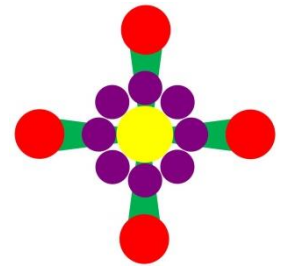


# The Benefice of Harden, Wilsden, Cullingworth, Denholme



**5 April 2020 - Palm Sunday**

*If you can, start at 10.30am.*

*Do not worry if you cannot keep to that time, still join in!*

*Take a moment to be still. Perhaps light a candle or hold a cross.*

*Be aware that others will be saying these same words and prayers.*

*We are united in prayer and worship.*

## **The Palm Sunday Gospel: Matthew 21:1-11**

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, "The Lord needs them." And he will send them immediately.' This took place to fulfil what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,

'Tell the daughter of Zion,  
Look, your king is coming to you,  
humble, and mounted on a donkey,  
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, 'Hosanna to the Son of David!

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

When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, 'Who is this?' The crowds were saying, 'This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.'

Praise to the Lord for the Good News!

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,  
Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

O Lord open our lips;  
and our hearts shall proclaim your praise.

The night has passed and a new day lies open before us;  
we pray with one heart and mind.

*Pause for reflection as you offer this day to God.*

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,  
as we reflect on our Lord's Passion,  
so may the light of your presence, O God,  
set our hearts on fire with love for you and for each other. Amen.

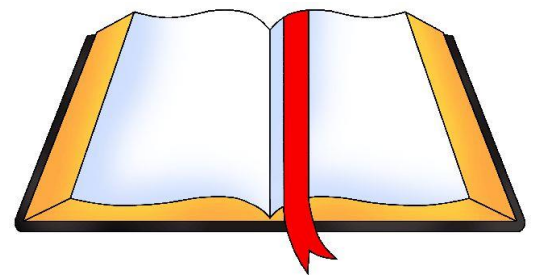
Lord, lead us into Holy Week,  
as we reflect on the events of that week,  
as we follow in Christ's footsteps.

Lord, lead us onto holy ground,  
as we walk towards the city,  
as we wait in the garden.

As we journey towards death,  
as we hope for resurrection,  
Lord, lead us into holy joy.

### ***The Passion Gospel: Matthew 26:14-27:66***

Then one of the twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, 'What will you give me if I betray him to you?' They paid him thirty pieces of silver. And from that moment he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.



On the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, 'Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?' He said, 'Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, "The Teacher says, My time is near; I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples."' So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover meal.

When it was evening, he took his place with the twelve; and while they were eating, he said, 'Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me.' And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another, 'Surely not I, Lord?' He answered, 'The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born.' Judas, who betrayed him, said, 'Surely not I, Rabbi?' He replied, 'You have said so.'

While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, 'Take, eat; this is my body.' Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, 'Drink from it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.'

When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

Then Jesus said to them, 'You will all become deserters because of me this night; for it is written, "I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered."

But after I am raised up, I will go ahead of you to Galilee.' Peter said to him, 'Though all become deserters because of you, I will never desert you.' Jesus said to him, 'Truly I tell you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.' Peter said to him, 'Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you.' And so, said all the disciples.

Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, 'Sit here while I go over there and pray.' He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated. Then he said to them, 'I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me.' And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed, 'My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want.' Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, 'So, could you not stay awake with me one hour? Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.' Again he went away for the second time and prayed, 'My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.' Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words. Then he came to the disciples and said to them, 'Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.'

While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; with him was a large crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, 'The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him.' At once he came up

to Jesus and said, 'Greetings, Rabbi!' and kissed him. Jesus said to him, 'Friend, do what you are here to do.' Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and arrested him. Suddenly, one of those with Jesus put his hand on his sword, drew it, and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. Then Jesus said to him, 'Put your sword back into its place; for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? But how then would the scriptures be fulfilled, which say it must happen in this way?' At that hour Jesus said to the crowds, 'Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But all this has taken place, so that the scriptures of the prophets may be fulfilled.' Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas the high priest, in whose house the scribes and the elders had gathered. But Peter was following him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest; and going inside, he sat with the guards in order to see how this would end. Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for false testimony against Jesus so that they might put him to death, but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward and said, 'This fellow said, "I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days."' The high priest stood up and said, 'Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?' But Jesus was silent. Then the high priest said to him, 'I put you under oath before the living God, tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God.' Jesus said to him, 'You have said so. But I tell you,

From now on you will see the Son of Man  
seated at the right hand of Power  
and coming on the clouds of heaven.'

Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, 'He has blasphemed! Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy. What is your verdict?' They answered, 'He deserves death.' Then they spat in his face and struck him; and some slapped him, saying, 'Prophecy to us, you Messiah! Who is it that struck you?'

Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. A servant-girl came to him and said, 'You also were with Jesus the Galilean.' But he denied it before all of them, saying, 'I do not know what you are talking about.' When he went out to the porch, another servant-girl saw him, and she said to the bystanders, 'This man was with Jesus of Nazareth.' Again he denied it with an oath, 'I do not know the man.' After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, 'Certainly you are also one of them, for your accent betrays you.' Then he began to curse, and he swore an oath, 'I do not know the man!' At that moment the cock crowed. Then Peter remembered what Jesus had said: 'Before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.' And he went out and wept bitterly.

When morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people conferred together against Jesus in order to bring about his death. They bound him, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate the governor.

When Judas, his betrayer, saw that Jesus was condemned, he repented and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders. He said, 'I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.' But they said, 'What is that to us? See to it yourself.' Throwing down the pieces of silver in the temple, he departed; and he went and hanged himself. But the chief priests, taking the pieces of silver, said, 'It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, since they are blood money.' After conferring together, they used them to buy the potter's field as a place to bury foreigners. For this reason that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah, 'And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of the one on whom a price had been set, on whom some of the people of Israel had set a price, and they gave them for the potter's field, as the Lord commanded me.'

Now Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' Jesus said, 'You say so.' But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer. Then Pilate said to him, 'Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?' But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed.

Now at the festival the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted. At that time they had a notorious prisoner, called Jesus Barabbas. So, after they had gathered, Pilate said to them, 'Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?' For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. While he was sitting on the judgement seat, his wife sent word to him, 'Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him.' Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed. The governor again said to them, 'Which of the two do you want me to release for you?' And they said, 'Barabbas.' Pilate said to them, 'Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?' All of them said, 'Let him be crucified!' Then he asked, 'Why, what evil has he done?' But they shouted all the more, 'Let him be crucified!'

So, when Pilate saw that he could do nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, 'I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves.' Then the people as a whole answered, 'His blood be on us and on our children!' So, he released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole cohort around him. They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on his head. They put a reed in his right hand and knelt before him and mocked him, saying, 'Hail, King of the Jews!' They spat on him, and took the reed and struck him on the head. After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they compelled this man to carry his cross. And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots; then they sat down there and kept watch over him. Over his head they put the charge against him, which read, 'This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.'

Then two bandits were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, 'You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross.' In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying, 'He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he wants to; for he said, "I am God's Son.'" The bandits who were crucified with him also taunted him in the same way.

From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, 'Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?' that is, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, 'This man is calling for Elijah.' At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. But the others said, 'Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him.' Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last. At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. After his resurrection they came out of the tombs and entered the holy city and appeared to many. Now when the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said, 'Truly this man was God's Son!'

Many women were also there, looking on from a distance; they had followed Jesus from Galilee and had provided for him. Among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who was also a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus; then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. So Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock. He then rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb and went away. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb.

The next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate and said, 'Sir, we remember what that impostor said while he was still alive, "After three days I will rise again." Therefore command that the tomb be made secure until the third day; otherwise his disciples may go and steal him away, and tell the people, "He has been raised from the dead", and the last deception would be worse than the first.' Pilate said to them, 'You have a guard of soldiers; go, make it as secure as you can.' So they went with the guard and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone.

This is the Passion of the Lord

*Tony leads us this morning in our Reflection*

Palm Sunday and Holy Week are going to feel very different this year. However, Matthew's Passion Gospel, which would have been read in every Church this Palm Sunday powerfully reminds of us of the drama of these last days of Jesus's earthly life. Matthew's Gospel is the first book of the New Testament simply because it was found to be the most useful text as the Church grew and developed. It was not written in Hebrew or Aramaic, but in Greek. At the very beginning of his gospel Matthew records there were people who want the infant Jesus dead, among them Herod with the chief priests and scribes. Then towards the end of his gospel, as we heard, with Pilate's help they eventually succeed. However, there are also those friendly to Jesus: Mary, Joseph and the Magi, being replaced by Joseph of Arimathea, Mary Magdalene, and the other women and disciples. It is true to say the events of Holy Week take us through every possible human emotion, including joy, despair, betrayal, remorse, hatred, indifference, truth and lies, not forgetting the faithfulness of Jesus. So let us let Matthew take us through these important days.

