

**PILGRIMAGE WALK IN HOLY WEEK**

Wednesday **16 April**. Anne and I are looking forward to sharing in this Parish Walk. Having done some research, we have changed the start and finish points to make the walk more accessible. We will gather outside St John's Church, West Bay at 9.30am and will finish (having stopped for a short reflection on Holy Week and/or our Lent Book at each of our Churches) at St Mary's Walditch. Lifts back to West Bay will be available. Do bring a packed lunch, we will also have a coffee stop. Please let me know if you want to come, if you have any questions or if you would like to discuss walking only part of the route. My contact details are: 07340 589375 or [john@parishofbridport.org](mailto:john@parishofbridport.org)

*Revd John and Anne Rees*

**JANET WEBSTER ECO CHURCH EVENTS AT SMBRI**

Sat **17 May** Deanery Creation/Eco day 2pm-4.30pm  
Sat **27 Sep** Parish Green Day 10am-4pm

**PASTORAL SKILLS COURSE**

Six week Pastoral Skills Course starts in May. Its aim is to equip as many as possible with skills needed for safe and appropriate practice to support those who may need it in the parish. The skills taught are eminently transferable to many aspects of our communal life and will enhance you both practically and spiritually.

No commitment for ongoing volunteering is expected, but an opportunity to seek God's purpose in our lives will be available after the course. Need to know more, got some questions... *Great!!!!*

Come along to an OPEN MEETING on Sunday **27 April** from 4pm to 5pm in St Mary's Church Bridport. We would *love* to see you there, and together, through our pastoral care in the Parish, we can continue in our work of **Making Jesus Known**.

*Diana Wright*

**CAR BOOT SALE**

At St Swithun's **10 May** 10am till 1pm. Plants, Clothes, Bric a Brac, Tombola, Jazz Café, Drinks, Bacon Butties, Produce & (free) Charity Stalls. Seller's pitch £15 book in advance 07887483228 Free admission. All are welcome!

**PCC INDUCTION DAY**

Looking ahead the PCC Team (new and existing members) will be having an Induction Day on Saturday **7 June** in Salway Ash. Please reserve the date in your diary as you consider your nominations for the PCC this year. It will be an important opportunity for us all.

13 April 2025

Palm Sunday

**PARISH NEWS**

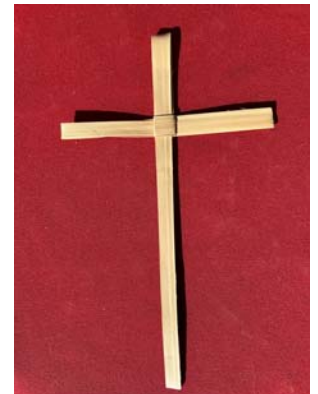
**Greetings** from Bridport's worshipping community

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK**

As those of us in church receive our palm crosses today, on Palm Sunday, we begin the spiritual journey of Holy Week. It will take us through a huge range of emotions. Like an inverted bell curve, feelings descend from humility and apparent triumphalism to service, intimacy, betrayal, anguish, grief, anger, suffering, torture, fear, denial, confusion, bewilderment, lament, despair and the emptiness of death. Then the emotions ascend through confusion, surprise, disbelief, recognition, and awe to the ultimate joy of Easter.

This story makes sense only when experienced as a complete journey; we cannot truly celebrate Easter without first travelling to the Cross, and as St. Paul reminds us, the Cross itself becomes "rubbish" - empty nonsense - without the Resurrection. I offer you two recommendations to help you to engage with this journey:

1. Read one of the Gospel accounts of the Passion: Matthew 26-27, Mark 14-15, Luke 22-23 and John 12-19.
2. Attend, if possible, at least one Good Friday service along with one on Easter Sunday.



The entire Easter journey is neatly captured in the symbol of the palm cross: Each palm cross is crafted from palm wood, recalling the palm branches that people waved in recognition of Jesus's greatness, as he entered Jerusalem five days before his death, riding on a humble donkey.

It is a cross, reminding us that Jesus bore the burden of our sin and death, through his gruesome, painful and humiliating sacrifice.

It is an empty cross without Jesus on it, pointing us towards the hope and promise of the Resurrection. When you receive your palm cross today, I hope it will remind you of the whole journey of Holy Week, inspiring you to walk faithfully through each step of the journey, down through the depths and back up to the joy of Easter.

*Revd Cally Burch*

## COLLECT

Almighty and everlasting God,  
who in your tender love towards the human race  
sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ  
to take upon him our flesh  
and to suffer death upon the cross:  
grant that we may follow the example  
of his patience and humility,  
and also be made partakers of his resurrection;  
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.

(or)

True and humble king,  
hailed by the crowd as Messiah:  
grant us the faith to know you and love you,  
that we may be found beside you  
on the way of the cross,  
which is the path of glory.

## Post Communion

Lord Jesus Christ,  
you humbled yourself in taking the form of a servant,  
and in obedience died on the cross for our salvation:  
give us the mind to follow you  
and to proclaim you as Lord and King,  
to the glory of God the Father.

## READINGS

**Luke 19 : 28 – 40** ————— *Jesus' Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem*

After he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, "Why are you untying it?" just say this: "The Lord needs it."' So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, 'Why are you untying the colt?' They said, 'The Lord needs it.' Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying, 'Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!' Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, 'Teacher, order your disciples to stop.' He answered, 'I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.'

**Psalms 118 : 1 -2, 19 – end** ————— *A Song of Victory*

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures for ever! Let Israel say, 'His steadfast love endures for ever.' Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord. This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it. I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation. The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. This is the Lord's doing; it is marvellous in our eyes. This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Save us, we beseech you, O Lord! O Lord, we beseech you, give us success!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. We bless you from the house of the Lord. The Lord is God, and he has given us light. Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar. You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God, I will extol you. O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures for ever.

## OUTREACH

**Come & Sea Easter** is one of the exciting new initiatives planned by the Mission and Faith Sub-Committee of the PCC. It builds on the success of a similar event in Summer 2024, as an outreach to Make Jesus Known to visitors and especially to families in West Bay over the Easter weekend.

On Saturday **19 April**, there will be a free family trail around 6 stations, each explaining and giving an opportunity to learn and experience the Easter Story.

As this venture and the others planned for later in 2025 come out of a joint PCC plan, they will not be funded solely or directly by any one of the churches in the Parish. The Easter event is expected to cost around £300, and as it would be helpful to build a small reserve for future events, the PCC would like to appeal to anyone who feels able to support them financially.

A central outreach fund will be identified and the best way to donate at present is by direct bank transfer to **Bridport PCC; Sort Code 60-03-29 and Account No. 58657088** and put **Come and Sea as the reference** on your payment. Alternatively, cash or cheques made out to Bridport PCC can be directed to the PCC Treasurer, Mrs Janet E. Shaw via the church office at St. Mary's. Please email her on [treasurer@parishofbridport.org](mailto:treasurer@parishofbridport.org) if you would like to gift aid your donation or if you would like a receipt. Thank you very much!

## SAFEGUARDING AGAINST DOMESTIC ABUSE

A session focussed on Domestic Abuse will be led by Wendy, our Parish Safeguarding Officer 3pm - 5pm on Thursday 24 April in Holy Trinity Bothenhampton. This is an open discussion for all our volunteers, so do come along for a cup of tea with us and join in.

*Bridget Trump*



**BRILLIANT BRIDPORT!**  
*How did it happen?*  
A Talk by:  
**Bruce Upton**  
Donations for  
**Christian Aid**  
**Sunday 18th May**  
4pm-5.30 pm  
FREE light refreshments provided  
**St Mary's Church House Hall**