

April 5th 2020

PALM SUNDAY

Palm Sunday is a moveable feast that falls on the Sunday before Easter and commemorates Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, an event mentioned in each of the four canonical Gospels.

In most liturgical churches Palm Sunday is celebrated by the blessing and distribution of palm branches or the branches of other native trees representing the palm branches the crowd scattered in front of Christ as he rode into Jerusalem.

In the 15th through the 17th centuries in England, Palm Sunday was frequently marked by the burning of Jack-'o'-Lent figures. This was a straw effigy which would be stoned and abused on Ash Wednesday, and kept in the parish for burning on Palm Sunday. The symbolism was believed to be a kind of revenge on Judas Iscariot, who had betrayed Christ. The effigy could also have represented the hated figure of Winter, whose destruction prepares the way for Spring.



PALM SUNDAY

By John Keble (1792-1866)

Ye whose hearts are beating high
With the pulse of Poesy,
Heirs of more than royal race,
Framed by Heaven's peculiar grace,
God's own work to do on earth,
 (If the word be not too bold,)
Giving virtue a new birth,
 And a life that ne'er grows old,

Sovereign masters of all hearts!
Know ye who hath set your parts?
He who gave you breath to sing,
By whose strength ye sweep the string,
He has chosen you, to lead
 His Hosannas here below;

Mount, and claim your glorious meed;
Linger not with sin and woe.

But if ye should hold your peace,
Deem not that the song would cease.
Angels round His glory throne,
Stars, His guiding hand that own,
Flowers that grow beneath our feet,
Stones in earth's dark womb that rest,
High and low in choir shall meet,
Ere His name shall be unblest.

Lord, by every minstrel tongue
Be Thy praise so duly sung,
That Thine angels' harps may ne'er
Fail to find fit echoing here:
We the while, of meaner birth,
Who in that divinest spell
Dare not hope to join on earth,
Give us grace to listen well.

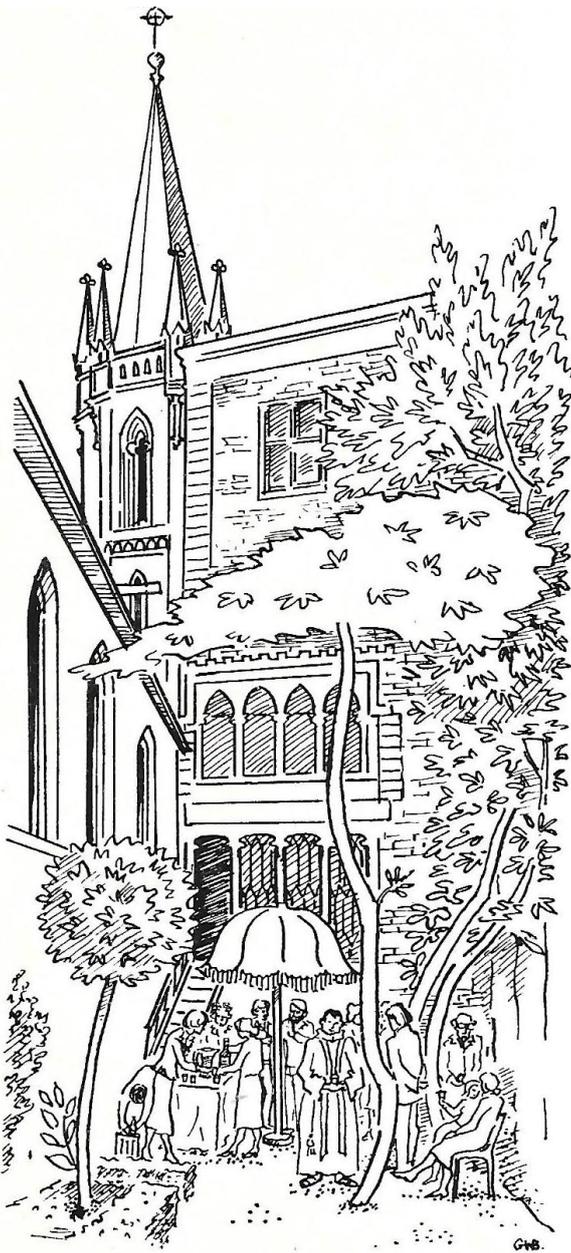
But should thankless silence seal
Lips, that might half Heaven reveal,
Should bards in idol hymns profane
The sacred, soul-enthraling strain,
(As in this bad world below
Noblest things find vilest using,)
Then, Thy power and mercy show,

