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The New Fortnightly Online Link St. John's Hillingdon



No. 78 Sun 3rd October - Sat 16th October 2021
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Your Sunday Service Link (10.30 am):

Click on the church image above from
Sunday 10am or on

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89481452808>

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There are parts of the Gospel that always make me feel a bit uncomfortable or even disturbed when I read them. There is one particular passage that always makes me feel I would let Jesus down from the start. I'm referring to the instructions that Jesus gives to his twelve disciples as he sends them out to heal and minister in his name."...take no bag for the journey or extra shirt or

sandals ...”(Matthew 10:10). It's not so much the call to ministry that troubles me, rather the instructions for packing which are minimalist to say the least! No extra shirt!! I love going off on little trips and journeys but I absolutely hate packing! Something akin to a kind of madness takes over me. I want to pack clothes that I haven't worn for years, I must be prepared for every possible weather event from arctic conditions to tropical heatwaves and I must be able to select my daily attire from a wider choice as possible. That of course doesn't account for the single biggest difficulty I face every time I have to pack a suitcase... my inability to make a decision. Therein is the root cause for my packing dilemmas, packing to go away is, after all, just a series of small decisions about what to take.

I'm sure Jesus was spot on in his approach, with the disciples already having made the most important decision of their lives to follow him, he was eager for them to just get on with the task of sharing the gospel, letting its message of love and hope bring healing to those that needed it most. If you're anything like me you can let the smaller details and worries overwhelm you and then it feels easier to defer decisions or take no action at all. Jesus gave the disciples clear instructions not just about packing for the task at hand but about what they could expect in a life of following him and how to respond when the going gets tough. He tells them four times in the chapter not to be afraid and that we are safe and secure in the Father's care. I really need to remember this and it's worth reminding myself that I've already made the biggest decision of my life, to follow Jesus.

I went away last weekend on the first residential of my ordination training, I was 'sent out' into the wilds of Derbyshire. I don't think there was any expectation to drive out impure spirits and after all I was in the company of my fellow ordinands but nevertheless, having spent the entire first year of training on-line, I was not entirely sure what to expect (or what was expected of me) and was therefore a bit apprehensive. After Moses died, Joshua had the unenviable task of taking over the reins of leadership and God made him this promise. "Do not be afraid: do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go"(Joshua 1:9). Now if God was with Joshua and the Israelites as they battled to take possession of the land promised to them and if Jesus assured those first twelve disciples that they were safe in the Father's care, then I shall venture boldly forth into Derbyshire to wait on what God has in store for me. The only question that remains is what on earth do you pack for an ordinands' residential weekend?

Caroline Reed

Father God, you care and watch over us all, in whatever circumstances and places we find ourselves in. Help us to trust in your promises and not to let ourselves be side-tracked by things that don't matter that much in the grand scheme of your kingdom. Let us concern ourselves with the big decisions and reaffirm our promise to follow Jesus and live out the gospel message of hope and love. Amen.



Decisions! Decisions!



Sunday 3rd October.

Covenant and Commandments

Exodus 19:3-7 & 20:1-17

3 Then Moses went up to God, and the Lord called to him from the mountain and said, "This is what you are to say to the descendants of Jacob and what you are to tell the people of Israel:

4 'You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt, and how I carried you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself.

5 Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, 6 you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites."

7 So Moses went back and summoned the elders of the people and set before them all the words the Lord had commanded him to speak.

20 And God spoke all these words: 2 "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. 3 "You shall have no other gods before me. 4 "You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below.

5 You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, 6 but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments.

7 "You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name. 8 "Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. 9 Six days you shall labor and do all your work,

10 but the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your male or female servant, nor your animals, nor any foreigner residing in your towns.

11 For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

12 "Honour your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you. 13 "You shall not murder.

14 "You shall not commit adultery. 15 "You shall not steal. 16 "You shall not give false testimony against your neighbour. 17 "You shall not covet your neighbour's house. You shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or his male or female servant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbour."

Sunday 10th October.

Joshua Renews the Covenant

Joshua 24:1-15

24 Then Joshua assembled all the tribes of Israel at Shechem. He summoned the elders, leaders, judges and officials of Israel, and they presented themselves before God.

2 Joshua said to all the people, "This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: 'Long ago your ancestors, including Terah the father of Abraham and Nahor, lived beyond the Euphrates River and worshiped other gods.