After the joy and euphoria of Jesus's entry into Jerusalem with the crowds, the excitement and of course the palm leaves, those who have been plotting Jesus's death seize their opportunity with Judas's help. At the Passover meal Jesus takes the bread and wine and says those words, so familiar to us all: "This is my body. This is my blood – do this in remembrance of me." In the Greek language the word "remember" means more than a kind of mental

recall; it means “to make present again”. Jesus was telling his disciples every time you “do this”, I will be present with you! Although they didn’t understand at the time, the truth of those words would be revealed at the resurrection.

Once in the Garden of Gethsemane, the disciples are oblivious to Jesus’s distress. Yet, despite their lack of support Jesus faces his approaching hour with resolve. The betrayer is of course Judas, whom Matthew has Jesus address as “friend”. An armed struggle follows as Jesus is arrested and brought before Caiaphas. The following “show trial” raises many questions. Would the Jewish leaders really have held a trial so late at night during a major feast? However, what Matthew is telling us is that Jesus was totally innocent. While Jesus is being interrogated in the Jewish court, Peter is facing his own interrogation in the courtyard. Peter’s denial, contrasts with Judas’s betrayal; both were trusted disciples. Peter wept; Judas hung himself.

Disserted by disciples and surrounded by enemies, Jesus faces the Roman Governor. Pilate immediately seems to be uncertain how to handle the situation, but the tradition of releasing a prisoner at Passover, gives Pilate a possible solution. Matthew is the only Synoptic Gospel writer to mention Pilates wife and her dream. Once again Matthew contrasts a Gentile woman’s insight into Jesus’s innocence, with the Jewish leaders (aided by the crowd), demand for his crucifixion. Pilate uncertain what to do, washes his hands of the matter, effectively acknowledging Jesus’s innocence, to which the Jewish crowd says: “his blood be on us and on our children...” No one sentence has done so much damage between Jewish / Christian relationships. Yet we must remember at the time Matthew was writing, Christians were suffering at the hands of Jewish leaders. Pilate and his wife might have been secretly supportive of Jesus, but in the end Gentiles as well as Jews reject him.

So, the journey to Golgotha begins with the introduction of Simon of Cyrene. Even when dying, Jesus is mocked and derided by the observers and even by those crucified alongside him. Jesus’s final words at the ninth hour are: ‘Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani - my God, my God, why have you forsaken me?’ Are they words of abandonment or words of deliverance? Jesus still says: “my God...” but for Matthew there is no hiding Jesus’s utter agony. He really does experience every aspect of our human condition! But God has not forsaken Jesus, which becomes obvious after his death. The tearing of the Temple curtain is mentioned in all the gospels, Matthew also includes earthquakes and the dead rising. Just as Matthew marked the moment of Jesus’s birth with a star, so the moment of his death is even more dramatic. Even the Roman guards confess: “Truly this man was the Son of God”.

After his death, Joseph of Arimathea (who is mentioned in all four gospels), comes to give Jesus his tomb. Matthew however records the chief priests and Pharisees requesting an



armed guard be placed at the tomb. They may have wanted to thwart Jesus's claim to rise on the third day, but for Matthew their presence helps to confirm the resurrection, since it precludes all-natural explanations as to why the tomb is empty. The guard helps Matthew demonstrate the awesome power of God. People can do everything in their power to end Jesus's life, yet the God who shook the earth when Jesus died, will shake it again on Easter Day!

As I said at the beginning of this article, every human emotion! You may like to think where you might be in this drama. We would all like to think we would have been among the cheering crowds on Palm Sunday, but have there not been times when we have denied Jesus, perhaps even on occasions betrayed him? Are there not moments in all our lives when we have abandoned him? Perhaps we have been like Pilate unable to make decisions between truth and falsehood, good and evil. Are there not moments when we have cried out "My God, my God?" Yet, just as no earthly armed guard can defeat the power that God is about to release, so no human emotion can separate us from the power of His divine love. In this time of global crisis with all the emotions that evokes, this is surely one truth we can hold on to!

*Stuart leads us in our prayers:*

Lord Jesus Christ, you travelled through towns and villages curing every disease and illness. At your command, the sick were made well. Come to all humanity now, in the midst of the global spread of the coronavirus, that we all may experience your healing presence and love.

We pray for the many people who have contracted the coronavirus. Bring comfort to those grieving loved ones who have died and peace to those worried, fearful and uncertain as the virus spreads. We also pray for governments and authorities who are developing strategies to contain and deal with the virus and those in the health services who may be risking their own lives to care for sick patients.

