



# St Andrew's Welcomes You

## WHEN YOU THINK YOU UNDERSTAND

### BUT IT TURNS OUT YOU ARE ENTIRELY WRONG

Those who gathered in Jerusalem were pretty sure about what it all meant. Jesus, their teacher and healer was riding into Jerusalem on a donkey. His actions and his presence, were the fulfillment of the prophet's words. They had hoped he might be, and now they knew—this Jesus was the Saviour of the world. This Jesus would free them from oppression and restore their hopes and dreams. Palm Sunday brings with it an air of celebration, triumph and majesty. Using the everyday things they had with them—their cloaks and palm branches, the disciples and the gathered crowd celebrated this momentous day and the promise of salvation which Jesus represents.

And yet, days later this very same man, the one they had cheered for, believed in, trusted and celebrated was hanging on a cross. Beaten, betrayed and broken, Jesus suffered at the hands of both friend and stranger. He suffered a cruel and painful death. In desperation in the Garden of Gethsemane the night that he was betrayed Jesus asks God to take the cup of suffering from him. His agony ends when he accepts: "Father, if this can not pass...your will be done."

Your will be done. These are powerful words for us as we stay in place to save lives this Lent and Holy Week. The world which we thought we understood has been turned upside down. We find ourselves questioning all the things we thought we knew, the things we have trusted all our lives, our touchstones and routines fall away. We find ourselves needing to pray this more than ever. Your will, O God, be done. We feel fragile, fearful, vulnerable, overwhelmed by the suffering pain and challenges we see. Your will, O God, be done. Let us like the Jerusalem crowd, hold on to the promise of God's Salvation and the hope of the triumphal entry. Let us find strength in Jesus' courage as we journey with him to the cross and wait expectantly for the Resurrection joy which is to come.



**5TH APRIL 2020**

**PALM SUNDAY - CHURCH AT HOME**

## Psalm 118 1-2; 19-29

We give thanks to you  
O Lord for you are gracious:  
and your love endures forever.

Let the house of Israel say:  
God's love endures forever.

Open to me the gates of the temple:  
and that I may enter  
and give thanks to the Lord.

This is the gate of the Lord:  
through which the righteous shall enter.

I will thank you  
because you have answered me:  
and you have become my deliverer.

The stone which the builders rejected:  
has become the head of the corner.

This is the Lords doing:  
and it is marvellous in our eyes.

This is the day which the Lord has made:  
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Save us O Lord we pray:  
Lord we pray you to give us success.

Blessed is the one who comes  
in the name of the Lord:  
we bless you from the house of the Lord.

The Lord is God, and has given us light:  
with branches in your hands,  
go forward in procession  
up to the horns of the altar.

You are my God and I will thank you:  
you are my God and I will extol you.

We give thanks to you O Lord  
for you are gracious:  
and your love endures forever.

## Reading: Matthew 21:1-11

(You may like to read the version from  
the Lion Children's Bible)

## Resources for Reflection

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pHN8UAk6Yow>

Make a Palm Cross at home - see the back pg

## Blessing of Palm Crosses

We bring to God our 'cloaks',  
all our layers of protection,  
the ways we keep others at a distance,  
and we lay them down.

Wait for the Lord.

**Keep watch, take heart.**

We bring to God our impatience and our  
expectations,  
our frustrations and our unhappiness,  
and we lay them down.

Wait for the Lord.

**Keep watch, take heart.**

We bring to God all that we are hoping for,  
longing for,  
all that we are waiting for,  
and we hold it all  
in the stream of God's grace.

Wait for the Lord.

**Keep watch, take heart.**

We bring to God all that we could be,  
the hidden potential,  
the possibilities in our lives  
and we hold it all  
in the stream of God's grace.

Wait for the Lord.

**Keep watch, take heart.**

Holy Spirit of God, we wait for you.  
Speak to us with your still small voice.  
Quieten our fears,  
hold us when we are anxious,  
comfort us when we are distressed.  
Renew our strength, restore our faith,  
refresh our vision.

Eternal God, bless these crosses,  
made from the materials  
of our everyday lives,  
that they may remind us  
of the promise and expectation  
of Jesus triumphal entry into Jerusalem  
and give us strength  
as we journey with him to the cross.  
Help us to wait with you  
through these days of Holy Week,  
to make space in our lives,  
to receive you.  
Amen.

### **Sentence of the Day**

'Hosanna to the Son of David!  
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of  
the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!'

