

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

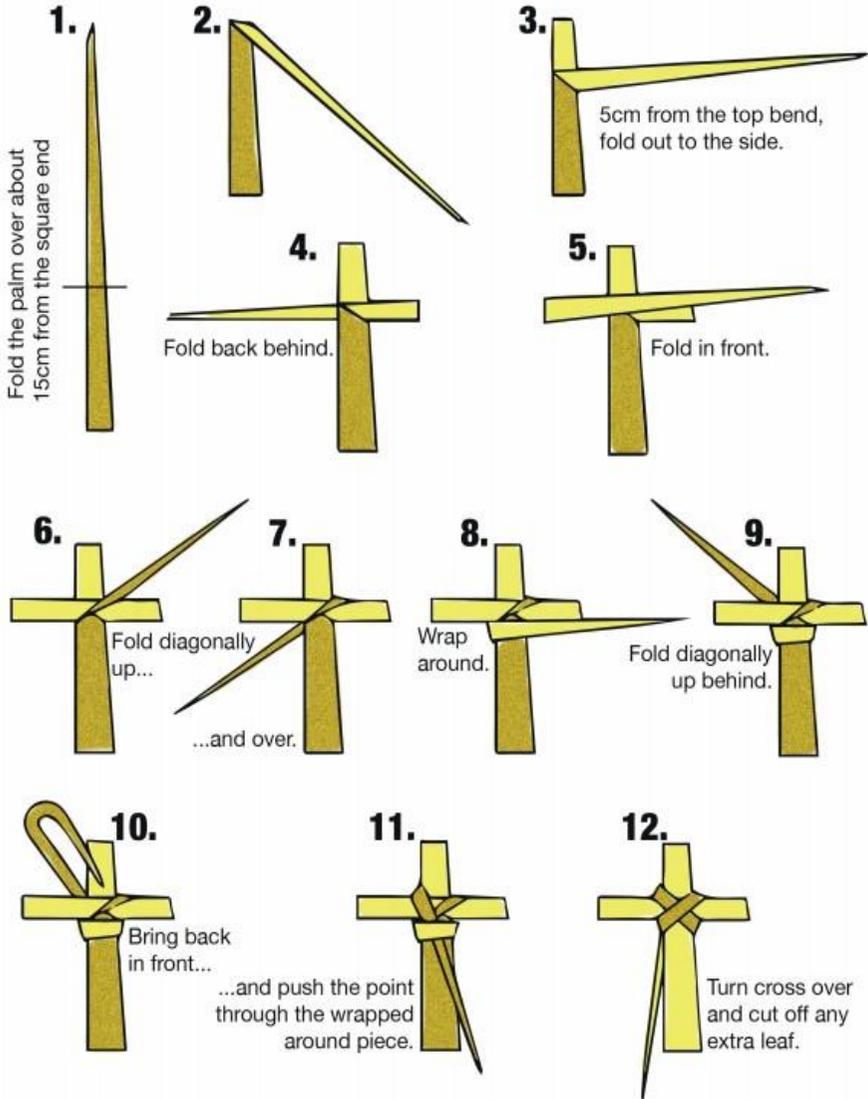


2021

ST Marks Winshill
St Wystans Bretby

How To Make A Palm Cross

You will need one palm leaf strip about 60-65cm long and 1cm wide, tapering to the end.



A strip of paper cut to the same size will work.

Palm Sunday

Commemoration of the Lord's Entry into Jerusalem

Hosanna to the Son of David,
the King of Israel.
Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.



Introduction

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.

Hold your Palm Cross and say

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.

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. Amen.

Use the Readings and reflection for Palm Sunday

You can use the Spiritual Communion Order of Service or spend some time in prayer or watch/listen to the services on TV and Radio.

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday of Holy Week

The Way of the Cross

Jesus told his disciples, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.'

Matthew 16.24,25

Each station of The Way of the Cross starts with the opening response: The reading listed can be read, followed by a period of quiet reflection. A prayer specific to the station follows with the final response to conclude. Repeat the sequence for the next station.

You can split the Stations up to do 4-5 each day or you can do all 14 and repeat them each day. There is no right or wrong way, it is offered as a way of coming closer to Christ in his journey.

Opening Response

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

Reading followed by reflection

Prayer

Concluding Response

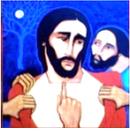
Holy God, holy and strong, holy and immortal, have mercy upon us.



