



St Andrew's Church

W/c Sunday 5th April 2020

Welcome to the second edition of our newsletter. I hope you are all well and following the advice to stay at home – I nearly said indoors, but of course the garden is very agreeable – and avoiding social contact. Personally, I am taking more exercise than usual now it is the only time I go out. A bit like people ate better in the war when rationing was on.

Here are the collect, gospel and post communion prayer for you to read and pray at home, in the knowledge that all over the country other people are doing the same: you are part of something big and powerful. If things were more normal, we would be processing through the streets for Palm Sunday, and then reading the whole Passion narrative in church with people taking different parts like in a play. You might like to do this longer reading at home; if you are isolated with your family, you could arrange for people to read different parts in the same sort of way. This reading is Matthew 26 verse 14, continuing to read all through Matthew 27 to the end. On this sheet I have put the shorter reading set for Palm Sunday.

Here's a prayer you might like to pray.

The doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked. (John 20.19)

Ever present God,
be with us in our isolation,
be close to us in our distancing,
be healing in our sickness,
be joy in our sadness,
be light in our darkness,
be wisdom in our confusion,
be all that is familiar when all is unfamiliar,
that when the doors reopen
we may with the zeal of Pentecost
inhabit our communities
and speak of your goodness
to an emerging world.
For Jesus' sake.
Amen.

Collect

True and humble king, hailed by the crowd as Messiah: grant us the faith to know you and love you, that we may be found beside you on the way of the cross, which is the path of glory. **Amen.**

Gospel ***Matthew 21; 1-11***

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied,

and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately. "

This took place to fulfil what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,

"Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey."

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them.

A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road.

The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?" The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."

Post Communion

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. **Amen.**

You can join Father Bob Stephen for the Eucharist from St Mary's rectory, live from 11.00am this coming Sunday by clicking this link - <https://t.co/CINox41n9G>

Religious programmes on Radio

BBC Radio 4 - Something Understood - Sunday 06:05

BBC Radio 4 - Sunday Worship - Sunday 08:10

BBC Radio 4 (Long Wave) - Daily Service - Monday to Friday - 09:45

BBC Radio 4 - Prayer for the day - Monday to Saturday - 05:43

BBC Radio 3 - Choral Evensong - Wednesday -15:30 (repeated Sunday at 15:00)

BBC Radio 2 - Good Morning Sunday - 06:00 - 09:00 (A mixture of popular music and religious themed conversation)

TV religious programmes are -

BBC 1 - Sunday Worship - Sunday - 11:45

BBC 1 - Songs of Praise - Sunday 13:15

Please continue to pray for Father John, now recovering at home; and Janice Bissell, readmitted to hospital, but making good progress.

Please pray for these relatives of members of the congregation who have recently died; Edna Balfour, and Roland Dawkins.

We pray for all the people who have died of the coronavirus, and for all who mourn in very difficult circumstances. We pray for all sufferers, and for anxious friends and families. We give thanks to God for the skill and dedication of doctors and nurses working so hard and selflessly at this time.

