



**St Matthew with St Paul**  
*Pilgrims on a journey*

**29 March 2020**

*Passion Sunday;  
the fifth Sunday of Lent*

## Welcome to the parish online

### Prayer

- with the Anglican Communion we pray for Archbishop Justin; for Bishops Tim, David and Debbie; for the Anglican Communion worldwide as it responds to the challenges of Covid-19
- our mission giving: £200 for Winchester Basics Bank, providing emergency food and clothes to individuals and families in need
- all affected by the coronavirus worldwide; the safety of medical staff
- wisdom for national leaders and scientific advisors as they do their best to limit the spread; our own role in keeping those around us safe by observing advice on handwashing, self-isolation and other preventive measures
- for good to come out of this difficult situation, as we each look to help those more vulnerable than ourselves
- our keeping of Passiontide as we seek to travel beside our Lord on the way to the cross, giving thanks for opportunities to nourish our inner lives to energise the way we live
- give thanks for the beauty of the natural world around us, and all who work to protect and care for it
- Max Priesemann, Norma Goodwin and those working with them, seeking realistic ways to help us to be more environmentally friendly; our progress towards becoming an Eco Church through the national A Rocha initiative
- our Parish Visitors and their ministry of listening, continuing through telephone contact
- the unwell: Cheryl Barkwill, Christopher Browne, Johnny Burt, baby Emily, Bob Harland, Phillippa Lerclercq, Louisa (21 months), Louise (Anne Odling's stepdaughter), Tony Silcox, Philip Surrage, Brett Tribe and Patricia Watts
- the long-term unwell: Caroline Behan, William Buncombe, Vera Edwards, Julia Jones, Kate Morgan, Jane Seal and Vera Willnecker
- those who have died recently, including Bernard Lancaster (funeral 1 April, 11 am, Southampton Crematorium); all living with the pain of untimely death; God's comfort for all who remember loved ones

Please feel free to send prayer requests to [ursula@stmatthewstpaul.org](mailto:ursula@stmatthewstpaul.org), 844878

Peter Seal writes: Thank you for using this online resource while our churches are closed. We hope this service will help you feel connected to other people and also help you to worship God from wherever you are. Though most of us are having to self-isolate, we are joined together in love and prayer – that which is invisible has suddenly become hugely important. If you need help in any way, do please be in contact with any of us.

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## **'Virtual' service for 29 March**

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9.30 am Parish Eucharist

**Introduction** The name 'Lent' comes from the Old English word for spring – literally, the time of year when the days start to lengthen. It was adopted by the Church to mark the period of preparation and looking forward to the commemoration of the death of Jesus in Holy Week, and the celebration of his resurrection on Easter Day and throughout Eastertide, right up until Pentecost.

We find this intention reflected in our worship, which seeks both to express a spirit of penitence and to provide a contrast to the joyful celebration of Easter. We begin our journey on Ash Wednesday with a service of silence, reflection and penitence, which includes the imposition of ashes. We end it keeping company with Jesus on the last days before he was crucified on Good Friday. This is a solemn time which has given rise to the popular idea of 'giving things up' for Lent.

To say it is solemn is not to say it is dreary or dull; indeed the poet George Herbert greets the season with 'Welcome, dear feast of Lent'. In keeping Lent with the Church, and taking to heart the call to repentance and the assurance of forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel, Christians grow in faith and in devotion to our Lord. By such careful preparation we shall also experience the greater joy of Easter.

Lent has been likened to a lock on a canal. Your boat or barge goes in at the low level. The gate is shut and the water rises. When the lock is full and the other gate is opened you go out – but now on a higher plane.

**The Gathering** In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

**The Greeting** Grace, mercy and peace  
from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ  
be with you.  
**And also with you.**

**Prayers of  
preparation**

**Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you,  
and worthily magnify your holy name;  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

**Prayers of  
penitence**

Our Lord Jesus Christ said:  
the first commandment is this:  
'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord.  
You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,  
with all your soul, with all your mind,  
and with all your strength'.

