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The Online Link St. John's Hillingdon



No. 139 Sun Sunday 3rd March - Saturday 16th March 2024
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>

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



Last weekend, I went up north to visit my parents. Although I know the journey well, I still used my sat nav and looked at the road signs along the way. The road signs pointed the way along the route for me to travel, whilst the sat nav kept me on course, guiding me along the journey and

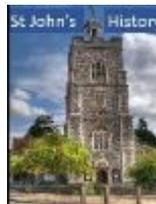
warning me of any diversions. I was thinking about how the Bible is like a road map, helping us to follow along the journey of life. And the Holy Spirit is like the sat nav, keeping us on course, guiding us along the way and helping us with any diversions.

We are already well into the season of Lent. Lent is the time between Ash Wednesday and Easter. Lent is like a spiritual journey. It is a time for us to draw closer to God, to refocus our lives on him, and to let him work within us.

As we journey through Lent, let us be proactive in listening to God, in giving God the time and opportunity to speak into our lives, and to direct us.

In the Bible (Luke 4:1-14), we read how after his baptism, Jesus went into the wilderness for 40 days. During that time, he was tempted and tested, but he relied on God and used the word of God. He was led by the Holy Spirit and then returned in the power of the Holy Spirit. It was a time of equipping and preparation for the way ahead.

However you are journeying through this Lent, I want to encourage you to use the Bible as your road map, and let the Holy Spirit direct and guide you, like a sat nav! Be open to what God is saying to you as you draw closer to him and travel along the way with him. *Anne*



We are continuing our tour of St. Johns after looking at our brasses we are now looking at the gravestones set into the floor at St John's.

The next gravestone on the floor of the church is at the end of the North Aisle just before the Toddlers Corner. The stone is very worn but thankfully we have a transcript of the wording, which reads as follows:

*Here rests the body of John Parsons of this town and Daniel his son the son died November 27th
1702 aged 19 years the father died May 19th 1703 aged 48 years
Father & Son do thus together lye
Let young and old prepare to dye*

There is not much more information about this family other than we know that they were butchers, but we can assume they as they were buried under the floor of the church building, they were well respected and wealthy





Reading for Sunday 3rd March 2024

Theme: **Take the High Road: Growing Fruit**

Reading: **John15:1-8**

¹ "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.





MARCH -Celebrate Spring.

Immerse yourself in the sights and sounds of the season

- breathe in the fragrance of blossoms
 - observe budding catkins
 - note different bird songs
 - spot footprints
- or use the Pl@ntNet app to identify spring flowers
 - Nature can boost our happiness
 - so spend time in your garden
- on your balcony, and in local green spaces.

Dedicate quality time to appreciate creation's beauty, and thank God for the hope that spring can bring with our Lent resources at arocha.org.uk/ connect-with-gods-creation-overlent/ "It is not by arguing well that anyone will change the world but rather by speaking differently"

Language and the stories we tell share our worldviews. So when the dominant worldview is wreaking havoc across and upon the Earth, is it not time for us to reconsider the language we use and the stories we live by?

When we speak of 'Nature', or 'the natural world', are we speaking in a way that forgets we are Nature and we are part of the natural world? Are we not enacting the story of separation with those utterances? And whilst the 'more-than-human world' elevates the position of the non-human, are we not still placing humans at the centre of the story and continuing to other and separate? What would it look like to speak instead of 'our fellow Earth kin'?

When we use terms such as 'environmental crisis', it can seem like the crisis is some abstract process or story taking place somewhere out there, rather than something that affects us all. Would it be more evocative, effective and accurate to call it 'the crisis afflicting our wellbeing and future and that of our home, planet Earth'? Or 'the crisis caused by our cultures that are rooted in stories of separation, oppression, perpetual progress and extraction'?

Hardly rolls off the tongue, does it? And would that not be a problem in a relentlessly paced world where brevity and sound bites have become the kings of communication? Perhaps not. After all, do our relationships with the Earth and our kin not need more

Words from Resurgence Trust magazine



Taking part in The Big Plastic Count is really easy. Here's a reminder of what you need to do:

1. **Register:** Get your free counting pack (digital or via post) which includes everything you need to take part
2. **Get Counting:** Count all your plastic waste from 11-17 March
3. **Submit Results:** Submit your data via our website by 31 March
4. **Get Your Footprint:** Discover your plastic footprint and use the results to make a difference!

You can do this as an individual, Family, Group or organisation!

