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The New Fortnightly Online Link St. John's Hillingdon



No. 79 Sun 17th October - Sat 30th October 2021
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In this Issue!

[Anne's Blog](#)

[Readings](#)

[ECO News](#)

[St John's Histories](#)

[Churchyard News](#)

[Prayers](#)

[Notices](#)

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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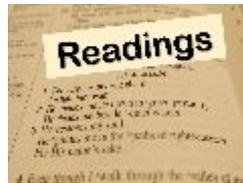


Driving along the motorway this afternoon, there was a lorry in front of our car. It had the word 'Saints' in large letters across the back of it. As we followed this lorry, in the traffic through the roadworks, it made me think about following saints, and how it will soon be All Saints' Day.

We all follow saints, and not just the famous, well-known saints. We follow on from those men and women of faith who have gone before us, those who have encouraged us in our faith, those who have passed on to us the baton of faith. If you are able, just stop and think for a minute about those who have encouraged you in your faith. Thank God for them, for their witness, and for their encouragement. Then ask God to help you to be a witness. Think about how you can encourage others in their faith.

There were people who went before us in history, who passed on their faith. There are others who will come after us. But this is our moment in history. It is like a relay race. We each have our part to play. We pass on the baton of faith moment by moment, in a thousand seemingly insignificant words, actions and conversations. But we cannot pass on what we don't have. So that makes us think about our own faith and our own walk with God.

We are to run the race of life with our eyes fixed on Jesus. He both began and finished the race we are in. He never lost sight of where he was headed. So when you find yourself flagging in your faith, look again at the story of Jesus. When the road seems full of things to slow us down or to divert us, remember those 'saints' who have encouraged us along the way. And keep going with your eyes fixed on the road ahead.



Sunday 17th October.

David and Bathsheba

2Samuel11:1-5, 26-27, 12:1-9 and Psalm51:1-9

11 In the spring, at the time when kings go off to war, David sent Joab out with the king's men and the whole Israelite army. They destroyed the Ammonites and besieged Rabbah. But David remained in Jerusalem.

2 One evening David got up from his bed and walked around on the roof of the palace. From the roof he saw a woman bathing. The woman was very beautiful, 3 and David sent someone to find out about her. The man said, "She is Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam and the wife of Uriah the Hittite."

4 Then David sent messengers to get her. She came to him, and he slept with her. (Now she was purifying herself from her monthly uncleanness.) Then she went back home. 5 The woman conceived and sent word to David, saying, "I am pregnant."

26 When Uriah's wife heard that her husband was dead, she mourned for him. 27 After the time of mourning was over, David had her brought to his house, and she became his wife and bore him a son. But the thing David had done displeased the Lord.

12 The Lord sent Nathan to David. When he came to him, he said, "There were two men in a certain town, one rich and the other poor. 2 The rich man had a very large number of sheep and cattle,

3 but the poor man had nothing except one little ewe lamb he had bought. He raised it, and it grew up with him and his children. It shared his food, drank from his cup and even slept in his arms. It was like a daughter to him.

4 "Now a traveller came to the rich man, but the rich man refrained from taking one of his own sheep or cattle to prepare a meal for the traveller who had come to him. Instead, he took the ewe lamb that belonged to the poor man and prepared it for the one who had come to him."

5 David burned with anger against the man and said to Nathan, "As surely as the Lord lives, the man who did this must die! 6 He must pay for that lamb four times over, because he did such a thing and had no pity."

7 Then Nathan said to David, "You are the man! This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: 'I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you from the hand of Saul. 8 I gave your master's house to you, and your master's wives into your arms. I gave you all Israel and Judah. And if all this had been too little, I would have given you even more.

9 Why did you despise the word of the Lord by doing what is evil in his eyes? You struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and took his wife to be your own. You killed him with the sword of the Ammonites.

1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. 2 Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.

3 For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me.

4 Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are right in your verdict and justified when you judge. 5 Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me. 6 Yet you desired faithfulness even in the womb; you taught me wisdom in that secret place.

7 Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow. 8 Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice. 9 Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity.

