



**Diocese
in Europe**

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

SS PETER AND PAUL, TORREVIEJA

*We worship in Word and Sacrament at Lago Jardín, Los Balcones and La Siesta
and ministering through the southern Costa Blanca and eastern Murcia.*

A truly Eucharistic community of faith and love.

Chaplain (equivalent of Parish Priest):

Father Richard A. Seabrook SSC

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FATHER RICHARD'S WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

13th April 2025

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD



**WELCOME TO THE CHAPLAINCY OF SS PETER AND PAUL, TORREVIEJA.
ALL ARE WELCOME TO SHARE IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH IN THIS CHAPLAINCY.**

**Please remember to turn off your mobile phone
before our services begin.
Please don't use a mobile phone in church. Pray instead!**

**Please remember to talk to God in prayer before our services begin.
There is plenty of time to talk to each other afterwards.
Your talking may distract someone else's praying.
Please keep a devotional silence.**

Father Richard's contact details are on the front of this newsletter.

Our Churchwardens are:
Peter Maude (churchwardenpeter@gmail.com)
Jennifer Saville (chaplaincywardenjennifer@gmail.com)
They also act as Joint Treasurers.

The Vice-Chairman of the Chaplaincy Council is:
Joan Berry (losbalconeswarden@gmail.com)
Joan is also Honorary Secretary to the Chaplaincy Council.
For Chaplaincy Council matters please use:
chapsec@gmail.com

We take the Safeguarding of Children and Vulnerable Adults seriously. Our Safeguarding Policy is displayed at La Siesta and Lago Jardín and is available on our website:
<https://www.c-of-e-torre vieja.com/safeguarding-policy/>
Our Safeguarding Officer is Anna Horsnell who can be contacted at
safeguardingtorrevieja@gmail.com

The Congregational Warden at La Siesta is:
Sue Maude (wardenlasiesta@gmail.com)

The Congregational Warden at Lago Jardín is:
Liz Shouksmith (shouksmithliz@gmail.com)

**Nuestra Señora de la Asunción at Los Balcones, our third church,
is closed for a major rebuilding project.**

Home Communions

Father Richard will take Holy Communion to people at home according to their circumstances. This is a privilege and enables for prayer in the home at difficult times and for the communicant to receive Holy Communion at home. Please never hesitate to contact me if you would like Holy Communion at home if you are unable to come to church because of sickness or being housebound.

Here are some guidelines to assist you:

1. If you can, please arrange a surface with a white cloth upon which I can place the Blessed Sacrament. If this is difficult please do not worry too much but it is appreciated.

2. The Priest will not enter into general conversation until after the celebration which lasts about ten minutes. Then he would appreciate a cup of tea and chat with you but if your circumstances don't allow, please do not worry.
3. Please consider giving a donation to the Church for the Priest's ministry. He will have had to drive to you and it also enables you to give your weekly collection to support the priestly ministry in the parish / chaplaincy. This means there can be a Priest available for you and for others with a priestly presence in the parish / chaplaincy.
It is a long-established custom – if you can – to make an offering to the Church in thankfulness for the ministry of the Church.
4. You don't have to tidy up before the priest arrives! Just prepare spiritually for an encounter with Christ in the Eucharist by being prayerful before his arrival.

Father Richard writes:

Dear friends



Holy Week

As the introduction to the liturgy on Palm Sunday says:

Since the beginning of Lent until now we have prepared our hearts by penance and charitable works. Today we gather together to herald with the whole Church the beginning of our Lord's Paschal Mystery, that is to say, of his Passion and Resurrection.

