



All Saints Gosforth



Palm Sunday - 28th March 2021

Easter Day - 4th April

2nd Sunday of Easter - 11th April

8:00am	Holy Communion in church
9.30am	Parish Communion in church <i>And livestreamed to Facebook</i>
6.30pm	<i>Evening Services in Church:</i> Palm Sunday: Stations of the Cross Easter Day: Evening Prayer with Music First Sunday after Easter: Evening Prayer <i>Also live streamed to Facebook</i>

For links to both services please visit

[Worship with us at Home | all-saints-gosforth \(wixsite.com\)](http://all-saints-gosforth.wixsite.com)

From the Vicar

Dear All,

Today, as we begin Holy Week, we return to our Sunday 8am, 9.30am and 6.30pm services. On Palm Sunday, although we cannot process, we will still be able to have palm crosses blessed. (For those watching at home, our Sunday 9.30am Parish Communion and Evening Services are live streamed onto Facebook, please see the link below. Don't worry if you miss it live, you can catch up with our services through the week.)

This week we are invited to journey with prayer and reflection through the most important time in the Christian year. (Please see our programme for Holy Week and Easter on the menu below including services online during Holy Week and in church on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Eve. You will see that the 9.30am Easter Day Service must be booked in advance.)

This Newsletter is a 3-week edition detailing Palm Sunday, Easter and the First Sunday after Easter.

Wishing you a joyful Easter.

Best wishes,

Andrew Shipton

Please note: Until Monday 29th March, exercise and recreation is allowed outdoors only with our own household or one other person and so we are not permitted to mingle before or after services until then.

March 28th Palm Sunday

Readings: **New Testament:** **Philippians 2:5-11**
Gospel: **The Passion Reading according to Mark**

This morning we are going to hear the story of the passion from St Mark's Gospel

St Mark tells us that Jesus approached Jerusalem from the east, passing the towns of Bethpage, from Bethany and the Mount of Olives. This is very significant. It was from the east we are told by Ezekiel that God had left his holy temple. We read in Ezekiel 10, that due to the corruption of Jerusalem, the Glory of the Lord moved out, first stopping at the east gate, hovering over the Mount of Olives, and becoming homeless.

This was devastating, but the prophecy in Ezekiel also stated that the Glory of God would return from the east. Jesus' approach from the east suggested that the Glory of God was returning to his Temple and so heaven would be brought back to earth and God would again be among his people. Hence the great celebration. There is more...

The Jews had to endure so many bad kings but Jesus was seen as a king after the line of David. He would be a 'new David', a triumphant righteous king who would kick out the Romans and establish the reign of God in his kingship. He appears at the Mount of Olives from where it was believed the Messiah would enter Jerusalem. Through this 'King David', God would be king and all nations would come to Jerusalem to worship. Thus the crowds celebrate not only the return of the king but also the return of God to the Temple. It's no wonder the crowds went wild – the Greek word used is the same word used for 'earthquakes'.

So Holy Week began with infectious and passionate emotion but tragically it all changed. We hear how a good and caring person with such good intentions goes from being a subject of adoration to one of ridicule. It is, in many ways, a desperately cruel story which reflects our humanity; illustrating just how fickle we are, how evil can spread (and good people suffer), but it is also a story which ends in a victory.

Today, Jesus sets in motion the drama of Holy Week. At this time, we enter into the mystery of his passion and death, we go with him to the temple, to Gethsemane and to Good Friday. We go with him to the darkest places a human being may go, and we discover that he is, after all, indeed king: Lord of lords, King of kings and the Saviour of the world.

Andrew Shipton

April 4th Easter Day.

'He has risen'

Readings: **Old Testament:** **Exodus 14:1-end, 15:20-21**
New Testament: **Romans 6:3-11**
Gospel: **Mark 16:1-8**

Happy Easter!

The joyful news today of the resurrection of Jesus is surrounded by mystery. The abrupt ending of Mark's Gospel has always presented problems to readers. The Greek here is poor and there is no neat end to the story. Here there is no joyful victory or the overcoming of disaster but the womens' terror and amazement. Clearly their world is turned upside down; nothing makes sense. The shock reduces them to silence. The only clue they are given is that the disciples are to meet Jesus in Galilee – the place where it all began. We assume the message was passed on. The Galilean reunion predicted by Jesus did indeed take place. Mark seems to want to express the disruptive, de-stabilising effect of the resurrection and the loose ends it leaves. What are we to make of it? In the rising of the dead of the failed, abandoned Jesus, I think God is

saying that no matter how it looks this is not the end. I wonder if the abrupt ending adds extra power to the story in our particular context.

