

ARCH Group's aim: *"To show our love for God and You"*

Weekly Notices

24th March 2024

Palm Sunday



Next Week's Services

Thursday 28th March 2024: Maundy Thursday

11.00 am	Harvington	Holy Communion*
7.30 pm	Church Lench	Holy Communion+

Friday 29th March 2024: Good Friday

11.00 am	Harvington	Good Friday Meditation
6.30 pm	Church Lench	Good Friday Meditation

Sunday 31st March 2024: Easter Sunday

9.30 am	Harvington	Family Communion+
11.00 am	Abbots Morton	Holy Communion+
11.00 am	Church Lench	Family Communion+
11.00 am	Rous Lench	Holy Communion+

A Morning Easter Holiday Club

On **Saturday 30th March** an Easter Holiday Club will take place at St James', Harvington between **10.00 am and 12 noon**. There will be a range of Easter-related activities: building an Easter Garden that you can take away, games, story and a special hunt to help us prepare for the **BIG DAY – EASTER!!**

A small charge of £5 will be made to cover materials

Book your place through holidayclub@archbenefice.org.uk or phone **870527**. *Space is limited so PLEASE book early*

Today's Collect

True and humble king, hailed by the crowd as Messiah: grant us the faith to know you and love you, that we may be found beside you on the way of the cross, which is the path of glory.

Today's 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.

For Prayer

King of kings, we gather, we clamour, to worship you. You are not clad in gold and jewel-encrusted crown, you are not carrying orb and sceptre, but you are the King of kings, serving, loving, caring for us.

We welcome Jesus, we welcome the king.

We welcome a time of hope and peace.

As we look forward to God's kingdom, we hope for a time when peace will be the foundation and aim of all nations. We look to the leaders of nations, factions, armies and dictatorships where peace is not present, and we call them to respond to the suffering and heartache around them by negotiating and bringing peace. Among other places, we remember Gaza, Israel, Ukraine, North Korea, Haiti and Sudan.

God of all, you made everything and everyone. We pray that people will respond to your desire for all to live lives of peace and that hope would defeat harm. We pray for all those whose families, lives and futures have been destroyed by war and conflict.

We welcome Jesus, we welcome the king.

continued overleaf

For Prayer (continued)

We welcome a time of life and growth.

As we look forward to God's kingdom, we hope for a time when all be full of the enjoyment of life and will grow in faith in you. We look to those who lead us in church, in our country and our neighbourhoods, that they would work to keep people safe and happy and that they would have the wisdom to spend limited money wisely.

God of all, you give us all we need. We pray for our government and parliament as they use scarce resources, plan budgets and work out how to spend money for the benefit of the nation. We pray for local elections in a few weeks and the campaigning that has just started. We remember our church leaders here and in this area and ask that they would work together across denominations to bring the life and growth that can be found in Jesus to our friends and neighbours.

We welcome Jesus, we welcome the king.

We welcome our life and call.

As we look forward to God's kingdom, and remembering that amazing journey into Jerusalem, we look to ourselves. May each one of us, young and old, know the love of God through the gift of Jesus, the power of God through Jesus' death and the joy of God through his resurrected life. God of each one of us, you know all we are and all we need. We pray for ourselves. May we hear your call on our lives and do all we can to share your love and your kingdom with others.

We welcome Jesus, we welcome the king.

Holy Spirit, we pray that you would open the hearts and minds of all those who do not yet know you, that they would recognise Jesus, the promised king.

Heavenly King, as we go out into the week ahead, help us to live as your children, and celebrate you every day of our lives.

We welcome Jesus, we welcome the king.

Liturgy of the Palms

This Week's Psalm: *Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29*

- 1 O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his mercy endures for ever.
- 2 Let Israel now proclaim, 'His mercy endures for ever.'
- 19 Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter and give thanks to the Lord.
- 20 This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it.
- 21 I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me and have become my salvation.
- 22 The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.
- 23 This is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes.
- 24 This is the day that the Lord has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.
- 25 Come, O Lord, and save us we pray. Come, Lord, send us now prosperity.
- 26 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; we bless you from the house of the Lord.
- 27 The Lord is God; he has given us light; link the pilgrims with cords
right to the horns of the altar.
- 28 You are my God and I will thank you; you are my God and I will exalt you.
- 29 O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his mercy endures for ever.

This Week's Gospel Reading: *Mark 11:1-11*

Jesus and his disciples were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives. They were almost near enough to hear the noise of the pilgrim crowds in the city. Jesus sent two of his disciples on ahead, and they went, his surprising words echoing in their minds. He had said, *'Go into the next village, and as soon as you enter it, you will find tied-up a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it to me. If anyone asks you what you are doing, just say, "The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately."'* So they went off and found a colt in the street, tied up near a door. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, **'What are you doing, untying the colt?'** They told them what Jesus had said, and they allowed them to take it. Then the disciples brought the colt to Jesus, threw their cloaks on it and he sat on the animal. There was a crowd of people and many of them spread their cloaks out on the road in front of Jesus, while others laid down leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. And these pilgrims sang their ancient song: **'Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!'** And in these words, they heard the cries of the prophets of old. Then Jesus entered Jerusalem and went into the Temple. He looked around at everything and, as it was late, he went to spend the night at Bethany with his twelve disciples.

Roots version of Mark 11:1-11

Next Week's First Reading: *Isaiah 25:6-9*

⁶On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-matured wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-matured wines strained clear. ⁷And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; ⁸he will swallow up death for ever. Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. ⁹It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

Next Week's Psalm: *Psalms 118:14-24*

- 14 The Lord is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation.
- 15 Joyful shouts of salvation sound from the tents of the righteous:
- 16 'The right hand of the Lord does mighty deeds; the right hand of the Lord raises up; the right hand of the Lord does mighty deeds.'
- 17 I shall not die, but live and declare the works of the Lord.
- 18 The Lord has punished me sorely, but he has not given me over to death.
- 19 Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter and give thanks to the Lord.
- 20 This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it.
- 21 I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me and have become my salvation.
- 22 The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.
- 23 This is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes.
- 24 This is the day that the Lord has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

Next Week's Second Reading: Acts 10:34-43

³⁴Peter began to speak to those assembled in the house of Cornelius. 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ – he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

Next Week's Gospel Reading: Mark 16:1-8

¹When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. ²And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³They had been saying to one another, 'Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?' ⁴When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. ⁵As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. ⁶But he said to them, 'Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. ⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.' ⁸So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.