

# Our special Church - School Prayer for the journey



Heavenly Father  
as we come together this week  
to follow in the footsteps  
of your Son Jesus  
during his last days with us,  
help us to understand and feel  
the sadness of that journey,  
the sorrow of his death  
and the joy of the new life  
you gave him, the same new life  
which we can welcome and share,  
the new life we call Easter.  
We make this our prayer  
in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ  
who is alive with you in Heaven,  
now and forever.  
Amen.

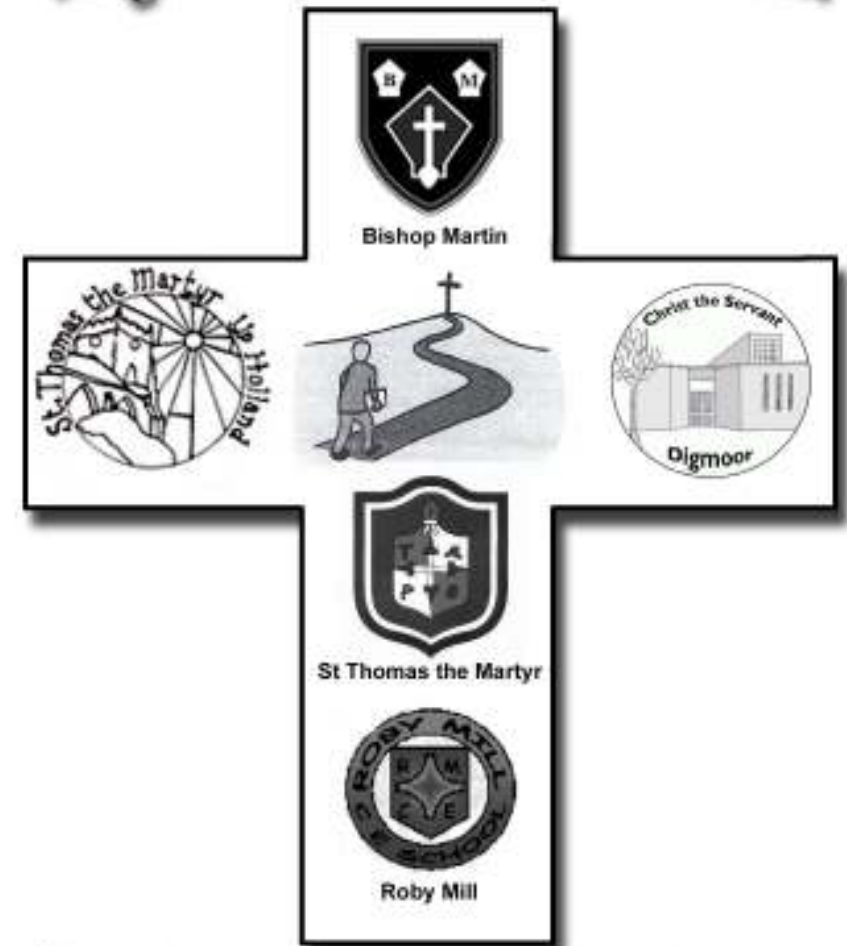
**Join in our Easter Celebrations**  
10am Sunday 23rd March at  
St Thomas the Martyr, Up Holland  
and at Christ the Servant, Digmoor



If you would like any further information about continuing on the journey  
please contact us through Church or School.  
Our website also contains some helpful links for exploring faith and prayer.  
[www.christtheservantchurch.org.uk](http://www.christtheservantchurch.org.uk) - "Spirituality"

UpHolland & Digmoor Team Ministry

# Together for Holy Week



# In the footsteps of Jesus

Church and Schools in Partnership



⑤ **Maundy Thursday - Mark 14:32 - 50** - From the Upper Room to Gethsemane

**Picture** - After the meal Jesus and the disciples go to the garden of Gethsemane. The disciples are unable to stay awake while Jesus prays. Jesus is alone and he cries out to God, asking him to relieve the suffering, but he still submits to God's will. The authorities want him out of the way so he is arrested, stands trial and is sentenced to death. (You can read the story of the trial in Mark 14:53 - 15:15)

