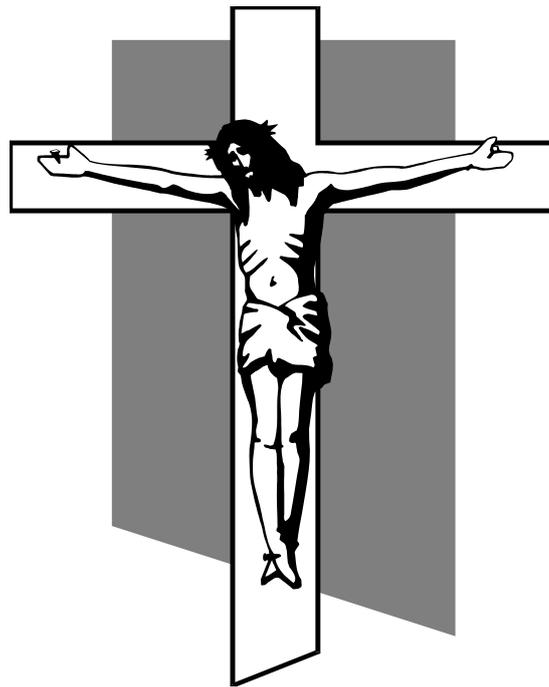


**The Parish Church of  
All Saints, Wokingham**



**Solemn Liturgy  
Of  
GOOD  
FRIDAY**

(without Holy Communion)

## **INTRODUCTION**

The Solemn Liturgy of Good Friday has the cross at its heart.

To prepare for the proclamation of the cross we hear the Passion Gospel which narrates the events leading up to the crucifixion of Jesus.

The Proclamation of the Cross sets before us the stark reality of the meaning of Good Friday; and then, as we kneel at the foot of the cross, we pray for this world for which Our Lord suffered and died.

This order of service underlines the desolation and dereliction of this one day of the year by retaining the ancient custom of concluding the liturgy without receiving the sacrament.

This is a meditative and reflective service which is rooted in silence and returns to silence.

### **Reflection on the meaning of Good Friday**

Clyde F Crews wrote:

On this gravest of the Christian days of commemoration, believers ponder anew the inner crosses of their lives under the light and shading of the great primal Cross of Christ. And as we behold once again the arms outstretched of the compassionate Saviour, we do well to hear with new force the words of a certain letter written to the early church of Philippi so many centuries ago. Words that haunt us with their message; dizzy us with their implications; dazzle us with their simplicity. And five words that enkindle us with new love, liberate us from our suffering, and call us home from exile are simply these:

“Your attitude must be Christ’s”  
*(Phil2:6) NAV*

*From Seasons of the Spirit by Clyde F. Crews*

*The ministers enter in silence.  
All kneel (or sit) for a time of silent prayer.*

*The Presiding minister says the Collect.*

Almighty Father,  
look with mercy on this your family  
for which our Lord Jesus Christ was content to be betrayed  
and given up into the hands of sinners  
and to suffer death upon the cross;  
who is alive and glorified with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

*We sit for the first two readings.*

**The Old Testament Reading**

*Isaiah 52.13 - 53.12*

*Silence is kept*

*We remain seated as the choir sings the Psalm*

**Psalm 22**

*(Verses 1-21)*

**The New Testament Reading**

*Hebrews 4:14-16 & 5:7-9 or Hebrews 10:16-25*

**GRADUAL HYMN**

*We remain standing for the Gospel.*

**THE PASSION GOSPEL**

*S. John 18:1 - 19:42*

*Profound silence is kept.*

*When the Cross is brought we kneel (or sit).*

## The Ministry of the Word

*At the end of  
each reading  
the reader  
says*

*This is the word  
of the Lord.*

**Thanks be  
to God.**

*Please see  
The Book of  
Common Prayer  
or  
Psalter for the  
words of the  
psalm.*

*For this long  
reading some  
may choose to  
sit.*

**No responses  
are used at the  
Gospel  
reading.**



## The Proclamation of the Cross

*A wooden cross is brought and placed in the sight of the people. We kneel (or sit).*

*Members of the congregation are invited to join in the upholding of the Cross.*

### The Reproaches

*This anthem is sung by the Choir.*

*O my people, what have I done to thee?  
Or wherein have I wearied thee?  
Testify against me.*

*For thy sake I scourged Egypt with its first born:  
And thou hast delivered me to be scourged.*

*I brought thee out of Egypt drowning Pharaoh in the Red Sea:  
And thou didst deliver me to the chief priests.*