The second is this: 'Love your neighbour as yourself'.  
There is no other commandment greater than these.  
On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.  
**Amen. Lord, have mercy.**

**Invitation to  
confession**

God shows his love for us  
in that, while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.  
Let us then show our love for him  
by confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

Let us confess our sins.

**Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
we confess that we have sinned  
in thought, word and deed.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart.  
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.  
In your mercy forgive what we have been,  
help us to amend what we are,  
and direct what we shall be;  
that we may do justly, love mercy,  
and walk humbly with you, our God.  
Amen.**

Almighty God,  
who forgives all who truly repent,  
have mercy upon you,  
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,  
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,  
and keep you in life eternal,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

**Collect** Merciful God,  
you showed your glory to our fallen race  
by sending your Son  
to confound the powers of death.  
Call us forth from sin's dark tomb.  
Break the bonds which hold us,  
that we may believe and proclaim Christ,  
the cause of our freedom  
and the source of life,  
who lives and reigns with you.  
**Amen.**

**Liturgy of the word**

***Romans 8: 6–11 [p. 106]***

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law – indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

For God's holy word.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel acclamation**

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.  
Christ humbled himself and became obedient unto death,  
even death on a cross.  
Therefore God has highly exalted him  
and given him the name that is above every name.  
**Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**Gospel reading**

***John 11: 1–45 [p. 106]***

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, 'Lord, he whom you love is ill'. But when Jesus heard it, he said, 'This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it'. Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

Then after this he said to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judea again'. The disciples said to him, 'Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?' Jesus answered, 'Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them.' After saying this, he told them, 'Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him'. The disciples said to him, 'Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right'. Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, 'Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.' Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow-disciples, 'Let us also go, that we may die with him'.

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.' Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again'. Martha said to him, 'I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day'. Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' She said to him, 'Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world'.

When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, 'The Teacher is here and is calling for you'. And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died'. When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, 'Where have you laid him?' They said to him, 'Lord, come and see'. Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, 'See how he loved him!' But some of them said, 'Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?'

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, 'Take away the stone'. Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, 'Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead for four days'. Jesus said to her, 'Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upwards and said, 'Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.' When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!' The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, and let him go'.

Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

This is the gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Prayers of  
intercession**

Let us pray for the Church and for the world,  
and thank God for God's goodness.

We pray for all affected by the Covid-19 virus; and for the safety of  
medical staff caring for the sickest patients

Lord of compassion,  
**hear our prayer.**

Lord, we offer to you the coming days and weeks, with all the  
challenges ahead. Help us to care for one another and be  
encouraged by signs of kindness and care within our communities.

Lord of compassion,  
**hear our prayer.**

Creator God, we thank you for our world which is still so beautiful,  
and especially for spring flowers. Please help us to think anew  
about our relationship with the created world and plan for a more  
sustainable future.

Lord of compassion,  
**hear our prayer.**

Loving, tender God, we thank you for Mother Church as we  
continue our work of caring for those in need, especially in the  
context of so much self-isolation. We pray that our homes may be  
safe places full of love, security and truth.

Lord of compassion,  
**hear our prayer.**

Dear God, we thank you for the life of Jesus, our Lord and Saviour. Help us to feel close to him as we journey through this season of Passiontide. May we find within ourselves the strength to live with the demands each day brings, both personally and in the lives of all who suffer.

Lord of compassion,  
**hear our prayer.**

We give thanks that Pat Robinson is now home from hospital, having recovered from Covid-19. We pray for all who have the virus; and among others who are unwell we name Cheryl Barkwill, Christopher Browne, Johnny Burt, baby Emily, Bob Harland, Phillippa Lerclercq, Louisa, Louise, Tony Silcox, Philip Surrage, Brett Tribe and Patricia Watts; and the long-term unwell: Caroline Behan, William Buncombe, Vera Edwards, Julia Jones, Kate Morgan, Jane Seal and Vera Willnecker

Lord of compassion,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of earth and heaven, we pray for those who have died recently, including Bernard Lancaster. We remember all whom we have loved, and been loved by, who now live in heaven. We thank you Lord that they go on loving us through their unending prayers.

