



St John's Cathedral 聖公會聖約翰座堂

Anglican Diocese of Hong Kong Island
Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui

*'St John's Cathedral is a place of God's grace, welcoming all,
following Christ and changing lives in the heart of Hong Kong.'*

5TH APRIL 2020

PALM SUNDAY

9.00am Sung Eucharist (Broadcast)

Celebrant:	The Archbishop
Deacon:	The Revd Dwight dela Torre
Communion Setting:	Broken for You (Margaret Rizza)
Hymns:	509, 92, 86 (omit *), 79 (T.128ii)

Sunday Eucharist will be broadcast through the Cathedral website and on YouTube. Please visit the following link before 9.00am this Sunday:

English Service: <https://youtu.be/COIbzjkJVKI>



ONLINE
DONATION



<https://www.stjohnscathedral.org.hk/Donation/default.aspx?lang=1>

A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Peace be with you all at this troubling time!

As the outbreak of the Coronavirus persists, all worship services (including week-day, Saturday and Sunday services) at St John's Cathedral remain suspended until further notice. We are saddened by this. However, this extraordinary measure, issued by the House of Bishops, is to minimize public gatherings for the health and safety of all. Please consult the special listing for webcast services for Holy Week and Easter.

While we all find this crisis extremely frustrating, it is imperative that we maintain our spiritual life and focus our minds and thoughts on the sovereignty of God. We hope that by joining the webcast services offered by the Cathedral, you have been reminded of the love and presence of Jesus Christ.

I find the words of St Paul in Romans 8:38-39 helpful at this time,

"I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor things present nor things to come nor power nor height nor depth nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus."

God has not abandoned us. He is with us each step of the way at this unsettling time. While fear and anxiety encroach upon us, we ought to overcome them through our faith in Christ. Our hope is stronger than despair and our love for each other will carry us through.

As a house of prayer, the Cathedral will remain open from 10.30am to 3.00pm for private prayers on Sundays. Clergy will be present to provide pastoral support and short prayer will also be said on the hour between 11.00am and 3.00pm. During weekdays, the Cathedral is open during normal opening hours with the Midday Prayer being offered at 1.00pm.

Like you, I am greatly concerned of the rapid spread of the virus around the world. My heart goes out to all those who have become afflicted and those who grieve the loss of the loved ones. Please join me by praying earnestly for them. May the healing power and protection of God be upon us all! The Cathedral clergy are here to listen and offer support. Should you wish to talk to any one of us, please do not hesitate to contact the Cathedral office. May God bless us all!

The Dean

Coronavirus Prayer

Almighty God our heavenly Father, we humbly ask you to have mercy on humanity besieged by coronavirus. Forgive us our selfish thoughts and actions which deny others a fair share of resources, and our reliance on human capacity to deliver rather than leaning into the hope of faith.

Give wisdom to those in authority making decisions which impact every aspect of community life; enable the health systems to respond with gentleness and compassion; help us all to support, encourage and care for each other both in church and community; and be with us as we find ways to share in worship and witness despite restrictions.

Shine the light of your love into the darkness of this pandemic and reassure us of your goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

- from the Anglican Church of Australia

PALM GOSPEL

Matthew 21.1-11

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, "The Lord needs them." And he will send them immediately.' This took place to fulfil what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, 'Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, 'Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!'

When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, 'Who is this?' The crowds were saying, 'This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

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. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Isaiah 50.4-9a

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

The servant of the LORD said:
The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he awakens—wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backwards. I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting.

The Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Philippians 2.5-11

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

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.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

PASSION READING

Matthew 27.11-54

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Now Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' Jesus said, 'You say so.' But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer. Then Pilate said to him, 'Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?' But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed.

Now at the festival the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted. At that time they had a notorious prisoner, called Jesus Barabbas. So after they had gathered, Pilate said to them, 'Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?' For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. While he was sitting on the judgement seat, his wife sent word to him, 'Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him.' Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed. The governor again said to them, 'Which of the two do you want me to release for you?' And they said, 'Barabbas.' Pilate said to them, 'Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?' All of them said, 'Let him be crucified!' Then he asked, 'Why, what evil has he done?' But they shouted all the more, 'Let him be crucified!'

So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd,

saying, 'I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves.' Then the people as a whole answered, 'His blood be on us and on our children!' So he released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole cohort around him. They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on his head. They put a reed in his right hand and knelt before him and mocked him, saying, 'Hail, King of the Jews!' They spat on him, and took the reed and struck him on the head. After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they compelled this man to carry his cross. And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots; then they sat down there and kept watch over him. Over his head they put the charge against him, which read, 'This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.'

Then two bandits were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, 'You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross.' In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying, 'He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he wants to; for he said, "I am God's Son." The bandits who were crucified with him also taunted him in the same way.