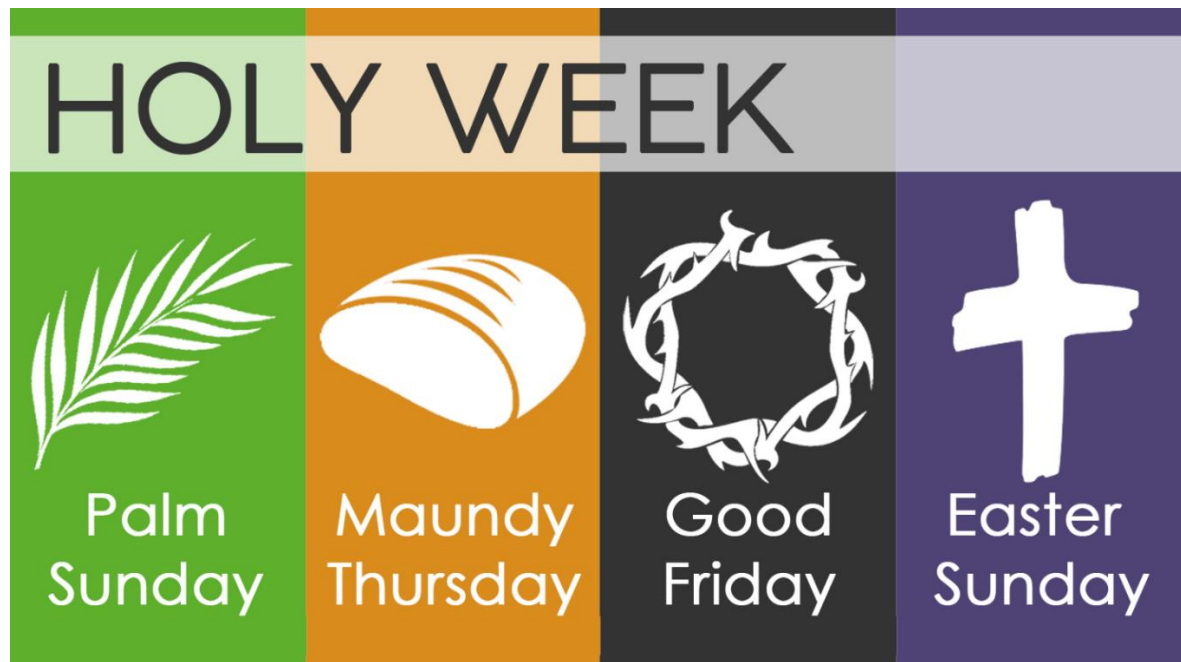
It's an important week. No, more than that. It's the most important week of the year. The events of Holy Week are the reason you are reading this newsletter. Jesus died for **you**. This Holy Week I invite you to engage with the liturgies – a lot of hard work goes into them – so that you may be drawn into the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Our Lord. May I suggest that jumping from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday without any intervening liturgies means there is something missing when Easter comes? To be in the Upper Room on Thursday as Christ institutes the Holy Eucharist; to be with him in the Garden of Gethsemane; to be at the foot of the Cross; and then to gather on Saturday night for the greatest liturgy of the year transforms how we celebrate the Resurrection on Easter Sunday.

This year, my tenth Holy Week as your Priest, we have celebrations of the Holy Eucharist on Monday and Tuesday in Holy Week with a reflection on the meaning of Holy Week and the readings from Sacred Scripture we hear.

May the Lord bless you this Holy Week and, through a fruitful participation in the liturgies, bring you to the joy Easter. You are invited to take up the Cross this week and follow Our Lord. A reminder that all communicant members of the Church must make their Holy Communion at Easter.

With my best wishes and prayers for you all,

Father Richard



PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

Saturday 12th April

1700 COMMEMORATION OF THE LORD'S ENTRANCE INTO
JERUSALEM AND VIGIL MASS (La Siesta)

Sunday 13th April

1130 COMMEMORATION OF THE LORD'S ENTRANCE INTO
JERUSALEM AND MASS (Lago Jardín)

MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK

Monday 14th April

1030 MASS (Lago Jardín)

TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK

Tuesday 15th April

1030 MASS (La Siesta)

THE SACRED PASCHAL TRIDUUM

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Thursday 17th April

1900 MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Followed by WATCH OF THE PASSION (La Siesta)

Please bring bells to ring at the Gloria.