In vile things noble breath infusing;
Then waken into sound divine
The very pavement of Thy shrine,
Till we, like Heaven's star-sprinkled floor.
Faintly give back what we adore.
Childlike though the voices be,
And untunable the parts,
Thou wilt own the minstrelsy,
If it flow from childlike hearts.

Keble was a theologian and poet who was educated by his father. He was educated so well, in fact, that he received a scholarship to his father's college, Corpus Christi, in Oxford. He was later ordained a priest and worked with John Henry Newman on the Oxford Movement which sought a renewal of Catholic practices in the Church of England. He was also a professor of poetry at Oxford University. After his death in 1866, Keble College in Oxford was founded in his memory.



Giotto: Christ's entry into Jerusalem (1304-6)



Our service for Palm Sunday would normally start in the garden. Here is a drawing of the garden as it was in the mid-1980s. It is the work of the late Geraldine Braithwaite, who was Head of Art at St George's School.

Although for most Sundays of the year there is a huge range of hymns that can be chosen, Palm Sunday has its favourite music without which for many the occasion would not be the same.

"All Glory, Laud and Honour", is an English translation by the Anglican clergyman John Mason Neale of the Latin hymn "Gloria, laus et honor", which was written by Theodulf of Orléans in 820. It is based on Matthew 21:1–11 and the occasion of Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem.^[2] The commonly used tune of the hymn, titled "St. Theodulf" was composed in 1603 by Melchior Teschner.

Here it is sung by King's College Choir:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pHN8UAK6Yow>

While Milman wrote "Ride On, Ride On in Majesty!" in 1820, it was not published in a hymn book until 1827 when it was

published in Bishop Reginald Heber's *Hymns Written and Adapted to the Weekly Church Service of the Year*. This is reported to only have happened after Milman met Heber in 1823 before Heber became Bishop of Calcutta. It was described by composer Stanley L. Osbourne as "Objective, robust, confident, and stirring, it possesses that peculiar combination of tragedy and victory which draws the singer into the very centre of the drama. It is this which gives the hymn its power and its challenge". Here it is sung with organ and brass accompaniment, taken from the BBC's popular TV programme "Songs of Praise".

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zo5pfl6z6IA>

Hosanna to the son of David is taken from Matthew 21.9, and has had many versions over the years. Here it is in plainchant

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=keMmxqTk1qw>

and as an anthem by Gibbons, sung by the fine all male a cappella group Chanticleer.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l6p71HvgiuU>



Palm Sunday 2019

Jane Castrucci writes:

All Saints' Church is twinned with the Catholic church of Ognissanti on the Via Appia Nuova. It was built to serve a poor area of Rome and was completed in 1920, with a peal of bells added seven years later. It received a visit from Pope Francis in 2015.

Ever since All Saints' was twinned with Ognissanti we have participated in the Friday evening food distribution to the poor and homeless at Stazione Ostiense. The group meets at Ognissanti at about 8.00 and helps to pack the food that has been prepared by their cooks - either a pasta or a rice dish in a sealed foil container (which is usually still warm when distributed) - a panini with cheese, egg, or tuna or salami- a piece of pizza with or without 'maiale' - a desert which could be biscuits, crostata or Cornett and sometimes fruit. Occasionally there is chicken - KFC and sometimes yoghurt. They are also offered warm tea with milk or water. Much of the food is donated by local shops.