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

## The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is,  
seen and unseen.  
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy, catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come.  
Amen.**

**Liturgy of the  
sacrament**

Once we were far off,  
but now in union with Christ Jesus we have been brought near  
through the shedding of Christ's blood,  
for he is our peace.  
The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**and also with you.**

Blessed be God,  
by whose grace creation is renewed,  
by whose love heaven is opened,  
by whose mercy we offer our sacrifice of praise.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

**The  
Eucharistic  
Prayer**

The Lord is here.  
**His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and just,  
our duty and our salvation,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
For as the time of his passion and resurrection draws near  
the whole world is called to acknowledge his hidden majesty.  
The power of the life-giving cross  
reveals the judgement that has come upon the world  
and the triumph of Christ crucified.

He is the victim who dies no more,  
the Lamb once slain, who lives for ever,  
our advocate in heaven to plead our cause,  
exalting us there to join with angels and archangels,  
for ever praising you and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

We praise and bless you, loving Father,  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
and as we obey his command,  
send your Holy Spirit,  
that broken bread and wine outpoured  
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends  
and, taking bread, he praised you.  
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.  
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:  
Drink this, all of you;  
this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,  
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice  
made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,  
we proclaim his death and resurrection  
until he comes in glory.  
Jesus Christ is Lord:

**Lord, by your cross and resurrection you have set us free.  
You are the Saviour of the world.**

Lord of all life,  
help us to work together for that day  
when your kingdom comes  
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,  
gather us in your loving arms  
and bring us with blessed Mary, Paul, Matthew and all the saints  
to feast at your table in heaven.  
Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,  
for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

**The Lord's  
Prayer**

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:  
**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 for ever.  
Amen.**

**Breaking of  
the Bread**

We break this bread  
to share in the body of Christ.  
**Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**



**Agnus Dei**

**Jesus, Lamb of God,  
Jesus, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sins of the world:  
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, Lamb of God,  
Jesus, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sins of the world:  
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, Lamb of God,  
Jesus, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sins of the world:  
grant us your peace,  
grant us your peace.**

**Giving of  
Communion**

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, and I shall be healed.**

**Most merciful Lord,  
your love compels us to come in.  
Our hands were unclean,  
our hearts were unprepared;  
we were not fit  
even to eat the crumbs from under your table.  
But you, Lord, are the God of our salvation,  
and share your bread with sinners.  
So cleanse and feed us  
with the precious body and blood of your Son,  
that he may live in us and we in him;  
and that we, with the whole company of Christ,  
may sit and eat in your kingdom.  
Amen.**

**Prayer after  
Communion**

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.

**Father of all,  
we give you thanks and praise,  
that when we were still far off  
you met us in your Son and brought us home.  
Dying and living, he declared your love,  
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.  
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;  
we who drink this cup bring life to others;  
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.  
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,  
so we and all your children shall be free,  
and the whole earth live to praise your name;  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

**Blessing and  
Dismissal**

Christ crucified draw you to himself,  
to find in him a sure ground for faith,  
a firm support for hope,  
and the assurance of sins forgiven;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.  
**In the name of Christ. Amen.**



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**Readings next Sunday, 5 April**

*Palm Sunday; the Sunday next before Easter*

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BCP

*p. 96*

9.30 am

Parish Communion

*Readings: Isaiah 50: 4–9a; Philippians 2: 5–11;  
Matthew 26: 14–27: 66 [p. 110]*

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**Archbishops and bishops:  
stay at home but continue to pray,  
to love, to care for the vulnerable**

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The archbishops and bishops of the Church of England have urged everyone to follow the instructions given by the Prime Minister to stay in their homes in a national effort to limit the transmission of the coronavirus (Covid-19). But they called on the Church to 'continue to pray, to love, to care for the vulnerable'.

It follows the announcement by the Prime Minister Boris Johnson of sweeping restrictions aimed at slowing the spread of the virus.

It means all Church of England churches have closed in line with the government's instructions. There will be no weddings or baptisms.

Funerals can still go ahead at the crematorium or graveside, but with only the closest family in attendance and essential physical distancing measures in place.

In a joint statement the bishops said: 'In the light of the government's measures, announced by the Prime Minister, we urge everyone to follow the instructions given'.

