## Reflection for Palm Sunday Revd Sarah

As part of my 'other' work, I am often asked to teach Religious Education (RE). This last half term has been focussed on Easter, especially the question, "Why do Christians say that Good Friday is good?"

This has prompted discussion about what Christians believe about Jesus, how they understand the events leading up to Easter and what they believe about the impact of the resurrection.

It has produced some profound reflections, for instance when I asked how it might feel to be in the crowd as Jesus was crucified, one child said that she might feel scared at the thought that God was being killed in front of her.

Our task this week was to produce a diagram to show the emotions which may have been experienced during Holy Week. The children recognised that the events of Palm Sunday were likely to be exciting for many, before the growing tensions leading to Good Friday, followed by the shock, disbelief and then rejoicing at the resurrection.

As we enter Holy Week, I am reminded of the importance of observing each of these days in some way: rather than springing directly from Palm Sunday to Easter Day. What might this look like for you this year?



#### WARM SPACE ST THOMAS PARISH HALL

#### **THURSDAY 3-5PM**



Free refreshments in a warm space

#### NEXT SUNDAY 31.03.2024 Easter Day

10.30am in the Church

READINGS: OT Acts 10: 34-43

NT 1 Corinthians 15: 1-11



GOSPEL Mark 16: 1-8

#### **CONTACT US**

**Fr David Nixon** 01392 667192. Day off: Mondays rev.dave@virgin.net

**Revd Sarah Cumming** Assistant Priest 07543604115 rev.sarahcumming@gmail.com

**Revd Alison Whiting** Associate Priest

rev.alisonwhiting@gmail.com

**Revd Mike Clark** Associate Priest

mike.clark@exeter.anglican.org

**Phil Baker, Reader 07970 216740** 

lionelbaker@outlook.com

**Revd Terry Litherland** 07594633195

tlitherland36@gmail.com

Ian Totterdell Church Warden 01392 848674

07536459096 lan.totterdell@cantab.net

**Liz** Pioneer Community Worker

pioneerstthomas@gmail.com

Email: parishoffice@stthomaschurchexeter.co.uk

**Facebook:** www.facebook.com/sttexeter **Website:** www.stthomaschurchexeter.co.uk

Twitter: @sttexeter

Office Tel: 01392 437486 Messages at any time.







# St Thomas, Exeter

## 24th March 2024 Palm Sunday

10.30am in Hall

#### **Today**

10.30am in the Hall

Hymn Numbers
435 Ride on, ride on in majesty
335 Meekness and majesty
549 When I survey the wondrous cross

## Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

10am Mass and talk in the Church7pm Lectio Divina by Zoom

## **Tuesday 26th March**

**7.30pm** House Group. Lent Course at Helen's house. 'Come and See'. John 1: 29-42

## **Maundy Thursday 28th March**

10.30-12 noon Knit & Natter, 19 Maple Rd. Details from Jenny 01392 498725
10.30am Chrism Mass at the Cathedral
7pm Holy Eucharist of the Last Supper. Watch of the Passion

#### **Good Friday 29th March**

10.30am Stations of the Cross2pm Good Friday Liturgy (Hot Cross Buns in the Hall.

#### **Easter Eve Saturday 30th March**

**6pm** Easter Rites. Followed by a bring and share parish supper.

## **Liturgy of the Palms**

#### Mark 11: 1-11

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.

#### Collect

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** 

Isaiah 50: 4-9a

The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teach-

er, 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 backwards. 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 of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up.

## Philippians 2: 5-11

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name hat is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

## Mark's Passion Gospel 14: 1-end

## **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** 

#### **NOTICES**

**Lent Reflection Activity** we will be returning to the St Thomas History Time-line after the Eucharist on Sunday mornings. Please bring your memories, ideas and inspirations.

**Community Larder** There will be a collection box in the hall on Sundays for food donations. The need remains great so please be mindful of our wider community.

**House Group** is using the Diocesan Lent Course 'Come and See'. The group meets weekly until Easter at Helen's house. Details from Helen or Ian.

We are delighted that **Revd Mike Clark**, licensed to the Parish and Transitional Support Minister in the Diocese will be leading our reflections for the first part of Holy Week at the 10am Mass. In the evenings, there will be an opportunity to participate in *Lectio* Divina by Zoom. Zoom codes:

Meeting ID: 896 8466 0291 Passcode: 602946

Tel Nos: 0203 481 5240, 0131 460 1196, 0203 481 5237

**Parish Website** when we reviewed the website to include more details about the bell ringers we noticed that the last Blog entry was in 2022. We are looking for a small team of people who would be prepared to write something occasionally for this Blog. Please speak to one of the staff team.

**Electoral Roll** It is now time to revise the parish electoral roll ahead of the APCM in May. Please see Carolyn Bryant if you wish to be added to the roll or if you have moved house or changed any other details in the past year. Forms will be available from Carolyn or Ian. If you have any questions please contact Carolyn after the Sunday morning service or call 07780 707183.

**Easter Flowers**. If you would like to make a donation towards the cost of the flowers in remembrance of a loved one, please speak to Mary Naish or one the clergy.