



...linking the Beacon Parishes

Sunday 10th April – Palm Sunday

9.30am	Painswick	Holy Communion
9.30am	Pitchcombe	Morning Prayer
11.00am	Cranham	Holy Communion
11.00am	Sheepscombe	Morning Worship
6.30pm	Cranham	Olivet to Calvary

*We ask you to please **wear a face mask in church**, unless you have a medical reason not to and **make use of the hand sanitiser** provided as you enter. Whilst face coverings are no longer legally required, this measure will help us keep our community safe. Good ventilation is part of covid precautions and our churches may be less warm as a result. Please dress accordingly.*

Message from Bishop Robert

Palm Sunday is always one of the great delights of the Christian year. Across our Diocese and beyond, congregations will be gathering to remember Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Many of us will join in processions waving branches of greenery, and shouting ‘Hosanna, blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord’. To mark this, we will be given a palm leaf. It’s a glorious moment only enhanced by the delightful cacophony of one end of the procession singing at a different pace to the other and that great moment when they are connected as we come into the church building.

It would be easy to stop here. A triumphant entry that makes our hearts sing. But the palm leaf we are given is shaped into a cross and the principal reading of the day is not the triumphal entry but rather the account of the crucifixion that marks our entry into the events of Holy Week. We omit it from our worship at our peril for it speaks to the reality of the human condition and to the saving work of God in Jesus Christ.

This is always so but perhaps especially necessary when this year our observance of Holy Week and Easter is lived in the shadow of the war in Ukraine. The sounds of this conflict and of those others in Afghanistan and places that so easily fade from our news headlines will mingle with the sound of our lives, and we need to join these sounds with the words of Jesus from the cross ‘My God, My God, why have you forsaken me...’ (Psalm 22 and Matthew 27). Jesus does not evade the darkness, avoid the pain and the suffering but faces it, embraces it, in order that the darkness might not overcome the light.

Our is an Easter Faith, our hope is in the empty tomb and the triumph of Christ over death itself. But this victory is of the cross and is hard-won. 'It is finished' cries Jesus (John 19) accomplished, a victory of blood, and nails, and bone, and hammer. Omit the reading of the passion from our worship on Palm Sunday and the danger is we jump straight from the 'hosannah' of the triumphal entry to the 'Alleluia!' of resurrection and know not how we got there. Our palms are cross-shaped for a reason, for the victory is cross-shaped.

Our world and our lives need more. If we are to speak of our confidence in the resurrection we must, with Christ, be willing to face the reality of darkness and know that it is over this that Jesus conquers. Do this and we will have an Easter faith that brings true hope and assurance even to the darkness of our world today, a confident hope that we, that our world, so desperately longs to hear.

May God bless us as we keep this Holy Week, that the way of the cross may indeed lead us to life.

+ Robert

Readings

Collect

True and humble king,
hailed by the crowd as Messiah:
grant us the faith to know you and love you,
that we may be found beside you
on the way of the cross,
which is the path of glory.

Psalm 118.1-2,19-29

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his steadfast love endures for ever!

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

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

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.

Save us, we beseech you, O LORD!
O LORD, we beseech you, 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 he has given us light.

Bind the festal procession with branches,
up to the horns of the altar.

You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;
you are my God, I will extol you.

O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures for ever.

The Gospel according to Luke 19.28-40

After he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, "Why are you untying it?" just say this: "The Lord needs it." ' So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, 'Why are you untying the colt?' They said, 'The Lord needs it.' Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying,

'Blessed is the king
who comes in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven,
and glory in the highest heaven!'

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, 'Teacher, order your disciples to stop.' He answered, 'I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Beacon People

Our prayers are asked for all who are sick, especially **Rebecca Applebee-Crabb, Richard Garrett, Frauke Hankamer, Andrea Linsell** and **Jenipher Pritchard** . Pray for all those people, whether they are relatives or friends, who care for the sick and disabled in their own homes and for those undergoing cancer treatment at this time.

We pray also for all the charities which this benefice supports, including Christian Aid, GARAS, Marah, Sportily , Stroud Citizens Advice, Stroud Foodbank and The Vine Project and all from our churches and villages who work in the NHS and in care homes.

