

*This is what is envisaged in the BCP where for some reason a person can't get to church to receive the elements. Bishop Jo goes on to say:*

*Spiritual reception has the character of exile, of acknowledging that something is missing - which in this condition of isolation precisely describes what many of us are feeling. I dare to suggest that our appreciation of Communion might be enhanced by the enforced fast that current circumstances demand.*

*Shorn of the gifts, but also distractions, of live encounter, it might focus more explicitly the past and future aspects of the Eucharist. It might bring us to long even more not just for the earthly encounter but for heavenly communion.*

And so, on this very different Palm Sunday... I hope that you will join with me and with one another, even if at a physical distance, in the Eucharist at 11am.

With every blessing,  
Derek.

### Collect, Special Prayer for today

True and humble king,  
hailed by the crowd as Messiah:  
grant us the faith to know you and love you,  
that we may be found beside you  
on the way of the cross,  
which is the path of glory.

### New Testament Reading

**Psalm 118. 19-24**

**NT Pg: 594**

Open to me the gates of righteousness,  
that I may enter and give thanks to the Lord.

This is the gate of the Lord;  
the righteous shall enter through it.

I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me  
and have become my salvation.

The stone which the builders rejected  
has become the chief cornerstone.

This is the Lord's doing,  
and it is marvellous in our eyes.

This is the day that the Lord has made;  
we will rejoice and be glad in it.

### Gospel Reading

**Matthew 21. 1-11**

**NT Pg: 24**

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.'

### News

**Coronavirus - Pastoral Care.** Can the pastoral team reiterate that if anyone is housebound, for any reason, and especially at this time, the pastoral team can always be contacted and will be pleased to offer assistance in getting any essentials such as food or medicines. Please either contact a PA direct, call the Church Office on 884229 or for direct support from the Pastoral Team email:

**stmartinspastoral@gmail.com**

### Coronavirus and St Martin's Finances.

This is a difficult subject to raise when there are far tougher challenges around, but you will appreciate St Martin's has overnight lost all its income from concert hirings, Sunday plate collections and wall safe donations. We are very fortunate that a high proportion of our regular congregation give by standing order etc and we are extremely grateful for their continuing support in these difficult times. Most of our costs are fixed though we of course will be saving on eg our energy bills (which drop in summer anyway). It is too early to give an indication of the net financial "hit" to our budget and we recognise that of course many of you will also be seeing a personal drop in income; however if anyone does feel able to take out a standing order (ideally with Gift Aid) Nick (01306 887870) would be delighted to send you the paperwork.

**Traidcraft.** Please contact Elizabeth Dobson direct on 881479 if you would like items delivered locally.

**Dorking Foodbank** is operating at the usual times: <https://dorkingarea.foodbank.org.uk/> from the Christian Centre. Donation points in supermarkets remain as usual. This week we need donations of Pasta, Pasta Sauces, Biscuits, Tinned Vegetables, Tinned Meat Pies and Tinned Meat. Thank you.

**St Martin's Parish Magazine.** The April edition of St Martin's Magazine is not available in paper format. Find it by clicking on the Magazine page on our website: <https://stmartinsdorking.org/news>

**Christian Centre News.** The Centre is closed for visitors to the Café, however the foyer is open for Community Fridge access 9-2.30pm weekdays, and hot take-away meals are available on weekdays at 12pm. Please call the centre to book your meal on 886830.

**Music at Midday** Recitals for May and June have been cancelled.

**News and Notices for the next issue of the Weekly News Sheet** are to be forwarded to the church office by the close of business on Wednesday. Please e-mail [stmartinsdorkingchurchoffice@gmail.com](mailto:stmartinsdorkingchurchoffice@gmail.com) or call 01306 884229. The Church Office is closed however Vicki and Michelle can still be contacted by e-mail or telephone.

**Please remember in your prayers:** Pamela Kerslake, Betty and Brian Smith, Steve Parker, Heather Anderton, Mike Kendrick, Simon Hardcastle, Frankie Stoner, Paul Berning, Julie Mellows, John Alger and family.

**And those who have recently died:**  
Pippa Alger, Janet Greenhorn.



Those in our congregation who have long term concerns are prayed for regularly.

**Being corporate at a distance.** In these unprecedented times we are fortunate that there is a wealth of resources in different media available to enable us to be corporate even when not co-located! Whether you have a basic radio or the latest smartphone, there is something for you:-

**Our own service on youtube** – access will be via YouTube and available from 11am on Sunday, click here <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCuzOsRDjIRJE8Y3Zjr3fj0g>

**The link to your 9.00am Daily Prayer -**  
<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer> scroll down to the green Morning Prayer box.

**Radio** – Choral Evensong - Wednesday 3.30pm and on Sunday at 3pm.

**TV** – Holy Saturday - 11 April at 7pm on BBC2 Easter from Kings.

**Live Stream Event:** St Paul's Church are streaming Sunday services live. These can be accessed via their website.

This will of course be a particularly strange Holy Week at home for all of us but Diocese of Chelmsford has helpfully flagged up a [whole series of resources](#). Just open the link and click on relevant day.

**For the Who's who' pages and contact details please view St Martin's Magazine on our Website :**

<https://stmartinsdorking.org/magazine>

# st martin's DORKING

WITH ST. MARY'S PIXHAM

**Sunday 5th April**  
**Palm Sunday**



## Spiritual Communion for Palm Sunday

I imagine that many of you will have watched the 9am Holy Communion from St Paul's Church in Dorking for the last few Sundays, just as did I before celebrating the Holy Communion myself on behalf of all in this benefice in the garden of the vicarage at 11am. As a priest, I believe it to be my responsibility to receive on behalf of those who cannot.

And, of course, I realise that there are deep feelings of loss around not being able to physically receive the bread and the wine... I understand this sense of loss completely. And I suspect that many folks that have received the elements dutifully over their lifetimes have been asking how else they might physically partake in the Eucharist.

A note on Spiritual Communion, produced recently by the Church of England, reminds us that "... if we offer ourselves in penitence and faith, giving thanks for the redemption won by Christ crucified, we may truly 'eat and drink the Body and Blood of our Saviour Christ', although we cannot receive the sacrament physically in ourselves. Making a Spiritual Communion is particularly fitting for those who cannot receive the sacrament at the great feasts of the Church, and it fulfils the duty of receiving Holy Communion 'regularly, and especially at the festivals of Christmas, Easter and Whitsun or Pentecost' (Canon B 15)."

In an even more recently penned letter to the clergy, Bishop Jo says this:

*... What is going on at a virtual Eucharist is that people are watching a streamed Eucharist – just as with Communion worship broadcast on radio or TV – not participating in it in a technical sense by receiving the elements. **It is not a virtual consecration**, which is to say that no other bread and wine is consecrated except that which is physically/literally taken, blessed, broken and shared by the priest. So a family that gathers around a screen should not be encouraged to bring their own bread and wine as if it could be consecrated 'by remote'. (Though we do commend family Agape meals, where bread/wine and other food is shared in the context of worship and prayer – and more obviously, saying 'grace' together as an opportunity to raise eyes to heaven at every meal). For those who are watching the Eucharist on their screen, this situation might better be described as a liturgy of spiritual reception.*