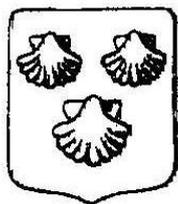


12/20



This week at the Church of
St James the Greater
Leicester

www.stjamesthegreater.org.uk
office@stjamesthegreater.org.uk



5 APRIL 2020 – PALM SUNDAY

Prayer for the Week

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.

Our Prayers are asked for:

All prevented from worshipping with us, remembering this week

John Goadby : David Muddimer : Conceição Fernandes

Those working in our healthcare system, those working to secure our food chain from farmers to supermarket delivery drivers, those working in essential infrastructure and the teachers looking after keyworkers children. Those whose incomes have been lost and those working in the civil service who are ensuring that the unemployed get the benefits they need. Our scientists and others who are working around the clock to produce a vaccine to protect the most vulnerable. Our politicians that they will be able lead us through these unprecedented times.

Unwell

Renie Lewis : Ann Blanchard : Anthony & Barbara Green : Owen Shepherd

Hilary Simpson : Josephine Chizema (Tony's mother)

and those with Coronavirus symptoms from our community and beyond.

Rest in Peace

Peter Browne (65) Penny Judge's brother : Colin Webster (84)

ALL CHURCHES ARE CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE We will reopen as soon as permitted by the Government – details will be posted on our website, Facebook page and on the porch noticeboard once this occurs.

Reading for the week : Matthew 26.14-27.66

Judas Agrees to Betray Jesus

¹⁴ Then one of the twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests ¹⁵ and said, “What will you give me if I betray him to you?” They paid him thirty pieces of silver. ¹⁶ And from that moment he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

The Passover with the Disciples

¹⁷ On the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?” ¹⁸ He said, “Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, ‘The Teacher says, My time is near; I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.’” ¹⁹ So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover meal. ²⁰ When it was evening, he took his place with the twelve;^[a] ²¹ and while they were eating, he said, “Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me.” ²² And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another, “Surely not I, Lord?” ²³ He answered, “The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. ²⁴ The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born.” ²⁵ Judas, who betrayed him, said, “Surely not I, Rabbi?” He replied, “You have said so.”

The Institution of the Lord’s Supper

²⁶ While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, “Take, eat; this is my body.” ²⁷ Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; ²⁸ for this is my blood of the^[b] covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. ²⁹ I tell you, I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.”

³⁰ When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

Peter’s Denial Foretold

³¹ Then Jesus said to them, “You will all become deserters because of me this night; for it is written,

‘I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.’

³² But after I am raised up, I will go ahead of you to Galilee.” ³³ Peter said to him, “Though all become deserters because of you, I will never desert you.” ³⁴ Jesus

said to him, “Truly I tell you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.” ³⁵ Peter said to him, “Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you.” And so said all the disciples.

Jesus Prays in Gethsemane

³⁶ Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, “Sit here while I go over there and pray.” ³⁷ He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated. ³⁸ Then he said to them, “I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me.” ³⁹ And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed, “My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want.” ⁴⁰ Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, “So, could you not stay awake with me one hour? ⁴¹ Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial;^[c] the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.” ⁴² Again he went away for the second time and prayed, “My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.” ⁴³ Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. ⁴⁴ So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words. ⁴⁵ Then he came to the disciples and said to them, “Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. ⁴⁶ Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.”

The Betrayal and Arrest of Jesus

⁴⁷ While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; with him was a large crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. ⁴⁸ Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, “The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him.” ⁴⁹ At once he came up to Jesus and said, “Greetings, Rabbi!” and kissed him. ⁵⁰ Jesus said to him, “Friend, do what you are here to do.” Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and arrested him. ⁵¹ Suddenly, one of those with Jesus put his hand on his sword, drew it, and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. ⁵² Then Jesus said to him, “Put your sword back into its place; for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. ⁵³ Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? ⁵⁴ But how then would the scriptures be fulfilled, which say it must happen in this way?” ⁵⁵ At that hour Jesus said to the crowds, “Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. ⁵⁶ But all this has taken place, so that the scriptures of the prophets may be fulfilled.” Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

Jesus before the High Priest

⁵⁷ Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas the high priest, in whose house the scribes and the elders had gathered. ⁵⁸ But Peter was following him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest; and going inside, he sat with the guards in order to see how this would end. ⁵⁹ Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for false testimony against Jesus so that they might put him to death, ⁶⁰ but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward ⁶¹ and said, “This fellow said, ‘I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days.’” ⁶² The high priest stood up and said, “Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?” ⁶³ But Jesus was silent. Then the high priest said to him, “I put you under oath before the living God, tell us if you are the Messiah,^[d] the Son of God.” ⁶⁴ Jesus said to him, “You have said so. But I tell you, From now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.”