Sunday 24th October.

The Song of Moses and Miriam

Exodus 15:1-13 & 20-21

15 Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the Lord: "I will sing to the Lord, for he is highly exalted. Both horse and driver he has hurled into the sea. 2 "The Lord is my strength and my defense; he has become my salvation. He is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him.

3 The Lord is a warrior; the Lord is his name. 4 Pharaoh's chariots and his army he has hurled into the sea. The best of Pharaoh's officers are drowned in the Red Sea. 5 The deep waters have covered them; they sank to the depths like a stone. 6 Your right hand, Lord, was majestic in power. Your right hand, Lord, shattered the enemy.

7 "In the greatness of your majesty you threw down those who opposed you. You unleashed your burning anger; it consumed them like stubble. 8 By the blast of your nostrils the waters piled up. The surging waters stood up like a wall; the deep waters congealed in the heart of the sea.

9 The enemy boasted, 'I will pursue, I will overtake them. I will divide the spoils; I will gorge myself on them. I will draw my sword and my hand will destroy them.' 10 But you blew with your breath, and the sea covered them. They sank like lead in the mighty waters.

11 Who among the gods is like you, Lord? Who is like you— majestic in holiness, awesome in glory, working wonders? 12 "You stretch out your right hand, and the earth swallows your enemies. 13 In your unfailing love you will lead the people you have redeemed. In your strength you will guide them to your holy dwelling.

20 Then Miriam the prophet, Aaron's sister, took a timbrel in her hand, and all the women followed her, with timbrels and dancing. 21 Miriam sang to them: "Sing to the Lord, for he is highly exalted. Both horse and driver he has hurled into the sea."



Hillingdon Litter Pickers

Walking Flossy In Coney Green I met a nice lady cleaning up the litter from the hedgerow. She is one of many people who are helping to keep Hillingdon tidy.

There is a group called Hillingdon Litter Pickers which has grown during lockdown when many of our green spaces became spoilt with litter.

The group has a private Facebook page which you can join. Sticks ,gloves and bags are provided ,you may be able to borrow some or provide your own.

The Litter Pickers sometimes arrange group sessions to tidy up a particular place or you can go out and choose to clear up a path or park where you live. Information from the Group on Facebook "**Pollution in Reverse**"

If you'd like to help litter pick within the London Borough of Hillingdon, then this group is for you. We are partnered with the Friends of Grand Union Canal group, who are a Partner Group with the Canal and River Trust. We also work with Hillingdon Borough Council to ensure swift removal of rubbish we collect. "Pollution in Reverse" If you'd like to help litter pick within the London Borough of Hillingdon, then this group is for you. We are partnered with the Friends of Grand Union Canal group, who are a Partner Group with the Canal and River Trust. We also work with Hillingdon Borough Council to ensure swift removal of rubbish we collect.

Group Rules

- 1 At Your Own Risk Any activities you do on behalf of this group are entirely at your own risk.
- 2 The Council Our very helpful contact is Dave Rance (Waste Manager)
drance@hillingsdon.gov.uk
- 3 Private Land It's not permitted to litter pick on private land, you could be reported for stealing!
- 4 Individual Litter Picks Please use LBH branded bags - Available at a few homes across the borough, just post and ask who's closest. Leave by park/road bins and email the council if there are more than 2 bags.
- 5 Group Litter Picks Use LBH or black bags and arrange collection by the Council in advance. Unfortunately, collections can not cater for the separation of recyclable items.
- 6 Canal Litter Picks Use black bags, get to a roadside for collection by the Council. Unfortunately, collections can not cater for the separation of recyclable items. If possible, notify the Council in advance
- 7 Loan Equipment We have a very limited stock of litter picking sticks that we can lend out. They are at various houses across the borough. Just post in the group and ask where the nearest one is to you.
- 8 Domestic Recycling Bags These are not suitable for roadside collections, and the rubbish will not be recycled. If you use these bags, you'll need to take them home and add to your own recycling.
- 9 Have Fun! Above all, have a laugh, enjoy it and know you are making a difference!