From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, 'Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?' that is, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, 'This man is calling for Elijah.' At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. But the others said, 'Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him.' Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last. At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. After his resurrection they came out of the tombs and entered the holy city and appeared to many. Now when the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said, 'Truly this man was God's Son!'

This is the Passion of the Lord.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

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. **Amen.**

FOR YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK



We pray for our city of Hong Kong and for China; for our leaders and those in authority; for all medical staff and those involved in the emergency services; and for all who have been afflicted by the Coronavirus.

In the worldwide Anglican Communion we pray for the Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean and the Most Revd James Richard Wong Yin Song, Archbishop, Province of Indian Ocean & Bishop of the Seychelles.

We pray for the Province of Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui (Anglican Province of Hong Kong & Macau); for the Most Revd Dr Paul Kwong, our archbishop and primate; and for all bishops, priests and deacons within our diocese and province.

We pray for the Church of Our Saviour, for the Vicar, the Revd Tony Au-Yeung, for the Parish officers and for the volunteers; for their development plan and ministries; for the nurture and training of their Sunday school teachers and youth fellowship leaders; for the works and ministries of the Anglican Tai Po Network, which liaise the Anglican parties including the church, schools and social services units.

Within the Cathedral Parish we pray for the Cathedral church and its various congregations, for the Dean and the chaplains; for our daughter churches; Discovery Bay Church, St Stephen's Chapel, Stanley, Emmanuel Church, Pokfulam; and their Priests in Charge. We also remember Christians in Central, InTouch Magazine, Cathedral Bookstore, Mission For Migrant Workers, HELP For Domestic Workers, SJC Life Enrichment Centre, and St John's Counselling Service.

We also pray for our link Diocese of Toungoo, Myanmar; for the Rt Revd Dr Saw Shee Sho, his priests, people and ministry.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for those who are sick:

Sarah Phillipson, John McKinven, Nie Shi Fa, Shirley Nie, Wong Lai King, Edward Coles-Gale, David Holme, John Butcher, Jake Pitts, Daniel Lee,

CJ Verdejo, Francesca Lorenzi, Lene Bille Hoegh, Tai Yu Hei, Daisy Tai, Margaret Pini, Toungh Ming, May Cheng, Luke Inkin, Philip Yeung, Chen Kuk Tye, Kong Siu Ming, Janice Currie, Justin Ching, John David, Ron Fast, Richard Jones, Raymond Yuen, Irene Lo Oi Lin, Gareth Williams, Mike Chan, Therese Marie Gerarda Chan, Anthony Chan, Annie Kwan, Christina Chan, Phyllis Schmitz, Catherine Chan, Elaine Cogan, Chong Yuk Lau, Andrew Wong, Kathryn McCallen, John McIntosh, Esther Tsen, Denny Tsen, Eunice Chan, Jennifer D. Ambatcan, Geoff Walsh, Jeshu Yau, Susan Westlake, Meena Tsui, Kathryn Lewis, Leslie Henderson, Donna Gail Willis, Monica Cornelius and Timothy Moreno.

Please pray for the recently departed:
Rodney Farrar

Prayers will be offered for those named above during the weekday Eucharist. To include someone in this prayer list, please contact Elisa, **Tel.: 2523 4157**.



RADIO MINISTRY

- **RTHK3 AM567**
The Dean will be speaking on 'Thought for the Week' at 8.25am on Sunday 12th April.
- **RTHK4 FM97.**
The Revd Will Newman will be speaking on 'Reflections' at **10.56pm** every night from Monday to Friday, 6th—10th April 2020.

DONATION OF MASKS

Thanks to the kindness and generosity of many, we have received more than 9000 masks since the appeal started. They have been delivered to the elderly, the vulnerable and the poor in the community through the Western District Elderly Care (HKSKE Welfare Council). The Cathedral continues to receive masks donation at the cathedral door and at the office.

HONG KONG SHENG KUNG HUI CONSECRATION OF BISHOP

Due to the concerns of the spread of COVID-19, the consecration of Dean Matthias as Bishop which was scheduled to be held on 23rd May has now been postponed to **3rd October 2020**. Please make note of this postponement and reserve the date on your calendar. Meanwhile, please pray for Dean Matthias and his family as he prepares for his episcopal ministry.

STAY CONNECTED WITH ST JOHN'S ON MOBILE

In view of the need for more effective communication with our congregation, the Cathedral is launching a communication channel '**St John's Updates**' for disseminating notices in a timely manner.

This channel will keep you updated about our Cathedral activities. If you wish to receive such messages by mobile phone, please follow the steps below:

- add the Cathedral mobile number **9506 2311** to the contact list of your mobile phone
- send a message of '**subscribe to St John's Updates**' to the number via WhatsApp or SMS

By providing us with your mobile phone number, you consent to receive messages from the Cathedral office through WhatsApp or SMS. For more information about the collection of personal information by the Cathedral, please check out our website (<https://t.ly/Eygy3>).

