



# ***SAINTS ALIVE!***

***The Parish Magazine of  
All Saints' Church, North Hillingdon UB10 9BT***



**April 2026**

**£1**



**THE PARISH OF ALL SAINTS,  
North Hillingdon, UB10 9BT  
The Church of England  
Deanery of Hillingdon & Diocese of London**

**THE PARISH MISSION STATEMENT**

All Saints' Church aims to be a welcoming Anglican community, a place of prayer and worship, providing a ministry to all and where people gather to share the love of Jesus Christ.

**NORMAL SUNDAY SERVICES**

**SAID HOLY COMMUNION** **8.00 am**

**HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE WITH HYMNS** **10.00 am**

Followed by refreshments in the Church Hall next door, at which **all (and especially any visitors)** are very welcome.

One Sunday each month: **10.00 am**  
Sung Holy Communion (*in a less formal style*)

**USUAL WEEKDAY TIMES**

Wednesday Said Holy Communion Service **10.00 am**  
(followed by tea and cake in the Hall)

Please see the Parish Website or the weekly *Parish Bulletin* on the church porch notice-board for full details or telephone the Vicarage (01895 262024).

*Parish Website:* [www.allsaintsnorthhillington.co.uk](http://www.allsaintsnorthhillington.co.uk)

*Facebook:* [www.facebook.com/ASHillingdon](https://www.facebook.com/ASHillingdon)

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Enquiries concerning Baptisms, Banns, Marriages or other parish business can be made during Vestry Hour in church, which is normally on Saturdays between 10:00 and 11.00am. Please contact Rev Ulric Gerry on 01895 262024 or [allsaintshillingdon@gmail.com](mailto:allsaintshillingdon@gmail.com)

## *A VIEW FROM THE VICARAGE*

Dear Saints

After a dull, damp winter, spring has arrived and my front garden is full of yellow daffodils, red tulips and blue hyacinths. Glorious. My spirits are lifted.



Meanwhile there is little to celebrate elsewhere; with wars in Ukraine and Iran, and in the UK the never-ending cost of living crisis, general national fatigue, and little expectation of things getting better.

But as Christians, our task is to tune in not to the BBC, but to the HBC (the Heavenly Broadcasting Company). We know Christ died on the cross and on the third day rose again. We know that God's salvation plan wins. Love wins. Truth wins. Goodness wins.

This is not to pretend that life is not without struggles and difficulties. Of course it is, for us all. We all have our crosses to bear and calvaries to face. *But we know it works out good in the end.* Only we Christians have hope for this life, and the next.

So, a few pointers for Easter hope:

- 1) **Easter gives us strength in our struggles.** Paul, in Rom 5, does not deny Christians suffer, but reframes suffering as giving us endurance, character, hope and meaning. As Christians, we don't withdraw from life or become cynical, rather suffering has a purpose and a destination. It is worth enduring.
- 2) **Easter means we don't need to be anxious** or consumed with worry about tomorrow (Matt 6). We do what we can about today, and trust the rest to the Lord, our loving heavenly Father.
- 3) **Easter means loving and serving others is worthwhile**, as in the words of Mother Teresa 'not a drop of love is wasted', all our loving actions are a future investment in the kingdom of God. (1 Cor 15) Paul says "... your labour in the Lord is not in vain."
- 4) **Easter means we are active victors, not passive victims.** We Christians are not to be passive victims, withdrawing from this troublesome world but active, living out God's future kingdom now. So when we do justice, caring for others, building, healing, creating, blessing, we are living in God's future kingdom now.
- 5) **Easter gives us identity and meaning.** Apparently this is something our social media obsessed youth struggle with; they don't know who they are, what gender they are, and what purpose they exist for. We Christians know we are God's precious children, called to live in his Kingdom today.

Happy Easter everyone!

Fr Ulric

# EVENTS AT ALL SAINTS CHURCH

**Wednesdays at 10:30am - Coffee, Cake and Companionship  
in the Hall**

## April

14<sup>th</sup> April at 11am – Service at Ryefield Court Care Home

19<sup>th</sup> April – APCM in church after the 10am Eucharist

26<sup>th</sup> April – Baptism of Benjamin William Peter Short

## HOLY WEEK & EASTER SERVICES

You are warmly invited to join us for our Holy Week services.

Experience the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus through song, prayer, and reflection.