⁶⁵ Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, “He has blasphemed! Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy. ⁶⁶ What is your verdict?” They answered, “He deserves death.” ⁶⁷ Then they spat in his face and struck him; and some slapped him, ⁶⁸ saying, “Prophecy to us, you Messiah!^[e] Who is it that struck you?”

Peter’s Denial of Jesus

⁶⁹ Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. A servant-girl came to him and said, “You also were with Jesus the Galilean.” ⁷⁰ But he denied it before all of them, saying, “I do not know what you are talking about.” ⁷¹ When he went out to the porch, another servant-girl saw him, and she said to the bystanders, “This man was with Jesus of Nazareth.”^[f] ⁷² Again he denied it with an oath, “I do not know the man.” ⁷³ After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, “Certainly you are also one of them, for your accent betrays you.” ⁷⁴ Then he began to curse, and he swore an oath, “I do not know the man!” At that moment the cock crowed. ⁷⁵ Then Peter remembered what Jesus had said: “Before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.” And he went out and wept bitterly.

Jesus Brought before Pilate

27 When morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people conferred together against Jesus in order to bring about his death. ² They bound him, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate the governor.

The Suicide of Judas

³ When Judas, his betrayer, saw that Jesus^[g] was condemned, he repented^[h] and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders. ⁴ He

said, “I have sinned by betraying innocent^[h] blood.” But they said, “What is that to us? See to it yourself.”⁵ Throwing down the pieces of silver in the temple, he departed; and he went and hanged himself.⁶ But the chief priests, taking the pieces of silver, said, “It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, since they are blood money.”⁷ After conferring together, they used them to buy the potter’s field as a place to bury foreigners.⁸ For this reason that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day.⁹ Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah,^[i] “And they took^[j] the thirty pieces of silver, the price of the one on whom a price had been set,^[k] on whom some of the people of Israel had set a price,¹⁰ and they gave^[l] them for the potter’s field, as the Lord commanded me.”

Pilate Questions Jesus

¹¹ Now Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus said, “You say so.”¹² But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer.¹³ Then Pilate said to him, “Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?”¹⁴ But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed.

Barabbas or Jesus?

¹⁵ Now at the festival the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted.¹⁶ At that time they had a notorious prisoner, called Jesus^[m] Barabbas.¹⁷ So after they had gathered, Pilate said to them, “Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus^[n] Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?”^[o]¹⁸ For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over.¹⁹ While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, “Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him.”²⁰ Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed.²¹ The governor again said to them, “Which of the two do you want me to release for you?” And they said, “Barabbas.”²² Pilate said to them, “Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?”^[p] All of them said, “Let him be crucified!”²³ Then he asked, “Why, what evil has he done?” But they shouted all the more, “Let him be crucified!”

Pilate Hands Jesus over to Be Crucified

²⁴ So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, “I am innocent of this man’s blood;^[q] see to it yourselves.”²⁵ Then the people as a whole answered, “His blood be on us and on our children!”²⁶ So he released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

The Soldiers Mock Jesus

²⁷ Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters,^[t] and they gathered the whole cohort around him. ²⁸ They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, ²⁹ and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on his head. They put a reed in his right hand and knelt before him and mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" ³⁰ They spat on him, and took the reed and struck him on the head. ³¹ After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

The Crucifixion of Jesus

³² As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they compelled this man to carry his cross. ³³ And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), ³⁴ they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. ³⁵ And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots;^[s] ³⁶ then they sat down there and kept watch over him. ³⁷ Over his head they put the charge against him, which read, "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews."

³⁸ Then two bandits were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁹ Those who passed by derided^[t] him, shaking their heads ⁴⁰ and saying, "You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross." ⁴¹ In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying, ⁴² "He saved others; he cannot save himself.^[u] He is the King of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. ⁴³ He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he wants to; for he said, 'I am God's Son.'" ⁴⁴ The bandits who were crucified with him also taunted him in the same way.

The Death of Jesus

⁴⁵ From noon on, darkness came over the whole land^[v] until three in the afternoon. ⁴⁶ And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" ⁴⁷ When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "This man is calling for Elijah." ⁴⁸ At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. ⁴⁹ But the others said, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him."^[w] ⁵⁰ Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last.^[x] ⁵¹ At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split. ⁵² The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. ⁵³ After his resurrection they came out of the tombs and entered the holy city and appeared to many. ⁵⁴ Now when the centurion and those with him, who were

keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said, “Truly this man was God’s Son!”^[v]

⁵⁵ Many women were also there, looking on from a distance; they had followed Jesus from Galilee and had provided for him. ⁵⁶ Among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

The Burial of Jesus

⁵⁷ When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who was also a disciple of Jesus. ⁵⁸ He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus; then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. ⁵⁹ So Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth ⁶⁰ and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock. He then rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb and went away. ⁶¹ Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb.

