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## The Fortnightly Online Link St. John's Hillingdon



No. 93 Sun 1st- Sat 14th May 2022  
Registered Charity 1128058

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### **Your Sunday Service Link (10.30 am):**

Click on the church image above to join our 10:30am service on zoom from Sunday 10am <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89481452808>

### **Church Administrator: Nikki Bell**

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### **Vicar: Alan Bradford**

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### **St. John's Church,**

Royal Lane, Uxbridge UB8 3QP

[www.stjohnshillingdon.org.uk](http://www.stjohnshillingdon.org.uk)



Our Easter Project was once again amazing. Many thanks to all who crocheted, knitted, stitched

and made the amazing array of butterflies, bumble bees, bunny rabbits, caterpillars and flowers. Also, many thanks to all who came to hang up the multitude of various creations along the footpath. Many hands really do make light work!

The idea behind the project is for it to be something for our local community. It came out of lockdown, as a way of it being a random act of kindness; for people on their way along the footpath to see them, read the messages and then for them to take one home or give to someone. After the success of last year's abundance of flowers, this year we had even more creativity shown in such a vast array of handiwork.

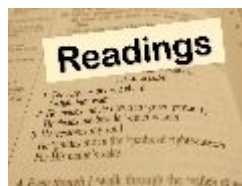
Well, it's amazing how quickly all the creations have gone to their new homes, but it's lovely to still see the reactions and responses to it all in the wider community. People have come to visit the footpath, brought others with them to see the display, stopped to take photos and selfies, shared the items, and enjoyed the handiwork. There has been a great response on social media with lovely comments and with people posting photos of the piece that they took.

Each item was lovingly made. Each item was unique. There were different designs, patterns, colours and wools. Each individual item was lovely and lovingly made, then when they were all together along the footpath, they each added to the amazing display. And now they have spread out, having been taken into the wider community, into many homes, put up in windows or in cars, being played with by children, given to others.

I was thinking about how we are all knitted and created by God, how each one of us is unique and lovingly made. In Psalm 139 we read, "For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well."

Each one of us is individually created. When we come together, what an amazing sight that is, especially for our Creator. Each one of us unique, and each one of us is a part of the vast array of God's handiwork. When we go into the wider community, we each take something of the creativity of God and his blessing with us wherever we go. We each represent God's love and creativity in the world. And we are each wonderfully and lovingly made. **Anne**





**Sunday 1st May**  
**Resurrection People: Restructuring Imagination**  
**Luke 24:13-35**

13 Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. 14 They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. 15 As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; 16 but they were kept from recognising him.

17 He asked them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?" They stood still, their faces downcast. 18 One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, "Are you only a visitor to Jerusalem and do not know the things that have happened there in these days?"

19 "What things?" he asked. "About Jesus of Nazareth," they replied. "He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. 20 The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; 21 but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place.

22 In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning 23 but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. 24 Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see."

25 He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! 26 Did not the Christ have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" 27 And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

28 As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus acted as if he were going further. 29 But they urged him strongly, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them. 30 When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them.

31 Then their eyes were opened and they recognised him, and he disappeared from their sight. 32 They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?" 33 They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together

34 and saying, "It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon." 35 Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognised by them when he broke the bread.

### **Sunday 8th May**

#### **Resurrection People: Resurrection Bodies**

##### **Luke 24: 36-49**

36 While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." 37 They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. 38 He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? 39 Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have."

40 When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. 41 And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, "Do you have anything here to eat?"

42 They gave him a piece of broiled fish, 43 and he took it and ate it in their presence.

44 He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms." 45 Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. 46 He told them, "This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day,

47 and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. 48 You are witnesses of these things. 49 I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."



#### **Theme and readings for the weeks ahead.**

##### **Resurrection People.**

1st May - Restructuring Imagination - Luke 24:13-35

8th May - Resurrection Bodies - Luke 24:36-49

15th May - Raising Doubts - John 20:19-31

22nd May - Restoring Work - John 21:1-14 (AGM/APCM)

29th May - Ascension Sunday - Acts 1:1-11



#### **St. John's Services Update**

Following the recent Government announcement of relaxation of some of the Covid measures, St. John's PCC reviewed, discussed and decided:

**Front Doors**- We are now using the main front doors as the weather is getting better.

**Face Masks** - This is now a personal choice. For those that wish to wear your mask you may prefer to sit at the back in the last rows, to help you feel more comfortable around those singing without a mask. However, you are equally free to sit anywhere you would like.

We will still have face masks available for those that wish to take them. We ask that you continue to be mindful to others.

**Space** - After a review on Wednesday 6th April We are trialling different ways for Holy Communion so that we can make full use of the church pews.

**Zoom-** Will continue.

**Testing prior to attending church-** Not now needed however if you feel unwell then please stay home, you may wish to test if you have any of the coronavirus symptoms and connect via zoom.

**Refreshments** - This is now up and running. For this to continue we really need more people to sign up for volunteering please see Nikki or Alan if you can help in anyway.