GOOD FRIDAY

Friday 18th April

1500 THE CELEBRATION OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD
(La Siesta)

HOLY SATURDAY

Saturday 19th April

1900 THE EASTER VIGIL AND FIRST MASS OF EASTER

Please bring bells to ring at the Gloria.

(La Siesta)

EASTER SUNDAY

Sunday 20th April

0930 HOLY EUCHARIST (Lago Jardín)

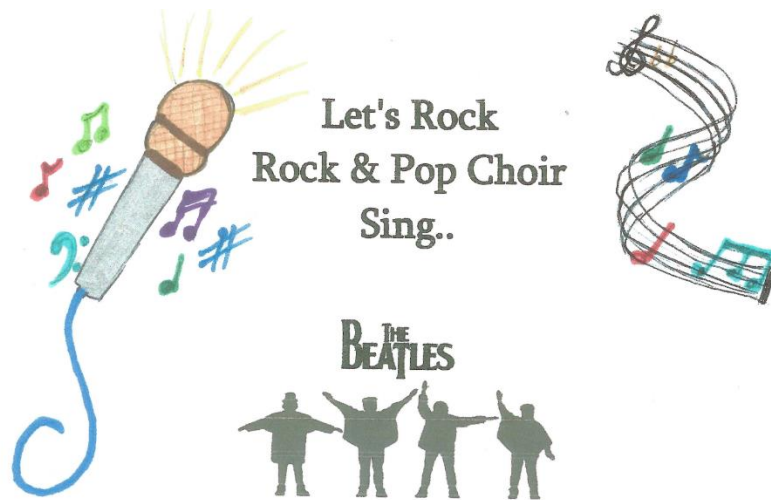
1130 HOLY EUCHARIST (La Siesta)



EASTER SUNDAY LUNCH

Bar Carmen, C.Fray Angelico 11, El Chaparral. Five minute drive from the Church. Booking for this has now closed. Please see Sue Maude.

A local choir, "Let´s Rock", has offered us a free fundraising concert on **Wednesday 23rd April at 6 p.m!** (*featuring our own Eugene!!!*)



La Siesta Church

**Calle Granados, Urb La Siesta,
Torrevieja**

**Wednesday 23rd April
1800**

*Includes a glass of cava at the
interval!*

**No tickets but a donation to the
Church please either by cash or
card.**

**Entrance / exit is by donation, church fundraiser
(cash or card) and there will be refreshments at
the interval!**

**Please encourage as many people as possible to
come. Wednesday 23rd April at 6 p.m.**

FINANCIAL GIVING TO THE CHAPLAINCY

There are various ways of giving financially to the Chaplaincy for the work of the Church:

1. You can give in the plate each week.
 2. You give through the UK gift aid scheme if you are a UK tax payer.
 3. **You are encouraged to set up a standing order to the Chaplaincy – this helps us budget more effectively.**
 4. You can make an offset against your Spanish tax
 5. if you are Spanish tax payer.
- One off donations are gratefully received.

For more information contact Father Richard or the Churchwardens.

The Chaplaincy relies on generous and sacrificial giving in response to a generous God who sacrificed his Son for us all on the cross.

Spanish Bank details. Banco Sabadell.

IBAN number ES65 0081 2061 7900 0106 0414

BSAB ESBB / Capellania Anglicana de Torrevieja

UK Bank details. Barclays Bank PLC Account name: Diocese in Europe Fund

Account number: 40317039 Sort code: 20-06-13. Address : Tufton Street,London Please state TORREVIEJA as the reference so the money is correctly applied. The IBAN number is: GB16 BUKB 2006 1340 31 70 39.

God bless you all for your support. *Peter and Jennifer (Churchwardens)*

GIVING ONLINE:

<https://givealittle.co/c/3yXhRUWebr0Vqwf1OSVyV8>

GIVING BY QR CODE, APPLE PAY, GOOGLE WALLET:

Hover over the QR code and go from there!