Carbon Savvy

Principles of low carbon food Autumn is traditionally harvest time and there's more seasonal, local food in the shops now than at any other time of year. So it's a great time for the most tasty produce that also saves CO2.

Here are the 5 main ways to reduce the carbon footprint of our food, which often make the most delicious, nutritious and healthy dishes too.

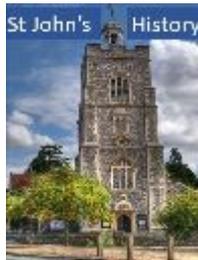
- 1 Seasonal Seasonal food can be the most fresh, which usually also means most nutritious and delicious - it's often the least expensive as well. Spring is when it's hardest to eat seasonally in the UK. This time of year everything from potatoes, carrots, beetroot and greens to apples and pears.
- 2 Local Not only does eating locally reduce transport miles, it also pays more local wages, giving work to people in our area. For every pound spent in a local shop 45p stays in the area, but in large chains only 10p stays local. British meat has on average ¼ of the carbon emissions of average international meat, thanks to being largely grass fed.
- 3 Organic Fertilisers produce a lot of greenhouse gasses and pesticides harm insects, bees and birds, and can leave toxin residues in the food. Organic food solves these three problems, so as well as saving CO2 it helps British birds and wildlife. Biological processes in farming emit more CO2 than transportation, so imported organic food usually has a lower carbon footprint than local non-organic food. If you can't afford organic food you could just buy organic milk, which will hardly change your food bill but makes a big difference.
- 4 Grass fed Grass fed animals have lower methane emissions (a powerful greenhouse gas) and grass sequesters CO2, absorbing it into the soil. Some meats and cheeses are labeled grass fed. Look out for food labelled 'grass fed' or find out if the farms where your produce comes from feed

their animals mainly cereals or mainly grass.

5 Water Avoid importing water. While 1kg of cereal can feed a family for a few days, 1kg of bananas is only dessert for one meal, and 1kg of wine (a bottle) merely accompanies a meal. Transporting dried foods has a very low carbon footprint, so shipping it across the world will be part of the low carbon future. Feel fine about imported dried food and focus on buying food with a high water content as close to home as possible. **Chris Rodrigues**

The Earthshot Prize Repairing Our Planet programmes on BBC 1.

It is a global prize for the environment to incentivise change and help to repair our planet over the next 10 years. The top 5 solution winners will each receive £1 million to scale their solutions. Its a 5 part documentary led by Prince William. It will probably be too late for people to watch on TV but I would like to strongly recommend everyone to watch them on catch up/iPlayer. This is such an important issue for us all. The programmes would also be good for children to watch with parents as it is their future that is at stake. **Brenda Thomas**



We Will Remember Them

The "tour of the church monuments" which started in The Link at the beginning of 2021 is nearly finished with only a few more to go. This week's monument is to the left of the chancel steps as you face the east window, just behind the "golden eagle" lectern.

Evelyn Worsley was born in 1885, the son of Godfrey and Frances Worsley. Godfrey was the Headmaster of Evelyn's School, Hillingdon. After attending his father's school, Evelyn went on to Winchester School and in 1903 went up to Magdalen College, Oxford. He took his degree with Honours in History and returned to Hillingdon to work at his father's school, succeeding him as Headmaster in 1912.

In 1910, Evelyn married Miss Katherine Rashleigh in 1910 at St Mary's Church Horton Kirby Kent. In those days, it was the custom to have a full report of the wedding in a women's magazine called "The Queen" Katherine's wedding dress is described as follows: The bride was attired in softest white satin draped with chiffon on either side of the skirt and caught with pearl and crystal ornaments. Some exquisite embroidery in pearl and paste appeared on the bodice and under this was passed an old limerick lace scarf, which formed the sleeves. Her veil of silk-embroidered tulle was arranged over a wreath of white heather and orange blossom. Evelyn and Katherine went on to have 2 daughters but the First World War was looming.