### **Another look at decluttering**

Now that spring is here, maybe it's time to look again at the things we own, the purchases we make and review with the planet in mind. What do you need to live?

Make your home more sustainable by how you furnish it, reduce clutter and manage your energy use. Clearing clutter can also help clear the mind .

Allocate time to clear one room, cupboard or drawer at a time.

Look at your belongings to decide what to keep.

1. Are they meaningful - given as a gift or hold memories?
2. Are they useful - have you used the items recently or at all. They may be items needed for everyday, regular activities or for a hobby, interest or study.

Once decided, if the things are in good condition, instead of throwing them away in a bin consider how to pass them on.

1. Would they be of use to another member of the family or friend?
2. They could be sold online or at a table top sale.
3. Donate them to a charity shop.
4. Recycle. Some items could be taken to the local recycling centre.
5. If you or anyone you know is creative, maybe the materials that the item is made of could be repurposed, made into something new.

### **Making Oat milk**

Alternatives to milk can be expensive so have a go at making your own.

You need 2oz oats to 500ml of filtered water

Place in a blender for about a minute until smooth

To separate the liquid from the solid drain over a bowl through a muslin cloth.

Add vanilla or natural flavour to the milk and then store in a reusable jar or container for up to a week.

You can also try to make almond milk in the same way.



Greenpeace have launched [The Big Plastic Count](#) It's the biggest ever investigation into household waste, done by everyday people like you and I and we need you to be a part of

it!

**All you have to do is count the plastic you use for a week in May (16th-22nd).** We need you to join thousands of others across the UK to count your pots, packets, wrappers, the lot. Together we'll uncover the truth about how much plastic we throw away and what happens to it, and prove bold action is needed by the government and supermarkets to fix their plastic problem. **Are you up for the challenge?**

It's simple enough to do – and if you sign up today we'll send you a **free counting pack** that gives you everything you need to take part. If you have already signed up, amazing - please spread the word and share with your friends, family, schools and community groups as we need as many people as possible taking part.

**[So what are you waiting for, join the 40,000 that have signed up already and join the Big Plastic Count!](#)** And as the video says – it doesn't matter how you count, it's the counting that counts!

[Join the Big Plastic Count](#)



#### **Easter at St. John's**

Easter at St. John's was a hive of activity as you will see in the photo's below.

On Saturday 16th April the Flower Guild came in to decorate the church and I am sure you will agree the results were absolutely stunning! Thank you so much to Carol and the flower guild team with special thanks going to Edie and Winnie our new members of the flower guild!



On Saturday at 12noon lots of friends came to help put the Easter crafts on to the hedges that line the path to Coney Green as mentioned by Anne above.

On Easter day we were joined in the morning by two Brunel University Students, who are reporters for the Hillingdon Herald. They contacted me on Thursday to see if they could do a story

on Easter and our craft project. I will let you know when the feature will be running and include this in our Link.

After our Easter day service we were also able to raise some money to go towards the cost of removing the Spruce tree which fell in the churchyard. We raised money through selling some Crocheted animals that were kindly donated by Wyn's daughter. Sophia and Daisy helped to sell the items which were sold for £3 and £5 per item. The total raised was £80!

The cost of the tree removal was £1,140.00 we have had so many people wishing to donate to help with the costs and have raised £321.00 so far Thank you to everyone who has donated to this unplanned expenditure.



Are you worried about the rise to the cost of living you are not alone. I was sent this article recently which has some great advice and helpful tips to try and reduce your household expenditure.

Click on this link to find out more: [6 April 2022: 90 ways to survive the cost of living crisis \(moneysavingexpert.com\)](https://moneysavingexpert.com/6-April-2022-90-ways-to-survive-the-cost-of-living-crisis)



Please include in your prayers;

**The ongoing situation in the Ukraine. For all those in fear, suffering, injured,**

**bereaved, displaced.**

*O Lord our God,  
Your son Jesus Christ suffered and died for us.  
in his resurrection he restores life and peace in all creation.  
Comfort we pray, all victims of intolerance  
and those oppressed by their fellow humans.  
Remember in your kingdom those who have died.  
Lead the oppressors towards compassion  
and give hope to the suffering.  
Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.***

**For Those being Baptised at St John's**

1st May - Rafe and Finnley  
8th May - Winnie Full immersion Baptism.

*Dear God,  
Please keep these children of yours safe and happy.  
Surround them by your love,  
guide their every step  
with your wisdom and your grace.  
**Amen.***



**NOTICES**

Message from the Bartlett's:

Dear Friends,

We thought we drop you a line to let you know how we are getting on and how our garden is progressing. The garden centre vouchers that you so generously gave us when we left Hillingdon have enabled us to purchase lots of gorgeous plants for the garden.

