

Sunday 29th March

Palm Sunday

Today's 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.

Post Communion Prayer

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.

Next Week Services: Sunday 5th April

10:00am	Harvington	Holy Communion
10:00am	Norton & Lenchwick	Holy Communion
10:00am	Rous Lench	Holy Communion
11:00am	Church Lench	Holy Communion
11:00am	Abbots Morton	Holy Communion
6:30pm	Harvington	Holy Communion Trad Lang

Mid-week Eucharist: 11:00am Wednesdays at St James', Harvington

Notices:

- Scratch Performance of **Stainer's Crucifixion TODAY (29th March)**! 4pm free attendance. Showing at All Saints Parish Church, Evesham.
 - Abbots Morton Church Spring Clean at 10am on 30th March
...would appreciate the help ☺
 - Still looking for a mouse/fire proof lock box for documentation if anyone has one their getting rid of. If you do, please email pippa@p1g.co.uk.
 - Rous Lench **Spring Supper** on 11th April, £15 per head.
- To book a place contact fran on heardmanfrances@gmail.com or 793651.

This Week's First Reading: *Isaiah 50.4-9a.*

⁴ 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.

⁵ The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backwards.⁶ 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. ⁷The 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; ⁸ he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. ⁹It 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.

This Weeks Psalm: *Psalms 31.9-16.*

⁹ Have mercy on me, Lord, for I am in trouble;

my eye is consumed with sorrow, my soul and my body also.

¹⁰ For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing;
my strength fails me because of my affliction,
and my bones are consumed.

¹¹ I have become a reproach to all my enemies
and even to my neighbours,
an object of dread to my acquaintances;
when they see me in the street they flee from me.

¹² I am forgotten like one that is dead, out of mind;
I have become like a broken vessel.

¹³ For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is on every side;
they scheme together against me, and plot to take my life.

¹⁴ But my trust is in you, O Lord. I have said, 'You are my God.

¹⁵ 'My times are in your hand;
deliver me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.

¹⁶ 'Make your face to shine upon your servant,
and save me for your mercy's sake.'

This Week's Second Reading: *Philippians 2.5-11,*

⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,⁷ but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form,⁸ he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death- even death on a cross.

⁹ Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name,¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,¹¹ and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

This Week's Gospel Reading: *Matthew 21.1-11.*

²¹ When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples,² 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.³ If anyone says anything to you, just say this, "The Lord needs them." And he will send them immediately.'

⁴ This took place to fulfil what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,⁵ '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.'

⁶ The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them;⁷ they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them.⁷ A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road.⁹ 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!'

¹⁰ When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, 'Who is this?'¹¹ The crowds were saying, 'This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.'

Next Weeks Readings: *Acts 10.34-43, Psalm 118.2, 14-24, Colossians 3.1-4, John 20.1-18.*

Prayer of Intercession

In Christ Jesus, we have a great high priest who knows our weakness and suffering; therefore, with boldness, let us seek God's grace.

Lord, in your mercy, ***hear our prayer.***

With boldness, we pray for the church . . . Let the mind of Christ Jesus be in us— giving away the riches of heavenly glory, taking the place of humble service on earth.

Lord, in your mercy, ***hear our prayer.***

With boldness, we pray for the earth . . . Let the whole earth tremble this day— not with the fear of destruction, but with the hope of redemption.

Lord, in your mercy, ***hear our prayer.***

With boldness, we pray for all nations . . . Let the nations see your suffering servant— who vindicates victims of violence, who sustains the weary with a word.

Lord, in your mercy, ***hear our prayer.***

With boldness, we pray for this community . . . Let us stand with those who suffer— the outcast, despised, and forsaken; prisoners, and those condemned to death.

Lord, in your mercy, ***hear our prayer.***

With boldness, we pray for loved ones . . . Let your face shine upon the weak— those who spend their lives in sorrow, those whose souls and bodies waste away.

Lord, in your mercy, ***hear our prayer.***

To you, O God, we entrust these prayers, knowing that you alone can provide grace to help in our time of need; in the name of our great high priest who has passed through the heavens,

Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Savior. ***Amen.***