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The Online Link St. John's Hillingdon



No. 34 Sun 8th - Sat 14th November 2020
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St. John's Church,
Royal Lane, Uxbridge UB8 3QP
www.stjohnshillingdon.org.uk

Your Sunday Service Link (10.30 am):

Click on the Loving, Growing sharing Image
above from Sunday 10am or on
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89481452808>

Church Administrator: Nikki Bell

Email stjohnshillingdon@gmail.com
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On Sunday last It was **All Saints' Day** and Mark Hamlin shared with us the work and transformation that has been taking place with some of the tombs in the Churchyard. This was as part of the service where we were honouring those who have gone before us, and restoring the tombs is part of that honouring. We also lit a candle online and spoke out the names of those we were remembering. You can download the slides that Mark used - see 'Churchyard News'.

News about work on the cupola: The company who were due to stabilise the cupola, Stone

Technical Services, have made their own assessment of risks to their staff and the safety/feasibility of carrying out the works on site in the current national 'lockdown' circumstances. As a result of this assessment, we were informed on Monday that the cupola works will not now be starting on the planned date of 9th November. We will get a new start date in due course.

This Sunday 8th November our theme of remembering continues as it is **Remembrance Sunday**. Included in the service will be The Last Post, a time of silence and The Reveille. The local Hillingdon British Legion and Officers from The Boy's Brigade will lay wreaths. Ken from North Hillingdon Methodist Church will be our speaker. We will have hymns and the National Anthem. In order to **wear your poppy** I would suggest that you pin this high up at shoulder height so we can all see our poppies.. **You can donate to the work of The Royal British Legion** by clicking on the 'Donate' button at the top of this edition or on our website. Please also email in to say that your gift is for the Legion. We will then ensure that the gifts collected are given to and through our local branch. **Please do invite others and share around the link for our service which begins at 10.30 am.**

Remembering and memories can sometimes trip us up, coming up when we were not ready, pulling us backwards in time, often painfully, to recall someone we loved and lost. It is on birthdays, at Christmas, at the smell of fresh bread or the sound of a waterfall that can bring back a memory we weren't expecting to appear within. Memories arise when the weather turns towards winter or when poppies are worn by those around us or newsreaders on television. A part of the past comes back to us.

We also remember consciously and intentionally. Often this has something of hope in it, something for the future. There can be something about change in remembering. There is something about looking to the past in remembrance in order to affect the future:

- We remember how certain words can hurt others and so we are more gentle in how we speak.
- We remember the good role models of others and how we want to be like them.
- We remember that Christ died for us on the cross in the past, that we might have eternal life in the future.
- We remember that Jesus said, "Do this in remembrance of me." So we feed on him in the Eucharist to become more like Christ.

Yes, Remembering may make us uneasy, it may bring us comfort. Remembering may make us feel guilty, it may bring up regrets. Remembering also enables us to say "thank you", it provides an opportunity to recognise brave men and women.

It's good to remember and do something with that remembering.

And remembrance is to bring history in a desired direction, a better direction.

It is a time to take up the torch once more and to dedicate ourselves anew; dedicating anew to living in such a way that we do not break faith with those individuals who died to bring peace to the world; dedicating anew to not break faith with the Prince of Peace who came to show us the way to eternal peace.

It is a time to commit ourselves once again to the struggle against evil - the struggle against the very things that lead to war in the first place. That's war in the world and the war in our hearts. Live in the way that God meant you to live - in freedom and by doing all that makes for peace.

Act justly, love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. Amen. **Alan**

Prayers

Those on the frontline

Please pray for all workers on the 'frontline' as we see increasing numbers of those catching the coronavirus and increasing hospital admissions. This week you might also like to pray specifically

for **funeral directors, those who work for them and for staff working in crematoria.**

Colombia

In Colombia, guerrilla groups and drug cartels recruit young people to do their dirty work for them. They often target the children of pastors who oppose their activities. Ask God to protect pastors' families, and to convict the leaders of the rebel groups and drug gangs to stop their practice of recruiting children.

Daniela's father, Pastor Plinio, was murdered for sharing the gospel in an area controlled by drug gangs. Give thanks that she and her brother Sebastian have received support through the Children's Centre. Ask Father God to continue to comfort them and help them to find friends as they settle into a new house in a safer area.



James 3: 9:18

9 With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse human beings, who have been made in God's likeness. 10 Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be. 11 Can both fresh water and salt water flow from the same spring? 12 My brothers and sisters, can a fig tree bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Neither can a salt spring produce fresh water. 13 Who is wise and understanding among you? Let them show it by their good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom.

14 But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. 15 Such "wisdom" does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. 16 For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.

17 But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. 18 Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness.



Clutter

How much do we need?

We have more than enough.

Clutter can take away physical space and can make you feel hemmed in.

It can make it hard to clean and tidy.

Clutter can affect you mentally.

It can be overwhelming if allowed to grow.

It can be difficult not knowing where to begin to clear it away. Clutter wastes your time, looking for things, tidying up.

Clutter is visually distracting.

Clutter may represent holding on to the past.

Think before you buy.

Do you really need that next thing?