We also remember before God all who have died recently, especially **Tim Heal, Pam Lyster, Terri Rohrbeck** and **Peter Walklett** as well as all whose anniversaries of death fall at this time. May they and all the departed rest in peace and rise in glory.

A memorial service for the late Jane Jennings Taylor will be held in the Church of Our Lady and St. Therese in Painswick on Palm Sunday (**April 10th**) at **2.30pm** followed by tea in St Mary's Rooms. Jane had many friends in Painswick and all are welcome.

Notices

Cranham Village Choir are going to be singing "**Olivet to Calvary**" by J H Maunder on **Palm Sunday evening at 6.30pm** in St. James's Church. Narrator: Nathan Drake, Piano: Beryl Berry. All are welcome.

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The **Christian Aid** committee will hold **Lent lunches** of soup, bread and cheese in St. Mary's Church rooms from midday to 1.30pm on Wednesday 13th April. Proceeds will go to Christian Aid's Ukraine appeal. **Attention all Gardeners** During Christian Aid week, 15-21 May, there will be a bring and buy garden shop on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 21st. If any keen or budding (pun intended) gardener would like to grow plants for the shop or is dividing some clumps it would be greatly appreciated. Information on the salmon supper, lunches and cream teas will be available closer to the time.

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At Easter, this year, lilies will appear in many of the flower arrangements, in Church. If you would like to remember a loved one, by **donating a lily** for the flower arrangements at St. Mary's, please put your contribution, into an envelope, along with the name of the person so honoured and post through the door of the Lych Gate office. As usual, a list will be displayed, in Church.

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**Easter Dawn Service.** For those who would like to 'greet the dawn' as we celebrate the wonder of the resurrection, we will be holding an short, informal time of praise and worship on the side of Painswick Beacon, followed by an invitation to breakfast.

- When : Start at 6am - for sunrise at 6.08am! Easter Sunday morning.
- Where : Use the Car Park opposite Painswick Golf Club/The Waypoint GL6 6TL. It is right next to the Cemetery. Then take the short walk up the path to the first golf hole marker (black and white) where we will assemble. Someone will be by the car park to point the way.
- What to bring : Good voices for singing our Easter hymns and songs; If you have and wish - a percussion instrument of any kind to make 'joyful noise'; A verse of Scripture, or words of praise to share together. Warm clothes!
- And after : an invitation to a simple breakfast at Ian Marsh's home, Mynd House, The Highlands.
- Who? For everyone - young, older, families, dogs..... Co-ordinated by Rev Helen Sammon and others.

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Thank you all for contributing yet again despite the awful wet weather, to our collection for **Stroud Foodbank**. We were able to send two car loads. Our **next collection** will be on **Wednesday 13 April 10am -12noon in Stamages Lane car park and at the stocks** by the church. Items needed Tinned Vegetables, Tinned Potatoes, Fruit Juice, Long Life Milk, Jams and Spreads, Sweet and Savoury Treats, Coffee, Laundry Liquid/Powder. They have plenty of cereal, pasta and tea. Thank you once again. *The Foodbank committee*

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**PAINSWICK MUSIC SOCIETY'S 76 th Season** of wonderful concerts all take place in St Mary's Church on Saturday afternoons.

30 th April at 4pm – Voces8. Programme: Choral Music Celebrating Regeneration

14 th May at 3pm - Iyad Sughayer (piano). Programme includes works by Haydn, Schubert, Schumann, Sibelius and Helen Ottaway

Memberships and tickets can be bought online at: [www.painswickmusicsoc.co.uk](http://www.painswickmusicsoc.co.uk) All ticket and membership enquiries to Edward Bowron: [tickets@painswickmusicsoc.co.uk](mailto:tickets@painswickmusicsoc.co.uk) or 07789 006006

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Cranham Community Response Team: The initial contact for Cranham residents is: nigelrobincooper@gmail.com Tel: 07973 340227

The Painswick Community Support initiative provides community support for Painswick. If you need support, please contact 07956 203087

painswickcommunity@gmail.com

Community Hub Friday Coffee Morning every Friday 10am -11.30 in the Town Hall.

Tea, coffee and home-made cakes. All are welcome.

Future Dates for your Diary

Friday April 15th - drop-in visit from Vicky Allen, Sportily's new Sport and Faith Leader for the Painswick community and surrounding villages. Hot Cross buns will be served.