**Ponder** - Are there times when you have felt like giving up on the journey?

**Prayer** - Lord, help us to pray with you "Father, not my will but yours be done"

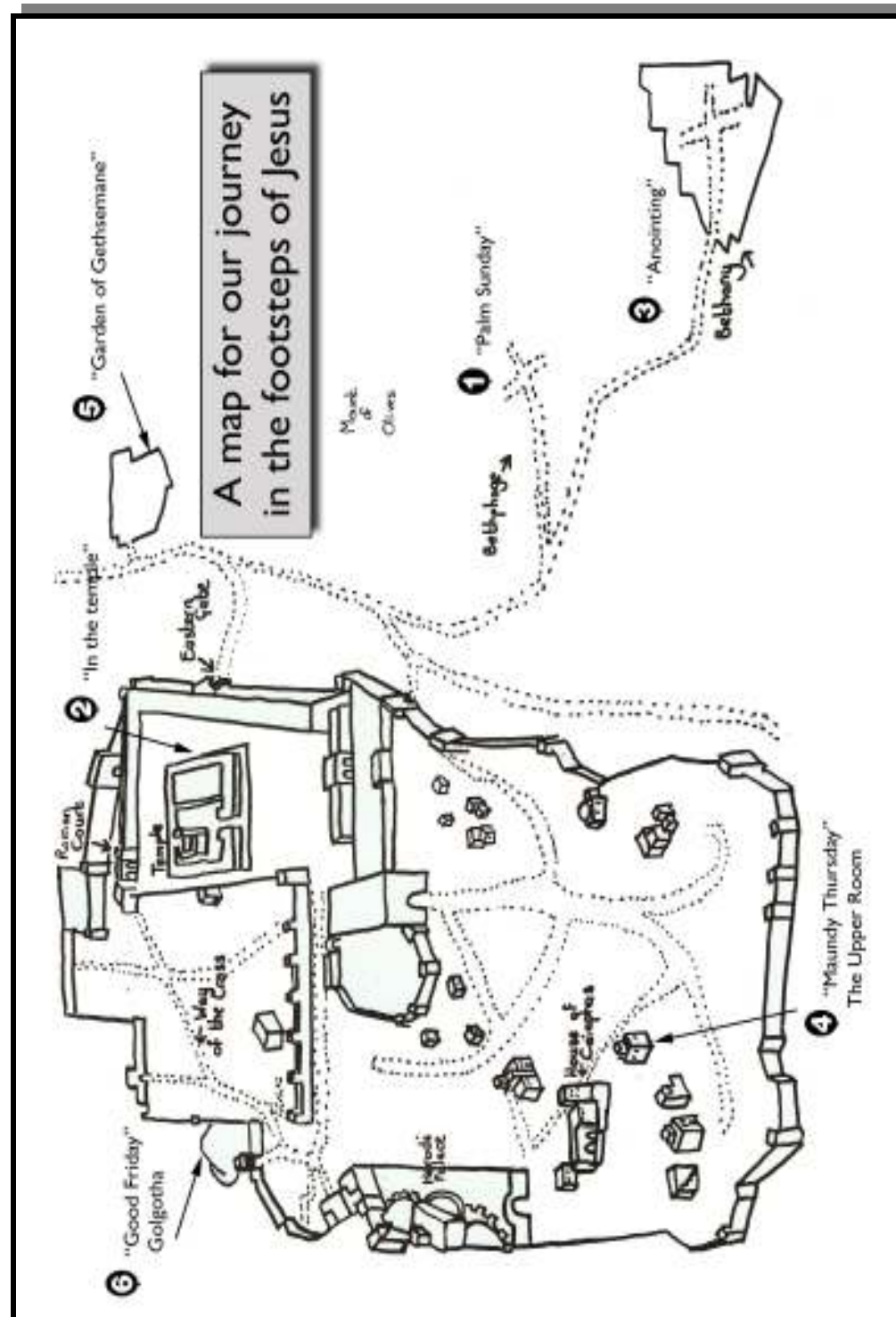
⑥ **Good Friday - Mark 15:16 - 41** - Along the way of the cross to Golgotha

**Picture** - Beaten and exhausted Jesus struggles under the weight of the cross. Simon is called out of the crowd to carry the cross for him. At Golgotha (which means the place of the skull) Jesus is crucified. It is a horrible death. Darkness descends. His body is taken down and laid in the tomb.



**Ponder** - How often do we stand by and watch others suffer without offering to help carry their burden?

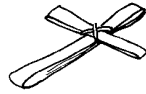
**Prayer** - Lord, we pray for all those in the world today who suffer at the hands of others.



# The Schools Programme

Special thanks to the RE Co-ordinators of the schools who have worked hard in developing and co-ordinating this exciting programme - Cheryl O'Connor at Bishop Martin, Craig Heaton at St Thomas the Martyr and Tracey Bradshaw at Roby Mill.

## 17<sup>th</sup> Monday – “Palm Sunday” ①



**Bishop Martin** - The day will start with a whole school assembly. Classes 5L, Reception and 3D will take part in workshops preparing for our “Palm Sunday” Procession. At 2.30pm the whole school will meet on the playground and process to Christ the Servant Church. **Parents and friends** are invited to line the route and cheer the children on.

