A walk through Holy Week together...



Palm Sunday: "Hosanna!"

Bible Reading: Mark 11:1-11

Today the crowds shouted "Hosanna!" praising God for the arrival of their Messiah, the one who they hoped would save them from the Romans. And Save them He did, just not in the way they expected.

What will you Need? A blessed Palm Cross

Activity: Create a blessings jar.

Write on scraps of paper things you want to thank God for.

Monday of Holy Week: Jesus Clears the Temple

Bible Reading: Matthew 21:12-14

Jesus condemns those who are using the Temple for business and not as a house of prayer. How often are we guilty of putting our needs and desires above God?

What will you need? A Bin bag

Activity:

Sit quietly and ask God to show us the things we do which get in the way of our relationship with him. Write down everything which is revealed and put it in your bin bag. Ask God to forgive us and help us to avoid falling back into these patterns of behaviour

Tuesday of Holy Week: Jesus teaches in the temple

Bible Reading: Matthew 21:23-23:39

It is in within this passage that Matthew places the two great commandments to love God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind and to love your neighbour as yourself.

What will you need? A cut out paper heart

Activity: Write the names of people who you want to pray for on your heart, and stick it somewhere as a reminder to pray for them

Wednesday of Holy Week: Mary anoints Jesus

Bible reading: John 12:1-11

Mary got her priorities right. Do we?

What will you need? A candle (it might be nice if its scented)

Activity: Light the scented candle.

Read through the passage slowly as it burns. You may find a word, a phrase or a sentence jumps out at you. Repeat it to yourself and see what it triggers in your heart and mind. Spend some time asking God what the God might be saying to you'

Maundy Thursday: Jesus washes the feet of his disciples / The Last Supper.

Bible Readings: John 13:1-17,21-32, Matthew 26:26-30

Jesus, approaching his trial and crucifixion, still teaches his disciples what it means to serve. Normally we would have the chance to share in the meal of the Eucharist and have our hands or feet washed. Today we mark this is our own homes, knowing Jesus comes to us where we are.

Activity: Prepare some special food for yourself or others in your household. As you prepare, imagine you are cooking with Jesus and he is preparing a dinner for you. What does He say to you?

You may wish to join our Zoom service to share our Agape Meal at 8pm on Zoom tonight. Bring your special food along.

Good Friday: The Trial and Crucifixion

Bible Reading: John 18:1-19:37

Today we read of Jesus' trial and crucifixion, the suffering of the garden and walk the way of the Cross. You may wish to access the Stations of the Cross on the church Facebook Page today. In church we would have the veneration of the cross. Today you are invited to create your own special place in your home to pray.

What will you need? Your Palm Cross and other special items in your home that bring you closer to God

Activity: Create a place where you can pray to God.

Gather pictures, icons, a candle, flowers or natural objects like shells. Draw close to God and be still. Don't rush. Give God all your sufferings and those of the world, know that God takes these to the Cross and is with you in all your grief. Sit and listen for what God says to you today.

Jesus, who bore such pain upon the cross, and suffered the nails in Your feet and in your hands, turn to me and I will turn to You, and may I never turn from you again. Amen (from Saltair)

You may wish to join our 'Meditations at the Cross' at noon on Zoom today

Easter Eve: Jesus is buried in the tomb

Bible Reading: John 19:38-42, Matthew 28:1

"After the Sabbath, as the first light of the new week dawned, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to keep vigil at the tomb." The women come to wait at the tomb, to mourn and to comfort one another.

Who do you need to stand with today? Who do you need to comfort? Who are those people, like the Mary's who sit and wait with you and show you love in the shadow of death?

What will you need? Just some quiet time

Activity: Spend time in prayer, thanking God for those who care and support you, and praying for them.

Pick up the phone and give a call to those who might feel alone today and remind them they are loved and cared for.

Easter Sunday:

Bible Reading: Matthew 28:1-10

Alleluia! He is risen. He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Come to church to celebrate at 10.30am today or join us via our live stream. In whatever way you can, give thanks for Faster!

Blessed be you risen with the sun, for arriving soft-foot in the garden unawares, and surprising us with the friendly news that Hope has sprung, the dead season's gone

When you no longer now how to be, may the Father take you on your deeper journey. When you no longer know what to do, may the Spirit reveal to you your fitting task. When all feels lost or foreign, may you know your home in Christ. On the path that is before you, may you have compassion for the journey, may you find Christ in the stranger, and may you know the love and blessing of God.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Blessing is taken from Northumbria Community's Celtic Daily Prayer published by Collins.'



The United Benefice of Holy Trinity with St Philips Dalston and All Saints Haggerston

Vicar: Rev Laura Luz

Telephone: (020) 7254 5062

Website: www.trinitys a intsunited.co.uk



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