

## Here's a text if you've only a minute ...

Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.  
*Entrance Gospel*

But you O Lord, do not stay afar off,  
my strength, make haste to help me.  
*Psalm*

Let us pray for a closer union with Christ during this holy season.

Almighty ever-living God,  
you have given the human race Jesus Christ our Saviour  
as a model of humility.

He fulfilled your will by becoming man and giving his life on the cross.  
Help us to bear witness to you by following his example of suffering  
and make us worthy to share in his resurrection.

*Old Opening Prayer*

This week's texts if you'd like to reflect further:  
Isaiah 50: 4-7; Psalm 21 (22); Philippians 2: 6-11; Matthew 26: 14 - 27:66



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Christ Jesus ...  
emptied himself,  
by taking the form  
of a servant.  
He humbled himself  
by becoming  
obedient to the  
point of death, even  
death on a cross.  
Therefore God has  
highly exalted him.

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**ST BEUNO'S OUTREACH IN THE DIOCESE OF WREXHAM**



### PREGO LEAFLET

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord  
Year A, 29th March 2026

'Behold, your King is coming to you'

We begin our Holy Week Liturgies in a spirit of joyful jubilation, as we accompany Jesus our Servant King into Jerusalem (**Entrance Gospel**). The Hosannas and waving palms of an expectant people soon turn to jeers of violence and angry fists as we walk alongside Jesus through this most holy of weeks.

Now is the time for us to pay loving attention to the Passion, suffering and death that Jesus willingly entered into for our sake (**Gospel**). Never once condemning, but always and forever loving us, Jesus forgives us and heals us. This is the nature of his Kingship. God became fully human, to transform sin and human weakness. (**Second Reading**) Isaiah's song of the suffering servant (**First Reading**) foretells the manner in which Jesus will turn with courage and love towards those who betray and abuse him.

Jesus's final prayer on the cross forms the opening words of today's **Psalm**. Let us pray this text throughout this week as an offering of compassion and love for Christ, and for all who suffer with him.

*'Behold our King of compassion has truly come among us,  
come let us adore him, The Saviour of the world.'*



### Opening Prayer

Almighty, ever-living God,  
who as an example of humility for the human race to follow  
caused our Saviour to take flesh and submit to the Cross,  
graciously grant that we may heed his lesson of patient suffering  
and so merit a share in his Resurrection.

## Second Reading Philippians 2: 6–11

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God  
did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped,  
but emptied himself  
by taking the form of a servant,  
being born in the likeness of man;  
and being found in human form,  
he humbled himself  
by becoming obedient to the point of death,  
even death on a cross.  
Therefore God has highly exalted him  
and bestowed on him  
The name that is above every name  
so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
should bend the knee at the name of Jesus  
and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

As I come to pray today, I remember that God enfolds me in love.

Slowly I allow myself to become more aware of all that this present moment offers. I pay attention to the feel of my body, the movement of my breath, the sounds of my surroundings. All of this is held with love in God.

I first ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, then turn to this familiar piece of scripture.

Without haste, and if possible reading out loud, I ponder these lines as if they are a prayer of blessing: a blessing for me, and a blessing for all who face suffering; a blessing for creation itself.

Jesus emptied himself to become just like me, to become one with me. I stay with this thought.

What is my response to this great act of universal love?

How will I show my reverence, my love, my wonder, in the presence of such love?

How will I follow the example of this, our beloved Servant King?

I end my prayer slowly, asking for whatever graces I need. *Glory be ...*

## Gospel Matthew 26: 14 – 27.66 (part)

And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. Then Jesus said to them, ‘You will all fall away because of me this night.’ At this, Peter said, ‘Though they all fall away because of you, I will never fall away.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Truly I tell you, this very night before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.’ Peter said to him, ‘Even if I must die with you, I will not deny you.’ And all the disciples said the same.

Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, ‘Sit here while I go over there and pray.’ And taking with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, he began to be sorrowful and troubled. Then he said to them, ‘My soul is very sorrowful even to death. Remain here and watch with me.’ And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed: ‘My Father, if it be possible let this cup pass from me. Nevertheless, not as I will but as you will.’ And he came to the disciples and found them sleeping. And he said to Peter: ‘So could you not watch with me one hour? Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing but the flesh is weak.’ Again for the second time, he went away and prayed: ‘My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done!’ And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So, leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words. Then he came to the disciples and said to them, ‘Sleep and take your rest later on. See the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise let us be going; see my betrayer is at hand’.

Perhaps I settle into prayer before a crucifix, or an image of one of the Stations of the Cross, or some other scene from the Passion narrative.

With great love, I repeatedly read this excerpt from the Passion of the Lord. What does the Spirit invite me to notice? I stay with this for as long as I need.

Using all of my senses and my imagination, I allow this scene to unfold as if I am there with Jesus.

I hear Jesus express great sorrow and distress. He asks me to stay and pray with him. I ask for the grace to respond with deep compassion to his suffering.

What do I want to say to Jesus, how will I support him in this time of anguish?

In silence, I simply remain praying with Jesus.