

Sunday 29 March – Palm Sunday

Prayers written by Jenny Cass

As we recall Jesus entering Jerusalem, let us gather our thoughts to pray:

Father, as the crowds welcomed Jesus and sang your praises, we pray that many more will welcome you into their hearts and lives over the coming year. We pray for opportunities to spread your good news and courage to take them.

We give thanks for our new Archbishop of Canterbury and pray that she will have wisdom and discernment in her role.

You are our God: **we welcome you.**

Father, we recall the donkey Jesus rode on, and we pray for that real humility in our hearts which treat status and image casually, and truth and loving service seriously.

We pray for our troubled world, that those in positions of power and authority will act wisely, with compassion and for peace and an end to wars.

You are our God: **we welcome you.**

Father, the children sang and shouted your praise, and we pray for the children in our homes, our local schools and in our communities. May we not fail them in the support and teaching they need. Please keep our children safe during the Easter break and may all the teaching staff be refreshed and reinvigorated.

You are our God: **we welcome you.**

Father, the crowds were responding to the healing love they had seen in action in Jesus. We bring to you in love all those who are on our hearts today who are unwell, anxious and sad. We remember: Jericho Hasieber, Sarah, Sue Copsey, David Richards, Joanne Fearis. Give them all comfort and reassurance, wholeness and hope.

You are our God: **we welcome you.**

Father, Jesus knew he was riding to his death. We pray for all on that last journey, especially those who are fearful or lonely. We commend to your eternal love all who have died recently in our parish: Margaret Arrowsmith, June Groeninger, Brian Southwood. Please bring comfort to their families and friends.

From our Memorial Book we give thanks for the lives of Carol Hultquist, Malvina Morgan, Tony Baldock, Charles William George Cole and Maureen Lingard.

You are our God: **we welcome you.**

Father, we too, spread our coats on the road as we express our thankfulness for all you have done for us and the amazing extent of your love.

Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.