

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

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
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Online

www.stjohnshillingdon.org.uk

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St John's Church, Hillingdon

The Link

Sunday 14th May 2017

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: Thomas & Daniel

Today's Readings

John 20:19 – 31

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you!' After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

Again Jesus said, 'Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.' And with that he breathed on them and said, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.'

Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord!' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.'

A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you!' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.'

Thomas said to him, 'My Lord and my God!'

Then Jesus told him, 'Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.'

Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

Daniel 6:1-23

It pleased Darius to appoint 120 satraps to rule throughout the kingdom, with three chief ministers over them, one of whom was Daniel. The satraps were made accountable to them so that the king might not suffer loss. Now Daniel so distinguished himself among the chief ministers and the satraps by his exceptional qualities that the king planned to set him over the whole kingdom. At this, the chief ministers and the satraps tried to find grounds for charges against Daniel in his conduct of government affairs, but they were unable to do so. They could find no corruption in him, because he was trustworthy and neither corrupt nor negligent. Finally these men said, 'We will never find

any basis for charges against this man Daniel unless it has something to do with the law of his God.'

So these chief ministers and satraps went as a group to the king and said: 'May King Darius live for ever! The royal ministers, prefects, satraps, advisors and governors have all agreed that the king should issue an edict and enforce the decree that anyone who prays to any god or human being during the next thirty days, except to you, Your Majesty, shall be thrown into the lions' den. Now, Your Majesty, issue the decree and put it in writing so that it cannot be altered – in accordance with the law of the Medes and Persians, which cannot be repealed.' So King Darius put the decree in writing.

Now when Daniel learned that the decree had been published, he went home to his upstairs room where the windows opened towards Jerusalem. Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God, just as he had done before. Then these men went as a group and found Daniel praying and asking God for help. So they went to the king and spoke to him about his royal decree: 'Did you not publish a decree that during the next thirty days anyone who prays to any god or human being except to you, Your Majesty, would be thrown into the lions' den?'

The king answered, 'The decree stands – in accordance with the law of the Medes and Persians, which cannot be repealed.'

Then they said to the king, 'Daniel, who is one of the exiles from Judah, pays no attention to you, Your Majesty, or to the decree you put in writing. He still prays three times a day.' When the king heard this, he was greatly distressed; he was determined to rescue Daniel and made every effort until sunset to save him.

Then the men went as a group to King Darius and said to him, 'Remember, Your Majesty, that according to the law of the Medes and Persians no decree or edict that the king issues can be changed.'

So the king gave the order, and they brought Daniel and threw him into the lions' den. The king said to Daniel, 'May your God, whom you serve continually, rescue you!'

A stone was brought and placed over the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet ring and with the rings of his nobles, so that Daniel's situation might not be changed. Then the king returned to his palace and spent the night without eating and without any entertainment being brought to him. And he could not sleep.

At the first light of dawn, the king got up and hurried to the lions' den. When he came near the den, he called to Daniel in an anguished voice, 'Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you serve continually, been able to rescue you from the lions?'

Daniel answered, 'May the king live for ever! My God sent his angel, and he shut the mouths of the lions. They have not hurt me, because I was found innocent in his sight. Nor have I ever done any wrong before you, Your Majesty.'

The king was overjoyed and gave orders to lift Daniel out of the den. And when Daniel was lifted from the den, no wound was found on him, because he had trusted in his God.

Today's Conversation Question. What fears in our lives (your life) stop us exercising greater faith?

For your prayers

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

This Week

Sunday 8am-1pm Sunday Worship

Monday 7pm Bellringing 8pm Mandolin Monday rehearsals

Tuesday 12noon Jazz 6.30pm Office Hour

Wednesday 12noon Words & Music 1.30pm Knitting

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

Friday 10.30am Let's Go 12noon Jazz 7pm St John's Singers rehearsal

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

Today

Beryl & Karen are making the coffee today at 11am

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

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.

General News

Christian Aid week is this week. You will have received an envelope as you came into church today, if you would like to make a donation, please return the envelope next Sunday.

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

On last week's Link we asked if anyone knew what the "20 + C + M + B+ 17" means above the doorway to the Youth Group meeting room. The answer is that in some places at Epiphany, these letters and numbers are written in chalk above the doors of a house.

The letters have two meanings. First the initials of the Magi – Casper, Melchior & Balthazar. Also, the abbreviation for the Latin 'Christus mansionem benedicat' meaning "may Christ bless this house". The + sign represents the cross. The 20 and the 17 mark the year. It is a dedication of our year and home to God, and to remind us of his blessing on our home and our lives. Seeing the signs above the door reminds us of the light of Christ and the love of God in our homes and lives. We put 20+C+M+B+17 above our door frames as an invitation for Jesus to be a daily guest in our homes and our lives, in our comings and goings, in all that we say and do as we enter and leave through this doorway.

A summary of the AGM which includes results of the elections is on the noticeboard at the back of church.

Training/Learning opportunities:

Supporting People with Dementia Saturday 20th May 10am-4pm Holy Trinity Perivale

Bereavement Care Saturday 17th June 1010am-4pm Holy Trinity Perivale

Intercessions Workshop 23rd September, St Martin's Kensal Rise

More information about these workshops is on the noticeboard