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## The Online Link St. John's Hillingdon



No. 58 Sun 2nd May - Sat 8th May 2021  
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### **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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Email [stjohnshillingdon@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnshillingdon@gmail.com)

Text/Phone 07972 618584

### **Vicar: Alan Bradford**

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



I don't know where the time is rushing by to! It is already over three weeks since Easter Day, and it will be Ascension Day in two weeks' time. During this 'between time', this 'resurrection time', called 'Eastertide', I often think about the 'between time' after that very first Easter Day and the time of Jesus' ascension to heaven. Those 40 days were yet again another significant 40 day

period.

I like to read and think about the numbers of different people who witnessed Jesus being alive and risen from the dead. As I re-read the passages in the New Testament, I am always amazed by just how many people encountered Jesus during that important time, and how many more lives were changed by him.

In Acts 1:3, we read that Jesus appeared to them and gave 'many convincing proofs that he was alive, and spoke to them about the kingdom of God'. During that time, Jesus proved he was alive as he ate with them, as he taught them, and as he commissioned them.

From the **2** women who went to the tomb on that Easter morning and their encounter with the risen Jesus (Mt.28:8-10), through to the ascension (Lk.24:50-51), we can add up some of the many more encounters as we look for the clues and read the passages in the Gospels and Epistles (letters).

On Easter Day, during our afternoon service in the church garden, we thought about the **2** on the road to Emmaus (Lk.24:13-34), and how their lives were transformed, renewed and re-energised. They had a hope and a purpose as they rushed back along the road to Jerusalem. When they were telling the disciples, Jesus came and stood among them (Lk.24:36). Verse 33 says that there were "the eleven and those with them" – so that makes at least another **11**.

I'll leave you to look for clues about some of the other occasions and to start counting, but let me remind you of this one, as Paul writes in 1 Cor.15:3-8 about some more who saw and witnessed Jesus being alive, including more than **500** men and women at the same time (v6). So now we have at least **515!** That is so many witnesses!

Witnesses are used in legal matters, to witness marriages or important documents, or a passport or a will. Witnesses have a powerful role. A witness will testify that you are who you claim to be, that all the information is true, to certify a true likeness, or to give evidence and a testimony in a court case. These were witnesses to Jesus being alive and risen from the dead, they witnessed it being true, that it really was Jesus, and that it really did happen.

"The resurrection of Jesus authenticates (that means proves, validates, confirms, endorses, demonstrates, backs up, certifies) everything Jesus ever said and ever did" (Canon J.John). The resurrection proves just who Jesus is.

As well as these witnesses to the risen Jesus, we too are witnesses to him being alive and active in the world today. We see him alive and at work in our lives and in the lives of others. We encounter him when we spend time in his presence and listening to him.

This week, think about the times you have seen or felt God at work, when you have encountered the risen Jesus in your life, and be willing to be a witness for him in whatever you are doing today.

**Anne**

### **The Doctrine of Salvation Part 1 (of 2)**

**We are currently in a 2 part study series. Don't be put off by the long words! Simply put we are looking at what the church teaches about being rescued and about how we are regenerated from the inside.**

**Here are the scriptures and diagrams that were used in Sunday's talk for your reference. To listen and watch the full presentation [click here](#). You will gain the most benefit by listening as well as marking these scriptures in your Bible, or writing them up in your notebook/journal.**

**But to all who received him [that is, Christ], who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God; who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. *John 1:12-13***

Now there was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do, unless God is with him.” Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born anew, he cannot see the kingdom of God.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?” Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born anew.’ *John 3:1-7*

The water above refers to inner cleansing. The Spirit refers to the Spirit of Christ, or The Holy Spirit.

In this regeneration:

1. You become a new creation

Therefore, if any one is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has passed away, behold, the new has come. *2 Corinthians 5:17*

And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ. But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness. *Romans 8:9,10*

2. You start an immediate relationship with Christ and with God.

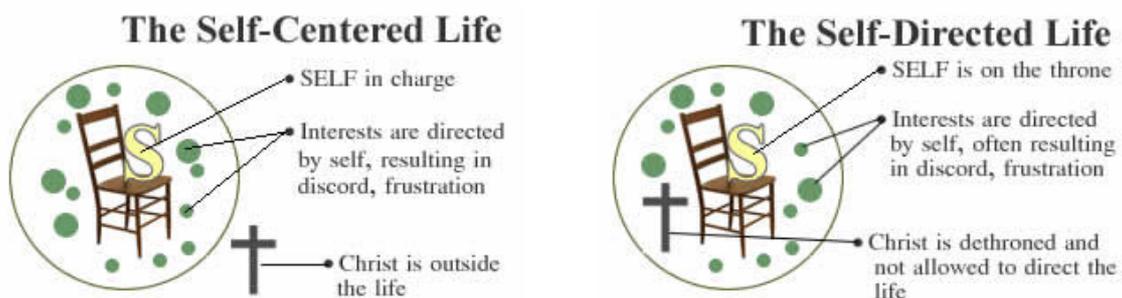
Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and to an inheritance which is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God’s power are guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. *1 Peter 1:3-5*