*Matthew 21: 9*

### **Collect of the Day**

Ever-expanding God,  
your love knows no bounds.  
You challenge us to look at life anew.  
When our shouts praising you turn to deri-  
sion, forgive us.  
When our grief and fear overwhelm us, show  
us compassion.  
As we journey with you,  
closer to the Cross,  
give us real courage so that we may  
indeed wait with you and say:  
'with Jesus we pray'. Amen.

### **Thanksgivings and Intercessions**

*Prepared by Lesley Anderson*

As we recall the extent of God's love  
for us let us pray.  
  
Father if we as the Church,  
are truly to be the body of Christ  
let us stand together wherever we are,  
at the foot of the cross

and learn what it means to love  
and keep on loving  
May your church be an instrument of peace  
in this crisis the world faces

*Silence*

God our father

**Let your will be done in us**

If the world is to see real hope  
then transform our lives  
and let us stretch out our arms in loving for-  
giveness

with no exceptions and no small print  
so that we shine as lights in this  
darkness

*Silence*

God our father

**Let your will be done in us**

God come and rule in our lives that there  
may be peace in our bubble  
we remember before you bubbles where  
there is conflict and violence  
where there is division and distress  
We pray for all our family and friends who  
are locked down in another bubble.

*Silence*

God our father

**Let your will be done in us**

Father through the life giving death of Jesus  
may the dying turn to you  
and know your merciful love,  
may the grieving be comforted  
and may we all one day share  
with those who have died  
the eternal joy of your heaven.

**Father such amazing love  
is hard to grasp**

**and impossible to repay**

**In thankfulness for lives set free to live  
we offer you ourselves.**

**Amen.**

## **Daily Lectionary Readings for Holy Week**

These are the daily readings followed by mainstream Christians all over the world. This pattern of daily and Sunday readings dates back to the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> centuries. They will be the basis of our worship this week. Join us on Zoom or use them at home for private devotion.

*Source: Our Daily Bread Jenny Harrison and John McAlpine*

### **Monday**

Psalm 36:5-11 / Isaiah 42:1-9 / Hebrews 9:11-15 / John 12:1-11

Breath of all that is, you are amongst us, neither quenching growth nor extinguishing light. You dwell in our midst in Jesus, our brother. May we, like Mary, unbind our normal conventions, and greet you with extravagant, lasting gestures of love. Make our lives homes of holiness where you dwell forever. With Jesus we pray. Amen.

### **Tuesday**

Psalm 71:1-14 / Isaiah 49:1-7 / I Corinthians 1:18-31 / John 12:20-36

Disturbing God, the foolishness of the cross challenges mere human wisdom. Help us follow your light that is in Jesus. Help us to listen, when you call all creation to hope. Remove the stumbling blocks that distort our journey towards you. Enable us to stand with you at the foot of Jesus' cross, and to cry 'hope and justice' for your world. With Jesus we pray. Amen.

### **Wednesday**

Psalm 70 / Isaiah 50:4-9a / Hebrews 12:1-3 / John 13:21-32

Sustaining God, when fears and doubts betray us, and we are too weary to know your presence, sustain us with a living word. Remind us of the clouds of witnesses who show us the pathway to you. Help us to run with perseverance the race towards Jesus, through whom we so clearly see your loving face and hear your challenging words.

With Jesus we pray. Amen.

### **Thursday**

Psalm 116:1-2,12-19 / Exodus 12:1-14 / 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 / John 13:1-17,(31b-35)

God, you love us at our beginning and our end; you mark us as belonging to you, and urge us to be ready to journey wherever you call. This Holy Thursday, may we be ready to journey with Jesus. May we bare our feet to be washed by another. May we be your living bread and wine of love for a starving world. May we have love for each other, and thus meet you.

With Jesus we pray. Amen.

### **Friday**

Psalm 22 / Isaiah 52:13 - 53.12 / Hebrews 10:16-25 (or Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9) /

John 18:1 – 19:42

Grieving God, we stand reluctantly at the foot of Jesus' cross, shocked by the death of such goodness, aware of the fickleness of human behaviour that crucifies our very salvation. Lead us to the place of death, that we may confront our life in you. Give us courage to wait at the cross and the tomb, so that we can confess our unwavering faith in you.

With Jesus we pray. Amen.

## **Saturday**

Psalms 31:1-4,15-16 / Lamentations 3:1-9,19-24 (or Job 14:1-14) / I Peter 4:1-8 /

Matthew 27:57-66 (or John 19:38-42)

Ever-loyal God, we stand empty, waiting, facing a day of not knowing what or how to believe. In this empty day, your unceasing steadfast love reminds us that your mercy does not end with death. You proclaim your good news to the living and to the dead, assuring us that love covers a multitude of sins. Even at the sealed tomb, we wait for the 'more' that is you.