### Maundy Thursday

7:30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

### Good Friday

10:00am Stations of the Cross

11:00am (approx) Walk of Witness arrives at All Saints, finishing at Hillingdon Circus with refreshments after.

2:00pm Veneration of the Cross

### Saturday

8:00pm Easter Vigil

### Easter Day

8:00am Eucharist

10:00am Family Eucharist

## May

5<sup>th</sup> May at 11am - Service at Ryefield Court Care Home

## **SAVE THE DATE!**

Our Summer Fete will be on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June from 12pm-3pm. Please start thinking about how you can best support on the day. More details in the next issue!



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## Gary Barlow tribute night



On Saturday March 14<sup>th</sup>, we held our annual dance and live music event in the church hall - and this year it was a Gary Barlow tribute evening.

I had seen the artist Jon Fisher before so I knew it was going to be a great evening as he is an amazing singer and entertainer.

We had a full house so there was an amazing atmosphere. We had decorated the hall with lots of twinkling lights on the tables and around the windows so it looked very pretty.

The evening started at 7.30pm and Jon came on at 8.15pm for his first slot. Very soon the dance floor was filled as he sung all of the popular Take

That songs. We had put multi-coloured light sticks on each table and these were soon being waved along to the music.

We had a DJ to entertain us in the interval, and also at the end of the evening.

We held a raffle and I had been given some lovely raffle prizes - some from local businesses and others from individuals. We had three meal vouchers for Sunday lunch, several drink hampers, a chocolate hamper, a cosmetic one, and several other prizes including a photoshoot and makeover, so as you can imagine tickets went very quickly.

The evening ended with everyone up on the dance floor singing along and waving their light sticks in the air to the final Take That song.

Judging by comments on the night and messages I've been sent since everyone had an amazing evening and thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

I'm very grateful to all of those who attended or helped in anyway, be it with their time or generosity.

We made the grand total of £905 and part of this is going to the charity Home Start as promised, so it was an evening in the words of Take That to 'Never Forget'.

Lesley Thompson

## Coffee Money 2026



Coffee after the 10am Eucharist is well enjoyed by all. Its success is largely down to the support of those on the coffee rota, some of whom have been volunteering in this way for over 25 years (like Sue, Lynda and myself).

We would also like to thank John Scoates for getting to the hall early every week to put up all the tables and chairs, and filling up and turning the

urn on - all before doing other duties in the church.

Thanks also to Lesley, our Churchwarden, who has bought us two sets of lovely new mugs recently, with money raised from her hugely successful Wednesday Coffee Morning.

This year we have raised just under £1,000 for Helen and Douglas House, who we have supported as a church for over 20 years.

We would now like to support a charity closer to home – Mount Vernon Cancer Centre – a leading specialist cancer centre, where funds will be used to improve facilities and ensure patients facing cancer receive the best care.

ALL the money raised on a Sunday during coffee goes to the charity – we don't take expenses for any of the supplies.

If you would like to join the rota, or even buy a pack of good quality tea bags, sugar, or biscuits, that would be very welcome.

Thank you to those on the rota for their continued support – Sue, Lynda, Anna, Brian, John, Jonathan, Sheila, Pat and Anne (who also helps me with the rota).

Myself and Anne are going through a difficult time at the moment, but we are still popping in and ensuring all the supplies are in place.

With best wishes for a Happy Easter to you all,

Marion Robinson (and Anne)

## EVENTS IN HILLINGDON

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April, 10.30-11.30am – Falls Prevention Workshop at Oak Farm Library

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> April at 11.30am - Historian and broadcaster Dr. Kate Vigurs tells the extraordinary true stories of the female agents of the Special Operations Executive (SOE) at the Battle of Britain Bunker. Tickets cost £5 and can be bought in advance or at the front desk on the day.

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April, 1.30pm-3.30pm – Assembly for Older People at Civic Centre

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April, 7-8pm – An evening with the author of the ‘Rivers of London’ novels, Ben Aaronovitch, at Uxbridge Library.

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April, 3-4pm - Coffee and Crime event with author Elly Vine at Manor Farm Library.

24<sup>th</sup> April at 6.30pm – Quiz Night at Michael Sobell House (£10 per person)

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April, 10-11.30am – ‘Dams, Icebergs and Spies’ history walk around Ruislip Lido.