The first thing we did in the garden was to dig out some borders next to the fences. Before we did this the lawn went right up to the fence which we thought wasn't very exciting. We have had great fun choosing shrubs in the garden centre, but there is so much to choose from. To help our decision making process, we decided early on to keep to a theme of white. We have now finished planting the borders and we now just have to wait for everything to grow, much patience required! Apart from the garden, we have been busy decorating and also getting to know the local area. We have settled down at our new church, St Barnabas Emmer Green, and made some friends there. I am on the intercessions rota, the readings rota, the cleaning team and the gardening team (surprise surprise!) Brian goes to the monthly men's breakfast and is also in the gardening team, which as it is just a small church garden, only meets once a month. We are looking forward to the Easter services, including a sun rise service and bonfire on Easter Day.

Holly and Richard are well. Holly has just come back from San Diego to visit Naomi Harrison. She had a wonderful time. It is so nice being nearer to them they often pop over at the weekends. We are going to their house for lunch on Easter Day.

We hope you all have a very Happy and Blessed Easter. We often think about you and we miss you and St. John's church very much. If any of you are down this way, do let us know, we would love to see you. The kettle is always on and there is nearly always cake in the tin!!

Lots of love, prayers and Easter Blessings.

Christine and Brian





The ever-popular Stardust Big Band has started using St John's Church as their regular practice venue every Sunday evening and they have offered to do a concert for us in aid of church funds. Tickets will be available on the door for £10 each.

**Sunday 22nd May 2022** 6pm at St. John's Hillingdon  
Concert by Stardust Big Band in aid of Church funds.  
Tickets £10 on the door, Offers: 3 for the price of 2 Under 14's free.

Please tell your friends, neighbours, work-colleagues, etc. as the more people we can encourage to come along the more that will be raised for the on-going ministry of our church.

To give you a flavour of their music the attached link will take you to a very clever composite video of the band performing together (virtually) during the Covid pandemic lockdowns!

[\(20+\) Facebook](#)

If you are able, please print out this poster [click here](#) and display it somewhere.



#### **Alpha Course March/April 2022 7:15 for a 7:30pm start**

Alpha is an exciting opportunity to come together as a group and discuss all things faith, life and what is the meaning of it all!

This will be an 8-week course with the opportunity for confirmation at the end. running every Wednesday from 30th March-May 7:15pm for a 7:30pm start.

It is perfect for everyone, from someone who knows their Bible word for word to those that want to explore. You do not need to know anything to come along.

Alpha is a great place to start and explore whilst making new connections with others who have questions just like you!

There will also be refreshments and snacks available.



You may by now have already received your polling cards for the Local Elections on **Thursday 5th May 2022**. I received mine on 6th April. If you live locally to the Church you would also have seen that St John's is your nearest Polling Station! We are delighted to be working with Hillingdon Council once again to help the local community. Some of you may remember that many years ago the church hall was used before it was sold.



Our Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) will be taking place at 10:30am on **22nd May 2022** this year. At this meeting we will be electing 2 Churchwarden's, 3 representatives to the Deanery Synod and 12 members for the PCC. If you are interested in standing please speak to Alan or Nikki. Application forms are available at the back of Church.

The Annual report will be sent out and printed prior to the meeting.

The Electoral roll is now up on the notice board please check that you name is on the document and report any errors to Nikki. We also have pink application forms for the Electoral roll at the back of Church for those that wish to join.



Join us celebrating  
The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June**  
for a  
**PICNIC LUNCH**

straight after our  
10:30am mid-morning service

- please bring your picnic lunch,  
and a blanket or camping chair
- bring your flags for the sing-a-long
- wearing red, white & blue is optional



## Looking Ahead....

**Sunday 1st May** 9am Service, 10:30am Service. 1pm Baptism of Rafe, 2:30pm Baptism of Finnley.

**Monday** - 9:30am Churchyard Clearing, 12noon Jazz, Private Prayer. 8pm Bellringing Practice, 8pm Mandolin Monday.

**Tuesday**- 9am Private Prayer, 12noon Jazz, 7:30pm Accordion Band.

**Wednesday** - 9:15am Nikki Office, 12noon Words and Music, 1pm Knitting Group. 7:15pm Alpha Course

**Thursday- 7am- 10pm Polling Station.** No other activities taking place on this day.

**Friday** - 10am Let's Go, 12noon Jazz.

**Saturday** - 11am- 4pm Music Tuition- Grundon Room.

**Sunday 8th** - 9am,10:30am Baptism of Winnie, 12noon Services.

**Monday** - 9:30am Churchyard Clearing, Private Prayer, 8pm Bellringing Practice, 8pm Mandolin Monday.

**Tuesday** - 9:15am Private Prayer, 12noon Jazz, 7:30pm Accordion Band.

**Wednesday** - 9:15am Nikki Office. 12noon Words and Music, 1pm Knitting Group, 7:15pm Alpha Course.

**Thursday** - 9:15am Nikki Office, 9:30am Church Hire, 12noon Jazz.

**Friday** - 10am Let's Go, 12noon Jazz.

**Saturday** - 11am -4pm Music Tuition- Grundon Room.

## 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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