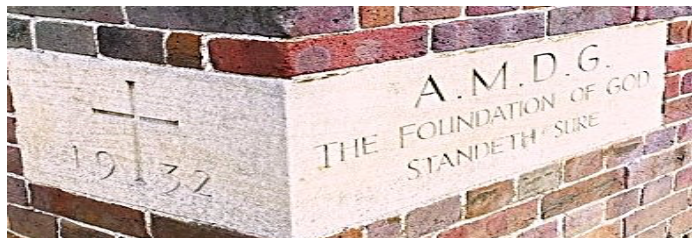


All Saints' North Hillingdon
23rd March 2025
3rd Sunday of LENT



The passages today share a common message of both divine grace, and human responsibility, and the call to repentance and to changed, fruitful lives.

In Isaiah God offers abundant grace and blessings, symbolized by water, wine, and milk, to all who thirst after him. The prophet calls people to seek the Lord and turn from their ways, as God's mercy is boundless and His ways are higher than human ways.

1 Corinthians warns us against spiritual complacency. Paul recalls Israel's failures: idolatry, immorality, and testing God, despite experiencing God's blessings. He urges believers to learn from their mistakes, remain vigilant, and trust that God provides strength and a way out of every temptation.

In the gospel Jesus addresses human suffering, rejecting the notion that bad things happen to bad people. Instead, He calls us all to change our lives, warning that without transformation, we will perish. The parable of the barren fig tree reveals God's patience and mercy, giving time for repentance, yet also highlighting the need for fruitfulness.

HYMNS AT 10 O'CLOCK

Gathering	333	All my hope on God is founded
Gradual	360	Firmly I believe and truly
Offertory	397	Let us with a gladsome mind
Comm'n	94	We sing the praise of him
Sending	437	Praise the Lord! Ye heavens

This week:

Wednesday 10am Holy Communion	10:30am Cake, Coffee and Chat in Hall
Lent: Stations of the Cross: Every Friday 6pm in Lent in Church. 7.30 pm Bible Study in Vicarage	

Social Event Dates for 2025:

- 10th May** – Live music and Dancing night
- 5th July** – Summer Fete 12 to 3pm

Lent and Easter Dates:

- 30th March:** - Mothering Sunday
- 6th April – Sunday 5.30pm Hillingdon Deanery**
Compline and prayer for Mission in our Parish
- 13th April:** - Palm Sunday
- 17th April:** - Maundy Thursday 7.30 pm
- 18th April:** - Good Friday (walk + vigil)
- 20th April:** - Easter Sunday

GIVING:

We will soon replace the boiler, hopefully do some insulation and draft-proofing, as well as other improvements. Donations to: **"All Saints Church Hillingdon Parish Church"**. **Sort Code: 20-89-16 a/c number: 00107344** (please fill in gift-aid form so we can re-claim tax)

THIS WEEK'S INTERCESSIONS: We lift up to the Lord those who have asked for our prayers;

Mark Callaghan, Michael Worrell, Simon Matthews, David Rance, Hazel & Helen Parris, John Clarke, Mabel and Tony Poon-Jones, James Wills, Lyn Prior, Lynn Taylor, Tony Bond, Pat Szymański, Ann Tutton. **May they know his blessings, healing, grace and salvation.**

†

We remember the anniversaries this week of the

deaths of: CELIA WHITTAKER, EDWIN FAIRMAN, MICHAEL JONES, BERYL MEARING, DOROTHY MOULE, LEXI SKY ROWLAND - TICKNER, HAROLD COX, FR CLIVE PEARCE, PETER LAWRENCE, EDMUND F MAUNDER.

Call for MAGAZINE CONTENT

Send articles to saintsalive.editor@gmail.com

VISITS / HOME COMMUNION

Holy Communion services at Ryefield Court: 1st Apr, 29th Apr 11am. All welcome. If you know of anyone who needs a home or hospital visit, please let me know; Rev Ulric Gerry 07909 127 929 ulricgerry@icloud.com

Social Action: Being salt and light in the world is part of our Christian faith; email our MP on recent issues: danny.beales.mp@parliament.uk

Parish Website: www.allsaintsnorthhilligdon.co.uk
Facebook: www.facebook.com/ASHillingdon
Safeguarding Officer: Jane Turnbull

COLLECT

Almighty God,
whose most dear Son went not up
to joy but first he suffered pain,
and entered not into glory before he
was crucified:
mercifully grant that we, walking in
the way of the cross,
may find it none other than the way
of life and peace;
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 Isaiah 55:1-9

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

The LORD says this: Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

PSALM Psalm 63:1-9

R *My soul is athirst for God, even for the living God.*

O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you;



my soul is athirst for you.
My flesh also faints for you,
as in a dry and thirsty land where
there is no water. **R**

So would I gaze upon you in your holy
place,
that I might behold your power and
your glory.
Your loving-kindness is better than life
itself
and so my lips shall praise you.
I will bless you as long as I live
and lift up my hands in your name. **R**

My soul shall be satisfied, as with
marrow and fatness,
and my mouth shall praise you with
joyful lips,
When I remember you upon my bed
and meditate on you in the watches of
the night. **R**

For you have been my helper
and under the shadow of your wings
will I rejoice.
My soul clings to you;
your right hand shall hold me fast. **R**

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptised into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness. Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to

serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

GOSPEL Luke 13:1-9

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

There were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them – do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did." Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

POST COMMUNION

Merciful Lord,
grant your people grace to
withstand the temptations of the
world, the flesh and the devil,
and with pure hearts and minds to
follow you, the only God;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.