When you declutter, think about where to dispose of things. Think Reduce, Reuse
, Recycle. *Christine Rodrigues*



During our Sunday service last week for All Saints/Souls Day, Mark Hamlin shared a presentation to "Honour those that went before" focusing on St. John's Churchyard and the amazing restoration work that has taking place on the damaged tombs.

The presentation was fascinating and showed the determination and dedication by Mark and all of the Churchyard Team.

To view the presentation please [Click Here](#)



Gunpowder Treason & Plot

I'm sure we are all familiar with the story of the Gunpowder Plot of 1605, but did you know that Hillingdon has a connection with the plot leader Robert Catesby? In the 1590's Robert Catesby owned Moorcroft at Merrimans Corner and he sold the house to Father Henry Garnet who was beheaded for his involvement in the plot. To celebrate the fact that the King had survived this act of treason, the Observance of 5th November Act was introduced in parliament which enforced an annual public day of thanksgiving.

In Rachel De Salis's book "Hillingdon through Eleven Centuries" she writes about the 5th November festivities in 18th century Hillingdon. She says "Not only were bells rung regularly throughout the day but a feast was held, although exactly who the guests were was not recorded. In 1702, the purchase of a piece of beef for Gunpowder Treason day is mentioned in the parish accounts and in 1705 we find again, paid on the fifth of November for meat, 4 shillings being paid in the first instance and 3 shillings in the second."

November 5th these days is generally called "Firework Night", but when I was a child we tended to call it "Bonfire Night", and I think that was because the bonfire was the main highlight, along with a jacket potato! My family loved the bonfire in the back garden with the burning of a Guy Fawkes effigy on top.

If anyone would like to refresh their memories of Guy Fawkes and the plot to blow up parliament, the BBC Timewatch programme is available to watch on youtube.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=esZNtdzc_cU. *Christine Bartlett.*



Robert Catesby.

Father Henry Garnet.



Samaritans Purse Operation Christmas Child

Thank you to everyone who has once again supported this amazing charity. We have had such a fantastic response. I delivered all the completed boxes this week. In total including online boxes we donated 26 that I am aware of.

There is still time to pack a shoebox this can be done online via the link below or by contacting Nikki.

The Covid -19 global pandemic has disrupted everyday life for millions of people all around the world. Samaritans Purse have looked into ways in which they can modify their collection and processing, following strict government guidelines so that the process is safe and to ensure that boys and girls around the world know that they have not been forgotten during this time of fear and uncertainty.

You can pack a shoebox online by giving a donation of £20 and Samaritans Purse will pack a shoebox for you, just click on this link for more information <https://shoebonline.samaritans-purse.org.uk/> Nikki Bell

NOTICES

Hillingdon Hospital Re-Development.

Construction should start in July 2022, all being well with completion in 2025.

There is a programme of engagement with stakeholders and the Hospital Trust wants to get as many views as possible to inform the process.

For further information click on the hyperlink thh-redevelopment@thh.nhs.uk which gives more details to the present position. *Roger Dewey.*

This is Me Project.

Susan Dalloe, The Borough Curator is currently working on a project called "This is me" its an exhibition that will have a soft launch at Uxbridge Library in January 2021, and then will hopefully tour the Borough of Hillingdon.

To be part of the exhibition all you have to do is take a photo of 5 objects that define you. if you would like more information please email or call Nikki. *Mark and Helen Hamlin.*

My Story.

Although this time is difficult, it does bring us some special opportunities. We'd love to know something of your story and to present this as an opportunity for others to get to know you better too.

Would you consider writing something that we could share with others via 'The online Link '?

Obviously you could write a lot, but don't worry, it needn't be long.

The idea is to include how you came to be a part (or associated with) with St. John's Church and to include something about your faith story or your searching story.

Thank you for considering this. There are some hints/tips below that could help:

Tip 1 Use some questions that could help.

Where were you born, where did you grow up and where did you go to school?

What has been your main means of supporting others or supporting yourself – eg trade, jobs, profession?

Any especially unusual, good, or hard times (this might help others who could relate to this). How did you come to be associated (or to become a regular worshipper) at St. John's church? – something about your faith/searching journey.

Funny story, embarrassing moment, moment of fame?

Tip 2 Speak out your story first, maybe to a member of the family, or on the phone or to someone who regularly calls you. (You could let them know what you are doing). This will help give you the energy to write

Tip 3 Type your story. If you do not have access to a computer Nikki would be happy to interview you over the phone.

If you would like to share your story, please contact Nikki via email or phone.

The Children's Society Home Coin Boxes.

Please hang on to your collecting boxes for the time being. The Children's Society do not want us to be placed at unnecessary risk by handling boxes, counting coins and taking trips to the bank. If you are a box holder, you will be contacted when we are able to collect your box. *Christine Bartlett*



Click on the poppy above get your poppy colouring sheet (pdf file)

Place it in your window to show your support!

CHEQUES

Payable to:
Hillingdon Parochial Church Council
St. John's Church
Royal Lane
Uxbridge
UB8 3QP

STANDING ORDER

Set up a Standing Order with your bank or building society using these details:
Barclays Bank, 142 High St,
Uxbridge, UB8 1JX
Sort Code: 208916
Account No: 20465615

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