See next page...



Thank you!





THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

In this Chaplaincy...

The Chalice containing the Precious Blood of Christ is offered for those who wish to receive it. Holy Communion is offered with the words "The Body of Christ" to which you say **Amen** before consuming the Sacred Host. The words "The Blood of Christ" are said to which you say **Amen** before receiving from the Chalice. The Chalice is optional.

INTINCTION IS NOT PERMITTED FOR HEALTH AND HYGIENE REASONS.

ONGOING INFORMATION FOR OUR THREE CHURCHES
SERVICES ARE SHARED BETWEEN LAGO JARDÍN AND LA SIESTA

Los Balcones, Nuestra Señora de la Asunción
remains closed for re-building.

Services in the Chaplaincy:

Saturday 12th April	1700	PALM SUNDAY	La Siesta
Sunday 13th April	1130	PALM SUNDAY	Lago Jardín
Monday 14 th April	1030	Monday in Holy Week	Lago Jardín
Tuesday 15 th April	1030	Tuesday in Holy Week	La Siesta
Wednesday 16th April	1030	Wednesday in Holy Week	Lago Jardín
Thursday 17th April	1900	HOLY THURSDAY	La Siesta
Friday 18th April	1500	GOOD FRIDAY	La Siesta
Saturday 19th April	1900	HOLY SATURDAY	La Siesta
Sunday 20th April	0930	EASTER SUNDAY	Lago Jardín
	1130	EASTER SUNDAY	La Siesta
Saturday 26 th April	1700		La Siesta
Sunday 27 th April	1130		Lago Jardín
Sunday 4 th May	1130		La Siesta
Saturday 10 th May	1700		La Siesta
Sunday 11 th May	1130		Lago Jardín
Sunday 18 th May	1130		La Siesta
Saturday 24 th May	1700		La Siesta
Sunday 25 th May	1130		Lago Jardín
Sunday 1 st June	1130		La Siesta

The Blessed Sacrament Lamp at Lago Jardín

burns this week for: The Chaplaincy. If you would like to dedicate the Blessed Sacrament for a week for a person, an intention, or in memory of a departed loved one, please see Father Richard *in plenty of time if possible*. The cost is five euros for the week.



Father Richard's Prayer List for April 2025:

Please pray for the sick and those in particular need at this

time: Pope Francis, Joan Holmes, Mike Parker, Victoria Hudson, Moira Corfield, Michael Elliott, Lewis Elliott, Linda Thompson, Luke Thompson, Jamie Hill, Ed White, Rhys Miles, Gwen Simmons, Eileen Shaw, Sandra and Terry Harbut, Clíodhna pronounced Cliona Leydon, John

Sunderland, Chris Hughes, Raj Panchal, Anna and Dick Horsnell, David Horsnell, Peter John, Martin Skillen, Paul McNab, Father Barry Smart, Gwyneth Manning, Lesley Critchley.

Please help Father Richard by letting him know when people can be taken off the prayer list.

Please notify Father Richard of any corrections.

Please pray for the recently departed:

Those killed as a result of the conflicts in Ukraine, Israel, and Gaza; for a lasting peace.

+ Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them.

Please advise Father Richard if there are any corrections to the above list.

If you wish a name to be added to the list of the sick you need to email Father Richard or write to him giving permission for yourself or ensure permission has been granted by someone else for their name to appear on this list. (GDPR regulations).

Sunday 13th April 2025

First reading

Isaiah 50:4-7

'I hid not my face from disgrace, and I know that I shall not be put to shame.'

The Lord GOD has given me
the tongue of those who are taught,
that I may know how to sustain with a word him who is weary.
Morning by morning he awakens;
he awakens my ear
to hear as those who are taught.
The Lord GOD has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious;
I turned not backwards.
I gave my back to those who strike,
and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard;
I hid not my face from disgrace and spitting.
But the Lord GOD helps me;

therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like a flint,
and I know that I shall not be put to shame.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 22(21):8-9. 17-18a. 19-20. 23-24. R2a

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

All who see me deride me;
they curl their lips, they toss their heads:
'He trusted in the LORD, let him save him;
let him release him, for in him he delights.'

