

## Unbearable pain from Palm Sunday bombing has brought Valeria closer to Jesus



Two years ago, on Palm Sunday, Valeria was among the many people wounded by a suicide bomb that was detonated outside Makassar Cathedral in Indonesia. She has suffered immense pain and trauma, but looking back, Valeria can see how her experiences have deepened her relationship with Jesus.

It was Good Friday and Valeria was laying in a hospital room with her arms outstretched, waiting for surgery. The pain was unbearable and her thoughts turned to Jesus. "Is this the kind of pain You suffered when You were crucified this Good Friday?" Although Valeria knows that her pain could never compare to what Jesus experienced, the question reflects how a horrifying ordeal has brought Valeria nearer to God.

Five days previously, on Sunday 28 March 2021, Valeria and two of her friends were preparing to leave Makassar Cathedral in Indonesia after attending a Palm Sunday service, when a suicide bomb detonated outside the building. Thankfully, none of the worshippers were killed in the blast, but many people were wounded – including Valeria, who suffered burns that have since required regular visits to the hospital, including multiple operations. Despite the ongoing treatment, Valeria has been able to continue her studies. "God has given me the ability to complete this nursing programme, despite the severe agony, which occasionally makes it difficult for me to study," she says. "Now I'm a graduate. I made the decision to move back to my hometown, and a few weeks ago I began working as a nurse at the local clinic on a temporary contract."

The pain felt by Valeria has given her a glimpse into the agony endured by Jesus as He died on the cross. This has helped her understand the depths in which God shares in our suffering, whilst deepening her empathy for others. "I am able to identify myself with their anguish, loneliness and the chill of the operating room," continues Valeria. "This enables me to serve them better because I have experienced what they are experiencing. I can now accept my condition and am thankful for the experiences God has given me," she adds. "Even though there are still those who see me differently, I now have greater delight in living this life because God has made it possible for me to accept myself. I pray that nothing like what occurred to me will ever happen again."

### Let us pray

- That Valeria will completely heal and that all medical bills will be met
- That Valeria will soon move on to a permanent nursing contract, which will give her a better income and more stability
- That all those affected by the bombing will heal from their trauma and continue to see reminders of God's love for them.

### APCMs

Tuesday	25 April	7pm	Kirkby Underwood (Village Hall)
Sunday	21 May	12.30pm	Morton (church)

# Ringstone in Aveland News Sheet



16 April 2023  
Second Sunday of Easter

### Collect for this Sunday

Almighty Father, you have given your only Son to die for our sins and to rise again for our justification: grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness that we may always serve you in pureness of living and truth; through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

*alleluia!*  
*Christ has Risen!*

### Post Communion Prayer for this Sunday

Lord God our Father, through our Saviour Jesus Christ you have assured your children of eternal life and in baptism have made us one with him: deliver us from the death of sin and raise us to new life in your love, in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen**

### Psalm 16 - Song of Trust and Security in God

Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.  
I say to the Lord, 'You are my Lord;  
I have no good apart from you.'

As for the holy ones in the land, they are the noble,  
in whom is all my delight.

Those who choose another god multiply their sorrows;  
their drink-offerings of blood I will not pour out  
or take their names upon my lips.

The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup;  
you hold my lot.

The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;  
I have a goodly heritage.

I bless the Lord who gives me counsel;  
in the night also my heart instructs me.  
I keep the Lord always before me;  
because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.

Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices;  
my body also rests secure.  
For you do not give me up to Sheol,  
or let your faithful one see the Pit.

You show me the path of life.  
In your presence there is fullness of joy;  
in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

### Readings for this Sunday

**Acts 2.14a,22-32**

**1 Peter 1.3-9**

**John 20.19-31**



### Please pray for...

#### From our prayer list

Eben Atkinson, Sheila Bates, Margaret Brumby, Debbie Dams, Josh Elliott, Christine Evans, Judith Gentleman, Sue Grainge, Nora Green, Ann Hall, Clive Hall, Marion Heygate, Jane Knight, June Langley, Judy Long, Janice McDonnell, Imogen Matthews, John Rowntree, Maggie Sharman, Jose Stokes, Amanda Thomson, Clive Walker, John Weatherspoon, Kevin Whitfield, 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 Arthur Jeffries, John Kearsley, Janice McDonnell, Mary Mountain, Richard Rice-Oxley, Robert (Bob) Wellman and all the faithful departed may they rest in peace and rise in glory; and we also pray for those who mourn their loss.

Baptism anniversaries: Michael Nicholson (1 year)

Funeral anniversaries: Margret Gibson (1 year); Annie Bagworth, Mark Dow (2 years)

Baptisms this month: Penelope Healy, 29 April at Morton

#### Events to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III and Queen Camilla



**Sunday 7 May 2-4pm: BBQ at Morton House.** Tickets £15 (adult) £8 (child). All proceeds are given to St. John the Baptist

**Sunday 7 May 11am: Eucharist** with prayers for the newly crowned monarch

**Monday 8 May: Celebration picnic at the village hall, Kirkby Underwood**

*(Please let me know if there are more events to add to this list. Sue)*

#### Contact Information

Safeguarding: We take your welfare and safety very seriously!


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

Anthony Andrews (our group safeguarding officer): andrews.seed@btconnect.com, 01778 440669

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

Sue O'Riordan: ringstoneoffice@gmail.com

#### THESE ITEMS ARE CURRENTLY WANTED

 **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

### Sunday and regular weekday Services in the Group

16 April	11am	Eucharist	Morton
	6pm	Evening Prayer	Haconby
23 April	11am	Eucharist	Rippingale
	6pm	Evening Prayer	Kirkby Underwood
30 April	11am	Eucharist	Dunsby
7 May	11am	Eucharist	Haconby
14 May	11am	Eucharist	Kirkby Underwood
	6pm	Evening Prayer	Rippingale
Each morning	9 am	Morning Prayer/Eucharist	see below

Monday: Morton, Tuesday: Dunsby; **Wednesday: 10am, Morning Prayer, Morton**; Thursday: Haconby; Friday: Rippingale; Saturday: Kirkby Underwood.

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

alleluia!  
*Christ has Risen!*

#### Reflections for Easter

Jesus said to his disciples,

**"Receive the Holy Spirit: Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained." – John 20.22-23**

#### Reflection

Our ability to forgive is from Jesus himself, who offered forgiveness even from the cross to his executioners. When he breathed on the disciples he gave us his very Spirit, which is now the reason we can offer forgiveness, even to our enemies – just as he did.

So, we ask ourselves:

- ✠ What person or institution do I need to forgive?
- ✠ Jesus is giving his Spirit today so we can do just that: shall I attempt reconciliation?