In 1916 Evelyn, by now a second lieutenant in the 3rd Battalion Grenadier Guards went out to France in August of that year. Just one month later he was fatally wounded at Ginchy during the Battle of the Somme. He is buried in the Corbie Communal Cemetery in France and his tomb is shown in the photo below. The wording at the base of the tomb is not very clear but the Commonwealth War Graves website has a transcript, it reads "Greater Love Hath No Man Than This".

As I write this I am reminded of the verse from the poem by Lawrence Binyon:

*"They grow not old
As we that are left grow old.
Age shall not weary them,
Nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun,
And in the morning,
We will remember them."*

The next time you walk past Evelyn Worsley's memorial plaque in church, you might like to take a moment to reflect on the sacrifice he made. **Christine Bartlett**



Evelyn Worsley



Evelyn Worsley Memorial



Evelyn Worsley Grave



Churchyard News

It is a while since the churchyard gang last reported on their activities so I figured it was about time that we updated everyone.

The last of the derelict tombs that were surrounded by green safety fencing and 'Keep Out'

notices when I joined the Gang 2½ years ago has finally been completed after a delay caused by Coronavirus lockdowns. The Felicity Elizabetha Selby Hele tomb was the most derelict of all of them with only one side remaining, so the transformation is very satisfying. The 2 photos show the before and after conditions.

A mature Oleandar Tree has been donated by Rick and Carol Williams as it had outgrown its pot on their patio and they had nowhere else for it in their garden. It has now been planted in the Garden of Remembrance as shown in the photo. Many thanks to Rick and Carol for their generous donation of this enhancement to the Garden.

A tree at the other end of the size spectrum (and the other end of the churchyard) has, however, finally reached the end of the road, so to speak. The giant Cedar tree opposite Vine Lane has been shedding large limbs for some time and, due to its proximity to the Uxbridge Road, presents a serious risk of injury to passing pedestrians and even to vehicles. As a result, Hillingdon Council has granted us permission to fell this tree provided that we plant a suitable replacement tree. This work is currently scheduled for Tuesday 19th October and will involve a lane closure on the Uxbridge Road whilst the work is carried out, so now is the time to go and take a last look at this old tree. The accompanying photo shows that the tree has actually become quite unbalanced as a result of the boughs that have already fallen so it has become quite unstable. The cost of this work is covered by an element of our Covid Recovery Fund 2 Grant that also contributed the costs of the Summer Fete along with a number of other things.

The choice of a suitable replacement tree is still under consideration by the PCC and we are taking advice from Hillingdon Council so that we ensure that we fulfil their requirements.

On a personal note I have found it necessary to resign from the role of Churchwarden after only 6 months in the role but I am still actively supporting the on-going grant application processes to try to secure external funding for some of the significant repairs that our church will be needing in the very near future. **Mark Hamlin**



Felicity Hele Tomb Before



Felicity Hele Tomb After



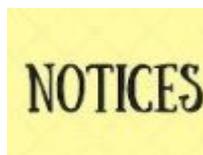


Oleander Tree

Cedar Tree



Please pray for Phillip and Charley as they make their final preparations for their wedding which will be held at St John's on Saturday 30th October. Also for their Son Buster who will be baptised during the wedding service.



St John's will again be supporting this amazing charity.

A simple shoebox gift packed with love and fuelled by prayer can have a huge impact! Bringing Good News and great joy to children all around the world.

The global pandemic has disrupted and continues to disrupt everyday life for millions of people all around the world.

This year it would be great to reach out and give a gift to as many children as we can.

I have plenty of boxes, so you no longer need to worry about wrapping up shoe boxes.

If you would like to support this appeal or would like a pre wrapped box please contact me via email on stjohnshillingdon@gmail.com or by phone on 07972 618584. I am happy to drop and pick up boxes. Alternatively you can collect pre wrapped boxes on Sunday's or pop in and see me during the week.

All completed boxes will need to be ready in Church for collection by 10th November at the latest.

You can also 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 [Shoebox Online \(samaritans-](https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk)

[purse.org.uk\)](https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk) **Nikki Bell**

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

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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