

RESOURCING OURSELVES / RESOURCING OTHERS

Continuing Ministerial Development

Diocese of St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane

HOLY WEEK 2020



Resources for Holy Week

Holy Week 2020 will be different in so many ways and yet its death defying, life-giving message has seldom been more timely. This week's resource sheet offers some pointers to help tell the world that God is with us in suffering and in the promise of Rising from the dead.

Michael Paterson, CMD Coordinator

Rev Nerys Brown, St Mary's Dunblane recommends this resource which offers films, songs, prayers and reflections for Holy Week <https://www.engageworship.org/articles/easter-and-holy-week-streaming-and-home-worship>

The Iona Community has a wide range of material for Holy Week and Easter available to download instantly at <https://www.ionabooks.com/e-liturgies-prayers/holy-week.html>

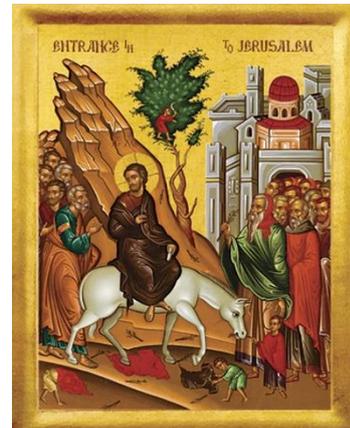
Artwork

One of my former students, Rev Ally Barrett, Chaplain St Catherine's College Cambridge, has made her artwork for Passiontide and Holy Week freely available both for personal reflection and for supporting our dispersed congregations. <https://reverendally.org/2020/03/26/passiontide-and-holy-week-in-pictures/>

Palm Sunday

Idea for online posting

How strange the change from major to minor.
(Ella Fitzgerald)



Film Clip

Based on the liturgy of the palms this clip offers a dramatic way into Holy Week <https://www.theworkofthepeople.com/scattered-palms>

Reflection

'How can people change so quickly from Hosanna to Crucify five days later? This sharp juxtaposition exposes our own tendencies to 'bless the Lord.. and curse our neighbour'. <https://www.theworkofthepeople.com/from-palms-to-the-cross>

Ritual Action

Make a cross from whatever you have available, (twigs, branches, string) and place it somewhere where you and others might see it, in your window, online. Here's a tutorial if it helps : <https://youtu.be/kmtg7m7lon8>



Holy Thursday

Idea for online posting

‘If your body is broken there’s a place for you at this table.’ Michael Paterson

Reflection

‘Since I have neither bread nor wine nor altar, I will raise myself beyond these symbols ... I will make the whole earth my altar and on it will offer you all the labours and suffering of the world.’

Source: Teilhard de Chardin sj

Bread of life

Broken, torn, shared
Equipping. Nourishing. Sustaining

Cup of salvation

Poured, supped, ingested
Flowing. Quenching. Freeing

Bread and cup

Filling. Releasing. Making new
Replenishing the body
Infusing all of life
with sacred meaning
and connectedness
Blurring the lines
Uniting heaven and earth
Past, present and eternity
in a great cloud of witnesses
Overflowing
out of our sanctuaries
onto the streets
marking time
until all can be fed again
with the life of the world.
Maranatha!

Source: Liz Crumlish

Film Clips

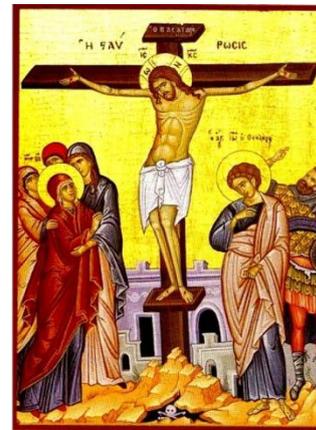
A contemporary meditation on the Mandatum,
<https://www.theworkofthepeople.com/stranger>

This short film focuses on the gift of Holy Communion

<https://www.theworkofthepeople.com/holy-communion>

Ritual Action

Since we cannot wash each other’s feet maybe we could pass on a hand sanitizer or a toilet roll to someone who needs it more than we do.



Good Friday

Idea for online posting

‘Love hurts! Don’t we just know it.’

Reflection

“Today, like every other day, we wake up empty and frightened. Don't open the door to the study and begin reading. Take down the dulcimer. Let the beauty we love be what we do. There are hundreds of ways to kneel and kiss the ground.”

Source: Rumi 13th Century

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Film Clip

Psalm 22 ‘My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?’ This psalm of David is a meditation on the desperation each of us has felt. Christ identifies with us in our suffering and asks the Father the same hard question!

