



All Saints' Church

Sunday 5th April 2020

Palm Sunday

www.allsaints-gosforth.org.uk

Find us on Facebook <https://facebook.com/allsaintsgosforth>

Follow us on Twitter: @AllSaintsGos

The Parish Office closed.

Dear Friends,

We have already in a matter of days become 'a different sort of church'. The very place in which the body of Christ finds its identity, offers prayer, and receives comfort in time of crisis—that is, our church building—is not available to us, and, as in the early days of our faith, public gatherings of Christians outside the home are forbidden.

This Holy Week and Easter we can reflect that, even in the hardest of times, even in the prolonged 'Holy Saturday' of emptiness in which we find ourselves, there is always hope. God, whose nature is mercy, sent his Son, who experienced the fullness of our own human suffering and makes all things new. We are still called to serve those inside and outside the church, and to have care for the most vulnerable. He are to express God's will which is to always bring hope.

In these dark times, when it is not possible to recall the death and resurrection of Christ in our church building, we have the opportunity, through marking Holy Week at home, of discovering how the tough things we are now experiencing may contribute to our own ongoing journey as God's people. We hope that that the videos and material on the All Saints' website and on Facebook will nourish and sustain you through Holy week and lead you to experience the genuine, unreserved joy of Easter.

Every good wish,

Andrew

(Adapted from a Church of England publication)

Prayers on rising:

We give you hearty thanks for the rest of the past night and for the gift of a new day, with its opportunities for pleasing you. Grant that we may so pass its hours in the perfect freedom of your service, that at eventide we may again give thanks unto you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

-Eastern Orthodox Prayer

Prayers before bed:

Visit this place, O Lord, we pray, and drive far from it all the snares of the enemy; may your holy angels dwell with us and guard us in peace, and may your blessing be always upon us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

-Common Worship

Please log on to the All Saints' Website on Sunday morning for our recorded Palm Sunday Eucharist and hymns <http://allsaintsgosforth.wixsite.com/>

Bible Readings for Sunday 5th April 2020 – Palm Sunday

New Testament: Philippians 2:5-11

Gospel: Matthew 21.1-11

Today on Palm Sunday we think of Jesus making a direct challenge to the authorities as he rode into Jerusalem and the crowds tearing down branches to spread in his path.

Yet, within a week, those shouting hosanna would be crying for his death. Crowds are more often than not fickle. I remember watching Newcastle United play Crystal Palace at St James' Park last April and witnessing how frustration quickly spread when Newcastle went behind. The admiring crowds in Jerusalem turned ugly, their joy turned to hate as he fails live up to their expectations. So, in the story of Holy week, we see Jesus go from 'hero to zero'.

So today, in our homes, we begin the solemn celebration in union with the Church of Holy Week. Christ enters his own city to complete his work as our Saviour, to suffer, to die, and to rise again. Let us go with him in faith and love, so that, united with him in his sufferings, we may share his risen life. Andrew

We pray for:

Those suffering with the virus.

Those who are caring for them, many taking risks to their own well being

Ourselves in our isolation

Our neighbours in their loneliness.

Please visit the All Saints' website this week to hear recordings of meditations on characters of the Passion given by Ruth, Beverley and Andrew.

Join us in Evening Prayer during the week

You can follow the order of service using the following link:

<https://www.facebook.com/allsaintsgosforth/videos/2562216144033213/>



Easter Donations If you would like to give an extra donation for the work of All Saint' at this time please email Louise for our bank details post@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk



You can worship with All Saints' on Sunday at 9.30am and 6.30pm by livecast. To access the livecast, you need the Castbox app on a phone. (Attempts to do it by PC have foundered so far.) The Castbox app needs to be in "discover" mode (at the foot of the opening screen), select "livecast" (about a third of the way down the screen), then type 17903461 into the search (magnifying glass at the top). Then "Peter Mitchell" should come up. Click on that followed by "live" (top left of the screen) and you are on the way to connection.

Mission of the Month Each month any plate donations from our services are given to a nominated charity but with services suspended this is not possible. Instead we ask members of the congregation to consider putting away money and later giving to: this month: The Church Mission Society (CMS), supporting Tony and Katherine Paton in South East Asia, and in May to uS, a charity which aims to provide support and opportunities for young people with, or at risk of developing mental illness.

A helpful resource for this time: Please see an self-isolation prayer booklet **Together network** - a resource which can be downloaded and printed out (and given to someone without internet access).

<https://togethernetwork.org.uk/uploads/shared/Prayer-booklet.pdf>

Resources are appearing every day. We will try to keep you up to date. **Andrew**

Radio programmes

Prayer for the Day daily at 5.43am on Radio 4

Sunday Worship Sundays at 8.10am on Radio 4

Daily Service Monday to Friday at 9.45am on Radio 4

Lent Talks Wednesdays at 8.45pm on Radio 4

Those who knew Arthur Bramwell will be sorry to hear that he died on Sunday March 22nd. Arthur was a dedicated and conscientious churchwarden at All Saints' from 2007 and his connection with the church went back to his time as a choirboy. Arthur and Janet moved to Gloucester in 2010 where Arthur became deeply involved with the cathedral as a steward and part of the stewardship committee. If anyone would like to express their sympathy to Janet she would be grateful to hear from you: Janet Bramwell, 2 Quail Close, Bar wood, Gloucester, GL4 3EY.

Sadly, Canon Tony Meakin, who was curate at All Saints' from 1954 to 1960, died on Wednesday night. Our thoughts and prayers are with Ann and the family.

We also heard this week of the death of Ann Thom on the 27th March and pray for her family in their grief.

May they rest in peace and rise in glory

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All Saints' Mission Statement

Working together as a church we are pursuing a vision to put All Saints' at the heart of the wider community. Our vision is to be a vibrant, inclusive, compassionate and outward looking church with a sensitive and thoughtful approach to faith, where there is excellent pastoral care and encouragement for all and where diversity is welcomed and our worship inspires us to transform the world.