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The Online Link St. John's Hillingdon



No. 132 Sun Sunday 5th November - Sat 18th November 2023
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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>

St. John's Church, Royal Lane, Uxbridge
UB8 3QP. www.stjohnshillingdon.org.uk

Church Administrator: Nikki Bell

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Vicar: Alan Bradford

Email: abradford@hotmail.co.uk
Emergencies Text/Phone: 07847 672599

Church Wardens:

Rick Williams Phone 01895 232 888
Roy Munday Text/Phone 07711 278498

Safeguarding Officer: Richard Bell

Email: info@shieldsmore.co.uk
Text/Phone: 07934 871538



At the beginning of October, Alan and I went to Italy for three days. We flew to Pisa and then caught a train to Florence. Alice and Beth were waiting for us at the station. They had gone to Italy four days before us, and we were joining them to celebrate Alice's birthday together.

I was thinking about us all being on a journey in life, where one day we will all join a heavenly celebration together at our destination. Each one of us will arrive at our own individual time. Some have already gone on ahead of us, and others will follow.

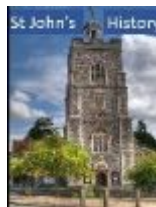
In recent months, as a church family, we have said "goodbye" to some of our loved ones who have continued on the journey ahead of us, and we look forward to that reunion with them when we complete our journey.

This week, we remember All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day, when we think about all the faithful who have gone before us and passed on to us the baton of faith.

When we are in church, I often think about all those who have worshipped God in this place over the centuries. Our praise and worship joins with theirs.

One day, we will all meet together at our destination, and then join in worshipping God at that heavenly celebration.

Meanwhile, we live our lives here in this place, making the most of opportunity and community. We thank God for all the faithful who have gone on ahead of us, and we pray for God to encourage us as we too pass on the baton of faith to others. *Anne xx*



As explained previously we are revisiting some of the history of St. John's and after an overview of the building itself we will be going inside the church continuing to look at our Brasses.

Private A Kirby

There is a brass plaque in the South Aisle which reads as follows:

In memory of Private A. Kirby XII Royal Lancers who gave his life for his country in South Africa on June 5th 1900. Erected by XII Royal Lancers past and present.

The 12th Royal Lancers was a cavalry regiment of the British Army first formed in 1715. On the day of Private Kirby's death, the city of Pretoria was captured by British forces as part of the Second Boer War of 1899-1902. This war was fought between the British Empire and two independent Boer states, the trigger of the war being the discovery of diamonds and gold in those states. Eventually, the war ended with a British Victory with the 2 states being incorporated into South Africa (then part of the British Empire). Over 28,000 soldiers died from both sides, and over 46,000 civilians died, 26,000 of which died from appalling treatment in British concentration camps.

This memorial has intrigued me for a long time. From time to time, I try to find out more about Private Kirby but I always hit the proverbial brick wall. I'm assuming that Private Kirby was a Hillingdon lad but I haven't been able to find out anything about him. We don't have his first name which makes it even more difficult. I have written to the Royal Lancers Archives Department and they haven't been able to tell me any more than we already know. Forces War records cannot provide any information either. So we are left with a mystery, who was Private Kirby? *Christine Bartlett*



Reading for Sunday 5th November 2023

Theme: Teach Us To Pray

Reading: Matthew 6:5-15

- 5 "And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by men. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full.
- 6 But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.
- 7 And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words.
- 8 Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.
- 9 "This, then, is how you should pray: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, 10 your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
- 11 Give us today our daily bread. 12 Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. 13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.'
- 14 For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. 15 But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

Reading for Sunday 12th November 2023

Theme: Remembrance Sunday: God Empowered Living

Reading: John 15:1-12

- 15 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener.
- 2 He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful.
- 3 You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you.
- 4 Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.
- 5 "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.
- 6 If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned.
- 7 If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given

you.

8 This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

9 "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love.

10 If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love.

11 I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. 12 My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.

Reading: John 15:9-17-Greater Love

9 "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love.