The men in the group organize the homeless into a queue, with the ladies first, and keep order. Everyone is given a plastic bag and a fork or spoon and then pass along the table manned by the ladies in the group where they receive the food - we always ask whether they want 'maiale' or 'non maiale' . They are then offered warm milky tea, or water.

When possible they are given blankets, warm clothes and shoes - depending on what has been donated.

For many years this has all been organized by Ugo Carpino , who very sadly died last month. The group is now carrying on under the guidance of Salvatore - Padre Walter and Padre Frances -

I have been helping for some time now - as have other members of All Saints' - and find that after a while you get to know some of the people, so it becomes a friendly occasion. I have also made friends with the members of Ogni Santi who help - so it is a very happy group. We are often joined by students from the Beda College, who join us at the station at about 8.45. We always finish before 10.00 pm.

At the moment the food is being pre-packed in the plastic bags and handed out directly to avoid possible contamination which means that the whole operation takes less time.

If anyone is interested in helping please do contact me. famigliacastrucci@libero.it



The Baboon of Via del Babuino

In 1571, Pope Pius V granted the use of a few ounces of water from the new Vergine² aqueduct to the palace of the noble Alessandro Grandi. Grandi, in honour of the Pope, decided to have a fountain made for public use, and places the statue as an ornament for the basin, fixed to the facade of the building. The construction of the fountain lasted a few years, but in 1576 it was completed. The ornaments include two dolphins, a heraldic symbol of the family of the new Pope Gregory XIII (Buoncompagni), who in the meantime had bought the building. The statue was placed in a niche flanked by two pilasters whose capitals support the upper part of the mount on which the two dolphins were placed.

The statue of the fountain was so unique that it strongly influenced the imagination and interest of the Romans. One of the first effects was the change of name of the street, which went from via Paolina to via del Babuino. In addition, it quickly was



counted among the speaking statues of Rome, and, like the five others, it was the voice of the different pasquinate, violent and often irreverent satires, intended to strike strongly and always anonymously the most prominent public figures in Rome, from the 14th century onwards. These pasquinates have even been defined as

babuinate ("babouinades"). The tradition of political comment continued as [graffiti](#) in modern times, to the extent that the fountain was considered an eyesore rather than an asset to this upmarket street. As seen in a 2002 photograph, the wall behind the statue was covered in graffiti, although not on *Il Babuino* itself. Recently, the wall has been painted with an anti-vandal paint, to prevent the graffiti reappearing

Due to the construction of the sanitation system in 1877, the entire complex was dismembered: the basin was used for another fountain in via Flaminia, while the statue was placed inside the palace that was formerly of Buoncompagni. Only in 1957, following a restoration project led by a group of Roman citizens, the Silenus returned to the street. It is now located next to the Saint Attanasio church of the Greeks, reduced to the rank of decorative element of the ancient basin, also

recovered, where horses used to drink. The last renovation of the fountain and its surroundings was carried out in 2007.

On October 29, 2015, it was the object of a new restoration, thanks to a gift from the Italian luxury clothing brand Brioni. The works ended on December 17, 2015.



News from All Saints'

- Those who haven't visited our newsletter lately will be surprised as to how much it has changed. It has a new, elegant layout and links to essential information during lockdown. www.allsaintsrome.org.
- On Wednesday there was the first online session of Light at Lunchtime, using Zoom. As usual Sunday's readings were read and discussed, and although not everyone's bandwidth permitted an interference-free experience, the session was well-attended, even by Louse in far-off Australia. Thus the initiative was very successful and will continue next week.
- Extension to lockdown measures has been confirmed until April 13th, so Easter will be spent at home. Here are some further musical links appropriate to the days leading up to Easter Day. In the next issue of the Newsletter there will be some stirring musical links to the Easter Day celebrations!