3. This relationship is eternal.

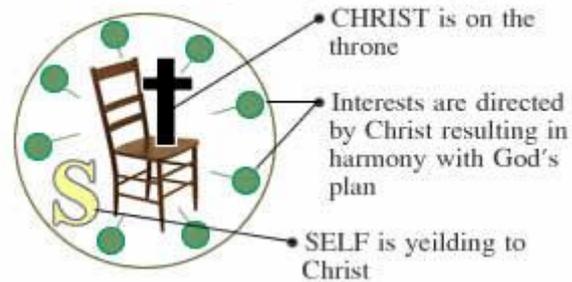
For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. *John 3:16*

4. This new birth is available to anyone.

Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God. *John 1:12*

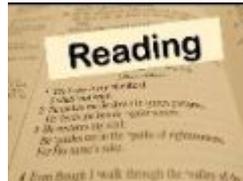


## The Christ-Directed Life



### Theme for this week:

Sun 2nd May : Regeneration Part 2



## Reading

### Romans 8: 1-11

8 Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, 2 because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death.

3 For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in the flesh,

4 in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

5 Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. 6 The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace.

7 The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. 8 Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God.

9 You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ. 10 But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness.

11 And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.



### Soil health- improving the soil We can improve soil health by adding nutrients.

This can be achieved using manure or compost or green manure. Green manures are fast growing plants sown to cover bare soil. They are generally used in a large vegetable garden or allotment. The foliage smothers weeds and their roots prevent soil erosion. When dug into the ground while still green, they return valuable nutrients to the soil and improve soil structure. Garden compost can be made in a bin in the garden, these may be available through the council. If the garden is big enough a wooden three bin system works well. Hot bins are also available, compost can be made quicker in these as the bin heats up the waste to a high temperature. Carbon and Nitrogen are needed to make compost. Carbon can be added as

- . shredded leaves
- . sawdust
- . chipped wood
- . paper
- . thin card
- . egg cartons
- . Nitrogen can be added as vegetable trimmings
- . leaves
- . clippings
- . teabags
- . coffee grounds
- . dead flowers
- . weeds without seeds.

The compost needs to be turned after about 3 months.

Mulching is generally used to save water, suppress weeds and improve the soil around plants but it also gives your garden a neat, tidy appearance and can reduce the amount of time spent on tasks such as watering and weeding.

**Using a mulch.** Mulches are loose coverings or sheets of material placed on the surface of soil. Mulches can be applied to bare soil or to cover the surface of compost in containers. Depending on the type of mulch used, there are many benefits of mulching including: ● Help soils retain moisture

- Reduce watering
- Suppress weeds
- Improve soil organic matter
- Provide nutrients
- Deter some pests
- Warm up soil in spring
- Protect plant roots from extreme hot and cold temperatures
- Encourage beneficial soil organisms
- Provide a barrier for edible crops coming into contact with soil
- Give a decorative finish
- Among the best materials are garden compost, wood chippings, processed conifer bark, leaf mould, well rotted manure, straw and seaweed. When to apply mulch Apply from mid- to late spring, when annual weeds have not yet germinated and herbaceous plants are dormant, and autumn, as plants are dying back. How to apply mulch Beds and borders can be mulched entirely, taking care not to smother low growing plants or to pile mulches up against the stems of woody plants.
- To be effective, biodegradable mulches need to be between at least 5cm (2in) and ideally 7.5cm (3in) thick
- Lay mulches over moist soil, after removing weeds, when the soil is not frozen
- When creating new beds, planting through mulch sheets is effective
- Single trees and specimen shrubs are best mulched to the radius of the canopy
- As it decomposes over time, a biodegradable mulch will feed your plants and microorganisms in the soil reducing the need for additional soluble feed
- Ground covering mediterranean plants such as Thymus species may be best left unmulched, as it can hold too much moisture around the stems and foliage. **Christine Rodrigues**

#### **Psalm 104:14 NIV**

*He makes grass grow for the cattle, and plants for people to cultivate-- bringing forth food from the earth.*