3 But I took your father Abraham from the land beyond the Euphrates and led him throughout Canaan and gave him many descendants. I gave him Isaac, 4 and to Isaac I gave Jacob and Esau. I assigned the hill country of Seir to Esau, but Jacob and his family went down to Egypt.

5 " 'Then I sent Moses and Aaron, and I afflicted the Egyptians by what I did there, and I brought you out. 6 When I brought your people out of Egypt, you came to the sea, and the Egyptians

pursued them with chariots and horsemen as far as the Red Sea.

7 But they cried to the Lord for help, and he put darkness between you and the Egyptians; he brought the sea over them and covered them. You saw with your own eyes what I did to the Egyptians. Then you lived in the wilderness for a long time.

8 “ I brought you to the land of the Amorites who lived east of the Jordan. They fought against you, but I gave them into your hands. I destroyed them from before you, and you took possession of their land. 9 When Balak son of Zippor, the king of Moab, prepared to fight against Israel, he sent for Balaam son of Beor to put a curse on you.

10 But I would not listen to Balaam, so he blessed you again and again, and I delivered you out of his hand. 11 “ ‘Then you crossed the Jordan and came to Jericho. The citizens of Jericho fought against you, as did also the Amorites, Perizzites, Canaanites, Hittites, Girgashites, Hivites and Jebusites, but I gave them into your hands.

12 I sent the hornet ahead of you, which drove them out before you—also the two Amorite kings. You did not do it with your own sword and bow. 13 So I gave you a land on which you did not toil and cities you did not build; and you live in them and eat from vineyards and olive groves that you did not plant.’

14 “Now fear the Lord and serve him with all faithfulness. Throw away the gods your ancestors worshiped beyond the Euphrates River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord.

15 But if serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.”

Further reading suggestion (Joshua 24: 16-26)



Plant a Tree for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

The Queen's Green Canopy (QGC) is a unique tree planting initiative created to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee in 2022 which invites people from across the United Kingdom to “Plant a Tree for the Jubilee.”

Everyone from individuals to Scout and Girl guiding groups, villages, cities, counties, schools and corporates will be encouraged to play their part to enhance our environment by planting trees from October, when the tree planting season begins, through to the end of the Jubilee year in 2022.

With a focus on planting sustainably, the QGC will encourage planting of trees to create a legacy in honour of The Queen's leadership of the Nation, which will benefit future generations.

As well as inviting the planting of new trees, The Queen's Green Canopy will dedicate a network of 70 Ancient Woodlands across the United Kingdom and identify 70 Ancient Trees to celebrate Her Majesty's 70 years of service.

If you would like to find out more about The Queen's Green Canopy please click on this Link:

<https://queensgreencanopy.org/>

Eco Bingo

Take a look at our Bingo Board below or [Click Here](#) to print off a larger Bingo board.

Can you get a line, 4 corners, 2 lines or even a full house!

Think about what you might stick on the free space! perhaps you are doing something different why not share this with the Eco team by emailing Nikki.

(The idea is not to rush out and replace what you currently have or throw what you have. Think how can it be reused.) If you are looking to buy new think about Eco alternative products.



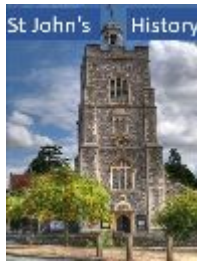
Last week, Beth and I had one of our dreams come true - to be at a Liverpool match at Anfield!!!! (note the excited over use of exclamation marks!). In the past, I've been to charity matches at Anfield and I've seen Liverpool play away matches in the Midlands. But I had never been to Anfield for a 1st team match, so it was very exciting, and very special to be there with one of my daughters. I'd heard of how amazing it is to be at Anfield and to experience the singing of 'You'll Never Walk Alone', but I must say that it was even more than I was expecting. It was spine tingling. It was emotional.

On the journey up north, I talked with Beth about special memories and special parts of my life as I was born in Liverpool, I had lived there for the 1st part of my life, and used to go back there a lot when my Grandparents were still alive. We saw the familiar points along the journey that were always a part of this journey in the past. It was a time of reminiscing, of thinking of my roots, my heritage and my family.

Sitting high up in the stands, I could see some of the roads around the stadium. My Dad was born in one of these roads, within the sound of the Kop Roar. On the way to the ground, I bought him a present that says "there's no noise like the Anfield noise" - and that's certainly true.

