

The Parish Church of St Matthew  
Northampton

# Holy Week

PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION



*The Lord's triumphal entry into Jerusalem*

## The Parish Mass

offered for and on behalf of the parish community  
during the Coronavirus Pandemic

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2021

10.15 am



## Order of Service

### ¶ Commemoration of the Lord's Entry into Jerusalem

† In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**All Amen.**

### The Greeting

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you

**All and also with you.**

### Introduction

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, during Lent we have been preparing by works of love and self-sacrifice for the celebration of our Lord's death and resurrection. Today we come together to begin this solemn celebration in union with the Church throughout the world. Christ enters his own city to complete his work as our Saviour, to suffer, to die, and to rise again. Let us go with him in faith and love, so that, united with him in his sufferings, we may share his risen life.

### The Palm Liturgy

Let us pray:

God our Saviour,  
whose Son Jesus Christ entered Jerusalem as Messiah  
to suffer and to die;  
bless † these palms,  
that they may be for us signs of his victory  
and grant that we who bear them in his name  
may ever hail him as our King,  
and follow him in the way that leads to eternal life;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**All Amen.**

*The Priest sprinkles the palm crosses with holy water*

## The Palm Gospel

Mark 11.1-11

**All** The Lord our redeemer be with you  
**and also with you.**

**All** Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples and said to them, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, "Why are you doing this?" just say this, "The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.'" They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, 'What are you doing, untying the colt?' They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

'Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!

Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

**All** This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## The Entry into Jerusalem

I peace let us praise Jesus our Messiah,  
as did the crowds who welcomed him to Jerusalem.

Six days before the Passover,  
when the Lord came into the city of Jerusalem,  
the children ran to meet him;  
in their hands they carried palm branches  
and with a loud voice cried out:

**All Hosanna in the highest!**  
**Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy!**

O gates, lift high your heads; grow higher, ancient doors.  
Let him enter, the king of glory! Who is this king of glory?  
He, the Lord of hosts, he is the king of glory.

**All Hosanna in the highest!**  
**Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy!**

## ¶ Liturgy of the Passion

### The Collect

Let us pray for a closer union with Christ  
in his suffering and in his glory.

Almighty and everlasting God,  
who in your tender love towards the human race  
sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ  
to take upon him our flesh  
and to suffer death upon the cross:  
grant that we may follow the example of his patience and humility,  
and also be made partakers of his resurrection;  
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.

**All Amen.**

## First Reading

Isaiah 50:4-9a

*Reader* A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

The Lord God has given me  
the tongue of a teacher,  
that I may know how to sustain  
the weary with a word.  
Morning by morning he wakens -  
wakens my ear  
to listen as those who are taught.  
The Lord God has opened my ear,  
and I was not rebellious,  
I did not turn backward.  
I gave my back to those who struck me,  
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;  
I did not hide my face from insult and spitting.  
The Lord God helps me;  
therefore I have not been disgraced;  
therefore I have set my face like flint,  
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;  
he who vindicates me is near.  
Who will contend with me?  
Let us stand up together.  
Who are my adversaries?  
Let them confront me.  
It is the Lord God who helps me;  
who will declare me guilty?

**All** This is the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*Silence is kept*

# ¶ The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Mark 15:1-47 (Shortened form)

## Acclamation

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.  
Christ humbled himself and became obedient unto death,  
even death on a cross.  
Therefore God has highly exalted him  
and given him the name that is above every name.

**All** **Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

**Evangelist** As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate. Pilate asked him,

**Pilate** Are you the King of the Jews?

**Jesus** You say so.

**Evangelist** Then the chief priests accused him of many things. Pilate asked him again,

**Pilate** Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you.

**Evangelist** But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed.

Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection. So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. Then he answered them,

**Pilate** Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?

**Evangelist** For he realised that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. Pilate spoke to them again,

**Pilate** Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?

**Crowd** Crucify him!

**Pilate** Why, what evil has he done?

**Crowd** (*louder*) Crucify him!

**Evangelist** So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. And they began saluting him,

**Soldiers** Hail, King of the Jews!

**Evangelist** They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus.

Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take.

It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. The inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads,

**Passers-by** Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!

**Evangelist** In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves.

**Priests** He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe.

**Evangelist** Those who were crucified with him also taunted him.

When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice,

**Jesus** Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?

**Evangelist** which means, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?'  
When some of the bystanders heard it, they said,

**Bystanders** Listen, he is calling for Elijah.

**Evangelist** And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying,

**Bystander** Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down.

**Evangelist** Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.

(pause)

And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom.

Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said,

**Centurion** Truly this man was God's Son!

**Evangelist** There were also women looking on from a distance; among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the

younger and of Joses, and Salome. These used to follow him and provided for him when he was in Galilee; and there were many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem.

When evening had come, and since it was the day of Preparation, that is, the day before the sabbath, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God, went boldly to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he had been dead for some time. When he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. Then Joseph bought a linen cloth, and taking down the body, wrapped it in the linen cloth, and laid it in a tomb that had been hewn out of the rock. He then rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where the body was laid.

This is the Passion of the Lord.

*A time of silent contemplation*

## The Homily

### Prayers of the Faithful

Let us pray to the Father,  
who loved the world so much that he sent his only Son  
to give us life.

