

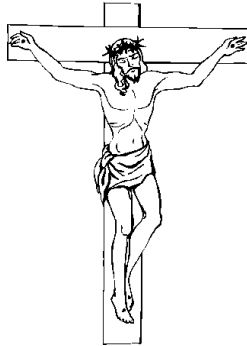


The Parish Church of Saint Thomas of Canterbury
Brentwood

A PASSIONTIDE DEVOTION in words & music

Sunday 22nd March 2026

6.00 pm



~ ORDER OF SERVICE ~

Please stand as the clergy and choir enter in silence

INTROIT - Drop, drop, slow tears - *Orlando Gibbons*

BIDDING PRAYER

We are come together that we may hear again how our Lord and Saviour suffered upon the Cross, and that hearing we may offer our lives anew to him who died for us.

Let us pray.

Please remain standing

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father, Which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name; Thy Kingdom come; Thy will be done; In earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil. Amen.

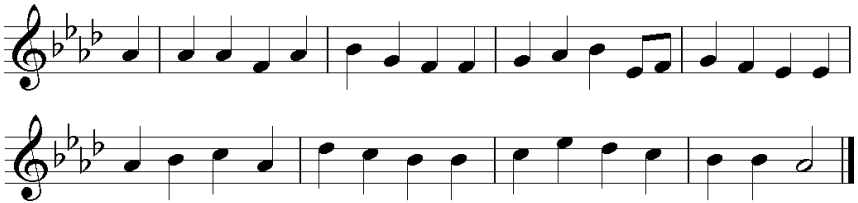
Almighty God, we beseech thee graciously to behold this thy family, for which our Lord Jesus Christ was contented to be betrayed, and given up into the hands of wicked men, and to suffer death upon the Cross, who now liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.

Amen.

Assist us mercifully with thy Spirit, O Lord, that thinking upon thy Cross and Passion we may worship thee with thankful hearts. **Amen.**

O Saviour of the world, who by thy Cross and precious Blood hast redeemed us: **Save us, and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.**

HYMN - Take up thy cross



And yet I know that it is true:
He chose a poor and humble lot,
And wept, and toiled, and mourned, and died
For love of those who loved him not.

But even could I see him die,
I could but see a little part
Of that great love, which, like a fir,
Is always burning in his heart.

It is most wonderful to know
His love for me so free and sure;
But 'tis more wonderful to see
My love for him so faint and poor.

And yet I want to love thee, Lord;
O light the flame within my heart,
And I will love thee more and more,
Until I see thee as thou art.

Tune: Herongate, Words: W. Walsham How

Please sit

READING - Mark 14.32-50 *Jesus is betrayed*

We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee;

Because by thy holy Cross thou hast redeemed the world.

ORGAN - Vexilla Regis - *Edward Bairstow*

READING - Matthew 27.11-31 *Jesus is tried before the Roman Governor*

We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee;

Because by thy holy Cross thou hast redeemed the world.

ANTHEM - Ave verum corpus - *Edward Elgar*

Translation: Hail, true body, born of the virgin Mary;

Who has truly suffered, slaughtered on the Cross for humanity.

Whose side was pierced, pouring out water and blood.

Be a foretaste for us during our ordeal of death.

O sweet, O holy, O Jesus Son of Mary.

READING - Matthew 27.33-44 *Jesus is crucified*

We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee;

Because by thy holy Cross thou hast redeemed the world.

Please stand for the HYMN - My song is love unknown



1.

My song is love unknown,
my Saviour's love to me,
love to the loveless shown
that they might lovely be.
O who am I
that for my sake
my Lord should take
frail flesh and die?

2.

He came from his blest throne
salvation to bestow,
but men made strange, and none
the longed-for Christ would know.
But O my friend,
my friend indeed,
who at my need,
his life did spend.

3.

Sometimes they strew his way,
and his sweet praises sing,
resounding all the day
hosannas to their King.
Then "Crucify!"
is all their breath,
and for his death
they thirst and cry.

4.

They rise, and needs will have
my dear Lord made away;
a murderer they save,
the Prince of Life they slay.
Yet cheerful he
to suffering goes,
that he his foes
from thence might free.

5.

Here might I stay and sing,
no story so divine:
never was love, dear King,
never was grief like thine.
This is my friend,
in whose sweet praise
I all my days
could gladly spend.

Please sit

Tune: Love Unknown, Words: S Crossman

READING - Mark 15.33-39 *Jesus dies upon the cross*

We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee;

Because by thy holy Cross thou hast redeemed the world.

ANTHEM - Christ has no body now but yours - *David Ogden*

READING - Philippians 2.5-11 *Christ Triumphant*

We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee;

Because by thy holy Cross thou hast redeemed the world.

PRAYERS & BLESSING

Thanks be to thee, my Lord Jesus Christ,

For all the benefits which thou hast won for me,

For all the pains and insults which thou hast borne for me:

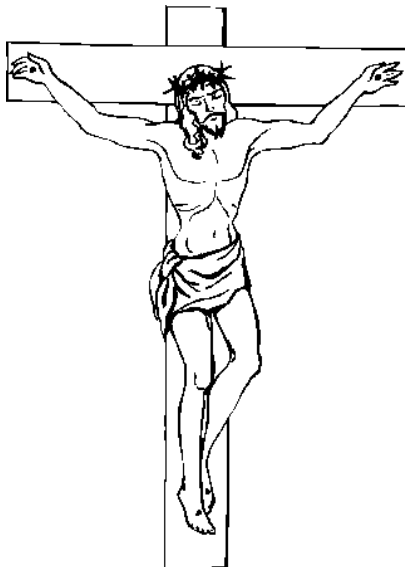
O most merciful Redeemer, Friend, and Brother,

May I see thee more clearly,

Love thee more dearly,

And follow thee more nearly,

Day by day. Amen.



HYMN - *When I survey the wondrous cross*



**When I survey the wondrous cross
on which the Prince of Glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.**

**Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
save in the death of Christ, my God:
all the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his blood.**

**See, from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down!
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?**

**Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were a present far too small;
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.**

Tune: Rockingham, Words: Isaac Watts

Please remain standing as the choir and clergy leave in silence.

Services for Holy Week and Easter



Holy Week

PALM SUNDAY

29th March

8.00 am Mass
10.00 am Blessing & Procession of Palms from High Street Chapel and Sung Mass
6.00 pm Choral Evensong

MONDAY

30th March

12noon Chrism Mass at Chelmsford Cathedral
8.00 pm Mass

TUESDAY

31st March

9.30 am Mass
8.00 pm Mass

WEDNESDAY

1st April

12.15 pm Mass
8.00 pm Mass
9.00 pm Sung Compline

MAUNDY THURSDAY

2nd April

8.00 pm Sung Mass of the Last Supper, followed by the Watch until midnight

GOOD FRIDAY

3rd April

10.00 am Stations of the Cross for Children
3.00 pm Liturgy of the Lord's Passion

HOLY SATURDAY

4th April

8.00 pm Paschal Vigil and First Mass of Easter
followed by party and fizzy wine!

EASTER DAY

5th April

8.00 am Mass
10.00 am Sung Mass
6.00 pm Choral Evensong & Benediction