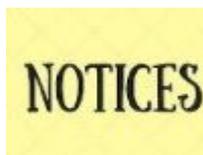
[REGISTER NOW](#)



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 Beryl Rowles, Marigold Marsh, Bill & Linda White, Jacquelyn Wright, Gervase Craven, Ken Buckler, Joyce & Hughie Marshall.

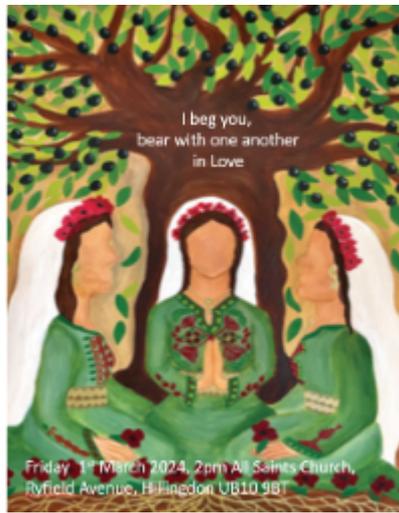


LENT COURSE

Join us for our Lent Course

'The Cross - the Greatest Hope of All'

on **21st February, 28th February, 6th March, 13th March, 20th March** at 7:30pm on Wednesday evenings in church



World Day of Prayer 2024

This year the service has been prepared by an ecumenical group of Christian women from Palestine, the land in which Jesus was born, ministered and died, where the Christian faith began and is rooted.

Friday 1st March 2024

The service for our area will be held at:
2pm- All Saints Church, Ryefield Avenue, Hillingdon. UB10 9BT.
Our representative for St John's is Carol Williams.



Cleaning St John's

The next big clean will take place on 16th March 2024 at 9:30am all cleaning supplies will be provided.

If you would like to help but are unable to attend on 16th and have some free time during the week 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)



EASTER PROJECT

It's time to get creative!

If you are able to crochet, knit or sew, please help by making some flowers, butterflies, bumble bees, etc for our Easter Project.

The handmade items will be put along the footpath for the local community at Easter, but we need to start making and getting creative now. Thank you.

For more information, please see Anne



Uxbridge Church Men's Group meet Thursday evenings in The Good Yarn Uxbridge at 8:30pm.



For the next few weeks we need your support. Please could we ask you to add one or two extra non perishable items to your weekly shop.

We will have a plastic box available as you come into church for you to drop off your donations.

Items we are asking for are:

Canned/tinned goods, Jars of cooking sauces, Pasta, Rice, long life milk, juice, biscuits etc

Thank you very much any support you can give will be greatly appreciated.



Please take a look at a new piece of Art that Chris Rodrigues has placed in the church by the coffee area. These pieces are titled:

'The World Beneath our Feet' & 'What Lies Underfoot'

The art works here are about our connection or lack of it with the Earth. Chris created them following an idea or thought about the life that may be living with us in the soil and the plants and maybe other creatures that are beneath our feet unseen.



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.

PALM SUNDAY
24th March

10:30am
at St John's Church

www.stjohnshillingdon.org.uk

'THE LAST SUPPER EXPERIENCE'

Join us as we share a meal together whilst exploring the relevance of the Passover and the significance of the Last Supper

at 8pm

on Maundy Thursday 28th March
at St John's Church

to book your place at the meal, please contact Nikki or Anne by 20th March - thank you

www.stjohnshillingdon.org.uk

'THE WATCH'

Maundy Thursday 28th March

drop in between
10pm - midnight

in St John's Church

time to pray, read the Bible, light a candle, with opportunity for creative prayer. please feel free to bring your Journal, Bible, prayer book or drawing things ...

come sit awhile and keep 'The Watch'

www.stjohnshillingdon.org.uk

JOURNEY TO THE
CROSS

Good Friday
29th March

2pm
at St John's

www.stjohnshillingdon.org.uk

Easter

Sunday 31st March
10:30am

(remember the clocks go forward one hour!)

www.stjohnshillingdon.org.uk



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



Looking Ahead....

Sunday 3rd- 10:30am Service.

Monday - 9:30am Churchyard Clearing, Private Prayer, 7pm Mandolin Monday, 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 Lent Course.

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

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

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

Sunday 10th - 10:30am Service Mothering Sunday.

Monday - 9:30am Churchyard Clearing, Private Prayer, 7pm Mandolin Monday Hire, 8pm Bellringing Practice.

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

Wednesday - 9:15am Nikki Office, 10am Church Hire, 12noon Words & Music Service, 1pm Knitting, 7:30pm Lent Course.

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

Friday - 9:15am Private Prayer, 3:15pm All Star Comic Relief Children's Event.

Saturday - 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

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

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