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

For dogs have surrounded me;
a band of the wicked besets me.
They tear holes in my hands and my feet;
I can count every one of my bones.

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

They divide my clothing among them,
they cast lots for my robe.
But you, O LORD, do not stay afar off;
my strength, make haste to help me!

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

I will tell of your name to my kin,
and praise you in the midst of the assembly;
'You who fear the LORD, give him praise;
all descendants of Jacob, give him glory;
revere him, all you descendants of Israel.'

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Second reading

Philippians 2:6-11

'He humbled himself, therefore God has highly exalted him.'

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Gospel Acclamation

Philippians 2:8-9

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.
Christ became for us obedient to the point of death,
even death on a cross.
Therefore God has highly exalted him
and bestowed on him the name that is above every name.
Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

Gospel

Luke 23:1-49

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ.

At that time: The whole company of the elders of the people, both chief priests and scribes, arose and brought Jesus before Pilate. And they began to accuse him, saying, 'We found this man misleading our nation and forbidding us to give tribute to Caesar, and saying that he himself is Christ, a king.' And Pilate asked him, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' And he answered him, 'You have said so.' Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, 'I find no guilt in this man.' But they were urgent, saying, 'He stirs up the people, teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee even to this place.'

When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. And when he learned that he belonged to Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him over to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time. When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had long desired to see him, because he had heard about him, and he was hoping to see some sign done by him. So he questioned him at some length, but he made no answer. The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. And Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him. Then, arraying him in splendid clothing, he sent him back to Pilate. And Herod and Pilate became friends with each other that very day, for before this they had been at enmity with each other.

Pilate then called together the chief priests and the rulers and the people, and said to them, 'You brought me this man as one who was misleading the people. And after examining him before you, behold, I did not find this man guilty of any of your charges against him. Neither did Herod, for he sent him back to us. Look, nothing deserving death has been done by him. I will therefore punish and release him.' But they all cried out together, 'Away with this man, and release to us Barabbas' — a man who had been thrown into prison for an insurrection started in the city and for murder. Pilate addressed them once more, desiring to release Jesus, but they kept shouting, 'Crucify, crucify him!' A third time he said to them, 'Why? What evil has he done? I have found in him no guilt deserving death. I will therefore punish and release him.' But they were urgent, demanding with loud cries that he should be crucified. And their voices prevailed. So Pilate decided that their demand should be granted. He released the man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder, for whom they asked, but he delivered Jesus over to their will.

And as they led him away, they seized one Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, and laid on him the cross, to carry it behind Jesus. And there followed him a great multitude of the people and of women who were mourning and lamenting for him. But turning to them Jesus said, 'Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and

for your children. For behold, the days are coming when they will say, "Blessed are the barren and the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!" Then they will begin to say to the mountains, "Fall on us", and to the hills, "Cover us." For if they do these things when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?'

Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. And Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.' And they cast lots to divide his garments. And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at him, saying, 'He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!' The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine and saying, 'If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!' There was also an inscription over him, 'This is the King of the Jews.' One of the criminals who were hanged there railed at Jesus, saying, 'Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!' But the other rebuked him, saying, 'Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong.' And he said, 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.' And he said to him, 'Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise.'

It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, while the sun's light failed. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, 'Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!' And having said this he breathed his last.

All kneel for a period of silence. Now when the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God, saying, 'Certainly this man was innocent!' And all the crowds that had assembled for this spectacle, when they saw what had taken place, returned home beating their breasts. And all his acquaintances and the women who had followed him from Galilee stood at a distance watching these things.

Homily



This Sunday, called Palm or Passion Sunday, is the first day of Holy Week. Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday are called the Triduum, three days that are the highlight of the Church year. There are two Gospels proclaimed at today's Mass. The first Gospel, proclaimed before the procession with palms, tells of

Jesus' triumphant entrance into Jerusalem. Riding on a borrowed colt, Jesus was hailed by the crowds as they shouted blessings and praise to God. This event is reported in each of the four Gospels.