**Willesden Area  
Creation Care Champions Event**  
(all who are interested are welcome)  
**Tues 11<sup>th</sup> May**  
**7.25-8.30pm on Zoom**

- Meet other parish CC Champions.
- Be inspired by local stories
- Hear about new resources & ideas for parishes.
- Get first access to a new £100 Archdeacon of Northolt Support grant for parish Creation Care projects
- Please register for the event:  
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/147785878541>



### **Creation Care Champion event on May 11th**

I am not sure if I have mentioned this, apologies if I haven't. Although we have the Eco Group with 3 Eco Champions at St Johns, it would be good to have more of you involved and this event may help to encourage some of you to join us.

This is the invitation from the Diocese Eco Action Group as it has been sent out to churches, many of which do not have anyone in this role.

One thing we are inviting every church to do is to find someone who has some passion for this subject and appoint them as your Creation Care Champion (previously called Eco-champions).

- The Willesden Creation Care Action Group are running an event on zoom for anyone who is interested in finding out more on Tues 11th May 7.25pm- 8.30pm.
- We would love as many churches as possible to be represented at this Event. You will be able to find out what a Creation Care Champion is and hear about what other churches are doing. So please choose as many people from your church as want to attend.
- Just by attending you will find out how to get your hands on a new £100 support grant from the Archdeacon of Northolt for any creation care project you want to do in your church.
- So I do hope someone from your church will come along, at least to get your hands on £100 if nothing else!

Please register for the event so we know how many people are coming.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/147785878541>

Then on Sat 26th June we hope to have an in person morning event at a church in Hillingdon which has already got an Eco Church Silver award to learn from them. Hopefully this event will take place at St Johns. If you would like to become a Creation Care Champion and you feel that this is where God is leading you the meeting on the 11th May help you to decide.

The Willesden Group have also suggested a short Commissioning Liturgy for the appointment of each Creation Care Champion to give thanks and mark the commitment. **Christine Rodrigues**

**Psalm 104: 24** *How many are your works, Lord! In wisdom you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures*



### **A Tour around the Church Monuments.**

Continuing on our tour around the church monuments, we arrive at the memorial to Henry Paget, 1st Earl of Uxbridge (13 January 1663 – 30 August 1743) who was a very important chap in his day and has a very large, ornate memorial to reflect his many achievements in public office. Henry is immortalised in white marble as a sort of roman emperor, wearing a toga and open sandals. The inscription below the statue describes his character with words and phrases including sound sense, extensive knowledge, industrious, unblemished integrity, humane to the distressed, most tender & faithful husband, useful friend, entertaining & lively in his conversation, a good Christian. No wonder he was so successful in public life. The list of public offices held by

our Henry is a long one, they include [Captain of the Yeomen of the Guard](#), [Privy Counsellor](#), [Lord Lieutenant of Staffordshire](#), Tory politician from 1695 until 1712 and many more. He was made Earl of Uxbridge in 1714.

The Paget's family home when Henry was alive was the Manor House at West Drayton next to St Martin's Church. The Manor House was demolished in 1750 but the gatehouse remains as does a big chunk of wall. It's worth going for a walk down Church Road, West Drayton to take a look at the gatehouse and the wall which is spectacular even in it's crumbling state. The gatehouse and the wall are listed buildings, so they are protected but that wall must be a bit of a headache if you have part of it in your front garden, (you will see what I mean if you go there).

In 1686, Henry married Mary Catesby and they has 2 children. She died suddenly on 3 November 1734, and was buried at St Martin's [West Drayton](#) (note to self-must find out if there is a monument to her there). On 7 June 1739 when Henry was 76, he married Elizabeth Bagot. They had just 4 years together as man and wife as Henry died in 1744. Elizabeth died in 1749 and is buried with her husband.

The Paget family also owned a large country estate at Beaudesert, Staffordshire, near Cannock Chase. The medieval house is in ruins now but the grounds were left to the Scout movement in the 1930's and is used for activity holidays for young people.

I have always admired this tomb and I like to chat to Henry on church cleaning mornings when I give him the once over with my feather duster. It's been very interesting to find out a little more about him. **Christine Bartlett**



Henry Paget 1st Earl of Uxbridge



Henry Paget Memorial

## NOTICES

### **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

### **STANDING ORDER**

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

St. John's Church  
Royal Lane  
Uxbridge  
UB8 3QP

Barclays Bank, 142 High St,  
Uxbridge, UB8 1JX  
Sort Code: 208916  
Account No: 20465615

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