

[View this email in your browser](#)

The Online Link St. John's Hillingdon



No. 134 Sun Sunday 3rd December- Saturday 16th December 2023
Registered Charity 1128058

Donate

Use online giving here to catch up on your giving or to make a donation.

In this Issue!

[St. John's History](#)

[Readings](#)

[Theme](#)

[ECO News](#)

[Prayers](#)

[Notices](#)

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

Email stjohnshillingdon@gmail.com
Text/Phone 07972 618584

Vicar: Alan Bradford

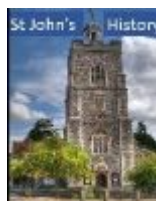
Email: abradford@hotmail.co.uk
Emergencies Text/Phone: 07847 672599

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



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.

Poetry Time!

The brass memorial near the café area is to the memory of Anne Wilson. It takes the form of an acrostic poem ie the first letter of each line spells out her name going down which is rather lovely. There is also a separate little plaque which says she died on 13 November 1569. All that we can deduce about Anne from the poem is that she was the daughter of Myles Wilson of Bristow town (which I think refers to Bristol). Here is the poem, I have taken the liberty of updating the spelling to make it easier to read.

An earthly life with earth, on earth, not lead in earthly ways
Now earth in earth does lie asleep till earth from earth arise
Not soul but corpse did yield to death now deadly fury past
Eternal life soul enjoys and fame in death doth last.
What parent or what place of birth, Myles Wilson Bristow town
In pleasant place from worship's race descend the daughter down
Let place give place let parent pass, go fame while brute is rife
Sound once again the trompe of praise, commend her godly life.
Oh praises yield for death and life of her that lives by fame.
Now skies the soul the grave the corpse, this stone contains her name

Acrostic poetry is common in medieval literature, where it usually used to highlight the name of the poet or his patron, or to make a prayer to a saint. We have no other information about Anne Wilson, not even the name of the person who wrote the poem. When the café area reordering was done this brass was removed very carefully by a monumental brass expert from Wales. He took it back to his workshop and lovingly cleaned it up and mounted it on the wooden plaque which you can see in the photo. This very special memorial is a real gem! *Christine Bartlett*



Reading for Advent Sunday 3rd December 2023

Theme: Teach Us to Pray- Contemplative Prayer

Reading: Isaiah 6:1-10

6 In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a throne, high and exalted, and the train of his robe filled the temple.

2 Above him were seraphs, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying.

3 And they were calling to one another: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is

full of his glory.”

4 At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke.

5 “Woe to me!” I cried. “I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the Lord Almighty.”

6 Then one of the seraphs flew to me with a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with tongs from the altar.

7 With it he touched my mouth and said, “See, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for.”

8 Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I. Send me!”

9 He said, “Go and tell this people: “ ‘Be ever hearing, but never understanding; be ever seeing, but never perceiving.’

10 Make the heart of this people calloused; make their ears dull and close their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts, and turn and be healed.”



Advent Prayer Sunday 3rd December

Advent 1: The Patriarchs

Blessed are you, sovereign Lord, God of our ancestors: to you be praise and glory forever. You called the patriarchs to live by the light of faith and to journey in the hope of your promised fulfilment. May we be obedient to your call and be ready and watchful to receive your Christ, a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for you are our light and our salvation.

Blessed be God for ever.



Sunday 10th December 2023

Carols For All 4pm - Only service taking place today no 10:30am.



Second Sunday of Advent Prayer Sunday 10th December

Advent 2: The Prophets

Blessed are you, sovereign Lord, just and true: to you be praise and glory forever. Of old you spoke by the mouth of your prophets, but in our days you speak through your Son, whom you have appointed the heir of all things. Grant us, your people, to walk in his light, that we may be found ready and watching when he comes again in glory and judgement; for you are our light and our salvation.

Blessed be God for ever.



Twelve Christmas tips from A Rocha

Have a greener Christmas How can we be better at caring for creation and each other through healthy, eco-friendly and sustainable choices at Christmas? The ideas below could make a world of difference, and a difference to the world. Take time to pray, reflect, and consider acting on one or two, or however many you like! You may find the change is for life and not just for Christmas.

[Eco Tip - Celebrate a greener Christmas.](#) Make your Christmas a 'low-carbon' celebration of Christ's coming. Explore ideas in our [twelve tips for a green Christmas blog](#).

For more practical eco-tips, sign up to [Wild Christian](#)



Artwork on Display- Chris Rodrigues

The images above were created while camping at New Wine in Shepton Mallett a few years ago. They were made when I was back in my tent at night using materials that I had brought with me. It was a way of responding to the events of the day and to the evening worship and time of prayer. We can respond to God in a number of ways.

We recently created a prayer together with Matt's guidance which we could use to help us in prayer.



St John's Prayer

Father God Almighty, we love you for your Majesty.

We are truly sorry for our thoughtless actions and deeds.

We ask for you to share your wisdom with us and grant us healing, peace and the ability to forgive, however hard it may be.

We promise to listen for you. We will sacrifice for others and accept your desire for us.

*Thank you, God for the joy of your love. **Amen***

In the past we looked at some of the ways we can stop and listen for God's word and perhaps follow up in prayer.

Samuel

"Speak, for your servant is listening"

Waiting, Listening, where in our lives we may hear God's word.

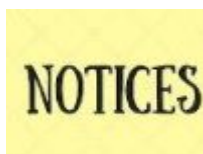
In prayer, At Communion, Reading the Bible, In Worship, Through our conscience, Observing the world around us, Being involved in work, In silence, Being still, Listening, With and through others, In creativity, In coincidences, Listening to music, Walking in green spaces.