Help us all to be responsible in the things that we do in our lives to prevent the spread of the virus by taking heed of the recommended precautions and avoiding situations which may make things worse.

*(A moment of quiet)*

**Lord in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer.**

Almighty God, as we approach Holy Week hearing again in its entirety, the story of Christ's passion, may it help us to truly understand the sacrifice he made for us as we reflect on his passion.

Despite being unable to gather in our churches we give thanks for all those who are putting together and posting digital worship, enabling us to be together in spirit as we relive the Easter story, a story which fills us with hope and confidence that there will be an end to the chaos of the Covid-19 Pandemic.

*(A moment of quiet)*

**Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer**

*We think of Christ the servant – in the words of St Ignatius.*

Holy God, teach us to be generous. Teach us to serve you as you deserve; to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labour and not to ask for reward, save that of knowing that we do your will.

*(A moment of quiet)*

**Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer**

*We think of Christ at prayer whilst his disciples sleep.*

Gracious God we recognise that sometime we put off prayer and thanksgiving as we give way to our human frailty. We thank you and pray for those who intercede on our behalf both in heaven and here on earth and especially for our benefice ministry team who are leading us in unity through difficult times.

*(A moment of quiet)*

**Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer**

*We think of Christ betrayed with a kiss and with denials*

Almighty God, please help us never to abandon someone in their time of greatest need. Help us to forgive those who have wounded and abandoned us in times of crisis. Cleanse our hearts from bitterness and resentment so that we can be more like Jesus, who was abandoned and betrayed by those closest to him.

*(A moment of quiet)*

**Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer**

*We think of Christ falsely tried*

Merciful God, we pray today for those facing the mockery of a trial, knowing that there is no justice for them and that their sentence might lead to a long term of imprisonment or even death. We remember too those who languish in jails that are overcrowded or in inhumane conditions in the hands of brutal regimes.

*(A moment of quiet)*

**Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer**

*We think of Christ tortured and violently executed*

Everlasting God, your son was tortured, beaten and humiliated, and sentenced to an agonizing death though he had done no wrong. We pray for all prisoners throughout the world and ask you to be with them in the darkness of their prison cell, in the loneliness of separation from those they love and in their fear in the face of torture, execution and death.

*(A moment of quiet)*

**Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer**

*We think of Christ's compassion despite the way he received none himself.*

Loving God we pray for all who bring comfort, care and healing especially our Health Services who are bravely caring for those who are in need in this worldwide crisis. We pray for the sick, the sorrowful, those who have recently died and those who are bereaved by their passing. We pray for those who are suffering anxiety and stress because their treatment has been delayed.

*(Short Silence)*

**Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer**

Father God, as we move into Holy Week, we commend ourselves and all those whom we live amongst, for whom Christ suffered, to His mercy and protection.

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

*And we draw all of our prayers together in the words of the Lord's Prayer.*

Our Father in heaven,  
Hallowed be your name.  
Your kingdom come, your will be done,  
On earth, as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread,  
Forgive us our sins,  
As we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation,  
But deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours  
Now and forever. Amen.

*As we draw our shared Act of Worship to a close, we commit ourselves to God's service and we offer one another a blessing.*

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 our Lord. Amen.

*Let us bless one another with the words of the Grace, aware that, although we are scattered, we are one in Christ.*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God and  
the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.



**Parcevall Hall.** Our diocesan retreat house is closed but the chaplain, Canon Graham Bettridge, is producing a short reflection each Tuesday. It can be found at [parcevallhall.org.uk](http://parcevallhall.org.uk), click on Thought for the day. If you would like a reminder of a very beautiful part of Yorkshire, the site offers a gallery of lovely photographs of the hall and gardens.

The results of the **March 100 Club draw**, carried out by Michael and Clive - properly observing social distancing requirements - were:-

£25 - 99 - Jean Crerar:            £10 - 63 - Jane Baxter

The May edition of the **Tittle Tattle newsletter** which has been produced by Harden Congregational Church for over 12 years has had to be cancelled. To continue to keep everybody in touch with one another, a limited weekly edition will be produced and will be posted on the church website every Wednesday, for the foreseeable future. Please pass details on to anyone in area who you think might be interested [www.hardencongs.org.uk](http://www.hardencongs.org.uk)

If anyone is in need of assistance, support, food or medicine deliveries or just a chat please ring Rev'd Richard on 01535 273758 or Rev'd Suzy on 01535 270687.