In the face of an uncertain future we are assured that God can be trusted.

Andrew Shipton

April 11th - 2nd Sunday of Easter

Readings:	Old Testament:	Acts 4:32-35
	New Testament:	1 John 1:1-22
	Gospel:	John 20:19-end

We are still celebrating Easter – Happy Easter!

Christmas is nice and easy to celebrate and mostly, people are quite happy and comfortable to say they've been to church to celebrate because there is nothing gruesome about Christmas.

Easter is different, we prepare ourselves in Lent with self-examination and denial of temptations. We begin Holy Week on a high and are brought low with the arrest, trial and brutal crucifixion of Jesus. On Good Friday we sit at the foot of the cross wondering how it got to that stage, and, putting ourselves in the story, wonder if we were among the 'for' or 'against' on the jury.

It doesn't get more gruesome or bleak than this. It doesn't get any more uncomfortable than this.

As this is a three-week newsletter, I am proposing a challenge. I challenge you to tell at least one person in the week following Easter Day, that you have not only been to church on Easter Day, but also to mention Jesus!

Jesus appears to his disciples on Easter Day, they are all witnesses to this and they all, filled with the Holy Spirit, go on to proclaim that Jesus is resurrected from the dead. Thomas was not present and when he returned, he found the story so uncomfortable he refused to believe - until he saw with his own eyes.

Our reading from Acts for today reinforces the message that we too are called to be witnesses, even when it might be uncomfortable to do so.

How many times can you mention Jesus over the course of Easter week?

Beverley Davies

Upcoming Events

Zooms

Sunday 28th March Parish

Breakfast @ 11:15

Please contact Ruth: ruth.birnie@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk

PCC @ 4:00 pm (the link will be sent to you)

Tuesday 30th March Coffee morning @11–11:30am

Please contact Beverley:

bev.davies@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk

Maundy Thursday 'The Watch' via zoom 8:30pm -9:30pm

To join please contact Andrew Shipton andrew.shipton@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk

Sunday April 4th Easter Day

Parish Breakfast @11:15.

Please contact Ruth: ruth.birnie@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk

Tuesday April 6th

Coffee morning @ 11-11.30am

Please contact Ruth: ruth.birnie@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk

Sunday April 11th

Parish Breakfast @ 11:15-11:45am

Please contact Ruth: ruth.birnie@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk

Tuesday 13th April

Coffee morning @11–11:30am

Please contact Beverley: bev.davies@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk

Fridays

Just Sing @ 11am

We are taking a respectful break on Good Friday, April 02. We'll return on April 09.

Happy Easter to everyone!

Please contact: dianalavin@hotmail.co.uk

News

There is a brief PCC meeting at **4pm on Sunday, 28th March** by Zoom (please see above)

At its last meeting, the PCC, (noting the continuing need for streaming post-lockdown and the importance of streaming as a valuable form of worship for people unable to get to church), voted for us to work (on the basis of a quotation) with Blaydon Communications to install portable high quality cameras into church. (This development will be complementary to the work of Peter Mitchell.) The package will be a flexible system, allowing filming from any point in the church and enable streaming to YouTube and Facebook platforms on our website. The cost of equipment and installation will be approx.

£7.500. A grant has been received for £3.350; PCC has committed £1.500 from its accounts so we need approximately £2.500 to begin the project. We are asking members of the congregation for donations. These can be sent to the office or donated into our account which is:

Parochial Church Council All Saints Gosforth
Sort Code: 20-59-61

Account Number: 00676314

NB The reference should be 'for the Camera system'

Thank you,

Andrew, Christine and Paul

The **APCM** will be on Sunday 18th April at 11am in church.

The Church Electoral Roll will be revised beginning on 21st March ending on 29th March. You can check today. A revised copy will be available from 2nd April

There will be the election of Churchwardens and PCC members as well as the presentation of the 2021 Annual Report.

There will be a *Confirmation Service* on Sunday 5th September at All Saints. This is an opportunity to take faith to the next level and recommit your life to God through Confirmation. There will be a course concluding with the Confirmation Service. If this is of interest to you, please contact Andrew, Beverley or Ruth. Four candidates have already come forward.

