

All Saints' North Hillingdon

22nd March 2026 - 5th of Lent



****Today - Baptism of Benjamin Hockin****

Ezekiel speaks to the people of Israel, living in exile in Babylon, defeated, hopeless, and without future hope. In this vision of the valley of dry bones, God shows that he has the power to restore life to what seems dead. *Where in our lives do we feel like things are beyond hope? And how might God breathe new life there?*

In Romans, Paul contrasts living in the Spirit and living according to the flesh (our self-centred human nature separate from God). He reminds us that God's Spirit brings life and peace. *Which of these are you living by?*

In John's gospel, the death of Lazarus and shows us Jesus' deep compassion for us and his authority over death, pointing towards Easter week and a foretaste of Jesus' resurrection. *Where do we need to hear Jesus calling us out of the tombs of fear, grief, or despair?*

The three readings together speak about God bringing life where there seems to be only death, reminding us that God is not limited by hopeless situations, but rather brings renewal, restoration, and resurrection life into our fallen world.

New English Hymnal 10 am service:

Opening	393	Lead us heavenly father lead us
<i>Psalm: sung verses and sung response</i>		
Gradual	63	All ye who seek a comfort v1,2,5
Offert'y	294	Just as I am
Comm'n	358	Father of heaven whose love
Sending	461	There is a wideness in God's mercy

Regular Mid-week Events:

Wed - 10am Holy Communion
10:30am Cake, Coffee & Chat in Hall



Diary Dates:

Sun 22nd March - Baptism of Benjamin Hockin

FOOD BANK: Collection @ rear of church.

LENT STUDY GROUPS:

Tuesdays Eve: 'The Way' 7.30pm from 24th Feb
at Jonathan Mead's 36 Sweetcroft Lane

STATIONS OF THE CROSS:

Fridays in Lent 6pm in church.

EASTER WEEK SERVICES:

- Sun 29th Mar** - Palm Sunday
 - Mon 30th Mar** - 6pm Holy Communion
 - Tues 31st Mar** - 6pm Holy Communion
 - Wed 1st Apr** - 10am Holy Communion
 - Thur 2nd Apr** - **7.30pm Maundy Thursday**
Holy Communion with hymns
 - Friday 3rd Apr** - **9.30am Walk of Witness**
starting from St John's.
 - **10am Stations of the Cross**
followed by arrival of Walk of Witness
 - **2-3 pm Before the Cross**
 - Sat 4th Apr** - **8pm Easter Saturday Vigil**
 - Sun 5th Apr** - **8 & 10am Easter Sunday**
Service of Light
- (Wed 8th Apr - no 10am Wednesday service)*

Giving is part
of our worship
You can use the
QR code or place
an offering in the
basket >>>>>>>>



THIS WEEK'S INTERCESSIONS:

Mark Callaghan, David Rance, Hazel & Helen Parris, Mabel and Tony Poon-Jones, Lynn Taylor, Pat Szymański, Ann Tutton, Ruth Heslop, Jo Haunton, Maria Woods, Margaret Brown, John Williams, Sheila Scoates, Melissa Sinclair, Jacqueline Potts, Kevin Ogilvie, Marion Robinson: - *LORD, give them courage and hope in their troubles; and bring them the joy of your salvation.*

†

We remember anniversaries of the deaths of:

Margery Child, Gwen Bristowe, Celia Whittaker, Dorothy Moule, Edwin Fairman, Michael Jones, Beryl Mearing, Lexi Rowland-Tickner, Clive Pearce, Harold Cox, Peter Lawrence, Phil Parris

Visits / Home Communion:

Anyone who would like a chat, pray or home communion, let me know; Rev Ulric Gerry 07909 127 929 ulricgerry@icloud.com.

Ryefield Care Home Services:

Dates for 2026: 14th April, 5th May, 2nd June, 7th July. Tuesdays at 11am. All Welcome.

Sunday 22 March 2026 Fifth Sunday of Lent

COLLECT

Most merciful God,
who by the death and resurrection of your Son
Jesus Christ
delivered and saved the world:
grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross
we may triumph in the power of his victory;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Ezekiel 37:1-14

A reading from the book of the prophet Ezekiel.

The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD." So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD."

PSALM Psalm 130

R My soul waits for the Lord.

Out of the depths have I cried to you, O Lord;
Lord, hear my voice;
let your ears consider well the voice of my
supplication.
If you, Lord, were to mark what is done amiss,
O Lord, who could stand?
But there is forgiveness with you,
so that you shall be feared. **R**



I wait for the Lord; my soul waits for him;
in his word is my hope.
My soul waits for the Lord,
more than the night watch for the morning,
more than the night watch for the morning. **R**

O Israel, wait for the Lord,
for with the Lord there is mercy;
With him is plenteous redemption
and he shall redeem Israel from all their sins. **R**

SECOND READING Romans 8:6-11

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law – indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

GOSPEL John 11:1-45

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

A certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow-disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him." When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about

their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world." When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?" Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upwards and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go." Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

POST COMMUNION

Lord Jesus Christ,
you have taught us
that what we do for the least of our brothers and
sisters
we do also for you:
give us the will to be the servant of others
as you were the servant of all,
and gave up your life and died for us,
but are alive and reign, now and for ever.