With Jesus we pray. Amen.

### **RESOURCES FOR PRAYER AND REFLECTION**

This week I have reflected with a number of people about how we might pray in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. What do we ask for when there is simply so much need?

- It can help to start with prayers of thanksgiving – this will help you focus on the blessings in your life right now.
- It can be helpful to pray without words. Light a candle and become aware of God's presence with you. God hears the cries of our hearts even when we can't express them.
- Read the Passion Narrative from Matthew 26: 14- 27: 66. Let the story speak to your heart. This is tradition on this Sixth Sunday of Lent.
- Listen to reflective prayers the Pray as you Go app.

Copy and paste link : <https://pray-as-you-go.org/>

- This app now includes prayers to "Pray as you Stay" to support offer support in times of solitude, uncertainty and fear.
- Join the ADJust Daily Office on line <https://www.facebook.com/TheDailyOffices/>. Let your prayers join with others around the Diocese in the ancient words of our shared tradition.
- Join our Bishop Ross Bay as he prays every night at 7pm Bishop Ross. Copy and paste link: <https://upload.latest.facebook.com/Bishop-Ross-Bay-736358193074303/>

### **SOME THOUGHTS FROM BISHOP JOHN BLUCK IN A TIME OF TRIAL**

The title is an old WW 2 song, about a bomber crew coming home from danger. And although it feels as if we are flying into danger, yet it is still a homecoming we seek; a place of safety, even if it has to be temporary.

It's the temporariness of everything that overwhelms those of us who felt the ground was solid beneath our feet. Now everything is changing, on the move, nothing will ever be the same again. Which, if we can get our head around that, is not a bad place to be. All the old tent pegs are pulled and life becomes a camping trip to places we've never been before.

**God of the journey**

**The way ahead is unknown**

**And we are very afraid.**

**Help us to know that wherever we go**

**You have been there before us**

**And you wait out there ahead of us**

**Ready to call us and hold us ever closer to you.**

## **ZOOM INTO PARISH LIFE—COME AND JOIN US**

We are aware that this is very new for most and we are here to help. Brian Tracey has more detailed instructions if you would like assistance setting this up. It is not as hard as it sounds. **Phone Brian 021 661 573 or email: StAndrews\_IT@datatran.co.nz if you need assistance.**

We hope you will take advantage of using this programme as it will give us the opportunity to join together in prayer and friendship during this challenging time. ***You can even dial in from a landline.*** The following on line services are available for you to join during the week.

**Palm Sunday 9.30am Worship** - Meeting ID # 664-003-107

**Tuesday 11am Coffee morning** - Meeting ID # 260-873-490

**Wednesday 10am Morning Prayer** - Meeting ID # 260-154-652

### **HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES VIA ZOOM**

**Monday April 6 - Night Prayer 8pm** - Meeting ID # 491-572-657

**Tuesday April 7 - Night Prayer 8pm** - Meeting ID # 491-572-657

**Wednesday April 8 – Night Prayer 8pm** - Meeting ID # 491-572-657

**Maundy Thursday April 9– Night Prayer 8pm** - Meeting ID # 491-572-657

**Good Friday April 10 - Reflections at the Cross 9.30am** Meeting ID # 674-502-362

**Easter Sunday April 12– A Celebration of Resurrection 9.30am** Meeting ID # 664-003-107

### **INSTRUCTIONS FOR ACCESSING ZOOM—YOU CAN DO IT!**

If you haven't used Zoom before, we hope you will find it to be a simple enough process. The key detail is the meeting ID, which is like a virtual meeting room number – each meeting has been assigned one of these numbers (make sure you use the right number/link or you'll be in the wrong place). There's no cost. There is no need to sign up for anything, but if you want to join, you can just get a free account.

**On a computer:** Copy and paste this link: <https://zoom.us/> and you will be taken to the Zoom website. The first time you use Zoom you will be prompted to install the software needed and you will then be taken to the meeting. Please contact Brian Tracey (details at top of page) if you need assistance. He has detailed Instructions to help you.

**On a smart phone or tablet:** If you want to use your smartphone/tablet – you will need to download the Zoom app. The only detail you then need is the meeting ID, listed above.

**On a landline or telephone:** If the technology doesn't work for you, you can phone in (we just won't be able to see you). The phone number is (09) 884 6780. When asked for a meeting ID enter the correct number from above and press the # key.

