

# wantage parish

**PALM SUNDAY** (with enacted Passion) 29 March 2026 (10.30am service only)

**Parish Church Choral Eucharist:** Mass of Ss Peter & Paul (John Ridgway) **Motet:** Hosanna to the Son of David (Thomas Weelkes) **Voluntary:** Grand choeur dialogue (Eugene Gigout)

**Hymns:** NEH 273, 86 (omit \*), 509

## THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

**Saturday 28 March** 4pm Evening Prayer (Holy Trinity)

**Sunday 29 March** **PALM SUNDAY**

8am Eucharist (Parish Church) *Preacher: the Curate*

9.15am Liturgy of the Palms (Holy Trinity)

*Followed by a procession to the Market Square*

10am Ecumenical Service (Market Square)

10.30am Choral Eucharist with enacted Passion (Parish Church)

5pm Improvisations on the Cross *with John Ridgway* (Parish Church)

**Monday 30 March** 9.30am Eucharist (Parish Church)

2pm Messy Church (Holy Trinity) *See notice below*

**Tuesday 31 March** 9.30am Old Testament Bible Study Group (*see What's On Where*)

**Wednesday 1 April** 11am Stations of the Cross (Convent)

3pm–6pm Around Table (Holy Trinity) *Last orders at 5.30pm*

7pm Eucharist (Holy Trinity)

**Thursday 2 April** **MAUNDY THURSDAY**

8pm Liturgy of Maundy Thursday (Parish Church)

*The church will stay open for private prayer until 11pm*

**Friday 3 April** **GOOD FRIDAY**

9.30am Morning Prayer (Holy Trinity)

11.30am Walk of Witness. *Starting from Kingsgrove and finishing with an Ecumenical Service in the Market Square at 12.30pm, and hot cross buns.*

1.30pm–3pm Liturgy of Good Friday (Parish Church)

**Saturday 4 April** **EASTER EVE**

10pm–midnight Easter Vigil (Parish Church) *starting outside with the New Fire*

**Sunday 5 April** **EASTER SUNDAY**

8am Eucharist (Parish Church) *Preacher: the Vicar*

9.15am Sung Eucharist (Holy Trinity) *Preacher: the Curate*

10.30am Choral Eucharist (Parish Church) *Preacher: the Vicar*

**\*Please note:** There will be no services after Easter until Sunday 12 April.\*

**Eucharist at the Convent** Tuesday–Saturday at 10am, all welcome (space permitting).

**What's On Where:** For information about regular church groups and activities, see the church noticeboard, the link in the eNews, or scan the QR code:



## READINGS & PRAYERS

### **First Reading: Isaiah 50.4–9a**

Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the warhorse from Jerusalem; and the battle-bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations; his dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

### **Psalm 31.9–16**

#### **Response: My trust is in you, O Lord.**

Have mercy on me, Lord, for I am in trouble;  
my eye is consumed with sorrow,  
my soul and my body also.  
For my life is wasted with grief,  
and my years with sighing;  
my strength fails me because of my affliction,  
and my bones are consumed. **R/.**

I have become a reproach to all my enemies  
and even to my neighbours,  
an object of dread to my acquaintances;  
when they see me in the street they flee from me. **R/.**

I am forgotten like one that is dead, out of mind;  
I have become like a broken vessel.  
For I have heard the whispering of the crowd;  
fear is on every side;  
they scheme together against me,  
and plot to take my life. **R/.**

But my trust is in you, O Lord.  
I have said, 'You are my God.  
'My times are in your hand;  
deliver me from the hand of my enemies,  
and from those who persecute me. **R/.**

'Make your face to shine upon your servant,  
and save me for your mercy's sake.' **R/.**

### **Second Reading: Philippians 2.5–11**

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

**Gospel:** Enacted Passion

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (*no response*).

Please be seated and join in the crowd scenes as directed in the script provided.

*It is customary to kneel or bow for a few moments of silence at the moment when we recall Jesus' death after the words: "...he breathed his last".*

*At the end:* This is the Passion of the Lord (*no response*).

**For Your Prayers:** Sarah Clark, Lizzie, Beth, Natalie, Sirma, Chris, Pat and Dave, Alan and Dawn, Rachel, Niamh and Orlaith, Aubrey, Kathryn, Pat, Suzan Clark, Diane Dyche, David, Gordon, Peter, Alastair, Joe, Peter, John, Elda, Karen, Angela, Tracey.

**RIP:** John Price, Janet Hyde, Becky, Benedict.

**Please also pray for:** Sacristans

**Readings & Hymns for Easter Sunday:**

Acts 10.34-43 (*8am & 9.15am only*: Psalm 118.14-24, Colossians 3.1-4) John 20.1-18.

Hymns at HT: NEH 110, 112, 104, 123, 120

Hymns at PC: NEH 110, 103, 121, 120

### NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**EASTER MESSY CHURCH: Monday 30 March 2pm** at Holy Trinity. Book ahead if you can at [www.ticketsource.co.uk/wantage-parish](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/wantage-parish) to join in crafts, activities, hot cross buns and hear the story of Palm Sunday.

### **SERVICES DURING HOLY WEEK:**

**Maundy Thursday:** In a final act of celebration of the Lord's Supper before the solemnity of the Passion, we sing the Gloria and make a joyful noise! Bring bells and jingles. During the service, the celebrant will wash the feet of members of the congregation representing the Apostles; if you are happy to have your feet washed, please ensure your foot is easily accessible (no tights!).