Luke's Gospel is the only one to report the exchange between Jesus and the Pharisees as Jesus enters Jerusalem. Jesus' response shows that this event, and those yet to come, are part of a divine plan. We hear this echoed again in Luke's description of the Last Supper

when Jesus speaks of Judas' betrayal, saying that the Son of Man "goes as has been determined."

At the Liturgy of the Word on this Sunday, the events of Jesus' passion are proclaimed in their entirety. In Lectionary Cycle C, we read the passion of Jesus as found in the Gospel of Luke. We will hear these events proclaimed again during the Triduum when we read the passion of Jesus from the Gospel of John.

Throughout Luke's Gospel we see that Jesus' words and actions proclaim the Kingdom of God. This motif continues throughout Luke's passion narrative. Jesus appears to be in total command of events at the Passover meal as he hands over the kingdom to his disciples. He welcomes them to the Passover meal announcing that this will be his last until the Kingdom of God is fulfilled.

As throughout Luke's Gospel, however, the disciples show little understanding of this kingdom that Jesus often announces. Following the meal, the disciples argue about who is the greatest. Jesus takes the opportunity to distinguish the meaning of leadership in the Kingdom of God from the forms of leadership seen in the world.

Jesus initiates a conversation with Simon and predicts his denial. Jesus then instructs his disciples to prepare themselves for the events that will follow. His words reveal an awareness of the challenges that all of them will face in the days ahead. As the disciples and Jesus enter the Mount of Olives, Jesus indicates the importance of the disciples' time in prayer, telling them that through prayer they will be able to face the challenges ahead.

As he prays, Jesus is tested. In the garden, an angel is sent to strengthen him and to prepare him for the events ahead. After this moment, Jesus is again in charge of the events and circumstances.

In Luke's Gospel, Jesus is portrayed as active and vocal throughout his passion. When one of the disciples strikes the high priest's servant, Jesus heals the man, an event reported only in the Gospel of Luke. Jesus stops the disciples' protest against his arrest by noting that this is the "time for the power of darkness." Jesus engages and responds when brought before the Sanhedrin; his words speak about the "power of God" that will bring about the reign of the Son of Man. When questioned by Pilate, Jesus responds with just one phrase; yet before Herod, Jesus refuses to speak.

When Luke describes the Way of the Cross and Jesus' crucifixion, he calls to our attention many events that are not reported in the other Gospels. Throughout his Gospel, Luke has paid heed to the women who accompanied Jesus. Now, on the road to Calvary, Jesus speaks to the women who walk with him. Only Luke reports Jesus' words of forgiveness spoken from the cross. And only Luke reports the dialogue between Jesus and the good thief. Finally, in contrast with the Gospels of Mark and Matthew, Luke reports no words of abandonment spoken by Jesus on the cross. Instead, Jesus, in full command until his death, commends his spirit to his Father and takes his final breath.

Throughout Holy Week, we will continue to reflect on the events of Jesus' passion and death. As we meditate on the cross, we ask again and anew what it means to make the statement of faith that Jesus, in his obedient suffering and dying, revealed himself to us as God's Son and brought to fulfillment the Kingdom of God.



The Angelus

The Angel of the Lord brought tidings to Mary,
And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee,
Blessed art thou among women
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now
and at the hour of our death.

Behold the handmaid of the Lord.
Be it unto me according to Thy Word.

Hail Mary, (as above)

And the Word was made flesh,
And dwelt among us.

Hail Mary, (as above)

Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.
That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Pour forth, we beseech thee, O Lord, thy grace into our hearts; that as we have
known the incarnation of thy son Jesus Christ by the message of an angel, so by
His + cross and passion we may be brought to the glory of His Resurrection.
Through the same Christ, our Lord. Amen.