Maunday Thursday:

Palestrina: Pange lingua (Chanticleer)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xk9kezzlwDY>

Shepherd: A new commandment (Ecclesium singers)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jzo7stXBcLE>

Good Friday:

The St John Passion in plainchant, sung in Huntersville (NC)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q4UqQtSw0UU>

Sanders: The Reproaches (Ely Cathedral Choir)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=scc7Lq7RE-o>

Bull: In the departure of the Lord (Notre Dame Chorale)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SVuKWCZMI-E>

Easter vigil

Exultet

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g4cXnHTUCY4>

Easter Vigil Alleluys from St Patrick's Cathedral

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2zCZFjMxC-U>

o *If I may add a personal note, the Sanders Reproaches, especially as beautifully sung as on the link, are extraordinary!*

- Many of the congregation will remember Thelma and Neville Mitchell, who were stalwart members of our congregation, and who also hosted groups in their beautiful house in Genazzano. Thelma was my predecessor as editor of the newsletter, indeed she initiated the current format. She is now team chaplain to Bourneville College, an institution of further education near Birmingham.

With the lockdown it's not always easy to gather information about our congregation's activities, so if you wish to let us know what you are up to, don't hesitate to contact me! Ed.

Where are they now?



The Revd **James Hadley** is assistant curate at St Nicholas Church in Harpenden, the oldest known church in Hertfordshire. The church itself, rebuilt in the 19th century, is a grade II listed building, and the churchyard has the grave of, amongst others, the comedian Eric Morecambe.

The Revd **Ernest Okeke** is serving as curate in St John the Divine in

Elmswell, a village of 3600 inhabitants between Bury St Edmunds and Stowmarket. The mediaeval church, which was mentioned in the Domesday Book, is, to quote its website, "a friendly evangelical church".



From the "Church Times"



- "Westminster with a procession of Knights of the Bath" (1749) by Canaletto went on display in the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Galleries at Westminster Abbey this month. Although commissioned by the Dean at the time it is thought to be the first time that the painting has been exhibited at the Abbey.
- The Home Office has provided £1.6 million to 49 places of worship in England and Wales to fund security measures to protect against hate crime attacks. This year 22 mosques, 13 churches, five gurdwaras and four Hindu temples received the funding, with further sums earmarked for 2020-2021. The Jewish community receives separate funding administered by the Community Security Trust.
- Missing church plate thought to have been lost in the post has been rediscovered at an auction house, about to be brought under the hammer. The set was commissioned to replace silverware valued at £70,000 stolen from St Peter's, Copdock in Suffolk. The congregation had given up any hope of finding it when it vanished of the Royal Mail's computer system.
- The Rt Revd Barbara C Harris, who was the first woman to be consecrated bishop in the Anglican Communion, has died aged 89. She served as the

Suffragan Bishop in Massachusetts diocese from 1989 until her retirement in 2002.

- Experts have confirmed that the Dead Sea scroll fragments in a Washington museum are forgeries. The results were the conclusion of a six-month examination. Clues about the origin of the pieces included the use of animal glue, which would not have been available in the era. They are due to be removed from the Museum of the Bible this week.
- “Clergy must accept the archiepiscopal directive to keep churches closed — even for their own private prayer — to save lives at risk from the coronavirus,” the clergy Prolocutors of the Provinces Canterbury and York have said. In a letter to all clergy on Tuesday, Canon Simon Butler (Canterbury) and Canon Chris Newlands (York) state that, while their position entitles them “to be critical of some decisions and policies” of the church hierarchy, “in these unprecedented times, we wish to offer our full and unequivocal support to our Archbishops and Bishops.”
- THE Chinese authorities continued to remove crosses from dozens of church buildings during coronavirus lockdown last month, local media report. Crosses were removed from 14 church buildings in Jiangsu and Anhui provinces in south-eastern China, and another church in Jiangsu was demolished. Authorities have reportedly said that the crosses were “too high and too bright” and therefore a safety hazard

Please Consider Supporting Us During This Challenging Time

As you might imagine, churches such as ours in Italy are highly dependent on revenue from concerts and other rentals of space which are impossible at the present moment. These are uncertain times for us and we would be grateful for your generosity at this moment in our history.

If you have the ability and willingness to help sustain us during this time, please use the link on our website to donate.