**Good Friday Walk:** with Wantage & Grove Church Partnership. Starting at 11.30am at Kingsgrove Square and ending in the Market Place where there will be an ecumenical service at 12.30pm, with hot cross buns. This will be followed by a choral service of the Liturgy of Good Friday in the Parish Church from 1.30pm-3pm.

**Holy Saturday:** The Easter Vigil will start with the lighting of the New Fire and the blessing of the new Paschal candles in the churchyard outside the Parish Church. Bring your bells and jingles again to make a joyful noise during the singing of the Gloria. The service will end around midnight.

**Easter Sunday:** A day of resurrection and celebration! There will be an Easter Egg Hunt for children at the Parish Church.

**\*Please note:** there will be no services after Easter until Sunday 12 April.

**PARISH CHURCH – EASTER CLEAN:** We will be giving the Parish Church a good clean on **Holy Saturday (4 April)**, in preparation for the Easter celebrations the following day. Can you help? Just come along anytime between 10am and 12pm to dust, polish, sweep and generally tidy the place up. Anyone able to wield a brush on the end of a very long pole will be welcome from 9am to dust the higher levels. Any questions – contact [alastair.churchwarden@wantageparish.com](mailto:alastair.churchwarden@wantageparish.com).

**EASTER FLOWERS & EASTER FIZZ:** Donations are invited towards our Easter celebrations, as well as towards Easter eggs for the children! Donations can be made in church or online, via a one-off donation on the Parish Giving page or by bank transfer to: ECC of the PCC of St Peter and St Paul Wantage, Sort Code: 40-52-40, A/C: 00036295. Please put 'Easter' as the reference. If you would like your donation to be in memory of somebody special, please email the Parish Office.

**PARISH ALE RETURNS!** Save the date; **Saturday 9 May**. A lunchtime event from **12 noon** with our own Parish Ale, ploughman's lunches and Morris dancing, followed by the **Cakes and Ale Ceilidh at 7pm**. See the eNews or posters for more information and booking details.

**ELECTORAL ROLL & ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING:** Forms are available as of **15 March**. The annual meeting with election of churchwardens and PCC members is taking place in May. If you are new to the congregation, or have not yet signed up on the electoral roll, please do so **before 23 April**. Application forms are available in both churches.

**WANTAGE PARISH MAGAZINE:** The Spring edition of the Wantage Chronicle is out now and available in both churches. The focus of this edition is 'Beauty'. The magazine is free, but a donation of £2 would cover the cost for you and another.

**PEWS FOR SALE:** The PCC has a number of redundant pews available for disposal. Varying in cost (30% discount for members of the congregation) look for blue posters at both churches to see what's available or contact Vince Wilkins [buildings@wantageparish.com](mailto:buildings@wantageparish.com) Sales start from noon on Sunday 7 March 2026 on first come first served basis.

#### COMMUNITY NEWS

**ELMBROOK COURT FRIENDSHIP CAFÉ:** will next be open on Monday 30 March from 1pm. Join them for lunch followed by a brain teaser quiz. Please contact Sam if you would like to go along on 01235 617617 or email [clientrelations.ec@oaklandcare.com](mailto:clientrelations.ec@oaklandcare.com).

**FREE DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING SESSION on Wednesday 1 April 6.30pm-8.30pm** at The Beacon, Wantage. Would you know what to do in a cardiac emergency? AEDs are designed to be easy to use, but learning the basics can make a huge difference in an emergency. Join us for a free community training session and learn skills that could help save a life. The session is delivered by the Community Heartbeat Trust in partnership with the ambulance service as part of their Community Awareness Response Session (CARS) programme. The training session is free to attend and open to anyone aged 18+. Places are limited and must be booked in advance here: <https://beaconwantage.co.uk/class-workshop/community-defibrillator-training/>.

#### CONTACT DETAILS

**Vicar:** Revd Katherine Price (Rest Day: Tuesday) 01235 768806 [vicar@wantageparish.com](mailto:vicar@wantageparish.com)

**Curate:** Revd Frances Caroe (Rest Day: Friday) 07856 278983 [curate@wantageparish.com](mailto:curate@wantageparish.com)

**Children & Young People's Minister:** James Clarke (Rest Day: Tuesday)

[cyp.minister@wantageparish.com](mailto:cyp.minister@wantageparish.com)

**Parish Administrator:** Cathryn Stanton 01235 764533 [administrator@wantageparish.com](mailto:administrator@wantageparish.com)

**Churchwardens:** Alastair Hunter [alastair.churchwarden@wantageparish.com](mailto:alastair.churchwarden@wantageparish.com)

Janet Kingdon [janet.churchwarden@wantageparish.com](mailto:janet.churchwarden@wantageparish.com)

**Parish Safeguarding Officer:** Klara Ignell [safeguarding@wantageparish.com](mailto:safeguarding@wantageparish.com)

**Director of Music:** Phil Johnson [music@wantageparish.com](mailto:music@wantageparish.com)

**Personal Discipleship Plan:** Susie Lapwood [pdp@wantageparish.com](mailto:pdp@wantageparish.com)

**Parish Website:** [www.wantageparish.com](http://www.wantageparish.com)