Friday April 22nd - drop-in visit from Debbie Collicott, Community Police Officer.

If you need help or support or have any questions, call us on 07956203087 (our phone is manned 7 days a week from 9am-5pm) or email us at painswickcommunity@gmail.com

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**Lions Clubs Message in a Bottle** is a simple but effective way for people to keep their basic personal and medical details where they can be found in an emergency on a standard form and in a common location - the fridge. Message in a Bottle helps emergency services personnel to save valuable time in identifying an individual very quickly and knowing if they have any allergies or take special medication. Anyone who would like one can collect one from the Friday Community Hub cafe at the Town Hall 10am -11.30 or if you would like one delivered, please contact us(see contact details below).

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Weekday Worship

Please support our Holy Week services – there is a wide choice of times and styles of worship across the benefice. Our Easter rejoicing begins on **Easter Eve in Cranham at 8.pm** when our Paschal Candles will be blessed and lit.

HOLY MONDAY 11th - Red	8.30am	Painswick	Morning Prayer	Canon Michael
	6.30pm	Harescombe	Compline	Canon Michael
HOLY TUESDAY 12th - Red	8.30am	Painswick	Morning Prayer	Canon Michael
	6.30pm	Sheepscombe	Celtic Evening Prayer	Margaret Todd
HOLY WEDNESDAY 113th - Red	8.30am	Painswick	Morning Prayer	Canon Michael
	6.30pm	Pitchcombe	Worship in Poetry and Music	Ann Kennett/Liz Burge
MAUNDY THURSDAY 14th White	8.30am	Painswick	Morning Prayer	Canon Michael
	11.00am	Gloucester Cathedral	Eucharist & Blessing of Oils	
	7.30pm	Painswick	Eucharist & Watch (to 10.pm)	Canon Michael Preacher: Revd. Andrew
Readings: Exodus 12.1-4, 11-14, 1 Corinthians 11.23-26, John 13. 1-17, 31b-35				

GOOD FRIDAY 15th <i>Altars stripped</i>	PAINSWICK	SHEEPSCOMBE	CRANHAM
	8.30am Morning Prayer Canon Michael 10.30am Procession of Witness – Revd. Andrew 2.00pm Good Friday Devotion Revd. David N	9.30am Good Friday Devotion Mike Campbell	11.00 am Good Friday Devotion Beryl Berry
		PITCHCOMBE	
		2pm 3 Parish Good Friday Devotion Liz Eden	
Easter Eve 16th <i>Altars stripped</i>	8.30am Painswick 8.00pm Cranham	Morning Prayer Easter Eve Vigil Service	Canon Michael <i>President:</i> Revd Andrew <i>Deacon:</i> Revd. David R

Wednesday weekly: 9.00am Benefice Prayer time via Zoom

The weekly Zoom invitation will be sent out with Beacon Light each week. Lindsay Gardiner (lindsay.gardiner@icloud.com) Karen Riding (kriding07@yahoo.co.uk)

Thursday weekly : 9.30am Morning Prayer via Zoom from Sheepscombe

If you would like to join in or would like a copy of the service sheet please email Karen Riding kriding07@yahoo.co.uk.

1st Wednesday of each month: 10.30am Holy Communion at Richmond Village

3rd Tuesday of each month: 11.00am Holy Communion at Resthaven

Services next Sunday - 17th April – Easter Sunday

6.00am	Painswick Beacon	Informal Dawn Service
9.30am	Painswick	Holy Communion
10.00am	Pitchcombe	Holy Communion
10.30am	Edge Village Hall	Family Service
11.00am	Cranham	Holy Communion
11.00am	Harescombe	Holy Communion
11.00am	Sheepscombe	Holy Communion

Contacts

Rector: Revd. Janet Turville

Benefice Office: The Lychgate, Stroud Road, Painswick, GL6 6UT

Tel: 01452 814795 Email: lychgateoffice@btinternet.com

Associate Priest: Revd. Andrew Leach Tel: 07564 448692 Email: ajpleach@gmail.com

Website: www.beaconbenefice.org.uk

Information for the next Beacon Light Online to ajpleach@gmail.com by **Tuesday 5pm at the latest**, please.

And Finally...

Seen in a pewsheet: "Applications are now being accepted for 2 year-old nursery workers."