## #Live Lent *Care for God's Creation* challenge

*30 Mar* Allow yourself to wonder at the abundant, varied and often beautiful creatures who share our world. Discover more about birds or sea creatures by watching a documentary or researching online.

*31 Mar* There is an urgent need for us to break our plastic addiction. What more could you do to reduce your own use of plastic at home and on the move?

*1 Apr* If you eat fish or shellfish, look out for products that carry the Marine Stewardship Council's blue fish label which certifies sustainable fisheries.

*2 Apr* Intensive farming is associated with hedgerow loss and reduced biodiversity. When you buy fruit and vegetables, look out for produce from less intensive organic or LEAF-certified producers.

*3 Apr* Can you create or restore a habitat for birds in your garden – or in your local churchyard or other community space?

*4–5 Apr* Eggs are closely associated with Easter celebrations and decorations. How happy are the hens that lay the eggs you will buy? Look for free-range in the shops, sourced locally if possible.

'A virus is infectious in ways that are unseen but real. I believe faith, hope and love can be just as infectious and real. If we can be people who share kindness and care, our behaviour can be infectious in ways that bring life, comfort and joy.'

*Catherine Ogle, Dean of Winchester Cathedral*

### **Thoughts from Bishop Olivia Graham on how we should be during the coronavirus pandemic**

- *Calm*: the opposite will lead us to do things which might impact seriously on others – like panic buying
- *Caring*: those who self-isolate (those in high-risk groups, or who have been in contact with the virus) need to know we care about them. Phone calls, messages, letters, cards, food left on the doorstep are all signs that we care
- *Considerate*: let's look out for one another and act collectively to prevent the spread. It isn't just about me, it's about us
- And of course, *Christ-like*: let's live hopefully, love generously and pray earnestly – and let's bless each other by the way we behave

## **We simplify our lives**

*We simplify our lives.  
We live gladly with less.  
We let go of the illusion that we can possess.  
We create instead.  
We let go the illusion of mobility.  
We travel in stillness. We travel at home.  
By candlelight and in stillness,  
In the presence of flowers,  
We make our pilgrimage.  
We simplify our lives.  
Amen.*

Michael Leunig

*When I talk to you: a cartoonist talks to God*  
(Andrews McMeel Publishing, 2006)

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## Compline

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A number of us intend to adopt the habit of saying Compline each night at 9 pm (see <https://www.facebook.com/groups/652796952212998/about/>). Please join in from your own home. What follows comes from the Northumbria Community website.

*Compline brings a perfect end to the day. Many use it on a regular basis, usually just before retiring to bed. It is recommended that a time of quietness should precede Compline, emptying out all the tensions and concerns of the past day and shifting the focus of our attention back to God.*

*If this Compline is being used in a group setting the \* notation indicates a change of reader; words in bold are said all together; words in bold italic are said by each person in turn; and + indicates where you might make the sign of the cross.*

### The Aidan Compline

+

\* O Christ, Son of the living God,  
may Your holy angels guard our sleep,  
may they watch over us as we rest  
and hover around our beds.

\* Let them reveal to us in our dreams  
visions of Your glorious truth,  
O High Prince of the universe,  
O High Priest of the mysteries.

\* May no dreams disturb our rest  
and no nightmares darken our dreams.  
May no fears or worries delay  
our willing, prompt repose.

\* May the virtue of our daily work  
hallow our nightly prayers.  
May our sleep be deep and soft  
so our work be fresh and hard.

**I will lie down and sleep in peace  
for You alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety.**

***My dear ones, O God, bless Thou and keep,  
in every place where they are.***

\* Into Your hands I commit my spirit;  
I give it to You with all the love of my heart.

\* How precious to me are Your thoughts, O God!  
How vast is the sum of them!  
Were I to count them,  
they would outnumber the grains of sand.  
When I awake, I am still with You.

