

'The Church on the Hill'

Easter Blessings from St Michael & All Angels

Although we are not able to meet in these troubled times we, as a church, are striving to keep in touch with one another, to offer support, comfort and a listening ear.



We are now in Holy Week and are preparing to commemorate the death and resurrection of Our Lord.

Maundy Thursday 9th April

Today's reading:

Matthew chapter 27, verses 11 - 31

Collect for the day:

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 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 forever
Amen

Prayer:

You had nothing left but your own cloak;
You were fond of it, your mother had woven it for you.
But this too had to go.
One thing only is necessary, Lord, your cross.



Nothing comes now between you and the cross,
You are going to be united forever with your Father,
And together you will save the world.

And so Lord, I must give up all these trappings which hinder me and
hide me from your sight.

This 'possessing' which stifles the 'being' in me and separates me
from others.

Thus, Lord, little by little everything in my life which is not an
expression of your will must die.

Help me Lord, to give up everything which keeps from sharing in
your love,

Everything which prevents me from witnessing to the truth of your
Gospel,

Everything which prevents me from loving as you loved me.

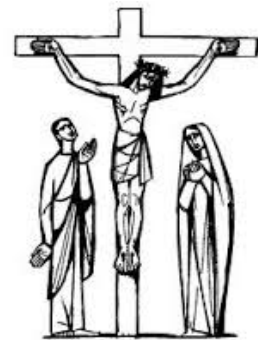
Help me to remember Lord you gave everything so that I can have
the free gift of eternal life.

Amen

Good Friday 10th April

Today's reading:

Matthew chapter 27, verses 32-61



Collect for the day:

Almighty Father,

Look with mercy on this your family for which our Lord Jesus Christ

was content to be betrayed

and given up into the hands of sinners

and to suffer death upon the cross;

who is alive and glorified

with you and the Holy Spirit,

one God now and forever

Amen

Prayer:

Lord Jesus Christ,

We give you thanks and praise; you endured the horror of the nails,

Piercing your hands and feet,

The crown of thorns adorning your head,

And you bore the beating and mocking to our shame.
May your wounds bring true healing.
Forgive us when we do not know what we do,
When we betray you,
When we fail you.
We ask you Lord to restore us in your saving glory.
Amen

Easter Eve 11th April

Today's Reading: Psalm 31

Easter Day 12th April – He is Risen ALLELUIA

**Today's reading:
Matthew chapter 28, verses 1-10**



Collect for the day:

Lord of all life and power,
Who through the mighty resurrection of your Son overcame the old
order of sin and death
To make all things new in Him:
Grant that we, being dead to sin and alive to you in Jesus Christ,
May reign with him in glory.
To whom with you and the Holy Spirit
Be praise and honour, glory and might,
Now and in all eternity
Amen

Prayer: "I know that my redeemer lives – alleluia"

I worship you Lord Jesus Christ, for this amazing fact: that you
came back to life and are alive right now.

Amidst all the questions I still have about life and about what is
happening in the world, one certainty rings out: **CHRIST IS RISEN.**
The immortal One has died for all sin and for all sinners in every
time and place.

Christ has been brought back to life: the most thrilling victory of all
time!

Lord Jesus Christ you really are the Son of God.

I worship you in praise and adoration.

I give myself to you right now on this day of all days.

Equip me with the power that raised Christ from the dead to serve you today and all the days ahead.

In Christ's name I pray.

Amen

A Prayer for these troubled times:

God of compassion, be close to those who are ill,
afraid or in isolation.

In their loneliness, be their consolation; in their anxiety,
be their hope; in their darkness, be their light;
through him who suffered alone on the cross,
but reigns with you in glory,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The following programmes are being broadcast over the Easter weekend:

Good Friday

BBC2 - 3pm

Part 1 Britain's Easter Story: Choirmaster Gareth Malone and conductor Karen Gibson look at the stories, music and traditions associated with Easter.

Part 2 is on **Sunday BBC1 at 10.10am**

Easter Eve

BBC2 7pm

Easter from King's College, Cambridge

Easter Day

BBC1 11.25am

Sunday Worship with the Very Reverend Kathy Jones from Bangor Cathedral, Wales

BBC1 1.15pm

"Songs of Praise" presented by Katherine Jenkins from St Lukes, Gas Street, Birmingham