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# Your Essential Guide to Successful Plant Propagation



If you've ever wished you could turn one plant into ten, plant propagation is the skill you need.

At its simplest, propagation is the art and science of creating new plants from existing ones. Whether you're sowing seeds, snipping cuttings, or dividing a mature clump,

learning how to propagate plants opens up a world of possibilities, and saves you money.

## Method 1: Growing from Seed

Seeds are often the easiest and most economical way to propagate large numbers of plants.

The easiest plants to propagate from seed include Sweet Peas, Cosmos and Nasturtiums.

## Method 2: Taking Cuttings

Vegetative propagation creates a genetically identical clone of the parent plant.

How to Propagate Plants from Cuttings:

1. Choose healthy, non-flowering stems.
2. Cut just below a leaf node.
3. Remove lower leaves.
4. Insert into a moist, light, airy compost mix.
5. Cover lightly to maintain humidity. Keep them warm but out of direct sun.

Easiest Plants to Propagate from Cuttings:

- Lavender
- Geranium (Pelargonium)
- Rosemary
- Fuchsia
- Hydrangea

Softwood cuttings (taken in spring/summer) root quickly. Hardwood cuttings (taken in autumn) take longer but are equally effective.

### **Method 3: Division**

Division is often overlooked, yet it's the quickest propagation method of all. It works best for clump-forming perennials.

How to Divide Plants:

1. Lift the plant during its dormant season.
2. Gently tease or cut the rootball into sections.
3. Ensure each section has roots and shoots.
4. Replant immediately into prepared soil.

Easiest Plants to Propagate by Division:

- Hostas
- Daylilies
- Hardy geraniums
- Ornamental grasses

### **The Secret to Success: Environment**

No matter which propagation method you choose, the environment is everything.

Bright but indirect light prevents seedlings and cuttings from becoming weak or “leggy.”

Most seeds germinate best between 18–21°C. Cuttings prefer consistent warmth.

Overwatering kills more young plants than neglect. Compost should feel moist, not saturated.

Good air circulation prevents fungal diseases.

### **Ready to Grow More for Less?**

Plant propagation is not reserved for experts. It is one of the most rewarding skills a gardener can learn.

Start with the easiest plants to propagate, refine your technique, and before long, you'll be multiplying your favourites effortlessly.

*Article originally written for the Fothergills website by Anne Robinson*

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**NOT JUST  
TRAVEL**

## New Coffee Shop at Court Park!



We recently opened our small coffee spot in the park and have been so warmly welcomed by the local community. Very quickly the coffee spot has also become a meeting place - somewhere people stop to chat, catch up on local news and start their walks through the park.

Being part of the park and the neighbourhood already feels very special to us. It's lovely to see families, dog walkers and regular visitors becoming familiar faces, and we are really grateful for the support and kind words we've received so far.

We serve a wide range of coffees and our beans come from different parts of the world, including Colombia, Ethiopia and Brazil, and we are currently testing different selections so visitors can discover new flavours. Over time we hope to add a new coffee to the menu each month, and some of our hot drinks will gradually be joined by iced coffee and orange-based summer drinks for the warmer months. Alongside our coffee, we offer a wide selection of freshly baked pastries and cakes, including traditional pastel de nata, croissants, pain au chocolat, muffins, brownies, cookies, doughnuts, and even a bacon breakfast cookie, which has become a popular choice! Many of these items have quickly become best-sellers, especially as everything is baked fresh in the morning.

We are currently open every day from 9:00am to 5:00pm, Monday to Sunday. We are also in discussions with the council about extending our opening hours so that in the future we may be able to open earlier at 8:00am and stay open until 7:00pm during the summer months, when more people are enjoying the park. Looking ahead, we hope to add a small seating area, but we are waiting for paving permission from the council. We are also planning to organise an art event so we can showcase the talents of local artists.

Dogs are always welcome - we offer free treats and water for our four-legged visitors.

Thank you to everyone who has already visited us, and we look forward to welcoming many more of you soon.

