

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST MARY'S PULBOROUGH



# GOOD FRIDAY

**1pm Commemoration of the  
Lord's Suffering and Death**

**3<sup>rd</sup> April, 2026**

**Celebrant: Fr Paul**

**Preacher: Austen Hindman**

**Organist: Tony Hancock**

**The First Reading: Bren Marks**

**The Second Reading: Miq Kelland**

*This Liturgy begins in silence. When the altar party enter please  
kneel or sit*

*After a few moments of corporate silence  
**All stand with Fr Paul to pray:***

### **The Collect**

Almighty Father,  
look with mercy on this your family  
for which our Lord Jesus Christ was content to be betrayed  
and given up into the hands of sinners  
and to suffer death upon the cross;  
who is alive and glorified with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*Please sit*

### **The First Reading: Isaiah 52. 13-53. 12**

*A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah*

See, my servant shall prosper;  
he shall be exalted and lifted up,  
and shall be very high.  
Just as there were many who were astonished at him  
—so marred was his appearance, beyond human semblance,  
and his form beyond that of mortals—  
so he shall startle many nations;  
kings shall shut their mouths because of him;  
for that which had not been told them they shall see,  
and that which they had not heard they shall contemplate.  
Who has believed what we have heard?  
And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?  
For he grew up before him like a young plant,  
and like a root out of dry ground;  
he had no form or majesty that we should look at him,  
nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.

He was despised and rejected by others;  
a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity;  
and as one from whom others hide their faces  
he was despised, and we held him of no account.

Surely he has borne our infirmities  
and carried our diseases;  
yet we accounted him stricken,  
struck down by God, and afflicted.  
But he was wounded for our transgressions,  
crushed for our iniquities;  
upon him was the punishment that made us whole,  
and by his bruises we are healed.  
All we like sheep have gone astray;  
we have all turned to our own way,  
and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,  
yet he did not open his mouth;  
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,  
and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,  
so he did not open his mouth.  
By a perversion of justice he was taken away.  
Who could have imagined his future?  
For he was cut off from the land of the living,  
stricken for the transgression of my people.  
They made his grave with the wicked  
and his tomb with the rich,  
although he had done no violence,  
and there was no deceit in his mouth.

Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him with pain.  
When you make his life an offering for sin,  
he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days;  
through him the will of the Lord shall prosper.  
Out of his anguish he shall see light;  
he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge.

The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous,  
and he shall bear their iniquities.  
Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great,  
and he shall divide the spoil with the strong;  
because he poured out himself to death,  
and was numbered with the transgressors;  
yet he bore the sin of many,  
and made intercession for the transgressors.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **The Second Reading: Hebrews 4. 14-16; 5.7-9**

*A reading from the letter to the Hebrew*

Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand*

**Gradual Hymn: NEH 90 v1, 4 and 5**  
***O Haupt voll Blut und Wunden* Paulus Gerhardt (1607-1676)**  
**attributed after Arnuf von Loewen (1200-1250) translated**  
**Robert Seymour Bridges (1844-1930)**

- 1**      **O sacred head, sore wounded,  
Defiled and put to scorn;  
O kingly head, surrounded  
With mocking crown of thorn:  
What sorrow mars thy grandeur?  
Can death thy bloom deflower?  
O countenance whose splendour  
The hosts of heaven adore!**
- 4**      **In thy most bitter passion  
My heart to share doth cry,  
With thee for my salvation  
Upon the cross to die.  
Ah, keep my heart thus movèd  
To stand thy Cross beneath,  
To mourn thee, well-belovèd,  
Yet thank thee for thy death.**
- 5**      **My days are few, O fail not,  
With thine immortal power,  
To hold me that I quail not  
In death's most fearful hour:  
That I may fight befriended,  
And see in my last strife  
To me thine arms extended  
Upon the cross of life.**

