

# St Mary-at-Finchley

Parish Eucharist

## Palm Sunday

29<sup>th</sup> March 2026

### The Gathering

**All      Hosanna to the Son of David.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

Behold your king comes to you, O Zion,  
meek and lowly, sitting upon an ass.  
Ride on in the cause of truth and for the sake of justice.  
Your throne is the throne of God, it endures for ever;  
and the sceptre of your kingdom is a righteous sceptre.  
You have loved righteousness and hated evil:  
therefore God, your God, has anointed you  
with the oil of gladness.

**All      Hosanna to the Son of David.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

Grace mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be  
with you.

**All      And also with you.**

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, during Lent we have been preparing by  
works of love and self-sacrifice for the celebration of our Lord's death and

resurrection. Today we come together to begin this solemn celebration in union with the Church throughout the world. Christ enters his own city to complete his work as our Saviour, to suffer, to die, and to rise again. Let us go with him in faith and love, so that, united with him in his sufferings, we may share his risen life.

*The people hold up palms or branches while this prayer is said by the president*

God our Saviour,  
whose Son Jesus Christ entered Jerusalem as Messiah to suffer and to die;  
let these palms be for us signs of his victory  
and grant that we who bear them in his name  
may ever hail him as our King,  
and follow him in the way that leads to eternal life;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

*The Lord be with you*  
**and also with you.**

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew  
**Glory to you O Lord**

*Matthew 21.1-11*

This is the Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you O Christ**

The first verse of the following hymn is sung, after which we begin our procession to the Church singing the remaining verses.

**All Glory Laud and Honour**

**All glory laud and honour**

**to thee, Redeemer, King,  
to whom the lips of children  
made sweet hosannas ring.**

Thou art the king of Israel,  
thou David's royal son,  
who in the Lord's name comest,  
the King and blessed one.

**All glory...**

The company of angels  
are praising thee on high,  
and mortal men and all things  
created make reply.

**All glory...**

The people of the Hebrews  
with palms before thee went:  
our praise and prayer and anthems  
before thee we present.

**All glory...**

To thee before thy Passion  
they sang their hymns of praise:  
to thee now high exalted  
our melody we raise.

**All glory...**

Thou didst accept their praises:  
accept the prayers we bring,  
who in all good delightest,  
thou good and gracious King.

**All glory...**

## The Collect

Let us pray.

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 Liturgy of the Word*

Readings

Sit

**A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah (50.4-9a)**

The Lord God has given me  
the tongue of a teacher,  
that I may know how to sustain  
the weary with a word.  
Morning by morning he wakens—  
wakens my ear  
to listen as those who are taught.

The Lord God has opened my ear,  
and I was not rebellious,  
I did not turn backwards.  
I gave my back to those who struck me,  
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;  
I did not hide my face  
from insult and spitting.  
The Lord God helps me;  
therefore I have not been disgraced;  
therefore I have set my face like flint,  
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;  
he who vindicates me is near.  
Who will contend with me?  
Let us stand up together.  
Who are my adversaries?  
Let them confront me.  
It is the Lord God who helps me;  
who will declare me guilty?  
All of them will wear out like a garment;  
the moth will eat them up.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 118.19-24**

**O give thanks to the Lord for he is good**

Open to me the gates of righteousness,  
that I may enter through them  
and give thanks to the Lord.

This is the gate of the Lord;  
the righteous shall enter through it.

**O give thanks to the Lord for he is good**

I thank you that you have answered me  
and have become my salvation.

The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the chief cornerstone.

**O give thanks to the Lord for he is good**

This is the Lord's doing;  
it is marvellous in our eyes.  
This is the day that the Lord has made;  
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

**O give thanks to the Lord for he is good**

**A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians (2.5-11)**

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,  
who, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be exploited,  
but emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
being born in human likeness.  
And being found in human form,  
he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death—  
even death on a cross.  
Therefore God also highly exalted him  
and gave him the name  
that is above every name,  
so that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
and every tongue should confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Passion Reading**

The Lord be with you  
**And also with you**

Hear the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

At the end

This is the Passion of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Sit*          Sermon  
*Preacher Nigel Wildish*

### ***Stand*    The Creed**

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is,  
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come.  
Amen.**

## ***Kneel*** **Intercession**

## **Prayers of**

In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ,  
let us pray to the Father.

*The prayers usually include these concerns and may follow this  
sequence:*

*The Church of Christ*

*Creation, human society, those in authority*

*The local community*

*Those who suffer*

*The communion of saints*

*These responses may be used*

Lord, in your mercy  
**hear our prayer.**

*(or)*

Lord, hear us.  
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

*and at the end*

Merciful Father,  
**accept these prayers  
for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
Amen.**

## *The Liturgy of the Sacrament*

### **Stand    The Peace**

Once we were far off, but now, in Christ Jesus,  
we have been brought near by the blood of Christ; for he is our peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*All may exchange a sign of peace.*

## The Offertory

*A Hymn is sung as the elements of bread and wine are brought to the altar and the gifts of the people are collected.*

### **Offertory Hymn 32** And now, O father, mindful of the love

And now, O Father, mindful of the love  
That bought us, once for all, on Calvary's tree,  
And having with us him that pleads above,  
We here present, we here spread forth to thee  
That only offering perfect in thine eyes,  
The one true, pure, immortal sacrifice.