Parkway Café Management Team

## Lesley's recipe of the month

### Orange and Cranberry Loaf Cake



#### Ingredients:

100g of dried cranberries  
100ml of orange juice (which is approx from 1 orange)  
225g of butter  
200g caster sugar  
3 eggs  
250g plain flour  
1 ½ tsp of baking powder  
½ tsp of cinnamon  
Zest from 1 orange  
120g of natural yogurt  
Pinch of salt

#### *For the drizzle:*

100g icing sugar  
2 tbsp of orange juice from the soaked cranberries  
2 tbsp of dried cranberries  
Orange zest

#### Method:

1. Put 100g of cranberries in a bowl with the 100ml of orange juice and leave for at least an hour.
2. Preheat the oven to 170c fan and line a 2lb loaf tin with baking paper.
3. Cream the butter and caster sugar together until pale and fluffy, then add in the eggs one at a time and beat after each addition. Fold in the flour, baking powder, salt, cinnamon and the orange zest until combined.
4. Fold in the yogurt and the cranberries reserving the orange juice they were soaked in. Mix until just combined, put into the loaf tin and bake for 55-60 mins until a skewer comes out clean.
5. Leave to cool in the tin for 15 mins then turn out onto a wire rack to cool.
6. Once the cake is cold make up the drizzle with the icing sugar and reserved orange juice etc as above drizzle over the cake and decorate with the dried cranberries and orange zest - enjoy!

Lesley Thompson

## Film Review – Nuremberg



A few months ago, I saw the movie *Nuremberg* at the cinema. *Nuremberg* covers the prosecution of key Nazi leaders after the Second World War through the eyes of the army psychologists. It is a fascinating exploration of justice, the nature of evil, and the human condition.

It starts asking the question on what legal basis could the individuals be tried, when they were following orders? The judges had to create the laws, based on universal 'natural law'; that mass murder, torture and enslavement by a nation of its own civilians was intrinsically wrong, and that individuals, not the state, had a moral responsibility for their actions.

We meet the prisoners through the eyes of the army psychologists, first Goldensohn and then Gilbert. Goldensohn seeks to befriend the defendants, to get to know them and understand them, rather than challenge or judge them. He observes their humanity, that they are intelligent, charismatic, rational individuals, family men. Goldensohn is particularly fascinated by Goebbels, passing letters back and forth for him to his wife and child. Before we get sympathetic ourselves, we are shown the shocking historical footage of the concentration camp, of emaciated prisoners and the heaps of discarded bodies, and are reminded of the incomprehensible dehumanising evil these men were responsible for.

When the Nazi leaders are brought into the courtroom they are self-justifying, evasive; "I was following orders," "I didn't know," "I acted for my country". It evokes the earliest scenes of Genesis, where Adam and Eve shift blame and obscure responsibility. It's a reminder that we humans squirm and deny our sins, make excuses, blame others. It still seems incomprehensible to me, that a Christian nation, the birthplace of the Christian Reformation, could allow such evil to flourish, and that intelligent, educated men were so complicit.

As Goldensohn becomes too close to the defendants, a second psychiatrist is brought in, Gilbert. Rather than befriend the prisoners, he sees them for the evil they have done, challenging them and their evil ideology.

The two perhaps reflect different aspects of God's character: love and truth. Goldensohn's graceful approach was to seek out the men's humanity, 'God so loved

the world'. Gilbert's approach was more 'the wages of sin are death'; that they deserve punishment for their sins.

As the trial progresses, Goebbels denies all, and looks as if he will be acquitted, but is ultimately convicted because he cannot disavow his beloved Fuhrer, Adolf Hitler. Sentences are duly passed, and justice served.

Yet at the end of the play, we are left with the question, was it just these men who were evil, or are any of us capable of such? As Solzhenitsyn said, "the line dividing good and evil cuts through the heart of every human being." In the final credits, we are left with a quote: "The only clue to what man can do is what man has done." We will all, ultimately, individually be judged on what we actually do.