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, Bill White, Gervase Craven, Amer Peters and his family, Joyce & Hughie Marshall.



Can anyone help Kate Anderson over the Christmas period to look after her two black and white cats. The dates are 23rd December - 27th December 2023.

Kate would require someone to pop in the morning to feed the cats and let them outside for the day and then return in the evening to feed them again.

If you are able to help please text Kate with your name on 07930312477 and Kate will respond.



ALL STARS Children In Need Special!

Thank you to everyone who helped support this amazing event! Especially Alan for his energy and enthusiasm into making such a fun evening! The children had a wonderful time and completed all the challenges.

Thank you to everyone who sponsored a child we raised a staggering £335.00 so far!



Gwakabbo School Project Bible Challenge

On behalf of the Gwakabbo Trustees, I would like to thank you all very much for supporting us. Special thanks go to Rebecca and Alesso who raised £119.00; Sheila who raised £100.00 (she completed her challenge by writing out in church all the Books of the New Testament correctly).

I would like to thank the whole church and those who encouraged me and also sponsored me to complete my challenge. I had friends, neighbours and former colleagues join in the sponsorship and we raised a total of £1,094 (One thousand and ninety four pounds).

A big thank you to Alan for allowing me to share my cause with you over the weeks; and another big thank you to Anne for all her help with the presentations. Last and yet not least, I would like to thank Ursulyn for video recording which will be on our website

(<http://www.gwakabboschoolproject.org>) currently (or very soon) being updated.

This was just the beginning of a very long road into helping and supporting the Dokolo community in Uganda. Please help us make a difference; pray for us; tell your friends to support us and donate through our partner's account at:

Lloyds Bank

Acc name: S.H.O.C.C

Sort Code: 30 98 79

Acc Number: 02487118 (Ref: donor name/ GWAKABBO).

Registered Charity Number: 1120787

May God Bless you all abundantly and wishing you all a Peaceful and Merry Christmas. *Millie*



Hearing Loop Reception

Roy Munday and Ray Pearce have kindly been testing our hearing loop system. The hearing loop helps those who wear hearing aids. Roy has pulled together a hearing loop reception map to help show the best places to sit for Good, Limited and also identifies where there is no reception in the church.

Three copies of this map are up in church, two on either side of the main aisle at the back of church and one on the main notice board inside church.



Cleaning St John's

THANK YOU to Gail who came to help clean on Saturday 18th November. We managed to get quite a bit done considering it was just the two of us. It helped that we had so many volunteers for Octobers big clean.

The next big clean will not take place until January 2024 due to the amount of events in December.

If you do find yourself with some free time and would like to clean please contact Nikki or use the laminate sheet in the kitchen to look at what area/s may need some attention (Please do record what area you clean so that others are aware)



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.



Christingle & Carols

**Christmas
Eve**

Sunday 24th Dec
come as you are
or with prop/costume



**3.30pm
or
5.30pm**

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

**Christmas Day
Communion & Carols**

10:30am

www.stjohnshillingdon.org.uk



Voices in Accord

Conducted by Alison Elcoat

Present

**Christmas Time
is Here**

An afternoon of Festive Songs & Carols

at North Hillingdon Methodist Church
260 Long Lane, Hillingdon UB10 9PB

**On Saturday 9th December 2023
at 2.45 pm**

No tickets are required but there will be a
retiring collection for Save the Children




About two years ago we shared the news that the Hillingdon Foodbank could sadly no longer help us by picking up our donations, due to the low number of donations, costs involved, lack of volunteers and gaining larger collection points in other places within Hillingdon.

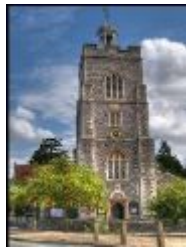
However, we continued to offer this and a volunteer from church would make the trips to deliver the items to Sainsbury's for collection by the foodbank.

Most supermarkets now only ask for donations to be made that have been purchased in their store, That would mean us driving directly to the Hillingdon Foodbank during the opening hours of 10am-1pm Mon-Fri or driving around to various supermarkets.

Unfortunately we have had to make the tough decision to stop. We will of course continue to support the Foodbank during Harvest as one of our chosen charities and support where we can.

Most of the top supermarkets in the area have a collection point Tesco's, Sainsbury's, Waitrose

and Asda. If you shop in those stores then please drop off your donation as you leave. You can also support the foodbank by making a donation by Bac's Transfer for a one off gift or setting up Regular Giving to do this please visit: <https://hillington.foodbank.org.uk>



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 3rd- 10:30am Service.

Monday - 9:30am Churchyard Clearing, 10am Colham Manor Year 3 School Visit, 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.

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

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

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

Sunday 10th - 4pm Carols For All

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

Tuesday - 9:15am Private Prayer, 10am Colham Manor Year 6 School Visit, 12noon Jazz, 7:30pm Accordion Band.

Wednesday - 9:15am Nikki Office, 10am Colham Manor Year 4 School Visit, 12noon Words & Music Service, 1pm Knitting.

Thursday - 9:15am Nikki Office, 10am Highfield Primary School visit, 12noon Jazz.

Friday - 9:15am Private Prayer, 12noon Jazz.

Saturday - 11:30am Music Tuition - Grondon 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

STANDING ORDER

Set up a Standing Order with your bank or building society using these details:

Barclays Bank, 142 High St,

Uxbridge, UB8 1JX

Uxbridge
UB8 3QP

Sort Code: 208916
Account No: 20465615

[Click here](#) for pdf file of this edition

Copyright © 2023 St. John's Church, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