Look, Father, look on his anointed face,  
And only look on us as found in him;  
Look not on our misusings of thy grace,  
Our prayer so languid, and our faith so dim;  
For lo, between our sins and their reward  
We set the passion of thy Son our Lord.

And then for those, our dearest and our best,  
By this prevailing presence we appeal;  
O fold them closer to thy mercy's breast,  
O do thine utmost for their souls' true weal;  
From tainting mischief keep them white and clear  
And crown thy gifts with grace to persevere.

And so we come: O draw us to thy feet  
Most patient Saviour, who canst love us still;  
And by this food, so awful and so sweet,  
Deliver us from every touch of ill:

In thine own service make us glad and free,  
And grant us nevermore to part from thee.

Jesus, true vine and bread of life,  
ever giving yourself that the world might live,  
let us share your death and passion:  
make us perfect in your love.

**Amen.**

## **The Eucharistic Prayer**

The Lord is here.

**His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and just,  
our duty and our salvation,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For as the time of his passion and resurrection draws near  
the whole world is called to acknowledge his hidden majesty.  
The power of the life-giving cross  
reveals the judgement that has come upon the world  
and the triumph of Christ crucified.  
He is the victim who dies no more,  
the Lamb once slain, who lives for ever,  
our advocate in heaven to plead our cause,  
exalting us there to join with angels and archangels,  
for ever praising you and singing:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,  
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
and as we follow his example and obey his command,  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit  
these gifts of bread and wine  
may be to us his body and his blood;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,  
took bread and gave you thanks;  
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper  
he took the cup and gave you thanks;  
he gave it to them, saying:  
Drink this, all of you;  
this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it,  
in remembrance of me.

Therefore, heavenly Father,  
we remember his offering of himself  
made once for all upon the cross;  
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;  
we look for the coming of your kingdom,  
and with this bread and this cup  
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Great is the mystery of faith

**Christ has died:**

**Christ is risen:**

**Christ will come again.**

Accept through him, our great high priest,  
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,  
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts  
in the presence of your divine majesty,  
renew us by your Spirit,  
inspire us with your love  
and unite us in the body of your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,  
we worship you, Father almighty,  
in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power  
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

### ***Kneel* The Lord's Prayer**

Let us pray to the Father, each in our own language.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done;  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,**

**the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

## ***Breaking of Bread***

Every time we eat this bread  
and drink this cup,  
**we proclaim the Lord's death  
until he comes.**

## ***Agnus Dei***

**Jesus, Lamb of God,  
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins,  
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, redeemer of the world,  
grant us peace.**

## **Giving of Communion**

Jesus is the Lamb of God  
who takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.  
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

*Communicant members of all Christian Churches are welcome to receive  
Communion, anyone is welcome to come forward to receive a blessing.*

*During the distribution hymns and anthems may be sung.*

Anthem: Weelkes: Hosanna to the son of David

### Communion hymn: 33 Angel voices

Angel voices ever singing  
round thy throne of light,  
angel-harps for ever ringing,  
rest not day nor night;  
thousands only live to bless thee  
and confess thee  
Lord of might.

Thou who art beyond the farthest  
mortal eye can see,  
can it be that thou regardest  
our poor hymnody?  
Yes, we know that thou art near us,  
and wilt hear us  
constantly.

Yea, we know that thou rejoicest  
o'er each work of thine;  
thou didst ears and hands and voices  
for thy praise design;  
craftsman's art and music's measure  
for thy pleasure  
all combine.

In thy house, great God, we offer  
of thine own to thee;  
and for thine acceptance proffer  
all unworthily  
hearts and minds and hands and voices

in our choicest  
psalmody.

Honour, glory, might, and merit  
thine shall ever be,  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
blessed Trinity.  
Of the best that thou hast given  
earth and heaven  
render thee.

### ***Kneel* Prayer after Communion**

*Silence is kept.*

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.

**Amen.**

**Father of all,  
we give you thanks and praise  
that when we were still far off  
you met us in your Son and brought us home.  
Dying and living, he declared your love,  
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.  
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;  
we who drink his cup bring life to others;  
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.  
keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,  
so we and all your children shall be free,  
and the whole earth live to praise your name;**

**through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

## **The Notices**

**Stand** A hymn is sung

**Post Communion Hymn** 435 Ride on, ride on in majesty

Ride on, ride on, in majesty!  
Hark! all the tribes hosanna cry;  
thy humble beast pursues his road  
with palms and scattered garments strowed.

Ride on, ride on, in majesty!  
In lowly pomp ride on to die.  
O Christ, Thy triumphs now begin  
o'er captive death and conquered sin.

Ride on, ride on, in majesty!  
The wingèd squadrons of the sky  
look down with sad and wondering eyes  
to see th' approaching Sacrifice.

Ride on, ride on, in majesty!  
Thy last and fiercest strife is nigh;  
the Father, on His sapphire throne  
awaits His own anointed Son.

Ride on, ride on, in majesty!  
In lowly pomp ride on to die;

bow Thy meek head to mortal pain,  
then take, O God, Thy pow'r and reign.

## *The Dismissal*

Christ crucified draw you to himself,  
to find in him a sure ground for faith,  
a firm support for hope,  
and the assurance of sins forgiven;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

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