As we receive our Covid-19 vaccination, free from the NHS, many of us may be reminded both of our good fortune and of the challenge faced by lower income countries. GAVI (the Global Alliance on Vaccination and Immunisation) has recently made it possible for us to make individual donations to support COVAX, the UN/WHO sponsored initiative to provide access to safe and effective Covid-19 vaccine in 92 poorer countries, regardless of ability to pay. In this way we can all celebrate our first or second vaccination with a very practical contribution to the efforts to defeat the pandemic: "Get One = Give One". Please donate here <https://covaxamc.ctdonate.org/index:payment.html>

Please see our new All Saints Magazine called '**Keeping in Touch**'. You can view the latest edition [here](#) or by accessing our website. You will see it's less formal than '*In Touch*' and will be more frequent depending on contributions.

To send in an article of no more than 400-500 words please email allsaintsgosforth.wixsite.com/all-saintsgosforth/in-touch-magazine or pass to: Christine Willoughby, Dermot Killingley or Lesley Atkinson.

“Happy Birthday’ greetings ...

Isobel Tompkins April 1st
Jake Parker April 3rd

Imogen Davies April 2nd
Nancy McCabe April 9th

Prayer and Worship

The Programme for Holy Week and Easter 2021.

<i>Palm Sunday</i> Mar 28	8.00am - Holy Communion 9:30am – Parish Communion (Live streamed)	<i>Please pre-book your seats by going to our website Book Palm Sunday & Easter Day services all-saintsgosforth (wixsite.com)</i> No internet? Please leave a phone message at the parish office tel: 0191 2130450	Evening Service 6:30pm <i>Stations of the Cross in church</i> (Live streamed)
<i>Holy Week</i> Mon Mar 29	8:45am Morning Prayer		7:30 Recorded Compline & Address on the website - <i>a reflection by a member of the congregation</i>
Tues Mar 30	8:45am Morning Prayer		7:30 Recorded Compline & Address on the website - <i>a reflection by a member of the congregation</i>
Weds Mar 31	8:45am Morning Prayer		7:30 Recorded Compline & Address – <i>a reflection by a member of the congregation</i>
<i>Maundy Thurs</i> Apr 01	8:45am Morning Prayer		7:30 The Last Supper <i>Holy Communion in Church followed by a Vigil. (This Service will be Zoomed.)</i>
<i>Good Friday</i> Apr 02	10:00am Family Service (<i>outdoors</i>)	2:00pm The Last Hour ' <i>The cost of Love</i> ' – <i>reflections around</i> <i>The Cross.</i> (Live streamed)	
<i>Holy Saturday</i> Apr 03			8:00pm The Easter Vigil (<i>In the Centre, outside and in church.</i>)
<i>Easter Day</i> Apr 04	08:00am Holy Communion 09:30 Parish Communion (Live streamed)	<i>Please pre-book your seats on our website Book Palm Sunday & Easter Day services all-saints-gosforth (wixsite.com)</i> No internet? Please leave a phone message on tel: 0191 213 0450	6:30 Evening Prayer with hymns

Young Saints - update

Although children have returned to school, we are not permitted to arrange separate out-of-school worship activities for children on Sundays 21st and 28th March.

From 29th March, we can arrange outdoor activities for children (weather permitting).

A Good Friday Children's Service will be held on the Green, Friday 2nd April at 10:00am.

This will be a service outside on the church green with prayer stations and reflections.

From 12th April, subject to confirmation, we will be able to arrange activities as normal for all children.

Children are always welcome to stay with their adults in church for all services.

ALL SAINTS: AMNESTY LETTER MARCH 2021

This month's letter can be sent as an email to Guatemala or by post with a £1.70 stamp. Alternatively (or in addition), you can email their Minister counsellor/Charge d'affaires in London or send a letter there by First or Second Class mail, using the addresses shown after the specimen letter below.

Bernardo Caal Xol has been unfairly imprisoned in Guatemala for over two years for defending the rights of indigenous Mayan Qeqchi communities who have been affected by the hydro-electric project on the Cahabon River. A teacher and trade unionist, he was one of the leaders appointed by the 56 communities in Santa Maria Cahabon to take legal action against the project. He was detained on 30 January 2018 and accused of instigating acts of violence in the affected area, although there is no evidence to support these accusations, and was sentenced to 7 years and 4 months in prison.

Specimen Letter

Attorney General/Fiscal General Consuelo Porras
15 Avenida A 15-16
Cuidad de Guatemala
Guatemala
Email: carrecis@mp.gob.gt

Dear Attorney General

Bernardo Caal Xol

I am writing to protest at the detention of Bernardo Caal Xol, a teacher and member of the Mayan Qeqchi community who organised peaceful opposition against the construction of two hydro-electric projects which would endanger the Cahabon River. He denounced irregularities in the project including lack of prior and informed consultation with the indigenous people living in the area. Bernardo was detained on 30 January 2018 and accused of alleged acts of violence. Although there is no evidence to support the accusations, he was sentenced to seven years and four months in prison. In September 2020, his sentence was declared incommutable, ruling out any chance of early release.