ST JOHN'S CATHEDRAL ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING

Due to health concerns, the Annual Church Meeting of St John's Cathedral will be postponed to Sunday, 17th May at 1.00pm.



Notice is hereby given that the Annual Church Meeting of St. John's Cathedral will be held at Li Hall on Sunday the 17th May 2020, at 1:00p.m. for the purposes following :-

- (a) Receiving from the Church Council and considering : (i) a copy or copies of the electoral roll; (ii) an annual report on its proceedings; (iii) a statement of the financial affairs of the church;
- (b) The election of the trustees of St John's Cathedral for the Church of England Trust.
- (c) The election of the Church Council;
- (d) The election of sidesmen;
- (e) The election of an auditor;
- (f) Transacting of any other business connected with the affairs of the church.

To be part of the Electoral Roll is a way you demonstrate your sense of belonging which allows you to participate actively in the affairs of our common life and ministry. All qualified electors who wish their names to appear in the Electoral Roll must complete an "Electoral Roll Declaration," which is attached /available from the office. You are a qualified elector if you are (a) 18 years old and above; and (b) are baptized and a member of the Anglican Church or a Church in communion therewith; (c) do not belong to any religious body which is not in communion with the Anglican Church; and (d) are not entered upon the Electoral Roll of any other Church in the Diocese.

If you wish to cast a vote at the forthcoming ACM, you should complete and submit an Electoral Roll Declaration form. You do not need to fill out a new form if your name already appears on the current electoral roll, to confirm that, please call the Cathedral office at 25234157. Completed forms must reach the cathedral office, by 29th April 2020 for inclusion in the Electoral Roll for the purpose of the Annual Church Meeting 2020. Any inquiries may be directed to Viola Ip, the Executive Administrator of the Cathedral.

In preparation for the election of the trustees and council members, all those registered on the Electoral Roll are eligible to nominate and receive nomination. Please find the Nomination Form attached /available from the office. Each nomination requires the consent of the candidate, the nominee and a seconder. Please submit the completed form to the cathedral office by 29th April, 2020. Trustees and council members are important leadership positions in the cathedral. You are welcome to nominate individuals who are mature in the faith and committed in serving God and his people to these positions.

We thank you for your continuous contribution to the life of the church and look forward to your presence and participation at the Annual Church Meeting. God bless you all.

Dated this 29th March 2020

The Very Revd Matthias Der
Dean

Michael Spencer
Hon. Secretary

WEBCAST SERVICES FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER 2020



9th April 2020 – Maundy Thursday

9.00am Solemn Liturgy for the Blessing of Oils & the Renewal of Commitment to Priestly Service by the Clergy

<https://youtu.be/-YgVQ3VBPkw>

8.00pm Sung Eucharist with the Washing of Feet

<https://youtu.be/jNXPdo95ygE>

10th April 2020 – Good Friday

1.30pm Good Friday Liturgy

<https://youtu.be/6MMbR7Az7CY>

11th April 2020 – Holy Saturday

8.00pm Easter Vigil & First Eucharist of Easter

<https://youtu.be/OACMPcv7Txo>

12th April 2020 – Easter Day

9.00am Sung Eucharist

<https://youtu.be/5MuGFu1cfMY>

10.30am Holy Eucharist (Mandarin)

<https://youtu.be/FHntIEfRfnc>

10.30am Holy Eucharist (Filipino)

https://youtu.be/i_p7yeqLc9s

SJC BOOKSTORE OPENING HOURS

With the situation of the COVID-19 outbreak getting worse and to cope with the advice from the HKSAR government for reducing staff number in the work-place, the Bookstore opening hours will be

from 10.30am to 4.00pm daily (until further notice)

Customers please send us messenger messages for enquiries and orders during our non-operating hours.



New digital book

Volume 2: 'Sa Sa's life during COVID-19 pandemic'

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic in Hong Kong, schools have been suspended since February. Students have to take online lessons at home. As they go out less, they are encouraged not to visit friends, relatives and schoolmates. It is a challenge for many of our young people.

St John's Cathedral life Enrichment Centre (LEC) has designed a cartoon booklet, 'Sa Sa's Life during COVID-19' to promote positive thinking. Reading this digital booklet, we hope that our young people may find peace and strength to overcome life challenges.

Readers are most welcome to send their responses and feedback. Feedback will be shared at our Outreach Sunday of St John's Cathedral in June. Please also share this cartoon booklet with your fellow students, friends, teachers and parents. Together, we can build a city of hope and peace. God bless you all.

'Sa Sa's life during COVID-19 pandemic'
is now available on YouTube.



<https://youtu.be/wqCgqzNqfmY>

After reading, you are most welcome to share your feedback
via the following link.

<https://forms.gle/gpDzEoRLYidDbfNB6>

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Email: elijahfung@stjohnlec.com