*I opened the sea before thee:  
And thou openedst my side with a spear.*

*I went before thee in a pillar of cloud:  
And thou didst lead me before Pilate's judgement seat.*

*I fed thee with manna in the desert:  
And thou didst fall on me with swords and staves.*

*I gave thee to drink of the water of salvation from the rock:  
And thou gavest me gall and vinegar.*

*For thee I smote the King of the Canaanites:  
And thou didst smite my head with a reed.*

*I gave thee a royal sceptre:  
And thou gavest me a crown of thorns.*

*I exalted thee to great honour:  
And thou didst lift me upon the gibbet of the cross.*

*Hagios O Theos. Holy God. agios, ischyros. Holy, mighty!  
Hagios, athanatos, eleison imas.  
Holy and immortal, have mercy on us.*

## The Proclamation of the Cross

*After the anthems of reproach all pray:*

## **The Intercessions**

**Father, hear our prayer and forgive us.  
Unstop our ears that we may receive the gospel of the cross.  
Lighten our eyes  
that we may see your glory in the face of your Son.  
Penetrate our minds that your truth may make us whole.  
Irradiate our hearts with your love  
that we may love one another for Christ's sake.  
Father, forgive us.**

*Silence is kept.*

### **HYMN**

*The hymn is sung kneeling or sitting.*

### **The Intercessions**

God sent his Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. Therefore we pray to our heavenly Father for people everywhere according to their needs.

Let us pray for the Church of God throughout the world -  
for unity in faith, in witness and in service  
for bishops and other ministers,  
and those whom they serve  
for our bishop, and the people of this diocese  
for all Christians in this place  
for those to be baptized  
for those who are mocked and persecuted for their faith  
that God will confirm his Church in faith,  
increase it in love, and preserve it in peace.

*Silence*

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Almighty and everlasting God,  
by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified:  
hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people;  
that in their vocation and ministry  
each may serve you in holiness and truth to the glory of your Name;  
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**



## The Intercessions

Let us pray for the nations of the world  
and their leaders -

    for Elizabeth our Queen and the Parliament of this land  
    for those who administer the law  
    and all who serve in public office  
    for all who strive for justice and reconciliation  
that by God's help the world may live in peace and freedom.

*Silence*

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Most gracious God and Father,  
in whose will is our peace:  
turn our hearts and the hearts of all to yourself,  
that by the power of your Spirit the peace which is founded on justice  
may be established throughout the world;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray -

    for greater understanding between Christian and Jew  
    for the removal of our blindness and bitterness of heart  
that God will grant us grace to be faithful to his covenant  
and to grow in the love of his name.

*Silence*

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Lord God of Abraham,  
bless the children of your covenant, both Jew and Christian;  
take from us all blindness and bitterness of heart,  
and hasten the coming of your kingdom,  
when Israel shall be saved, the Gentiles gathered in,  
and we shall dwell together in mutual love and  
peace under the one God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Let us pray for those who do not believe the Gospel of Christ -  
    for those who have not heard the message of salvation  
    for all who have lost faith  
    for the contemptuous and scornful  
    for those who are enemies of Christ and persecute those who follow him  
    for all who deny the faith of Christ crucified

that God will open their hearts to the truth  
and lead them to faith and obedience.

## The Intercessions

*Silence*

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Merciful God,  
creator of all the people of the earth,  
have compassion on all who do not know you,  
and by the preaching of your Gospel with grace and power,  
gather them into the one fold of the one Shepherd; Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for all those who suffer -  
for those who are deprived and oppressed  
for all who are sick and handicapped  
for those in darkness, in doubt and in despair,  
in loneliness and in fear  
for prisoners  
for the victims of false accusations and violence  
for all at the point of death and those who watch beside them  
that God in his mercy will sustain them with the knowledge of his love.

*Silence*

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Almighty and everlasting God,  
the comfort of the sad, the strength of those who suffer;  
hear the prayers of your children who cry out of any trouble:  
and to every distressed soul grant mercy, relief, and refreshment,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us commend ourselves and all God's children to his unfailing love,  
and pray for the grace of a holy life,  
that, with all who have died in the peace of Christ,  
we may come to the fullness of eternal life and the joy of the resurrection.

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

*Continued overleaf/*



## Conclusion

*We stand for the hymn and concluding prayers*

### FINAL HYMN

*The presiding minister introduces the Lord's Prayer*

Let us pray for the coming of God's kingdom in the words our Saviour taught us:

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.**

Most merciful God,  
who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ  
delivered and saved mankind:  
grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross,  
we may triumph in the power of his victory;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*The ministers depart in silence.*

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## Conclusion

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