First Station: Jesus in agony in the Garden of Gethsemane

Reading - Mark 14.32-36

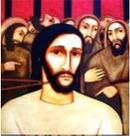
Lord Jesus, you entered the garden of fear and faced the agony of your impending death: be with those who share that agony and face death unwillingly this day. You shared our fear and knew the weakness of our humanity: give strength and hope to the dispirited and despairing. To you, Jesus, who sweated blood, be honour and glory with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.



Second Station: Jesus betrayed by Judas and arrested

Reading - Mark 14.43-46

Lord Jesus, you were betrayed by the kiss of a friend: be with those who are betrayed and slandered and falsely accused. You knew the experience of having your love thrown back in your face for mere silver: be with families which are torn apart by mistrust or temptation. To you, Jesus, who offered your face to your betrayer, be honour and glory with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen



Third Station: Jesus condemned by the Sanhedrin

Reading - Mark 14.55-64

Lord Jesus, you were the victim of religious bigotry: be with those who are persecuted by small-minded authority. You faced the condemnation of fearful hearts: deepen the understanding of those who shut themselves off from the experience and wisdom of others. To you, Jesus, unjustly judged victim, be honour and glory with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.



Fourth Station: Peter denies Jesus

Reading - Mark 14.72

Lord Jesus, as Peter betrayed you, you experienced the double agony of love rejected and friendship denied: be with those who know no friends and are rejected by society. You understood the fear within Peter: help us to understand the anxieties of those who fear for their future. To you, Jesus, who gazed with sadness at your lost friend, be honour and glory with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen



Fifth Station: Jesus judged by Pilate

Reading - Mark 15.14,15

Lord Jesus, you were condemned to death for political expediency: be with those who are imprisoned for the convenience of the powerful. You were the victim of unbridled injustice: change the minds and motivations of oppressors and exploiters to your way of peace. To you, Jesus, innocent though condemned, be honour and glory with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.



Sixth Station: Jesus scourged and crowned with thorns

Reading - Mark 15.17-19

Lord Jesus, you faced the torment of barbaric punishment and mocking tongue: be with those who cry out in physical agony and emotional distress. You endured unbearable abuse: be with those who face torture and mockery in our world today. To you, Jesus, the King crowned with thorns, be honour and glory with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.



Seventh Station: Jesus carries the cross

Reading - Mark 15.20

Lord Jesus, you carried the cross through the rough streets of Jerusalem: be with those who are loaded with burdens beyond their strength. You bore the weight of our sins when you carried the cross: help us to realize the extent and the cost of your love for us. To you, Jesus, bearing a cross not your own, be honour and glory with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.



Eighth Station: Simon of Cyrene helps Jesus to carry the Cross

Reading - Mark 15.21

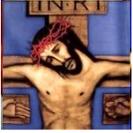
Lord Jesus, you were worn down by fatigue: be with those from whom life drains all energy. You needed the help of a passing stranger: give us the humility to receive aid from others. To you, Jesus, weighed down with exhaustion and in need of help, be honour and glory with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.



Ninth Station: Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem

Reading - Luke 23.27-31

Lord Jesus, the women of Jerusalem wept for you: move us to tears at the plight of the broken in our world. You embraced the pain of Jerusalem, the 'city of peace': bless Jerusalem this day and lead it to the path of profound peace. To you, Jesus, the King of peace who wept for the city of peace, be honour and glory with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.



Tenth Station: Jesus is crucified

Reading - Mark 15.24

Lord Jesus, you bled in pain as the nails were driven into your flesh: transform through the mystery of your love the pain of those who suffer. To you, Jesus, our crucified Lord, be honour and glory with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.



Eleventh Station: Jesus promises the kingdom to the penitent thief

Reading - Luke 23.39-43

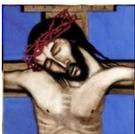
Lord Jesus, even in your deepest agony you listened to the crucified thief: hear us as we unburden to you our deepest fears. You spoke words of love in your hour of death: help us to speak words of life to a dying world. To you, Jesus, who offer hope to the hopeless, be honour and glory with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen



Twelfth Station: Jesus on the cross; his mother and his friend

Reading - John 19.26,27

Lord Jesus, your mother and your dearest friend stayed with you to the bitter end, yet even while racked with pain you ministered to them: be with all broken families today and care for those who long for companionship. You cared for your loved ones even in your death-throes: give us a love for one another that is stronger even than the fear of death. To you, Jesus, loving in the face of death, be honour and glory with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen



Thirteenth Station: Jesus dies on the cross

Reading - Mark 15.34-37

Lord Jesus, you died on the cross and entered the bleakest of all circumstances: give courage to those who die at the hands of others. In death you entered into the darkest place of all: illumine our darkness with your glorious presence. To you, Jesus, your lifeless body hanging on the tree of shame, be honour and glory with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

PTO for Fourteenth Station



Fourteenth Station: Jesus laid in the tomb

Reading - Mark 15.46

Lord Jesus, Lord of life, you became as nothing for us: be with those who feel worthless and as nothing in the world's eyes. You were laid in a cold, dark tomb and hidden from sight: be with all who suffer and die in secret, hidden from the eyes of the world. To you, Jesus, your rigid body imprisoned in a tomb, be honour and glory with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

Maundy Thursday - *Imagining*

We remember today Jesus coming to feast with his disciples and friends to celebrate the Passover. During this festive time Jesus assumed the role of a slave and washed the disciple's feet. As you read the Gospel Reading for today, imagine yourself in that upper room either watching or participating in the events as they unfold. Perhaps have a bowl of water and at the foot washing, run your hand through it, scoop it up and let it run through your fingers. Allow your feet to be washed in your imagining and respond.



The Readings for the Day are:

1 Corinthians 11.23-26

John 13.1-17,31b-35

The Washing of Feet

The following is based on anthem 'Ubi Caritas'.

God is love, and where true love is, God himself is there.

Here in Christ we gather, love of Christ our calling;
Christ, our love, is with us, gladness be his greeting;
let us all revere and love him, God eternal.

Loving him, let each love Christ in all his brothers.

God is love,...

When we Christians gather, members of one Body,
let there be in us no discord, but one spirit;
banished now be anger, strife and every quarrel.

Christ our God be present always here among us.

God is love,...

Grant us love's fulfilment, joy with all the blessed
when we see your face, O Saviour, in its glory;
shine on us, O purest Light of all creation,
be our bliss while endless ages sing your praises.
God is love,...

James Quinn SJ

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters we do also for you: give us the will to be the servant of others as you were the servant of all, and gave up your life and died for us, but are alive and reign, now and for ever. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession for this day

Father, on this, the night he was betrayed, your Son Jesus Christ washed his disciples' feet.

We commit ourselves to follow his example of love and service.

Lord, hear us and humble us.

On this night, he prayed for his disciples to be one.

We pray for the unity of your Church. Lord,

hear us and unite us.

On this night, he prayed for those who were to believe through his disciples' message. We pray for the mission of your Church.

Lord, hear us and renew our zeal.

On this night, he commanded his disciples to love, but suffered rejection himself. We pray for the rejected and unloved.

Lord, hear us and fill us with your love.

On this night, he reminded his disciples that if the world hated them it hated him first. We pray for those who are persecuted for their faith.

Lord, hear us and give us your peace.

On this night, he accepted the cup of death and looked forward to the new wine of the kingdom. We remember those who have died in the peace of Christ.

Lord, hear us and welcome all your children into paradise.



Good Friday

You will need a small cross and a stone.

Either make a small cross from sticks or pencils etc or use your palm cross and find a space to lay it flat, somewhere it can stay till Easter Day.

The Collect

Eternal God, in the cross of Jesus we see the cost of our sin and the depth of your love: in humble hope and fear may we place at his feet all that we have and all that we are, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

Old Testament Reading

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.
Isaiah 52.13–end of 53

New Testament Reading

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.
Hebrews 10.16-25

The Passion Reading

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
John 18.1–19. 37

Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by?
Look and see if there is any sorrow like my sorrow
which was brought upon me,
which the Lord inflicted on the day of his fierce anger.

Holy God, holy and strong, holy and immortal, have mercy upon us.

O my people, O my Church, what have I done to you,
or in what have I offended you?

Testify against me.

I led you forth from the land of Egypt,
and delivered you by the waters of baptism,
but you have prepared a cross for your Saviour.

Holy God, holy and strong, holy and immortal, have mercy upon us.

I led you through the desert forty years,
and fed you with manna.

I brought you through tribulation and penitence,
and gave you my body, the bread of heaven,
but you prepared a cross for your Saviour.

Holy God, holy and strong, holy and immortal, have mercy upon us.

What more could I have done for you that I have not done?

I planted you, my chosen and fairest vineyard,
I made you the branches of my vine;
but when I was thirsty, you gave me vinegar to drink,
and pierced with a spear the side of your Saviour.

Holy God, holy and strong, holy and immortal, have mercy upon us.