Feel free to do this now if you want to see how it all works – just note that because you're really early for the meeting, you'll be the only one there! You can then leave and come back at the right time!

Remember, If you need any help at all setting this up please contact Brian Tracey.

## AUCKLAND CITY MISSION REQUEST

Chris Farrelly, City Missioner, updated the Diocese this week on the three focus areas of the Mission's work during this lockdown period:

- caring for the homeless and finding them homes
- food for those in desperate need
- healthcare for our most vulnerable.

### House the homeless

About 160 people are settled, with another 40 in motels and others in various hostel premises, but the pressure for places continues. The Government has offered the use of inner-city hostel premises which could accommodate 18 residents for three months. This new facility needs to be very well-staffed, given the high likelihood of substance addiction and mental health and cognitive behaviour issues. A team of 12 is needed for safe operation. These people should be qualified social workers or similar professionals who have demonstrated competency to work in such a service.

*If you fit this profile and feel a call to assist in this urgent ministry, please call the Mission's GM of social services, Helen Robinson on 027 286 4944.*

### Feed the hungry

The Mission is no longer able to accept donations of food, although there has been a sharp rise in the need for food parcels. To donate money instead:

Please visit [aucklandcitymission.org.nz](http://aucklandcitymission.org.nz) and press the Donate button.

Online, with the Mission's bank account 12 3011 0520064 00

### Care for the sick

The Calder Medical Centre is still open and operating, with some changes.

Thank you for your continued support for the Auckland City Mission in these very difficult and uncertain times. <https://www.aucklandcitymission.org.nz/covid-19/>

## SEWING & KNITTING STALL - STRAWBERRY FAIR

COVID-19 is certainly providing a new life style experience for all New Zealanders. If people are finding some time to spare in their bubble existence, perhaps some may like to spend some time looking forward to sometime in the future when perhaps a Strawberry Fair may be allowed. The best selling items on the sewing and knitting stall are: -

All baby items such as socks, bootees, jackets, hats

All household items such as aprons, oven gloves etc

These will never be wasted, so if anyone would like to use some of their spare hours in this direction it would be greatly appreciated. Thank you, Bridget.

Remember Daylight Saving ends on Sunday 5th April at 3am when the clocks go back one hour.



**1 hour**

## PARISH DIRECTORY

**Parish Mailing Address:** 100 St Andrews Road, Epsom, 1023

**Parish Office:** Karen Ross (09) 638 8264

[office@standrewsepsom.org.nz](mailto:office@standrewsepsom.org.nz)

Tuesday to Friday 9:30am - 2:30pm

[www.standrewsepsom.org.nz](http://www.standrewsepsom.org.nz)

**Vicar:** The Reverend Sarah Stevens-Cross

Vicarage (09) 623 2290 Mobile 021 921 080

[vicar@standrewsepsom.org.nz](mailto:vicar@standrewsepsom.org.nz) Please note Monday is Sarah's day off.

**Deacon Assistant:** The Reverend Julian Morris (09) 638 8264

**Pastoral Care Co-ordinator:** Lucy Best (09) 520 0093 Mobile 021 350 480

**Services:** Sundays 8am and 9:30am and Wednesday Mid week Communion 10am

**If you would like to give via Automatic Payment or Direct Credit  
the NEW Parish bank account is: 06 0103 0780441 00**



### PALM CROSSES – WHAT ELSE CAN WE USE?

Those who welcomed Jesus into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday took off their coats to line the street. They waved palm branches because these are the things they had at hand.

We are not able to make and distribute palm crosses this year. It is a sadness to us all. But we are able to make a cross out of something you find within your bubble.

You might find a piece of flax in the garden and some instructions on line. You might find some cutlery and a rubber band.

I invite you to make a 'palm cross' – something to wave or something to hold – something which you have to have inside your bubble.

Take a photo and send it to Karen at [office@standrewsepsom.org.nz](mailto:office@standrewsepsom.org.nz)



Left: by Dianne Kenderdine  
Made from the ingredients of her interests! Cinnamon sticks whipped together with linen thread and a knitted cross made from linen thread.

Right: by Diana Burslem  
This is a flax cross from the shoreline flax bushes at Hingaia, South Auckland. She followed a YouTube pattern to make it.



### CREATIVE INSPIRATION

Has this time of enforced solitude got your creative juices flowing?  
Send us your contributions for the pewsheets so that we can share the joy.

Email [office@standrewsepsom.org.nz](mailto:office@standrewsepsom.org.nz)