Music has always been part of our car journeys, and this journey was no different. Beth and I listened and sang along to a variety of songs old and new. One of the songs on our journey was 'This Place' by Jamie Webster. It's a passionate song about coming from Liverpool, with the lyrics "*This place is where I'm from my city, my people, my heart*".

And this made me think about my other roots of where I'm from, my spiritual roots. We are created by God, and "*our citizenship is in heaven*" (Philippians 3:20). Heaven is our place of belonging. We are "*fellow citizens with God's people*" (Ephesians 2:19). One day we will be in that heavenly city, where we will join in the song of heaven that will even surpass the Anfield noise. Our lives are rooted with God. It's the foundation of who we are. As we journey through life, there are familiar points along the way that will always remind us of our spiritual journey with God, for us to reminisce on what God has done in our lives. And we live with that part of Heaven in our lives. That place with God is with us and in our hearts wherever we go. That's our true city, our people, our heart. We have a heavenly heritage, belonging and family. And wherever we go, wherever God leads us on this journey of life, we know that we will never walk alone, as God guides us and walks with us every step of the way.



Continuing the tour down the central aisle of church we come to a quite small modest monument which reads as follows;

*Underneath lyeth the Body of ye Rt Honble Ye Lady Ann Scott
Second daughter to his Grace The Duke of Buccleuch*

Born Nov 16th 1724 Dyed July 15th 1737

For many years I have gazed at this monument and wondered about Lady Anne and why the daughter of a Duke was buried in Hillingdon. A book by Daniel Lyssons written in 1800 mentions that the Duke of Buccleuch lived for a while at Hillingdon Place, a large mansion on the west side of Long Lane (before you get to Court Drive). The 12 year old Lady Anne must have been living or staying there when she died which is why she is buried in Hillingdon churchyard.

The Dukes of Buccleuch for many generations have been wealthy landowners both sides of the border, in fact the current Duke of Buccleuch, **Richard Scott**, the 10th Duke, is the largest private landowner in Scotland. Lady Anne's father, the 2nd Duke of Buccleuch, had strong connections with Berkshire and the Home Counties and he is buried in the chapel at Eton, although his principal seat was Dalkeith Palace in Dalkeith near Edinburgh. He rented Hillingdon Place with his mistresses and illegitimate family, deciding to live with women he loved who were all 'commoners'. Apparently there are charming letters written by him which survive in the Buccleuch archives in Edinburgh, some of which he wrote whilst in Hillingdon, describing this domestic life. Eventually the Duke married his third mistress in succession, Alice Powell, a laundry woman from Windsor, although he doesn't seem to have had any children by her. It is my plan to visit Edinburgh in 2022 to look at the correspondence which might give us some insights into life in 18th century Hillingdon.

What a fascinating story lays behind that little monument!

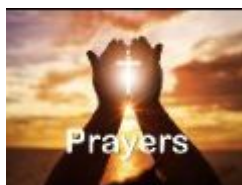
Christine Bartlett



Lady Ann Scott Monument



Hillingdon Place



Gracious God,
you call us to fullness of life:

deliver us from unbelief
and banish our anxieties
with the liberating love of
Jesus Christ our Lord
Amen.

NOTICES



[Bishop Ramsey School Open Evening](#)

Eventbrite - Bishop Ramsey School Open Evening -
Thursday, 7 October 2021 in Ruislip, England. Find
event and ticket information.

[bishopramseyopenevening2021.eventbrite.co.uk](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/bishop-ramsey-school-open-evening-2021)



Brighter Days Art Exhibition

Christine Rodrigues is currently taking part in this exhibition displaying some of her handmade books, collages and animals. If you are in Uxbridge please pop in and have a look. Christine's work will be displayed until noon on 7th October 2021.

For more information on Hillingdon artists visit [Artists – Hillingdon Artists](#)



Please click [Here](#) for the latest edition of the Hillingdon People Magazine.

How to join the Sunday service from your landline/mobile (without Internet)

- Dial **020 3481 5237** or **020 3051 2874**.
- Enter meeting ID Code **894 8145 2808** then the # key
- You will be asked to enter your participants' ID. Ignore this, and just press # key
- There is no password. If you are asked for one, then just press the # key.

CHEQUES

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STANDING ORDER

Set up a Standing Order with your bank or building society using these details:
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Account No: 20465615

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