



St Peter's^{Hartshorne}

Hello everyone

We are now almost two weeks into our enforced isolation and I trust we are all finding a new rhythm to life. If you are struggling to cope with enforced isolation can I encourage you to intentionally find one thing per day to do, even if that one thing is to get up and make your bed. Achieving something is important to our mental well being. If you need more help, there are resources available on [Supporting good mental health | The Church of England](#)

Over the next week we move into the greatest festival of the Church's year. But Easter this year will be very different. We cannot physically come together to reflect on Jesus death and celebrate the resurrection, however we can, in our new way of being church share in Jesus's sacrifice made for us.

Across Swadlincote Minster and Churches Together we are planning a number of resources for reflection over Holy week and Easter. Alongside our local plans, the diocese and the national church is also putting resources in place - so you are spoiled for choice!

Palm Sunday

Local: sermon from Nigel Worth
reflection from Mike Firbank

Diocese: Virtual procession

Canon Dr Elizabeth Thomson, Acting Dean of Derby Cathedral, invites everyone to email photos from where they are in the Diocese: their house now, their work, their own places, the outside of their church if they are taking exercise. Photos can include people but only with their consent for the photo's use. It doesn't have to be a new photo. She will put a palm cross alongside each photo and produce a slideshow for Palm Sunday – creating a “virtual” procession! Please send photos by 12 noon on Friday, 3 April to missioner@derbycathedral.org.

Church of England: Make and display a palm cross

get creative and celebrate Palm Sunday as a family by making your own palm crosses. [This simple video shows you how](#). Make your own cross out of paper or card, and blu-tack to window. Please do not distribute palm crosses on public health grounds.

For singers - Choir of the nation:

St Paul's Cathedral would like the nation to come together in songs of praise to mark Christ's entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, and his glorious resurrection on Easter Day, by taking part in a hymn flash mob. Everyone is invited to record three great hymns for Choir of the Nation. You can record yourself singing the chosen hymns at home to be included in the Choir for the Nation. St Paul's Cathedral Organist, Simon Johnson, has recorded backing tracks from his home. Full details, including the hymn backing tracks and marked up scores, [can be found here](#).

Holy Week

(Mon-Wed)

Local: Morning Prayer - Alison Redshaw / Stella Greenwood

Maundy Thursday

Local: Compline - Patrick Douglas

Church of England: [Walking the Way of the Cross reflections](#) a form of devotion or a start for Bible study.

Other forms of Bible study (Mark 14.22-26, Luke 22.14-23, 1 Corinthians 11.23-25).

Washing each other's feet in the home (between members of the same household only), or something in relation to hand-washing.

Making bread, or dough twisters, with a grace about Jesus being the living bread.

P.T.O

Good Friday

Local: Churches Together Virtual Witness - reflections for Good Friday

Church of England: The Archbishop of Canterbury will publish a reflection on [Facebook](#) and his [website](#).

Holy Saturday

Church of England: The Archbishop of Canterbury will pray the Exultet, offering some reflections on 'waiting in hope' and will publish a reflection on [Facebook](#) and his [website](#).

- Prepare an Easter garden (whether using plants or as a craft activity); prepare and paint Easter eggs.
- Make a donation to an appropriate charity.
- Watch a recorded or live-streamed Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday

Local: Dawn reflection - Mike Firbank

Easter Sermon - Phil Hunt

Easter Eucharist - Stella Greenwood

All can participate through Spiritual Communion (see attached link)

Church of England:

Light a candle at dawn using the following prayer:

Christ yesterday and today, the beginning and the end, Alpha and Omega, all time belongs to him, and all ages; to him be glory and power, through every age and for ever. Amen.

Watch a recorded or live-streamed Easter Vigil

Musicians - take part in musical activities: hymn singing.

['Sing Resurrection'](#)

An initiative from CTBI, which encourages everyone to sing the hymns *Jesus Christ is risen today* and *Thine be the glory* outdoors at 10 am (words and tunes included at the link).

Listen or watch the Archbishop of Canterbury's Easter Day service, with the Bishop of Dover on BBC Radio 4 and the [Church of England Facebook page](#)

A locked church

Ah my dear Lord, the church is locked
but let my heart be open to your presence;
there let us make, you and I,
your Easter garden;
plant it with flowers,
and let the heavy stone be rolled away.

by Alan Amos

Stay home, stay safe and God Bless you

Stella