**St Thomas the Martyr** - During the day the children will prepare for the “Palm Sunday” Procession. **Parents and friends** are invited to join us for the procession which will start at 2.00 p.m. and finish in School with some prayers.

**Roby Mill** - The day will begin with a whole school assembly. The children, who will be dressed in holiday clothes, will be making palm crosses, palm branches and musical instruments. These will be used in our “Palm Sunday” procession which begins at 2.30 p.m. on the playground and, weather permitting, will process around Don Orione field. All **parents and friends** are invited to join us.

## 18<sup>th</sup> Tuesday – “Easter Activities” / “Jesus in the temple” ②

**St Thomas the Martyr** - Parents will be invited to join us for two assemblies as we continue the theme of the journey through the week.

**Roby Mill** - Separate assemblies for KS1 and KS2 will introduce a day of reflection in which we shall explore through words, music and images the emotions experienced during Holy Week. Learning a celebratory dance and song in preparation for the ‘Last Supper’ will end the day.

**Bishop Martin** - The day will start with separate infant and junior assemblies. Classes 5P, 2E, 2N and 4H will take part in workshops exploring the various emotions of Holy Week - the celebration of the procession, the anger in the temple and the sorrow of the cross.

## ② Holy Monday - Mark 11:15 - 19 - From Bethany, through the Eastern gate to the Temple

**Picture** - The temple authorities had complained about the children shouting in the temple (*Matthew 21:15*) but were happy to welcome traders and turn a blind eye to the wheeling and dealing. Jesus is angry and turns over the tables of the money changers. The temple should be a holy place where all are welcomed but it was being used to exploit the poor.

**Ponder** - Do we turn a blind eye when we see people being exploited?

**Prayer** - Lord, give us the courage to challenge situations of injustice. Help us to be welcoming to all.

## ③ Holy Tuesday - Mark 14:3-11 - From the temple to Bethany

**Picture** - While Jesus is at Simon’s house in Bethany a woman anoints him with expensive oil. She wants to show how much she loves him and spares no expense in doing so. It is a generous act of service.

**Ponder** - How generous are we in our service of others?

**Prayer** - Lord, it is not always easy to give and not to count the cost. Give us loving hearts to respond to the needs of those around us.

## ④ Holy Wednesday - Mark 14:12-26 - From Bethany to the Upper Room

**Picture** - It is time to celebrate the Passover. Jesus and his disciples meet in the upper room. This is the last time they will share a meal together. During the meal Jesus takes the bread and wine and passes it to his disciples as symbols of his body and blood. He asks them to remember him each time they share the bread and wine.



**Ponder** - Listen to the words of Jesus “This is my body, broken for YOU .... this is my blood, shed for YOU”.

**Prayer** - Lord, help us to remember everything you taught us.

# The journey through readings and prayer

## Preparation

Take time to be still. Perhaps you might like to light a candle and play some gentle music. You may like to start with this prayer:-



**O God,  
teach me to come to you in the silence,  
to make room for you in my life,  
to offer you my love,  
that I may know your presence,  
experience your power,  
and accept your peace,  
through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen**

© David Adam (Adapted)

## Daily Readings

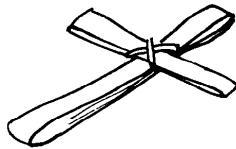
The readings are taken mainly from St Mark's Gospel

### ① Palm Sunday - Mark 11:1-10 - From Bethphage to Jerusalem

**Picture** - Jesus rides into Jerusalem on a donkey. It's a time of celebration. The crowds wave their palm branches, dance and sing, welcoming the one who "comes in the name of the Lord".

**Ponder** - How well do we welcome Jesus into our lives?

**Prayer** - Lord, help us to praise and worship you each day.



## 19<sup>th</sup> Wednesday – “Maundy Thursday” ④

**Roby Mill** - KS1 will be preparing the table settings and unleavened bread for the 'Last Supper'. This will be in the form of a picnic lunch for all the children. Before they eat the children will perform their dance, wash each others' hands and share in a re-enactment of the **last meal** Jesus had with his disciples.

**St Thomas the Martyr** - During the day the children will be thinking of questions to ask Jesus, making Easter Gardens and preparing for “**The Last Supper**” as we remember the last meal Jesus had with his friends, this will take place at 2.00 p.m. in School.

**Bishop Martin** - Classes IOC and IT will take part in workshops making Easter gardens. In the afternoon the Infants and Juniors will each take part in “**The Last Supper**” as we re-enact the last meal Jesus had with his friends.