10 If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love.

11 I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. 12 My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.

13 Greater love has no-one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. 14 You are my friends if you do what I command.

15 I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.

16 You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit—fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name.

17 This is my command: Love each other.



Themes and Readings for Autumn 2023

Our Autumn Term is coming to a close we focused on 3 main themes, to allow us time to reflect and help us to include prayer in our everyday life.

Teach Us To Pray - 1st Sundays of the Month

Good Arguments For God's Existence - 2nd & 4th Sundays of the Month

Miracles- 3rd Sundays of the Month

The Readings and Themes for the coming weeks are:

Sunday 5th November- **Matthew6: 5-15** - Teach us to Pray

Sunday 12th November 10am- **John15:1-12**- Remembrance: God Empowered Living

Sunday 12th November 11:10am - **John15: 9-17**- Remembrance: Greater Love

Sunday 19th November- **Matthew14: 13-21**- Miracles- We Have Enough!

Sunday 26th November -**Matthew5: 1-12** Blessed are the Persecuted.



Invitation to hear more about A Rocha's Big Green Vision

Join Andy Atkins (A Rocha UK Chief Executive) at an online event on Tuesday 21 November from 2pm - 3pm to hear more about A Rocha UK's Big Green Vision.

In 2021 A Rocha launched a vision and strategy for our work over the next five years. A Rocha have been very encouraged so far to see what God has enabled us to do, but there is much more that can be achieved together to protect, nurture and restore God's creation.

You will hear about A Rocha's progress and plans for the future. Andy will be joined by colleagues from the nature conservation and Eco Church teams. There'll be time for you to ask us questions.

Register via Eventbrite [here](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/hear-more-about-our-big-green-vision-tickets-715395837207?aff=oddttdcreator). or visit <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/hear-more-about-our-big-green-vision-tickets-715395837207?aff=oddttdcreator>

Protecting and enhancing the diversity and abundance of life on earth In just the last two years, the impact of the climate crisis has become even more evident, with wildfires, heatwaves, flooding and storms affecting our own lives, the lives of our global neighbours, and the natural world that we hold dear.

The ecological crisis is real. With an ever-warming climate and increasing loss of biodiversity we believe God is calling Christians and churches across the country to make an even bigger difference and be a voice of hope for both people and nature.

What drives our work at A Rocha UK is the challenge to protect, nurture and restore God's creation This is needed more urgently than ever. During the past two years we have seen rapid growth in all aspects of our work and now we need your help to do more.

2025

Help to continue our story

By the end of 2025 we want to see:

- At least 25,000 acres of land cared for by our Partners in Action
- At least 25% of churches in England and Wales engaged in deliberate and on-going action to care for nature
- At least 25,000 individual Christians routinely caring for nature through their practical actions
- At least 500 emerging or established Christian environmental leaders equipped and supported to achieve faster action to protect nature



Please include in your prayers;

For all those Living in fear, suffering, injured, bereaved, displaced, caught up in tragedy and disaster around the world.

For those that are in need Brenda & Ken Hogg, Beryl Rowles, Marigold Marsh, Joyce & Hughie Marshall.

For all those attending our Alpha Course

NOTICES



St. John's Christmas Craft Fair

Locally made crafts direct from the makers!

When: Saturday 4th November 2023

Time: 12:30pm

All welcome, Free admission.

If you have any handcrafted goods you would like to donate please speak to Nikki.

Funds raised will go towards St. John's.



Just a reminder that 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 by visiting [Shoebox Online \(samaritans-purse.org.uk\)](https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk) Nikki



Our Remembrance service will be held on Sunday 12th November 2023.

10am Service with Holy communion in church

10:50am Act of Remembrance Outside with the laying of wreaths and 2 mins silence in the Garden of Remembrance and then will continue in St. John's.



