



**The Team Parish of Christ the King
St Aidan's Church Brunton Park
Sunday 29th March 2026**

Palm Sunday

Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week and the journey towards the cross. The week begins on a joyful note, with Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. The crowds acclaim him as king, and Jesus tells the Pharisees: 'I tell you, if these [the crowd] were silent, the stones would shout out.' Jesus is king and all the world must know it! So our worship too, begins with a joyful procession into church singing of Christ our King.

But the shouts of Hosannah soon turn to cries of 'crucify'. Palm Sunday begins the journey of Holy week as we walk with Jesus into the deep valley of betrayal and rejection and trial and death. We follow Jesus through his last supper, his agonised prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane, his arrest and his crucifixion. And our worship too remembers this, as we hear the Passion Gospel in full. So this Palm Sunday perhaps we might take the time to prepare ourselves for all that Holy Week will bring. From it's joyful start, to the sorrow of the cross, before we celebrate with our Alleluias on Easter Day.

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.'

TODAY 9.30am Palm Sunday with dramatic reading Rev'd Gerard Rundell will preside.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Tues	3.30-5pm,	After School Club
Wed	10.00am	BCP Midweek Eucharist
Thurs	2.00pm	Community Room Chat and Craft
Sat	10.00am	Saturday Café
Sun	9.30am	Easter Eucharist

HOLY WEEK

Mon 30th-Wed 1st	7.30pm	The Chosen (final 3 episodes of season 2)
Maundy Thursday	7.30pm	Eucharist with foot-washing and vigil
Good Friday	10am	Good Friday Family Worship
	2pm	An Hour Before the Cross
Easter Sunday	6am	Easter Vigil
	9.30am	Easter Eucharist Family Communion
		Rev'd Dr Hannah Malcolm will preside and Rev'd Gerard Rundell will preach

NOTICES

TODAY'S SERVICE LINK <https://bit.ly/StAidans2026PalmSunday>

EASTER CARDS – Are in bundles of twenty at the back of church for delivery before Holy Week. If you are able to assist please indicate on the list the streets you take. Thank you.

EASTER FLOWERS – There are brown envelopes at the back of church for anyone wishing to donate towards flowers for church.

Living on God's Good Earth

March 2026: Sow Wild

Our flowers are gone from church for Lent, but outside the world is coming into bloom. And March is the perfect time to sow a wildflower patch! All you need is a bright, sunny spot and a little packet of wildflower seeds. There are some simple instructions available here:

<https://www.rhs.org.uk/lawns/how-to-sow-a-wildflower-patch>. Happy sowing

SUNDAY SERMONS

For anyone who would like one, written copies of the Sunday sermon are available from the preacher on request. Please contact either Gerard or the preacher of the day to be sent a copy

For Our Prayers:

For the church- Mark Edwards and St Cuthbert's and St Matthew's, Ruth Stradling and St Columba's. Saturday Café, Thursday Groups.

For the community- Brunton Park Medical Centre and local businesses, St Aidan's Community Centre and Great Park Community Centre, groups meeting in our church and community room.

For the world – all countries facing hardship and conflict especially in the Middle East. For our own national and political life

For those in need – Esther Wooler, Sue Bates, Christine Crompton, Charlie Bennett, Lindsay Miller, Marion Newitt, Joyce Richardson.

For those who have died, and, on their anniversaries, – Alfred Minford, John MacLeod, Max Smith, Margery Archbold, Joan Garner, Patricia Malkin, Winifred Olsen



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