Simon from Cyrene was forced to carry the cross for your Son.  
Give us grace to lift heavy loads from those we meet  
and to stand with those condemned to die.

By the Saviour's cross and passion,

**All Lord, save us and help us.**

Your Son watched the soldiers gamble to share his clothes.  
Transform the hearts of those who make a profit from their victims,  
and those whose hearts are hardened by their work.

By the Saviour's cross and passion,

**All Lord, save us and help us.**

The thief, who was crucified with Jesus  
was promised a place in your kingdom.  
Give pardon and hope, healing and peace  
to all who look death in the face.  
We pray for the acutely ill ...  
By the Saviour's cross and passion,

**All**      **Lord, save us and help us.**

From the cross Jesus entrusted Mary his mother  
and John his disciple to each other's care.  
Help us to care for one another  
and fill our families and homes with mutual care and responsibility,  
and the spirit of your love.  
By the Saviour's cross and passion,

**All**      **Lord, save us and help us.**

The centurion was astonished to see your glory  
in the crucified Messiah.  
Open the eyes of those who do not know you  
to see in your Son the meaning of life and death.  
By the Saviour's cross and passion,

**All**      **Lord, save us and help us.**

Joseph of Arimathaea came to take your Son's body away.  
Give hope and faith to the dying and bereaved,  
and sensitivity to those who minister to them.  
We pray for the repose of the souls of ...  
By the Saviour's cross and passion,

**All**      **Lord, save us and help us.**

**All**      Lord of the Church,  
**hear our prayer,**  
**and make us one in heart and mind**  
**to serve you in Christ our Lord.**  
**Amen.**

# ¶ The Liturgy of the Sacrament

## Sign of Peace

Once we were far off,  
but now in union with Christ Jesus we have been brought near  
through the shedding of Christ's blood,  
for he is our peace.

**All** The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**and also with you.**

As we are able, let us offer one another the sign of Christ's peace.

## The Offertory

*The altar is prepared*

## Invitation to Prayer

Pray, my brothers and sisters,  
that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God,  
the almighty Father.

**All** **May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands  
for the praise and glory of his name,  
for our good, and the good of all his Church.**

## Prayer over the Gifts

Lord, may the suffering and death of Jesus, your only Son,  
make us pleasing to you.  
Alone we can do nothing,  
but may this perfect sacrifice win us your mercy and love.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**All** **Amen.**

# The Eucharistic Prayer

*All* The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

*All* Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

*All* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and just, our duty and our salvation,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For as the time of his passion and resurrection draws near  
the whole world is called to acknowledge his hidden majesty.  
The power of the life-giving cross  
reveals the judgement that has come upon the world  
and the triumph of Christ crucified.

He is the victim who dies no more,  
the Lamb once slain, who lives for ever,  
our advocate in heaven to plead our cause,  
exalting us there to join with angels and archangels,  
for ever praising you and saying:

*All* **Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,  
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
and as we follow his example and obey his command,  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit  
these gifts of bread and wine  
may be to us his body and his blood;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,  
took bread and gave you thanks;  
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way,  
after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks;  
he gave it to them, saying:

Drink this, all of you;  
this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Jesus Christ is Lord.

**All**  
**Lord, by your cross and resurrection**  
**you have set your people free.**  
**You are the Saviour do the world.**

Therefore, heavenly Father,  
we remember his offering of himself  
made once for all upon the cross;  
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;  
we look for the coming of your kingdom,  
and with this bread and this cup  
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Accept through him, our great high priest,  
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,  
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts  
in the presence of your divine majesty,  
renew us by your Spirit,  
inspire us with your love  
and unite us in the body of your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,  
we worship you, Father almighty,  
in songs of everlasting praise.

**All** **Blessing and honour and glory and power  
be yours for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

*The Blessed Sacrament is elevated*

## The Lord's Prayer

Standing at the foot of the cross,  
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

**All** **Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done;  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,  
the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

## Breaking of the Bread

*All* We break this bread,  
**communion in Christ's body once broken.**

## Agnus Dei

*All* **Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
grant us peace.**

## Invitation to Communion

*All* Behold the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.  
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

## Giving of Communion

Father, if this cup cannot pass without my drinking it,  
your will be done.



## Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ,  
you humbled yourself in taking the form of a servant,  
and in obedience died on the cross for our salvation:  
give us the mind to follow you  
and to proclaim you as Lord and King,  
to the glory of God the Father.

**All Amen.**

**Faithful God,  
may we who look forward to sharing in this banquet  
glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
our salvation, life and hope,  
who reigns as Lord now and for ever.  
Amen.**

## Notices for the Community

### ¶ Sending Out

**All** The Lord our redeemer be with you  
**and also with you.**

### Solemn Blessing

**All** You believe that by his dying  
Christ destroyed death for ever.  
**Amen.**

**All** You have been crucified with Christ  
and live by faith in the Son of God,  
who loved you and gave himself for you.  
**Amen.**

May he send you out to glory in his cross,  
and live no longer for yourselves but for him,  
who died and was raised to life for us.

**All**            **Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son †, and the Holy Spirit,  
be upon you, and remain with you always.

**All**            **Amen.**

## The Dismissal

The Mass is ended, go in peace.

**All**            **Thanks be to God.**