Fr Ulric

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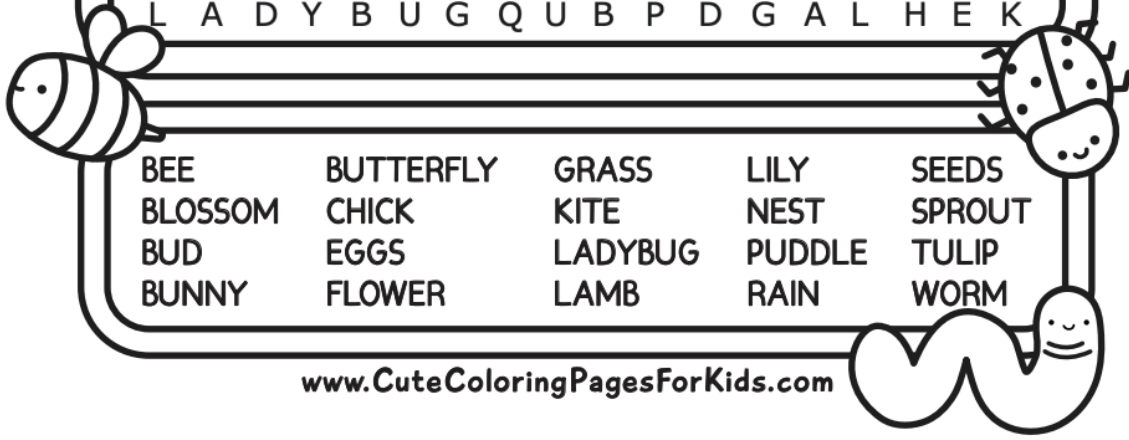
### The Orchid Festival at Kew Gardens – Photo courtesy of Karol Schlacter



# SPRING

## WORD SEARCH

E W A J F E L L F J F L W F S T K U  
F R M J U C D T M H F E E A J O U H  
C A T A F R U L L I T M S O W Z J U  
X I T D J O X F T S H X P G O M I M  
X N N X R E O O E L X Z D P R X K A  
W V I P Q B U N N Y J C Y X M R O W  
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S L V Z D T F L G H V W R U K S R H  
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B D T L I Y S N F A N S J P Y J N H  
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O V E C I T D V O H I H J T T I M G  
M B D M H R S D L W I S M H Y A K E  
L A D Y B U G Q U B P D G A L H E K



BEE	BUTTERFLY	GRASS	LILY	SEEDS
BLOSSOM	CHICK	KITE	NEST	SPROUT
BUD	EGGS	LADYBUG	PUDDLE	TULIP
BUNNY	FLOWER	LAMB	RAIN	WORM



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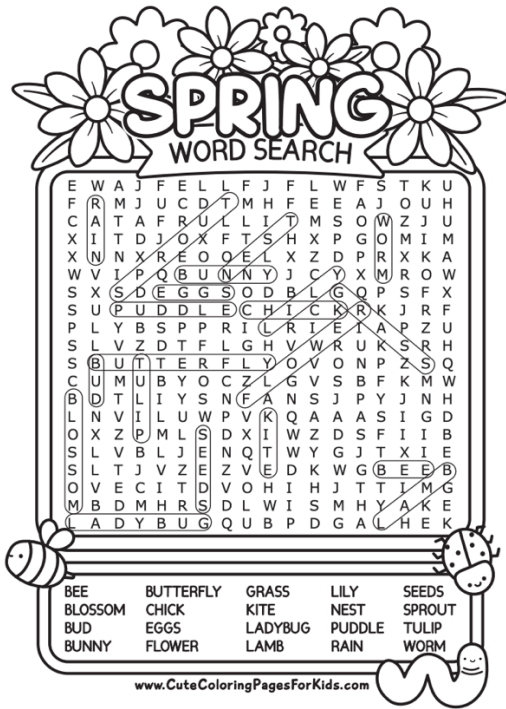
**To learn more about life at Ryefield Court or arrange a visit contact Tim Woolford  
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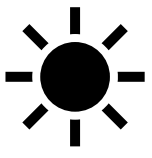
# Answers



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# Punny Plaice



This girl said she recognized me from the vegetarian club, but I'd never met herbivore.

The Editorial team for Saints Alive is Anne Robinson (Editor), Jane Turnbull (Print and Distribution) and Lesley Thompson.

Articles for the May magazine need to reach us by **Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April** at [saintsalive.editor@gmail.com](mailto:saintsalive.editor@gmail.com)

Have **you** got an item to share with our readers? We need more contributions to keep the magazine going. Could **YOU** provide an article? Or a photo for our front cover?

**ALL SAINTS' CHURCH**  
**NORTH HILLINGDON, MIDDLESEX UB10 9BT**  
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***SAINTS ALIVE!*** is the Parish Magazine of All Saints' Church, North Hillingdon UB10 9BT and is published eleven times annually, with a two-month edition over the summer.

Any opinions expressed in articles in *Saints Alive!* do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor or of the Parochial Church Council of All Saints.