**I make the cross of Christ upon my breast,  
+ over the tablet of my hard heart,  
and I beseech the Living God of the universe –  
may the Light of Lights come  
to my dark heart from Thy place;  
may the Spirit's wisdom come to my heart's tablet  
from my Saviour.**

\* Christ without sin, Christ of wounds,  
I am placing my soul and my body  
under Thy guarding this night,  
Christ of the poor, Christ of tears.  
Thy cross be my shielding this night,  
O Thou Son of tears, of the wounds, of the piercing.

**I am going now into the sleep:  
O be it in Thy dear arm's keep,  
O God of grace, that I shall awake.**

\* My Christ! my Christ!  
my shield, my encircler,  
each day, each night,  
each light, each dark.

\* My Christ! my Christ!  
my shield, my encircler,  
each day, each night,  
each light, each dark.  
Be near me, uphold me,  
my treasure, my triumph.

***Circle me, Lord,  
keep protection near  
and danger afar.***

\* Circle me, Lord,  
keep light near  
and darkness afar.

\* Circle me, Lord,  
keep peace within;  
keep evil out.

**The peace of all peace  
be mine this night  
+ in the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.**

**Amen.**

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## Notices

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**Bishop John Dennis** is settling very happily at Abbotts Barton care home. Due to an outbreak of D and V in recent weeks visitors have not been allowed. On Wednesday he and his sons attended Dorothy's funeral, which Mary Copping conducted. John can be contacted on his mobile, 07752 532792. He would love to receive cards by post at 40 Worthy Rd, Abbotts Barton, Winchester SO23 7HB.

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**We're on Facebook!** Our thanks to Liz Stuart, who has set up a page for the Parish of St Matthew with St Paul and started posting, including the link to last week's service. If you would like to help with posts, please contact [liz@stmatthewstpaul.org](mailto:liz@stmatthewstpaul.org).

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**Lent charity** Christian Climate Action (CCA) is a community of Christians supporting each other to take meaningful action in the face of imminent and catastrophic human-induced climate breakdown, inspired by Jesus Christ and social justice movements of the past. The parish is supporting CCA this Lent and is inviting cheque donations (made out to Christian Climate Action, with Gift Aid details attached), direct giving at <https://christianclimateaction.org/donate/> or cash via the Lent boxes, for us to forward to them in due course.

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**Basics Bank** You will probably be aware that many people are going to be in acute financial difficulties as a result of the coronavirus outbreak. This will result in a huge need for food banks. At the same time people shopping online have no obvious way to contribute as they do in store. You are invited to give online at <https://winchesterbasicsbank.co.uk/donate/>.

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**NHS volunteer responders** The NHS is seeking volunteers aged 18 or over who are fit and well, with no symptoms. People in higher-risk groups (including those over 70 and those who are pregnant or with underlying medical conditions) can offer support by telephone. There are four ways to help: as Community Response volunteer, as Patient Transport volunteer, as NHS Transport volunteer and as Check-in and Chat volunteer. To offer help, please go to <https://tinyurl.com/rvfv3mt>.

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**PE workout for children (and adults?)** Mary Copping writes: Joe Wicks presents a workout live on YouTube every weekday, 9–9.30 am (you can also access it later if you miss it). He's going to do this every weekday while schools are closed. It's a wonderful start to the day (I can vouch for that!), and will keep children (and us adults) healthy and fit while we are confined to our homes. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rz0go1pTda8>

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**Contributions for May magazine** We would welcome articles, reflections, prayers, book reviews, etc. for the next parish magazine. Please send contributions to [ursula@stmatthewstpaul.org](mailto:ursula@stmatthewstpaul.org) by Thurs 9 April. (Final editorial choice rests with Peter Seal, and we reserve the right to edit material.)

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## ***Building for Life news***

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Amiri held a conference call following the serious briefing given by the Prime Minister on 23 March and elected to close all of their sites. They have taken this decision based on the need to safeguard staff and their families, and for the good of wider society. One employee will continue to visit the site daily to keep an eye on security.

Click [here](#) to view photos of the wonderful progress to date.



In line with government advice, all parish meetings are cancelled until further notice. Church staff are working from home whenever possible, and can be reliably contacted by email.

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## Contact us

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Please make cheques payable to St Matthew's PCC – all gifts gratefully received

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