The Guard at the Tomb

⁶² The next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate ⁶³ and said, “Sir, we remember what that impostor said while he was still alive, ‘After three days I will rise again.’ ⁶⁴ Therefore command the tomb to be made secure until the third day; otherwise his disciples may go and steal him away, and tell the people, ‘He has been raised from the dead,’ and the last deception would be worse than the first.” ⁶⁵ Pilate said to them, “You have a guard^[z] of soldiers; go, make it as secure as you can.”^[aa] ⁶⁶ So they went with the guard and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone.

The Vicar Writes ...

On a normal Palm Sunday many of us would gather in the hall and follow the choir to process around the block to enter the church, recalling Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem. It feels a very long way from that now - not even I am allowed to enter the church, triumphantly or otherwise! But this is also the start of Holy Week, and our Gospel reading takes us through trial, torture and execution to Christ laid low in the tomb. Those many people around the world who are in fear or confusion, mourning or close to death themselves may find this Holy Week cuts close to the bone despite (or even because) we cannot gather together to celebrate it.

If you're reading this you have of course found the church website - we will continue to keep this updated, along with our Facebook page - and highlight again the many excellent links to prayer and worship resources. The wealth of these available now also means that paradoxically (at least for those with the technology to access them) this is a particularly meaningful Passiontide and Easter. I intend to make a reflection available each day through Holy Week, available through the website and facebook. We will also, like many churches, be experimenting with the Zoom application to try and gather virtually. Do get in touch by email or 'phone if you'd like a chat, and please keep praying for each other, and the world.

Contacting the Team

You may not be physically seeing us but we are still working!

Andrew can be contact by email revdaquigley@gmail.com or on 0116 254 4113

The Church Office can be contacted by email office@stjamesthegreater.org.uk or 07749 227109 (weekdays only please unless an emergency)

Further email details are on our website www.stjamesthegreater.org.uk

Our Facebook page is being updated most days

<http://www.facebook.com/st-james-the-greater-100660021339625>

Resources for Home Worship

Broadcast Media

Daily Service	Mon-Fri at 9.45am	Radio 4 LW
Choral Evensong	Wed at 3.30pm & Sun at 3pm	Radio 3
Sunday Worship	Sun at 8.10am	Radio 4
Morning Worship	Sun – check schedule for time	BBC I
Songs of Praise	Sun – check schedule for time	BBC I

Online

www.churchofengland.org

www.leicestercathedral.org

www.kings.cam.ac.uk/choir/listen/webcasts

Many churches and cathedrals have put services online – let us know your favourites so we can share next week. Thank you to Vicky for her suggestion of Kings College.

Missing out on singing hymns during the lockdown? Join Derby Cathedral's Director of Music live from home on the Derby Cathedral page on Maundy Thursday to sing some of our all time favourite passiontide hymns.

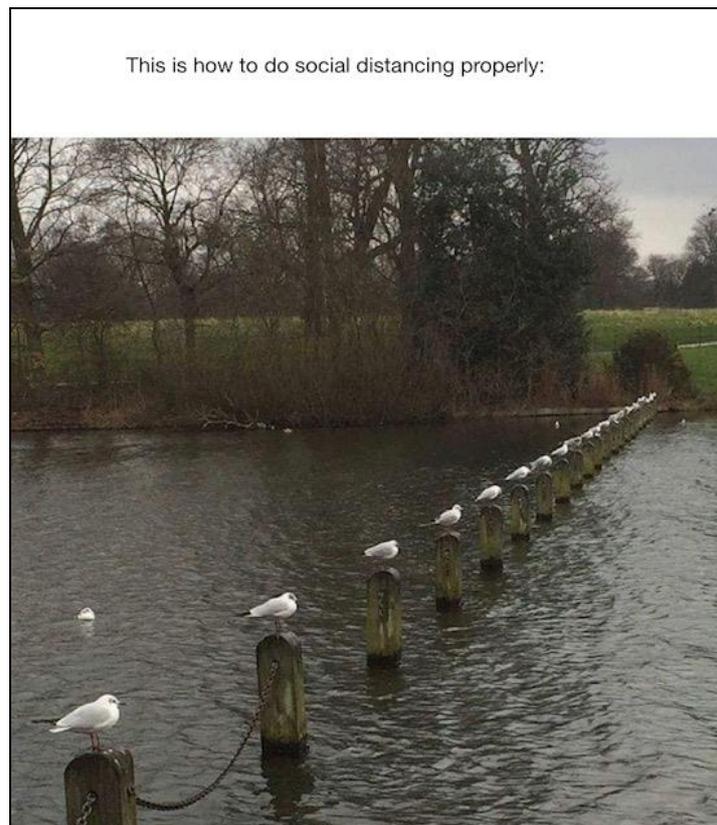
Service for Palm Sunday Recorded at St James last year, this Sunday please look on our website for a service for Palm Sunday evensong.