As there is no evidence against Bernardo Caal Xol, I am asking you to ensure that all charges against him are dropped and he be released immediately. Also, please will you order a full, prompt and impartial investigation into the case against Bernardo to ensure that those responsible for the unfounded allegations are held accountable?

Yours sincerely

Details of the Minister counsellor/Charge d'affaires in London:

Minister counsellor/Charge d'affaires Ms Olga Maria Perez Tuna
1st Floor and Suite 1, 2nd floor
105a Westbourne Grove
London W2 4UW email: info@embaguate.com

EASTER COMPETITION



All Age Competition!

Decorate your own egg with whatever materials you like – paints, pens, paper, card, foil, pom poms – be as creative as you like!

Take a photo of your creation and email it to:

MU.Easter.Egg@gmail.com

Please include your name, age and contact details.

Closing Date: 6th April 2021

Prizes for the best entries!

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families
Diocese of Newcastle

Daily Hope offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a free-to-use telephone line. The line is available 24 hours a day on 0800 804 8044. Please let people know who might benefit – especially those who are not online.

Donations

Donating to All Saints

We are keeping a very close eye on the cost of running All Saints and have cut back on much spending, to minimise the impact on the budget set for the year. A very big thank you to all Planned Givers, who donate on a regular basis online. If you would like to join the scheme, please go to <https://allsaintsgosforth.wixsite.com/all-saints-gosforth/stewardship>.

Mission of the Month.

Each month any plate donations from our services are given to a nominated charity. All Saints underwrites the donations so that each nominated charity receives 5% of our unrestricted income. During the coronavirus pandemic in 2020 donations for the Mission of the Month have reduced so dramatically that there has been significant additional expenditure in order to fulfil our underwriting obligation.

In order to manage the situation better, those not currently attending church services can make donations in the form of cash, personal cheques and CAF cheques for Mission of the Month by posting or delivering by hand to the parish office mailbox for the attention of the treasurer. Also donations may be made by online transfer into the All Saints' bank account with the name of the appropriate charity as a reference. It should be noted that any donations sent directly to the charities cannot be taken into account when considering All Saints' underwriting guarantee.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mission of the Month.

Our mission for the month of **March** is **Friends of Murambinda Hospital, Zimbabwe** a project supporting a hospital treating many who live in poverty. This is our 15th year of support.

Please visit [Friends of Murambinda Hospital UK Charity 1073978 – FMH, Friends of Murambinda Hospital, Murambinda, Buhera L, CMMissionHospital, Zimbabwe, Elective CARC](#)

Our Mission of the Month for **April** will be the **Church Mission Society**. We have just heard that our CMS mission partners Katherine and Tony Paton will be ending service in south East Asia with CMS later this year. CMS have written to us encourage us to continue our partnership with the missionary society and to say they will be writing a little later in the year to recommend other mission partners who are looking for churches like ours. .

Please visit [Home \(christianmissionsociety.com\)](#)

Support

If you are finding these times difficult and need support, and would like someone perhaps to have a stroll with you around the Gosforth Central Park, do not hesitate to contact Andrew Shipton on 0191 2845540 andrew.shipton@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk or Beverley Davies 07989 145610 bev.davies@allsaintsgosforth.org.uk

The clergy would be pleased to be contacted for support or for just a chat about experiences.
(Please see below for all contact details.)

Contact Us

Vicar	Andrew Shipton	284 5540	andrew.shipton@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk
Assistant Curate	Beverley Davies	07989 145610	bev.davies@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk
Assistant Priest	Ruth Birnie	284 1393	ruth.birnie@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk
Hon Assistant Priest	Rebecca Watts	285 9840	rebecca.watts@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk
Youth & Children's Worker	Jamie Donaldson		Jamie.donaldson@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk
Churchwarden	Paul Wilkinson	236 8070	paul.wilkinson@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk
Churchwarden	Christine Willoughby	0773 3963660	christine.willoughby@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk
Treasurer	Fred Carr	01661 825863	fred.carr@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk
Safeguarding Officer	Kath Davies	7880 618911	kath.davies@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk
Administrator	Louise Waugh	0191 213 0450	post@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk

The Parish Office is closed until 8th April.

Thank you, for looking at our news today.