I went before you in a pillar of cloud,
and you have led me to the judgement hall of Pilate.

I scourged your enemies and brought you to a land of freedom,
but you have scourged, mocked and beaten me.
I gave you the water of salvation from the rock,
but you have given me gall and left me to thirst.

Holy God, holy and strong, holy and immortal, have mercy upon us.

I gave you a royal sceptre,
and bestowed the keys of the kingdom,
but you have given me a crown of thorns.

I raised you on high with great power,
but you have hanged me on the cross.

Holy God, holy and strong, holy and immortal, have mercy upon us.

My peace I gave, which the world cannot give,
and washed your feet as a sign of my love,
but you draw the sword to strike in my name,
and seek high places in my kingdom.

I offered you my body and blood,
but you scatter and deny and abandon me.

Holy God, holy and strong, holy and immortal, have mercy upon us.

I sent the Spirit of truth to guide you,
and you close your hearts to the Counsellor.
I pray that all may be one in the Father and me,
but you continue to quarrel and divide. I call you to go and bring forth fruit,
but you cast lots for my clothing.
Holy God, holy and strong, holy and immortal, have mercy upon us.

I came to you as the least of your brothers and sisters;
I was hungry and you gave me no food,
I was thirsty and you gave me no drink,
I was a stranger and you did not welcome me,
naked and you did not clothe me,
sick and in prison and you did not visit me.
Holy God, holy and strong, holy and immortal, have mercy upon us.

Pray for others, the sick, the bereaved and the lonely. Pray for those you love.

The Lords Prayer

The Conclusion

Most merciful God,
who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ
delivered and saved the world:
grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross
we may triumph in the power of his victory;
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 Gospel of the Burial of Christ

John 19.38-42

Take your stone and place it on or by your Cross

Holy Saturday

The Easter Vigil

As we wait on this Holy Saturday for the great feast of the Resurrection, of Christ Light of the World, we pause and reflect on some of the great themes of the Old Testament.

Below are 3 series of readings that may be useful at this time.

These first 4 Reading are common to all sets:

Genesis 1.1 – 2.4a	The Creation
Genesis 3	The Fall
Exodus 3.1-6	Moses and the burning bush
Exodus 14 etc	Crossing the Red Sea

Salvation Theme

Jonah 1.1 – 2.10	Jonah and the fish
Daniel 3.1-28	The three young men in the furnace
Daniel 6.1-24	Daniel in the lions' den

Freedom Theme

Exodus 12.1-24	The Passover
Isaiah 54.5-15	I will save you from all your afflictions
Ezekiel 47.1-12	The river of life
Zephaniah 3.14-end	Jerusalem praises God

Renewal Theme

Jeremiah 31.31-34	God's promises a new heart
Ezekiel 36.24-28	Sprinkled with the water of life
Ezekiel 37.1-14	The valley of dry bones
Ezekiel 47.1-12	The river of life



Easter Day

Remove the stone that was placed on or by our Cross

Welcoming the Easter Candle

In Church the Easter Candle will be lit. If you have a candle, take it and say:

Christ yesterday and today,
the beginning and the end,
Alpha and Omega,
all time belongs to him, and all ages;
to him be glory and power,
through every age and for ever. Amen.

Alleluia. Christ is risen. He is risen indeed. Alleluia

This is the day when our Lord Jesus Christ was raised gloriously from the dead, crushing the power of sin and destroying the sting of death. Throughout the world Christians celebrate the mighty power of God as Christ calls us out of darkness to share in his marvellous light. May we, and all Christ's people, shine as lights in the world to the glory of God the Father.

The Lighting of Candles

Light your candle saying:

The light of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

If you have an Easter Garden the following may be used:

Prayers at the Easter Garden

Alleluia. Christ is risen. He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

The angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid;
I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified.
He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said.'

Matthew 28.5,6

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,
the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.
To you be glory now and for ever.
In your great mercy you have given us a new birth into a living hope
through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.
By your blessing, may we who have prepared this garden
in celebration of his victory
be strengthened in faith,
know the power of his presence,
and rejoice in the hope of eternal glory.
Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
Blessed be God for ever.

Risen Lord Jesus,
as Mary Magdalene met you in the garden
on the morning of your resurrection,
so may we meet you today and every day:
speak to us as you spoke to her;
reveal yourself as the living Lord;
renew our hope and kindle our joy;
and send us to share the good news with others.
Amen.

You can use the Spiritual Communion Order of Service or spend some time in prayer or watch/listen to the services on TV and Radio.