KEEPING IN TOUCH This bulletin will be emailed every week if possible - if you do not have access to the internet please ask a relative or friend to contact the Church Office to be included. ***We are unable to print until Government restrictions are eased, if you are able to share news with those who do not have internet, they will be most grateful.***

HELP FOR PEOPLE SELF-ISOLATING We have volunteers who have offered to help members with shopping or other essentials who have nobody else to help them and are not able to get online shopping. ***Please contact the Church Office for further details of this and other neighbourhood schemes being established.***

ARTICLES If you would like to share what you are doing during your isolation, perhaps a recipe to use those tins we have all stockpiled or a poem/joke to brighten our day, please email to office@stjamesthegreater.org.uk by Wednesday midday for inclusion.

GIVING TO ST JAMES We know that many of you will see your income reduced and other hardships so we are most grateful to all those who have already pledged to continue their giving through this difficult time. ***If you normally give through gift aid envelopes, stewardship envelopes or cash on the plate, please contact the Church Office if you are able to switch to a standing order, we also can accept cheques through the post.***



Thanks to Keith Vaughan for this

FROM DAVID AND SHEILA ROBERTS In the Weekly for 29th March (issue #12/20) there was a suggestion that we should plant a tree in reponse to being entrusted with our part of God's Creation. In addition to planting 4 trees in our own garden while we have been there, we have also marked the coming of our grandchildren by taking part in Tree Planting via the Woodland Trust at the Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Wood, between Normanton and Heather, near Coalville.



In November 2012 we helped plant a number of trees after the birth of our granddaughter. We went back last summer to find a dense mass of young trees and saplings.

And a few weeks ago all the family shared in planting about 20 assorted trees to belatedly mark the birth of our grandson, now aged 5. That shared activity has turned out to be the last family outing we had together before recent events conspired to keep us apart for the foreseeable future.

LENTEN HOUSEGROUP at Cherry's. As we approach Holy Week our housegroup deliberations on God's created world and our attitudes to it come to an end. We have decided that when the current restrictions are over, we will reconvene as a group and look at where we might journey together next. We are sure there will be many challenging questions ahead which it will be good to deliberate on together as we seek God's purpose for us, both as individuals and together at St James. Eco hint: were you aware that leaving the tap running whilst cleaning your teeth wastes approx. 6 litres of water each time?

A prayer:

○ God, your fertile earth is slowly being stripped of its riches: open our eyes to see.

○ God, your living waters are slowly being choked with chemicals: open our eyes to see.

○ God, your clean air is slowly being filled with pollutants: open our eyes to see.

○ God, your creatures are slowly dying and your people are suffering: open our eyes to see.

God, our Maker, so move us by the wonder of creation: that we repent and care more deeply.

So move us to grieve the loss of life: that we learn to cherish and protect your world. Amen.

A verse of a hymn: (A&M 647 v3)

“Ye fearful saints, fresh courage take,
the clouds ye so much dread
are big with mercy, and will break
in blessings on your head”. (William Cowper)

If anyone else would like to share a prayer or few words, please send to the office email address by Wednesday ...

Weekly Quiz

The Jackson family have sent another quiz. Enjoy!

- 1 Which artist's name is used to describe a hair colour?
- 2 Which ruler built the Tower of London?
- 3 The bakery of Thomas Farriner was alleged to be the starting point of what?
- 4 What seven colours make up a rainbow?
- 5 On the 10th day of Christmas my true love sent me what?
- 6 What is the chemical symbol for mercury?
- 7 Which is further north, Carlisle or Durham?
- 8 Further east, Carmarthen or Swansea?
- 9 Who wrote “Gangsta Granny”?
- 10 Which animal is known as the Ship of the desert?
- 11 Collective nouns for :
 - a) Hyenas?
 - b) Snails?
 - c) Tigers?