

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.

10am Junior Church TODAY in Grundon Room!
(Various fun activities for those aged 4ish-11.
Bible fun, drama, singing, acting, puzzles, chatting, prayer The children join their parent(s) again prior to communion

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

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Postal Address

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

St John's Church, Hillingdon

The Link

Sunday 21st 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: Abraham, Philip & Elijah

Today's Readings

Genesis 12:1- 9, (GN)

The Lord said to Abram, "Leave your country, your relatives, and your father's home, and go to a land that I am going to show you. I will give you many descendants, and they will become a great nation. I will bless you and make your name famous, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, but I will curse those who curse you; and through you I will bless all the nations." When Abram was seventy-five years old, he started out from Haran, as the Lord had told him to do; and Lot went with him. Abram took his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, and all the wealth and all the servants they had acquired in Haran, and they started out for the land of Canaan. When they arrived in Canaan, Abram travelled through the land until he came to the sacred tree of Moreh, the holy place at Shechem (at that time the Canaanites were still living in the land.). The Lord appeared to Abram and said to him, "This is the country that I am going to give to your descendants." Then Abram built an altar there to the Lord, who had appeared to him. After that, he moved on south to the hill country east of the city of Bethel and set up his camp between Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. There also he built an altar and worshipped the Lord. Then he moved on from place to place, going toward the southern part of Canaan.

Acts 8: 26 - 40 (GN)

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get ready and go south to the road that goes from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This road is not used nowadays.) So Philip got ready and went. Now an Ethiopian eunuch, who was an important official in charge of the treasury of the queen of Ethiopia, was on his way home. He had been to Jerusalem to worship God and was going back home in his carriage. As he rode along, he was reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah. The Holy Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to that carriage and stay close to it." Philip ran over and heard him reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah. He asked him, "Do you understand what you are reading?" The official replied, "How can I understand unless someone explains it to me?" And he invited Philip to climb up and sit in the carriage with him. The passage of scripture which he was reading was this:

"He was like a sheep that is taken to be slaughtered, like a lamb that makes no sound when its wool is cut off. He did not say a word. He was humiliated, and justice was

denied him. No one will be able to tell about his descendants, because his life on earth has come to an end.”

The official asked Philip, “Tell me, of whom is the prophet saying this? Of himself or of someone else?” Then Philip began to speak; starting from this passage of scripture, he told him the Good News about Jesus. As they travelled down the road, they came to a place where there was some water, and the official said, “Here is some water. What is to keep me from being baptized?” Philip said to him, “You may be baptized if you believe with all your heart.” “I do,” he answered; “I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.”¹

The official ordered the carriage to stop, and both Philip and the official went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord took Philip away. The official did not see him again, but continued on his way, full of joy. Philip found himself in Azotus; he went on to Caesarea, and on the way he preached the Good News in every town.

1 Kings 17: 1 - 16 (NKJV)

And Elijah the Tishbite, of the inhabitants of Gilead, said to Ahab, “As the Lord God of Israel lives, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, except at my word.” Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, “Get away from here and turn eastward, and hide by the Brook Cherith, which flows into the Jordan. And it will be that you shall drink from the brook, and I have commanded the ravens to feed you there.” So he went and did according to the word of the Lord, for he went and stayed by the Brook Cherith, which flows into the Jordan. The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning, and bread and meat in the evening; and he drank from the brook. And it happened after a while that the brook dried up, because there had been no rain in the land. Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, “Arise, go to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and dwell there. See, I have commanded a widow there to provide for you.” So he arose and went to Zarephath. And when he came to the gate of the city, indeed a widow was there gathering sticks. And he called to her and said, “Please bring me a little water in a cup, that I may drink.” And as she was going to get it, he called to her and said, “Please bring me a morsel of bread in your hand.” So she said, “As the Lord your God lives, I do not have bread, only a handful of flour in a bin, and a little oil in a jar; and see, I am gathering a couple of sticks that I may go in and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die.” And Elijah said to her, “Do not fear; go and do as you have said, but make me a small cake from it first, and bring it to me; and afterwards make some for yourself and your son. For thus says the Lord God of Israel: ‘The bin of flour shall not be used up, nor shall the jar of oil run dry, until the day the Lord sends rain on the earth.’” So she went away and did according to the word of Elijah; and she and he and her household ate for many days. The bin of flour was not used up, nor did the jar of oil run dry, according to the word of the Lord which He spoke by Elijah.

Today’s Conversation Question. How does the strength of the faiths seen in the bible characters inspire us to grow in our own faith?

For your prayers

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

Our young people who are taking GCSE exams over the next few weeks.

Jordan and Guido getting married on Saturday

This Week

Sunday 8am-1pm Sunday Worship 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

Thursday 9.30am Holy Communion 6.30pm HYB (church hire)

Friday 10.30am Let’s Go 12noon Jazz 8pm Bellringing

Saturday 12noon-4pm Guitar lessons (Grundon Room) 1pm Wedding

Today

Mark & Sharon 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

Smalls for All is a charity which collects and distributes underwear to help women and children in Africa, living in orphanages, slums, refugee camps, schools and hospitals. They accept **new** or **‘gently worn’** bras which can be **any size**, including teen, sports and nursing bras, but not cropped top style or bikini tops. You can also help by purchasing a new packet of ladies’ or children’s pants and send them to the charity. They must be **new** and size wise for **children aged 3-15** or **ladies size 8-16**. www.smallsforall.org. Send your donations to Smalls for All, 108 Buchanan Crescent, Eliburn, Livingston, EH54 7EF.

General News

Christian Aid week ends today. Special donation envelopes are available at the back of church and can be placed in the collection basket today or next week.

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

Training/Learning opportunities:

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