As you may know we work in partnership with our local policing team, local authority and organisations to offer St. John's as a venue to hold events and presentations. Following the Cultural Heritage Crime Prevention Presentation that took place on 14th September, we have been building our relationship with our Faith Liaison Officer PC Babs Rock and are delighted to share with you that we will be offering:

ACT Awareness Training Presentation (Action Counter Terrorism) at St. John's. The event will be based around the practical side of tackling terrorism.

Date: **Wednesday 15th November 2023**

Time: **10am- 12noon**

All are welcome to attend invitations have gone out to all local churches.



ALL STARS is back for a Children In Need Special!

When: Friday 17th November 2023

Where: St. John's

Time: 3:30pm-4pm Start

Who: Children of any age with Parent or Care giver

What: Fun, Activities, Fund Raising, Music, Games and a nutritious Hot Meal!

At the **ALL STARS** event we will be raising money for Children In Need. The children will take part in 30 or more activities skill challenges, games, faith builders, songs, drama and thinking skills. these will be fun and challenging to build confidence, communication and expression.

If you would like to sponsor a child please pick up a sponsor form from the back of church.



Cleaning St John's

A huge THANK YOU to those who came to clean on Saturday 14th October. We were delighted to see so many people and managed to clean so much!

The next big clean will be taking place on 18th November 2023 at 9:30am. Please do come and join us, we will provide all cleaning materials.

We really are in need extra people for the higher cleaning of the beams and windows If you

would like to help with the higher cleaning but cannot make the 18th speak to Nikki.

Laminated spread sheets are now available on the kitchen notice board detailing all the cleaning tasks, The idea is that you can record which area has been cleaned and on what date so this can help identify which areas need attention.



Thank you to everyone who has attended to obtain a new numbered key fob and those that have returned keys no longer needed. Please do arrange to see Nikki if you have a set of keys that you no longer need or use.



Bible Book Names Challenge in support of Gwakabbo School- Uganda

Thank you to everyone who took part in the Bible Book Names Challenge to raise funds in support of Gwakabbo School.

You can still make donations directly to Gwakabbo account using our Partners' S.H.O.C.C Charity Registered account below: Please reference it (with your name: GWAKABBO).

S.H.O.C.C

Llyods Bank

Sort Code: 30 98 79

Account Number: 02487118

Thank you very much. *Mildred*



Sunday 3rd December 10:30am- Advent Sunday.

Sunday 10th December 4pm - Carols for All. (There will be no other services on this day)

Friday 15th December 10am 'Let's Go' Under 5's and care giver fun.(Booking required)

Sunday 17th December 10:30am Journey to Christmas.

Friday 22nd December 6:30pm Christingle Making.

Sunday 24th December: 3:30pm & 5:30pm Christingle Service.
11:30pm Midnight Holy Communion.

Monday 25th December 10:30 Christmas Day Service.

Other events will be taking place over Christmas please do look out for them in the Link or on posters in church.



Volunteering at St. John's

We are always looking for volunteers at St John's if you would like to help out, please speak to Nikki. No matter how small even 30 mins can make a huge difference. We are especially looking for individuals to help with our refreshments on Sundays at St. John's.



Looking Ahead....

Sunday 5th- 10:30am Service, 12:30pm Burial of Ashes in the Garden of Remembrance.

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

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

Wednesday - 9:15am Nikki Office, 10am Church Hire, 12noon Words and Music, 1pm Knitting, 7:30pm Alpha.

Thursday - 9:15am Nikki Office, 12noon Jazz, 7:30pm PCC Meeting.

Friday - 9:15am Private Prayer, 10am Let's Go, 12noon Jazz.

Saturday - 11:30am Music Tuition- Grundon Room.

Sunday 12th - 10am Service, 10:50am Act of Remembrance in the Memorial Gardens and service following in church.

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

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

Wednesday - 9:15am Nikki Office, 10am ACT training presentation, 12noon Words & Music Service, 1pm Knitting.

Thursday - 9:15am Nikki Office, 12noon Jazz.

Friday - 9:15am Private Prayer, 12noon Jazz, 3:30pm All Stars Children In Need Special

Saturday - 9am Cleaning 11:30am 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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