<https://www.theworkofthepeople.com/psalm-22>

Ritual Action

Write a letter from the heart to God. Keep it in a safe place and add to it as things occur to you. Unite your suffering with the suffering of Christ. You might consider burning your letter in the Paschal Fire on Easter Sunday.



Holy Saturday

Idea for online posting

And the people stayed home. And read books, and listened, and rested, and exercised, and made art, and played games, and learned new ways of being, and were still. And listened more deeply. Some meditated, some prayed, some danced. Some met their shadows. And the people began to think differently.

And the people healed. And, in the absence of people living in ignorant, dangerous, mindless, and heartless ways, the earth began to heal.

And when the danger passed, and the people joined together again, they grieved their losses, and made new choices, and dreamed new images, and created new ways to live and heal the earth fully, as they had been healed.

Source: Kitty O'Meara

Reflection

'What is happening? Today there is a great silence over the earth, a great silence, and stillness, a great silence because the King sleeps; the earth was in terror and was still, because God slept in the flesh and raised up those who were sleeping from the ages. God has died in the flesh, and the underworld has trembled.

Truly he goes to seek out our first parent like a lost sheep; he wishes to visit those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death. He goes to free the prisoner Adam and his fellow-prisoner Eve from their pains, he who is God, and Adam's son.

The Lord goes in to them holding his victorious weapon, his cross. When Adam, the first created man, sees him, he strikes his breast in terror and calls out to all: 'My Lord be with you all.' And Christ in reply says to Adam: 'And with your spirit.' And grasping his hand he raises him up, saying: 'Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give you light. ...

'I command you: Awake, sleeper, I have not made you to be held a prisoner in the underworld. Arise from the dead; I am the life of the dead. Arise, O man, work of my hands, arise, you who were fashioned in my image. Rise, let us go hence; for you in me and I in you, together we are one undivided person.

Source: Ancient homily for Holy Saturday

Hymn

Rev Ally Barrett wrote this hymn for the evening of Holy Saturday 2020. It is set to the tune of 'Abide with me'.

Dark is the night, the passing hours are long,
Lone voices whisper sorrow's silent song,
Each faltering prayer will fear it's made in vain,
When will we sing the world to life again?

Dark is the night; not all are blessed with sleep.
Some wake and work,
and some must watch and weep:
Angels disguised, they tend a world in pain,
Off'ring the hope that there'll be life again.

Dark is the night, the silent hours are slow,
Heav'n's tears anoint the suffering earth below,
Blessing with dew the secret springing grain,
Pledge that the world will soon know life again.

Source: Rev Ally Barrett



Easter Morning

Idea for Online Posting:

'It is a serious thing just to be alive on this fresh morning in the broken world.'

Source: Mary Oliver, *The Invitation*

Reflection

'Surges of hope, shattering the surrounding darkness, providing a glimpse of a radical alternative. Even if brief, even if the following minutes, hours, days are unknown and scary, the surge of hope carries us forward.'

Source: Neil Paynter.

That first Easter
 came without fanfare
 in the midst of brutal occupation
 in the midst of recession and oppression
 It snuck in
 And the first to observe it
 were those who were up and about early
 The women
 who kept vigil
 The news was whispered
 from graveyard to village
 from village to town
 picking up speed
 gathering momentum
 until
 in all its gobsmacking glory
 the reality of resurrection
 was realised.
 And light dawned
 not in one stupendous burst
 but slowly
 and gently
 dispelling darkness nonetheless.

This Easter

Resurrection will still come

Heralded by angels:

Key workers on their way to early shifts

Or heading home after a night shift

And the good news will be gossiped

by those who keep vigil today

We do not need to gather in person

Even in the distancing

we can bear witness

to the light of Christ

that shines in the darkness

and is not overcome

Love is not defeated.

We may leave the Alleluias

buried for now

and stay by the empty tomb

for a bit longer

But this we believe

Christ will still rise

The darkness will not last forever

Light will surely dawn.

Source: Liz Crumlish

Film Clip

He is Risen! An Easter Benediction by Kelly Ann Hall.

<https://www.theworkofthepeople.com/he-is-risen>

Ritual Action



Decorate a candle ready for lighting when you join with the nation at 7pm. Post photos of your lit candle to those in your charges and to the Diocesan Facebook Page.

Thanks to all our contributors.
In this extraordinary time we are blessed
that we can exercise our collegiality by
sharing resources with each other.

Contributions in word please to
cmdcoordinator@gmail.com.

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Back copies

<https://standrews.anglican.org/clergy-development-resources/>