## 20<sup>th</sup> Thursday – “Good Friday” ⑥

**Bishop Martin** - The Nursery children will be making their own Holy Week journey with a celebration procession, joining in a special “meal” and thinking about the joy of new life at Easter. Classes 6B and 6C will take part in workshops that will lead them on an interactive journey of reflection on the way of the cross.

**St Thomas the Martyr** - The children will finish their Easter Gardens before gathering in front of the cross, then going home with their Easter homework!

**Roby Mill** - All the children will be making group Easter Gardens in the morning. In the afternoon KS2 will journey through Holy Week using readings, prayers and symbols. KS1 will reflect on Holy Week using Godly Play.

## 25<sup>th</sup> Tuesday - “Easter” ③

**St Thomas the Martyr** - the whole School will be joining together for an **Easter Celebration**.

**Roby Mill** - The day will include an **Easter** egg hunt, egg decorating, a cross of flowers and a celebratory service to welcome the new life of Easter.

**Bishop Martin** - the whole School will be joining together for an **Easter Celebration**.



# Worship in our Churches



## St Thomas the Martyr, Up Holland

[www.stthomasthemartyr.org.uk](http://www.stthomasthemartyr.org.uk)

16th 9.45am

### **PALM SUNDAY ①**

Procession of palms. Meet outside church.

17th 7.30pm

### **United Service**

A ¾ hour service during which we come together as the churches in Up Holland to look at our Ecumenical Covenant.

18th 7.30pm

### **Holy Communion** with address

We continue to journey in the 'Footsteps of Jesus' during this week.

19th 7.30pm

### **Holy Communion** with address

As we continue our journey together, we pause to look at the words of Psalm 22 which begins, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?'

20th

### **MAUNDY THURSDAY ④**

10am

Holy Communion

7.30pm

Holy Communion followed by the vigil ⑤

A sung Eucharist during which we recall the Last Supper Jesus had with his friends.

21st

### **GOOD FRIDAY ⑥**

9am

Matins

12.30pm

United Service of Witness at the War Memorial

2pm

Quiet Hour

22nd 7.30pm

### **EASTER EVE Ceremonies ⑦**

23rd

### **EASTER DAY ⑧**

8am

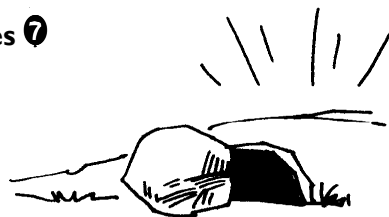
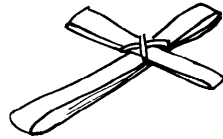
Holy Communion

10am

Parish Communion

11.45am

Holy Communion



## Christ the Servant, Digmoor

[www.christtheservantchurch.org.uk](http://www.christtheservantchurch.org.uk)

16<sup>th</sup> 10am

### **PALM SUNDAY ①**

Parish Communion with procession of palms

17<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm

### **Evening Prayer for Holy Week with Stations of the Cross 1 – 4**

A half hour service of prayer, music for reflection and meditations on the paintings of Sieger Köder, "The Folly of God". Köder's paintings are full of symbolism. The meditations help us to explore the paradox of the cross "a stumbling block to many, but to those who believe the power of God and the wisdom of God." (1 Cor 1:23).

18<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm

### **Evening Prayer for Holy Week with Stations of the Cross 5 – 8**

19<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm

### **Evening Prayer for Holy Week with Stations of the Cross 9 – 13**

20<sup>th</sup> 7pm

### **MAUNDY THURSDAY Meal and Communion, ④**

**followed by the Watch of the Passion ⑤** Our service and meal are intermingled as we re-enact Jesus' last meal with his friends. *(For catering purposes we would be grateful for an indication of the numbers attending. Contact 728091)*

21<sup>st</sup> 10am

### **GOOD FRIDAY ⑥ Liturgy and Communion from the reserve sacrament**

A service of quiet meditation. ALSO, alongside the service, our young people will have the opportunity to make **Easter gardens**.

11am - 1pm

The service and activity time will be followed by hot cross buns! The church will remain open for an **Exhibition** of the work done in Bishop Martin school during the week. Do come and see!

22<sup>nd</sup> 7.30pm

### **EASTER EVE Vigil ⑦**

Our service starts around the newly kindled fire and moves into the darkened church as we welcome the light of the Risen Lord.

23<sup>rd</sup> 10am

### **EASTER SUNDAY ⑧ Family Celebration Communion**

Join us for a celebration and you may find some Easter eggs too!