

Sunday Morning Worship

8.00am to 1pm

"Come when you can & GO when you like"

8.00	Morning Prayer
8.30	Traditional Communion
9.00	Refreshments
9.30	Songs of Praise
10.00	Welcome, Worship, Word
10.30	Communion www.com
11.00	Refreshments
11.30	All Age Worship
12.00	All Age Communion
12.30	Food & Friendship

St John's Church, Hillingdon

The Link

Sunday 7th May 2017

Sunday Mornings for Children & Youth

Babies, children & youth are very welcome at any time. There is a toddler area for under 3's. At 11.30am and 12pm children take a very active part in worship, prayers and communion every week.

9.45am Youth Breakfast TODAY in Youth Room
For youth of secondary school age, meet in youth room up the ramp & turn left.
Good food, drinks, discussion on a theme, fun, understanding the Bible, exploring the faith, encouragement for living, fun leaders!
The group joins main church for communion at about 10.45am

Prayer

Prayer ministry is available in the Prayer Chapel during Communion in the 10.30 slot and at other times by arrangement - please ask.

Contact Us

Vicar: Alan Bradford 01895 477381
abradford@hotmail.co.uk
(Alan is not available on a Monday)

Church Office (Administrator Christine Bartlett)
Tuesday and Thursday mornings 07972 618584
stjohnshillingdon@gmail.com

Online

www.stjohnshillingdon.org.uk

www.facebook.com/StJohnsHillingdon

St John's Facebook Group:
www.facebook.com/116263285313

Twitter: @SJohnHillingdon

Postal Address

St John's Church, Royal Lane,
Hillingdon, Middx, UB8 3QP

Welcome

Welcome to St John's, especially if this is your first visit here. We hope that you enjoy worshipping with us. Our worship programme is outlined on the back of this sheet.

Today's Theme

Faith Stories: Paul & Moses

Today's Readings

Acts 9:1-22

Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any there who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, he might take them as prisoners to Jerusalem. As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?'

'Who are you, Lord?' Saul asked.

'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting,' he replied. 'Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do.'

The men travelling with Saul stood there speechless; they heard the sound but did not see anyone. Saul got up from the ground, but when he opened his eyes he could see nothing. So they led him by the hand into Damascus. For three days he was blind, and did not eat or drink anything. In Damascus there was a disciple named Ananias. The Lord called to him in a vision, 'Ananias!'

'Yes, Lord,' he answered.

The Lord told him, 'Go to the house of Judas on Straight Street and ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for he is praying. In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias come and place his hands on him to restore his sight.'

'Lord,' Ananias answered, 'I have heard many reports about this man and all the harm he has done to your holy people in Jerusalem. And he has come here with authority from the chief priests to arrest all who call on your name.' But the Lord said to Ananias, 'Go! This man is my chosen instrument to proclaim my name to the Gentiles and their kings and to the people of Israel. I will show him how much he must suffer for my name.'

Then Ananias went to the house and entered it. Placing his hands on Saul, he said, 'Brother Saul, the Lord - Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here - has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit.' Immediately, something like scales fell from Saul's eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was baptised, and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

Saul in Damascus and Jerusalem

Saul spent several days with the disciples in Damascus. At once he began to preach in the synagogues that Jesus is the Son of God. All those who heard him were astonished and asked, 'Isn't he the man who caused havoc in Jerusalem among those who call on this name? And

hasn't he come here to take them as prisoners to the chief priests?" Yet Saul grew more and more powerful and baffled the Jews living in Damascus by proving that Jesus is the Messiah.

Exodus 3:7-14 + 4:1-4 + 4:10-15 + 4:28-31

The LORD said, 'I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey – the home of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites. And now the cry of the Israelites has reached me, and I have seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them. So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt.' But Moses said to God, 'Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?' And God said, 'I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain.' Moses said to God, 'Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, "The God of your fathers has sent me to you," and they ask me, "What is his name?" Then what shall I tell them?' God said to Moses, 'I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: "I AM has sent me to you."' Moses answered, 'What if they do not believe me or listen to me and say, "The LORD did not appear to you?"' Then the LORD said to him, 'What is that in your hand?' 'A staff,' he replied. The LORD said, 'Throw it on the ground.' Moses threw it on the ground and it became a snake, and he ran from it. ⁴ Then the LORD said to him, 'Reach out your hand and take it by the tail.' So Moses reached out and took hold of the snake and it turned back into a staff in his hand. Moses said to the LORD, 'Pardon your servant, Lord. I have never been eloquent, neither in the past nor since you have spoken to your servant. I am slow of speech and tongue.' The LORD said to him, 'Who gave human beings their mouths? Who makes them deaf or mute? Who gives them sight or makes them blind? Is it not I, the LORD? Now go; I will help you speak and will teach you what to say.' But Moses said, 'Pardon your servant, Lord. Please send someone else.' Then the LORD's anger burned against Moses and he said, 'What about your brother, Aaron the Levite? I know he can speak well. He is already on his way to meet you, and he will be glad to see you. ¹⁵ You shall speak to him and put words in his mouth; I will help both of you speak and will teach you what to do. Then Moses told Aaron everything the LORD had sent him to say, and also about all the signs he had commanded him to perform. Moses and Aaron brought together all the elders of the Israelites, and Aaron told them everything the LORD had said to Moses. He also performed the signs before the people, and they believed. And when they heard that the LORD was concerned about them and had seen their misery, they bowed down and worshipped.

Today's Conversation Question. If a reporter came to interview you about your faith, what story would you tell them?

For your prayers

Members of our church family who are unwell especially James Mullally and Hilda Varley.

Isla O'Sullivan being baptised this afternoon

This Week

Sunday 8am-1pm Sunday Worship 3pm Baptism 4pm Baptism preparation 7.30pm LGBT

Monday 7pm Bellringing 8pm Mandolin Monday rehearsals

Tuesday 12noon Jazz 6.30pm Office Hour

Wednesday 12noon Words & Music 1.30pm Knitting 6.30pm Ivybridge Residents Association (church hire)

Thursday 9.30am Morning Prayer 6.30pm HYB (church hire)

Friday 10.30am Let's Go 12noon Jazz

Saturday 12noon-4pm Guitar lessons (Grundon Room)

Today

Liz & Diana are making the coffee today at 11am

Prayer Ministry is available in the Prayer Chapel during Mid Morning Communion

This evening at 7.30pm the LGBT Group meets in church for any local Christians and those interested in Christianity, for people who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and their straight friends, for mutual support.

Theme for May

Faith stories from the Bible. For the month of May, the theme planning team have selected a number of people with individual faith stories that can enlighten and encourage us in our corporate faith, and in our individual journeys in God. These are taken from both the Old Testament and the New Testament to provide a range of different stories, and from different eras.

Eco News & Advice

Support local growers! Buy as much as you can from nearby farmers markets and greengrocers. discover farm shops, markets and vegetable box schemes at farma.org.uk and findlocalproduce.co.uk.

General News

Baptism helpers We have several baptisms booked for Sunday afternoons at 3pm or 4pm in May, June and July. It would be of great help to Alan if someone could assist him with setting up, welcoming, and tidying up after. If anyone would like to help in this way, please speak to Alan or Christine. Full training will be given.

Ascension Day– Thursday May 25th– there will be a Holy Communion service at 9.30am

20 + C + M + B+ 17 Our youth group have this above the doorway to their meeting room. Does anyone know what it means? (the answer will be in next week's Link!)

Vacancy for Church Administrator. If you are interested in applying for this job, and haven't already spoken to Alan about it, please note that the closing date for applications in Sunday 14th May.