St John the Baptist Church, Tisbury

reflecting Jesus Christ

Sunday 28th March

Palm Sunday

British Summer Time begins

Don't forget to put your clocks forward one hour overnight!







Fresco by Giotto (c 1305) Scrovegni Chapel, Padua

This is the second successive year in which we have not been able to join together for our traditional re-enactment of Palm Sunday and the triumphal entry into Jerusalem. For a second time, we are not able to process down (or up) the High Street behind the donkey, singing hymns and praising God. We are not able to witness corporately and publicly to our faith in our Lord, who gave his life to save us from sin. In 2019, we joined with fellow Christians from the other Tisbury churches and witnessed not only to Christ but also to our unity in following him.

This year, as last, it is different. We commemorate the triumphal entry spiritually together, but physically apart. The donkey will be there, but, like us, at home rather than in the High Street, and on our screens rather than physically with us. We continue to witness to Christ in our community, but quietly and individually, rather than with loud proclamation as a group, his body in this place.

The externals may have changed, but the fact of Christ's immense sacrifice in giving his life for us has not. We have

walked with Christ through Lent, and now, with him, we embark on the final stage of the journey. As our Passion Narrative tells, the shouts of 'Hosanna!' quickly turned to cries of 'Crucify!' Today, we enter into Holy Week, the most sombre week in the Church's year. Perhaps the relative solitude of our present situation will help us to keep it thoughtfully and prayerfully, as we accompany our Lord on the way of suffering.

Canon Judy Anderson, Licensed Lay Minister

Today's Service

9.30am Parish Communion for Palm Sunday Online via Zoom

President: Revd Tina Fox Music: Stuart Robinson

The service begins with the Liturgy of the Palms, complete with live donkey. You are invited to have a piece of greenery ready to represent a palm. The sermon is replaced by the dramatised reading of the Passion Narrative. Hymns: Ride on, Ride on in Majesty; Praise to the Holiest in the height; There is a green hill far away

Online Services during Holy Week

Regular weekday services continue up to and including Thursday morning.

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at 8.30pm: Compline

Maundy Thursday at 7.00pm: Agape meal

Good Friday at 2.00pm: Devotional service, lasting approx. I hour

For those of you who live near Fonthill Gifford, there is also a service there at 11.15am on Good Friday

Details of Thursday's and Friday's services will be circulated via email during the week, or you can request them direct from the Parish Administrator (see below)

Next Sunday, 4th April

Easter Day

Service in church

9.30am Parish Communion

President and Preacher: Revd Juliette Hulme

Music led by Stuart Robinson and members of the choir

Pre-booking is essential because of limited capacity due to social distancing

Palm Sunday

The Collect

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. Amen.

The Gospel of the Palms: John 12.12-16

The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord— the King of Israel!" Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it; as it is written: "Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion. Look, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!" His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written of him and had been done to him.

The Passion Narrative: Mark 15.1-39

The Passion Narrative is read in dramatised form by voices from around the Benefice – and Brittany!

Pictures on screen accompany the reading.

For your prayers

During Holy Week we give thanks for God's overwhelming love for us, shown in giving his Son to die for our sins, and for Christ's ultimate sacrifice for our sakes. We pray for all who are persecuted for their faith in him. As the people of our linked diocese of Cueibet, South Sudan, prepare for Easter, may we journey with them in our hearts.



In Memoriam

We give thanks for the life of Annabelle Dominy, who died earlier this month. We pray for her family and her friends as they mourn.

Public Worship and Private Prayer

The church will re-open for public worship on Easter Day, 4th April, with a service of Parish Communion at 9.30am. Advance booking is essential, via the Parish Administrator (see over for contact details).

Services continue on Zoom and the church remains open for private prayer daily between c. 9.00am and 4.00pm. After Easter, services in church will resume according to their previous pattern, with one or two minor alterations.

Thursday 15th April A Family Celebration of Easter

10.30-11.45am in Dinton Churchyard (and church). Led by members of the Nadder Valley Ministry team. Full details are on the separate notice. Advance booking is essential.

You are invited to donate materials - details of what is needed are also on the flyer.

Coffee Time!

Coffee Time is taking a break for Easter. It will resume on Friday morning 16th April.

If you need support

As always, the Revd Juliette Hulme (Parish Priest) is available to give pastoral and spiritual support.

Members of our team of Lay Pastoral Assistants are happy to chat on the phone if you are feeling lonely – contact the co-ordinator, Revd Mark Hayter, on 01722 785176.

A list of additional sources of support is published with the newsletter on the first Sunday of each month.



Giving to the church

Thank you very much to those who continue to give regularly to the church. If you haven't committed to regular giving, why not consider joining the Parish Giving Scheme or setting up a standing order? Details from Paul Naish, email sitgiftaid@gmail.com tel 01747 870731 mob 07587 072900. Cheques payable to Tisbury PCC.

A Family Celebration of Easter!

Celebrating the Resurrection
with the Nadder Valley team
Dinton Churchyard (and Church)
Thursday 15th April 10.30 am to 11.45 am
We're making musical instruments, Story, Worship,
a fantastic Easter hunt in the churchyard, a special
edible construction kit and masses of fun.

BOOKING ESSENTIAL!

email - <u>revdjoannanaish@gmail.com</u> or contact Revd Jo Naish on 01747 871820

Can you help by donating materials?

So that we can make sure we have enough materials, we'd like to gather these - ideally by Easter.

If people contact Revd Jo Naish or Revd Elaine Brightwell we can arrange safe drop off and storage, so that we can put packs together before the session which will be safe for each family to handle.

We are seeking:

- Jars.
- Strong cardboard boxes i.e. not cereal boxes, but delivery boxes/shoeboxes etc
- Elastic bands large/medium
- Pulses dried (any). We are making rainsticks/shakers/percussion.
- Insides of kitchen roll/foil/wrapping paper but NOT loo rolls we need the longer ones.