**The Passion of our Lord Jeus Christ according to John**

*Please remain standing or sit if necessary. The story of Christ's suffering and death are now told according to John. Candles and formal responses are not used for this reading.*

## **The Homily**

*Please stand*

*During the following hymn the crucifix is collected for veneration*

- 1**      **How deep the Father's love for us,  
How vast beyond all measure,  
That He should give His only Son  
To make a wretch His treasure.  
How great the pain of searing loss -  
The Father turns His face away,  
As wounds which mar the Chosen One  
Bring many sons to glory.**
  
- 2**      **Behold the man upon a cross,  
My sin upon His shoulders;  
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice  
Call out among the scoffers.  
It was my sin that held Him there  
Until it was accomplished;  
His dying breath has brought me life -  
I know that it is finished.**
  
- 3**      **I will not boast in anything,  
No gifts, no power, no wisdom;  
But I will boast in Jesus Christ,  
His death and resurrection.  
Why should I gain from His reward?  
I cannot give an answer;  
But this I know with all my heart -  
His wounds have paid my ransom.**

## The Proclamation of the Cross

*The crucifix is unveiled and carried through the church.  
Fr Paul stops three times and invites the people to reverence the  
crucifix repeating the following words after him:*

This is the wood of the cross, on which our Redeemer hung.  
Come, come let us adore.  
Come, come let us adore the Saviour of the world.

*(Each time these words are used the congregation is invited to bow  
the head as a sign of reverence)*

**This is the wood of the cross, on which our Redeemer hung.  
Come, come let us adore.  
Come, come let us adore the Saviour of the world.**

*When the crucifix is in place in front of the altar the congregation is  
invited to kneel or sit and then come forward to venerate or to  
remain in their seats and venerate from afar. Following this the  
crucifix is placed on the altar with candles either side. During the  
veneration the following chant and hymn are sung:*

**O&N 931**

**Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom**  
*(Repeated)*

**NEH: 92**

**Cecil Frances Alexander (née Humphreys) (1818-1895)**

**1 There is a green hill far away,  
without a city wall,  
where the dear Lord was crucified,  
who died to save us all.**

- 2** We may not know, we cannot tell,  
what pains he had to bear,  
but we believe it was for us  
he hung and suffered there.
- 3** He died that we might be forgiven,  
he died to make us good,  
that we might go at last to heaven,  
saved by his precious blood.
- 4** There was no other good enough  
to pay the price of sin;  
he only could unlock the gate  
of heaven, and let us in.
- 5** O dearly, dearly has he loved,  
and we must love him too,  
and trust in his redeeming blood,  
and try his works to do.

*Please remain kneeling or sitting*

## **The Intercessions**

*These general intercessions which follow comprise a bidding and a time of silence which ends with a collect.*

*Fr Paul introduces the prayers*

God sent his Son into the world, not to condemn the world,  
but that the world might be saved through him.  
Therefore we pray to our heavenly Father  
for people everywhere according to their needs.

*Parish Reader*

Let us pray for the Church of God throughout the world:  
for unity in faith, in witness and in service,  
for bishops and other ministers, and those whom they serve,  
for Martin, our bishop, and the people of this diocese,  
for all Christians in this place,  
for those to be baptized,  
for those who are mocked and persecuted for their faith,  
that God will confirm his Church in faith,  
increase it in love, and preserve it in peace.

*Silence is kept.*

*Fr Paul:*

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Almighty and everlasting God,  
by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church  
is governed and sanctified:  
hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people,  
that in their vocation and ministry  
they may serve you in holiness and truth  
to the glory of your name;  
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

*Parish Reader*

Let us pray for the nations of the world and their leaders:  
for Charles our King and the Parliaments of this land,  
for those who administer the law and all who serve in public office,  
for all who strive for justice and reconciliation,  
that by God's help the world may live in peace and freedom.

