week's services and prayer intentions

*[Services in italics at St Michael's Church]*

Monday 16 March

Lent Feria

*Intention: Town Council*

8.30am Morning Prayer

9.00am Mass

5.30pm Evening Prayer

Tuesday 17 March

ST PATRICK

*Intention: Church of Ireland*

5.30pm Evening Prayer

6.00pm Mass

7.00pm Stations of the Cross

Wednesday 18 March

St Cyril of Jerusalem

*Intention: Theologians*

10.00am Mass

5.30pm Evening Prayer

7.00pm Solemn Vigil Mass for  
St Joseph, Husband of the BVM

Thursday 19 March

ST JOSEPH

*Intention: Parents*

11.00am Mass (BCP)

Friday 20 March

ST CUTHBERT

*Intention: Those in need*

Saturday 21 March

Thomas Cranmer

*Intention: Prayer Book Society*

10.00am Mass

Sunday 22 March

## FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT PASSION SUNDAY

*Intention: Our Parish and People*

Sung Mass at 9.30am

Churchwardens: Mrs J Mulley (456-7461)

Mr P Grainger (454-3955)

Mr W Marley Miss C Mulley

*Contact details*

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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

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT  
MOTHERING SUNDAY  
REFRESHMENT SUNDAY**

**COLLECT**

Merciful Lord, absolve your people from their offences, that through your bountiful goodness we may all be delivered from the chains of those sins which by our frailty we have committed; grant this, heavenly Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our blessed Lord and Saviour, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**FIRST READING** 1 Samuel 16.1-13

A reading from the first book of Samuel.

The LORD said to Samuel, 'How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he looked on Eliab and thought, 'Surely the LORD's anointed is now before the LORD.' But the LORD said to Samuel, 'Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart.'" Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any of these.' Samuel said to Jesse, 'Are all your sons here?' And he said, 'There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.' And Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.' He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, 'Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.' Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

**PSALM** Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd: therefore can I lack nothing.

He shall feed me in a green pasture: and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort.

He shall convert my soul: and bring me forth in the paths of righteousness, for his Name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff comfort me.

Thou shalt prepare a table before me against them that trouble me: thou hast anointed my head with oil, and my cup shall be full.

But thy loving-kindness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house  
of the Lord for ever.

**SECOND READING** Ephesians 5.8-14

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, 'Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.'

## **GOSPEL** from John 9

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

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. He spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, 'Go, wash in the pool of Siloam' (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbours and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, 'Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?' Some were saying, 'It is he.' Others were saying, 'No, but it is someone like him.' He kept saying, 'I am the man.' They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, 'He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.' Some of the Pharisees said, 'This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.' But others said, 'How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?' And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, 'What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.' He said, 'He is a prophet.' They answered him, 'You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?' And they drove him out. Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' He answered, 'And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said to him, 'You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.' He said, 'Lord, I believe.' And he worshipped him.

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Lord God, whose blessed Son our Saviour gave his back to the smiters and did not hide his face from shame: give us grace to endure the sufferings of this present time with sure confidence in the glory that shall be revealed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**