

Services in Holy week and Easter

Between Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday we will be looking at our Lord's final day through the services in St. Peter's, his arrest and trial, the horrific events of Good Friday, Jesus' crucifixion, and burial, but also the joyful events of Easter Sunday.

PALM SUNDAY – TRIUMPHAL ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM

Sunday 1st April 10.00 am

At St Peter's on Palm Sunday we will be witnessing to Jesus arriving in Jerusalem – walking (weather permitting) around St. Peter's garden and back in to church. We shall process behind a donkey (or donkey masked child) and offer palm crosses to those we pass. Being outside our buildings shows something of our faith. The continuing service moves the Jesus story on to the events of the Last Supper – (see Maundy Thursday service)



HOLY WEEK

Monday to Thursday 8.30 am – 4.00 pm

During the usual opening hours of St. Peter's there will be a display of different stations that speak of the events of Holy Week and Easter. The life and death of Jesus will be told with different sensory experiences. These will be used again for the liturgy on Good Friday.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

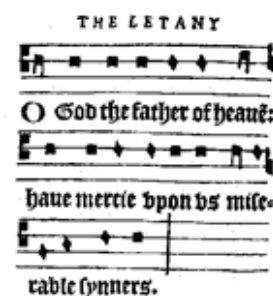
Monday 2nd April 7.30pm

Stations of the Cross is a way of continuing the walk with Jesus. Using images of the 'Via Dolorosa' – from his arrest and journey to the cross and beyond we are asked to meditate on Jesus' thoughts and feeling, his pain and experience – all undertaken for me and for you, for our salvation, our benefit. With a subtly lit church and background music this service is aimed at all our senses within Holy Week.



SUNG LITANY

Tuesday 3rd April 7.30pm



From the Book of Common Prayer, this short liturgy sums up the penitential nature of Lent. Within the scheme of our Holy Week preparation the litany marks in beautiful language our sinful nature and unworthiness of God's attention, never mind the gift and offering of Jesus on the cross. The whole extent of the litany is Cranmer's vision of prayer before the crucified Christ – an appeal for God's grace and love to continue and grow into all area of our lives.

COMPLINE.

Wednesday 4th April 7.30pm

This night prayer is a simple service or office that has re-entered usage in the Common Worship services. It has its roots in monasticism. Set in semi-darkness prayers for the night coming fits well into a scheme of Holy Week liturgy. If you like the quiet contemplation of this holy festival then compline may be the service for you.



FOOTWASHING, EUCHARIST, STRIPPING OF THE CHURCH AND VIGIL

Maundy Thursday 5th April 7.30pm



In this service we are alongside Jesus as he washes his disciple's feet and speaks to us of servanthood. We witness Jesus beginning the process of us receiving bread and wine as 'on THIS NIGHT He took bread... and said 'Do this in remembrance of me''. In the stripping of the church of its ornamentation, we recognise that Jesus stripped of his divinity moves towards his being fully human and then that being given away to the cross and death. Finally we wait for a time in vigil with Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane, for his betrayal and arrest. Come along with such knowledge and witness a lot of where our God has been before us.

WALK OF WITNESS

Good Friday 6th April 10.15am

Organised by Churches Together in Huddersfield Town Centre, Christians of all denominations will walk their streets and tell of the death of Jesus at various stations. The witness begins at 10.15am at St. Peter's and ends at around 11.30am



MEDITATION ON THE CRUCIFIXION

Good Friday 6th April 12.00 noon—2.00pm



Using the object that have been used throughout Holy Week by visitors to St. Peter's the crucifixion will be dwelt upon between 12noon and 2pm. In the quiet of either the churches there is opportunity to give a little time to think about Jesus' last hour alive. With a little guidance you will be led into thinking about the meaning of this

season. Can Easter be really thought about on this darkest hour of the darkest of days – surely it cannot be Good

LITURGY OF THE CROSS

Good Friday 6th April 2pm

Good Friday liturgy is stark. With the story of Jesus' arrest, trial, his condemnation, beating, journey to the cross and his hanging and dying by nail, suffocation and pure pain. We will hear this account of Jesus' last hours and perhaps realise that he talks to us individually of God's love for us. Of Jesus' endurance simply so that we may hear the message of that love that was willing to die for us. As part of the service echoes, 'My people what wrong have I done to you, what good have I not done for you...listen to me.' This service begin at 2pm – the traditional 'Last Hour'.



FORMAL CONFESSION

Holy Saturday 7th April 2pm to 4pm

Although long since the tradition within the parish, formal confession will be offered on Easter Eve. Throughout Lent and Holy Week there has been a lot of time and space for 'self-examination'; and an opportunity is being given through formal confession to speak to a priest and seek absolution before the festival of Easter. If there is a weight or a burden to wish to give into God's care through this sacrament of reconciliation come along the Saturday evening and seek God's forgiveness. From 2pm to 4pm, come into church and find the Vicar or Curates.



BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER COMMUNION

Easter Sunday 8th April 8am

Early morning worship of Easter Day. Quiet and dignified.

THE LIGHTING OF THE NEW FIRE AND RESURRECTION EUCHARIST

Easter Sunday 8th April 10am

'Eucharist' means thanksgiving and on Easter morning the main theme of our worship is 'HE IS RISEN'. We will light a fire in the grounds of St. Peter's gardens, light our Easter candle and pronounce that Jesus did not die for nothing, but to return unhindered by the cross and his death. We are called then to live as people who rise with Jesus into God's care – whatever this world throws at us in this life. Whether you have been to none or all of the services in the past week Easter Day makes all our worship significant.

