

Praying through Holy Week with the persecuted church

Palm Sunday Prayer

Many Christians around the world join in processions on Palm Sunday. But there are risks. In 2021, suicide bombers attacked worshippers on their way home from a Palm Sunday service in Makassar, South Sulawesi, Indonesia. In Egypt, in 2017, there were two bomb attacks on Palm Sunday which killed 49 people and injured many more. Please pray that these celebrations would be protected, and that they would witness to the truth.



A Palm Sunday procession in Qaraqosh, Iraq, where Christians were celebrating their return to their community after previously being driven out by so-called Islamic State extremists.

A Palm Sunday prayer - for the witness of the persecuted church

Lord Jesus, today, all around the world, Christians will be gathering for services and processions, making public statements of their faith. We remember the joy of that day when You rode into Jerusalem. Please give courage and joy to all those in countries where Christians are marginalised or attacked, yet who still dare to proclaim today that You are Messiah, Christ, the Son of the living God. And for those who cannot openly speak the truth about You – may the stones cry out, may their lives shout as loud as any crowd, that you are the one who saves. Protect Your family, Lord, we pray. Amen

Good Friday prayer

Persecuted Christians know only too well the reality of arrest and unfair condemnation. Many of them face death and execution, leaving behind grieving families. In countries like North Korea and Afghanistan, if you are revealed to be a Christian it means execution, or being worked to death in a labour camp. And yet Christianity still survives in these places. The followers of Jesus are still willing to carry their cross, no matter where the journey takes them.

A Good Friday prayer - for the unjustly condemned and the grieving

Lord Jesus, As we think about Your death at the hands of Your enemies, we ask that You will be with all those who face violence and injustice because they follow You. We bring before you those condemned for the crime of Christianity. Protect them from the crowds who insult and mock, from the mobs who beat and burn, and from the soldiers who wish them dead. May they feel your peace in prison, And sing to You in solitary confinement, May those who are martyred know Your presence with them to the end. And for those who suffer for Your name's sake, may they know the power of Your Holy Spirit, so that they too may pray, 'Father forgive'. We also think of those left behind, those who grieve: the mothers and fathers, wives and husbands, children, family and friends. Be close to them, O Lord. Bind up their broken hearts, and strengthen them with the knowledge of your endless, eternal love. Amen

Source: www.opendoorsuk.org

Ringstone in Aveland News Sheet



24 March 2024
Palm Sunday

Collect for this Sunday

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. **Amen**



Post Communion Prayer for this Sunday

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**

Psalm 31.9-16*: Prayer and Praise for Deliverance from Enemies

Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I am in distress;
my eye wastes away from grief,
my soul and body also.

**For my life is spent with sorrow,
and my years with sighing;
my strength fails because of my misery,
and my bones waste away.**

I am the scorn of all my adversaries,
a horror to my neighbours,
an object of dread to my acquaintances;
those who see me in the street flee from me.
I have passed out of mind like one who is dead;

I have become like a broken vessel.

For I hear the whispering of many—
terror all around!—
as they scheme together against me,
as they plot to take my life.

But I trust in you, O LORD;

I say, 'You are my God.'

My times are in your hand;
deliver me from the hand of my enemies and
persecutors.

**Let your face shine upon your servant;
save me in your steadfast love**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to
the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is
now and for evermore, Amen**

Please pray for...

Anthony Andrews, Eben Atkinson, Sheila Bates, Margaret Brumby, Marie Rose Cubacub, Christine Evans, Sue Grainge, Annie Hall, Clive Hall, Marion Heygate, Robert Hitchens, Jane Knight, Gordon Lack, Judy Long, Andrew Luck, Imogen Matthews, Josie Merrett, Michael Merrett, Tom Rae, John Rowntree, Maggie Sharman, Ivan Spencer, Amanda Thomson, Clive Walker, Denise Warcup, Kevin Whitfield, King Charles III, and for any others whom we name in the silence of our hearts.

We give thanks for those on the road to recovery.

We also remember the souls of Joan Curtis, Audrey Gray, Melissa Metcalf, Sophie Sandford, Sylvia Waddingham and all the faithful departed. May they rest in peace and rise in glory; and we also pray for those who mourn their loss.

Wedding Anniversaries: Anita and Gary Ramsden (2 years)

Funeral anniversaries: Ivornie Davies (6 months); Arthur Jefferys, Ivor Roberts, Andrew Waddingham (1 year); Celia Wells, Hannah Faupel, Teddie Creasey, Gordon Durno (2 years).

Readings for this Sunday

Liturgy of the Palms

Mark 11.1-11 or

John 12.12-16

Psalms 118.1-2,19-24*

Liturgy of the Passion:

Isaiah 50.4-9a

Philippians 2.5-11

Mark 14.1 - 15.47 or

Mark 15.1-39[40-47]



Additional Services

26 March	11am	Chris Eucharist	Lincoln Cathedral
<i>All are warmly invited to attend</i>			
7 April	2pm	Baptism of Thomas Green	Kirkby Underwood

Safeguarding & Contact Information

Safeguarding: We take your welfare and safety very seriously!

Revd Neil (Rector): revdneil@yahoo.com, 01778 219626 or

Janice Hill (Group Safeguarding Officer): janicethreetuns@hotmail.co.uk,
01778 440733 and 07972 211936

Group Administrator and for entries to news sheet (by Tuesday please)

Sue O'Riordan: ringstoneoffice@gmail.com

Sunday and regular weekday Services in the Group

24 March	11am	Eucharist	Kirkby Underwood
	6.30pm	Deanery Evensong	Morton
31 March	11am	Eucharist	Haconby
7 April	11am	Eucharist	Morton
	6pm	Evening Prayer	Kirkby Underwood
14 April	9am	Eucharist	Haconby
	6pm	Evening Prayer	Morton
21 April	11am	Eucharist	Morton

Wednesday 10 am See below Morton

Wednesday services will usually be a service of Holy Communion. On occasions this will be replaced by a service of Morning Prayer

Do you know anyone who is unable to get to church but who would like to receive Holy Communion? Contact Revd Neil on 01778 219626

Holy Week and Easter services in the Group

24 March	11am	Palm Sunday Eucharist	Kirkby Underwood
25 March	7pm	Holy Week Monday Eucharist	Morton
26 March	7pm	Holy Week Tuesday Eucharist	Kirkby Underwood
27 March	7pm	Holy Week Wednesday Eucharist	Haconby
28 March	7pm	Maundy Thursday Eucharist	
		<i>With washing of feet</i>	Morton
29 March	1.30pm	Last Hour at the Cross	Morton
30 March	7.30pm	Easter Vigil	Morton
31 March	11am	Easter Sunday Eucharist	Haconby

Morton APCM meeting

Sunday 24 March at 4pm in the Church



Can you help?

There is a collection box in St. John the Baptist Church, on the left at the back of the church

Tinned meat	Tinned custard	Tinned rice pudding
Tinned vegetables	Jars of pasta sauce	Packets of plain rice
Squash or fruit juice	Tinned potatoes	Household goods
Shaving gel	Toothbrushes	Toiletries