*Silence is kept.*

*Fr Paul:*

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Most gracious God and Father,  
in whose will is our peace,  
turn our hearts and the hearts of all to yourself,  
that by the power of your Spirit  
the peace which is founded on justice  
may be established throughout the world;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Parish Reader*

Let us pray for God's ancient people, the Jews,  
the first to hear his word:  
for greater understanding between Christian and Jew,  
for the removal of our blindness and bitterness of heart,  
that God will grant us grace to be faithful to his covenant  
and to grow in the love of his name.

*Silence is kept.*

*Fr Paul:*

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Lord God of Abraham,  
bless the children of your covenant, both Jew and Christian;  
take from us all blindness and bitterness of heart,  
and hasten the coming of your kingdom,  
when the Gentiles shall be gathered in,  
all Israel shall be saved,  
and we shall dwell together in mutual love and peace  
under the one God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

*Parish Reader*

Let us pray for those who do not believe the gospel of Christ:  
for those who have not heard the message of salvation,  
for all who have lost faith, for the contemptuous and scornful,  
for those who are enemies of Christ and persecute those who  
follow him,  
for all who deny the faith of Christ crucified,  
that God will open their hearts to the truth  
and lead them to faith and obedience.

*Silence is kept.*

*Fr Paul:*

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Merciful God,  
creator of all the people of the earth,  
have compassion on all who do not know you,  
and by the preaching of your gospel with grace and power,  
gather them into the one fold of the one Shepherd;  
Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Parish Reader*

Let us pray for all those who suffer:  
for those who are deprived and oppressed,  
for all who are sick,  
for those in darkness, in doubt and in despair, in loneliness and in  
fear, for prisoners, captives and refugees,  
for the victims of false accusations and violence,  
for all at the point of death and those who watch beside them,  
that God in his mercy will sustain them  
with the knowledge of his love.

*Silence is kept.*

*Fr Paul:*

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Almighty and everlasting God,  
the comfort of the sad, the strength of those who suffer:  
hear the prayers of your children who cry out of any trouble,  
and to every distressed soul grant mercy, relief and refreshment,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Parish Reader*

Let us commend ourselves and all God's children to his unfailing  
love, and pray for the grace of a holy life,  
that, with all who have died in the peace of Christ,  
we may come to the fullness of eternal life  
and the joy of the resurrection.

*Silence is kept.*

*Fr Paul:*

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light,  
look favourably on your whole Church,  
that wonderful and sacred mystery,  
and by the tranquil operation of your perpetual providence  
carry out the work of our salvation:  
and let the whole world feel and see  
that things which were cast down are being raised up  
and things which had grown old are being made new  
and that all things are returning to perfection  
through him from whom they took their origin,  
even Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

## The Communion

*The Sacrament is now brought in silence from the Altar of Repose*

*Fr Paul says;*

Standing at the foot of cross, as our Saviour taught us, so we pray

### The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins 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,  
I shall be healed**

*Choir Anthem: "When I survey the Wondrous Cross" E Miller  
arr XFH*

### Post-Communion Hymn: NEH 93 vv1-3 and 5

**1 Were you there when they crucified my Lord?  
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?  
*Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble,  
tremble.*  
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?**

- 2      **Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
*Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble,  
tremble.*  
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?**
- 3      **Were you there when they pierced him in the side?  
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?  
*Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble,  
tremble.*  
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?**
- 4      **Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?  
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?  
*Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble,  
tremble.*  
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?**

*Please stand*

## **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 altar party leave in silence*



**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April at  
8.00pm EASTER EVE**

**The Easter Vigil with Service of Light, Renewal of Baptismal Vows and first Eucharist of Easter.**

The special Easter Eve Service of the Light begins at **8.00pm** in which we welcome the amazing news of Jesus' resurrection



**5<sup>th</sup> APRIL EASTER DAY**

**8.00 am The Holy Eucharist – Said  
Book of Common Prayer**

**10.30 am THE PARISH EUCHARIST**

We celebrate the Eucharist of The Resurrection. Eastertide is made up of fifty days until Pentecost (or Whit Sunday)