Please follow our Facebook page: If you are one Facebook search for 'Harden, Wilsden, Cullingworth, Denholme Benefice'.

There are lots of uplifting things in our Facebook community and there will be more regular features in this time when we cannot meet as we normally do!

**Church Finances:** If you do not usually give your offerings electronically, but can do so during this time when we are not able to meet in church, it would really help our cash flow. Thank you.

**Prayer Requests:** We have set up an email address to which anyone can send prayer requests. We will be advertising it in all our communications. Do let people know that they can send any requests to us and we will respond and pray for everyone. The email address is: [say14me@hotmail.com](mailto:say14me@hotmail.com)

#### **Prayer Chains at St. Matthew's and St. Saviour's.**

St. Matthew's: Margaret Harrison 272305. (Reserve is Dorothy 01274 497898)

St. Saviour's: June Thompson 273787. (Reserve is Hazel 274234)

#### **Please pray for:**

Bob and Suzanne Evans, Malcolm and Di Halliday, Linda White – Linda is now out of hospital and convalescing, please continue to pray for her as she recovers.

Beatrice Waddington who is well, and well cared for in the nursing home.

## **Prayers for the week beginning Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April**

Because of print deadlines this prayer diary cannot respond quickly to breaking news. In addition to the suggested topics, please keep in prayer national and international events as you learn of them.

|     |        |   |
|-----|--------|---|
| Sun | 05-Apr | Palm Sunday. As we remember our Lord's entry into Jerusalem, pray for understanding and respect between people of different nationalities and faiths that part of the world. Pray for peace and justice.  |
| Mon | 06-Apr | Pray that many throughout our villages may draw strength from Holy Week through quiet reflection at home  |
| Tue | 07-Apr | Pray for food banks in Bradford, Bingley and Keighley, the volunteers and those they serve  |
| Wed | 08-Apr | Pray for the people supported by Inn Churches who found shelter here in December. Pray that they have found safe surroundings now.  |
| Thu | 09-Apr | Pray for the Queen as we remember the Maundy service in Bradford Cathedral in 1997 when Alice from St Matthew's received the Maundy Money, with Beatrice from St Saviour's as her companion. Give thanks for many faithful servants in our parishes over the years. |
| Fri | 10-Apr | Good Friday Pray for Christians everywhere as we reflect on the meaning of the cross.   |
| Sat | 11-Apr | The Leprosy Mission asks for prayers at this time for its research workers in Nepal.  |

Please give contributions for the next newsletter to Pauline - Tel: 01535 273814  
email: [pstern155@gmail.com](mailto:pstern155@gmail.com) (and copy to David Haigh: [david@haigh.demon.co.uk](mailto:david@haigh.demon.co.uk) and to Helen Ludkin) **Copy Deadline:** 12.00h on the **WEDNESDAY** before publication

*Please note we can only mention people, by name, in the newsletter with their consent.*

|                             |  |  |
|-----------------------------|--|--|
| <b>Websites:</b>            | <a href="http://www.stmatthewswilsden.org.uk">www.stmatthewswilsden.org.uk</a> | <a href="http://www.stsavioursharden.org.uk">www.stsavioursharden.org.uk</a>           |
| <b>Team Rector</b>          | Revd Richard Burge<br>01535 273758   | richard.burge@leeds.anglican.org<br>and for urgent calls: 07484275887                  |
| <b>Team Vicar</b>           | Revd Suzy McCarter   | <a href="mailto:suzanne_mccarter@msn.com">suzanne_mccarter@msn.com</a> 01535<br>270687 |
| <b>Associate Priest</b>     | Revd Liz Moy   | <a href="mailto:zilyom@btinternet.com">zilyom@btinternet.com</a> 01535 645991          |
| <b>Parish Administrator</b> | Helen Ludkin   | <a href="mailto:beneficehwcd@gmail.com">beneficehwcd@gmail.com</a> 07788848830         |
| <i>Church Wardens</i>       | <i>St Matthew's – Clive Allsop</i>   | <i>01535 523693</i>  |
|                             | <i>St Saviour's – Malcolm Jones</i>  | <i>01535 272649</i>  |
| <i>Deputy Warden</i>        | <i>St Saviour's – Chris Bendle</i>   | <i>07903 713018</i>  |

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Please include your name as a reference or we will be unable to thank you. We are wholly dependent on your generosity.

**Clergy Days Off: Liz – Monday & Thursday, Suzy – Tuesday, Richard - Saturday**