

The Parish of Darfield

All Saints Darfield and St Michael Great Houghton

Sunday 29th March 2026

Sixth Sunday in Lent - Palm Sunday

10:45 a.m. Breakfast Service Darfield

Thursday 2nd April 2026 - Maundy Thursday

Joint Service & shared Meal

7:00 p.m. in Ardsley Church Hall Lounge.

Friday 3rd April 2026 - Good Friday

Opening 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m. Great Houghton

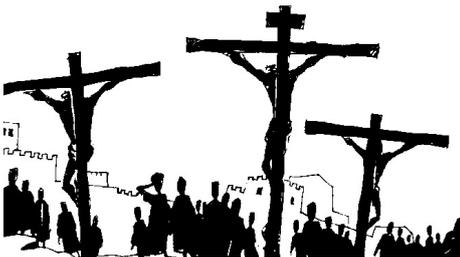
2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Darfield

An Hour at the Cross

Sunday 5th April 2026- Easter Sunday

9:00 a.m. Holy Communion Great Houghton

10:45 a.m. Holy Communion Darfield



Oh, what a week!

Passover is a major festival for Jews as it commemorates the Exodus from oppression in Egypt. The blood of a lamb smeared on their doorposts marked the homes of the Israelites so the Lord would spare them as He passed over the land killing all the first-born males. [Exodus 12:] Passover became one of the three Pilgrimage Festivals during which the Jews would, where they were able, travel to Jerusalem to join in the celebrations in the Temple.

Sunday dawned, what we now call Palm Sunday, with Jesus having arranged for a donkey to be made available for Him to ride into Jerusalem. This was to fulfil the words of the Prophet Zechariah - "*See, your king comes to you, righteous and victorious, lowly and riding on a donkey*", [Zechariah 9: 9]. The crowds cut branches from palm trees and along with their robes, spread them on the road as Jesus passed. Their cries of "**Hosannah to the Son of David, Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord**" echoed along the road. [Psalm 118: 26]. On entering Jerusalem, Jesus went into the Temple where He evicted the money changers and sellers of sacrificial doves and accused them of turning the Temple into a den of robbers. The blind and lame came to Jesus and received healing, but the Chief Priests and teachers of the law became more indignant.

Later in the week, Jesus returned to the Temple where some of the elders of the people questioned His authority. When they failed to answer a question about the baptisms performed by John. Jesus refused to disclose His authority. Jesus continued to teach the people through several parables

One of the Twelve, Judas Iscariot, went to the Chief Priests and offered to betray Jesus for the payment of thirty pieces of silver.

On the Thursday evening, Jesus met with His disciples to share their Passover meal. During the meal Jesus shared the bread and wine with words that are now an integral part of our Holy Communion Service.

"Take and eat; this is my body..." and **"Take and drink; this is my blood..."** Jesus also washed the disciples' feet, much to the annoyance of Peter. [John 13: 1-17]

Once the meal was over they walked to the Mount of Olives where Jesus told the Disciples that they would all fall away. Peter said that he wouldn't, but Jesus predicted the three times later in the evening that Peter would deny Him.

Jesus took himself away from the disciples to pray to His Father to see if there was an alternative to the cross, but that He would accept God's will for Him. It was then that Judas, with a kiss, betrayed Jesus to the crowds sent by the High Priests. Jesus was taken before the Sanhedrin which eventually decided to send Jesus to the Roman Governor, Pontius Pilate, for trial

After questioning Jesus, Pilate could find no wrong but bowed to the very crowds who, just days earlier had greeted Jesus when their cries turned to "**Crucify Him!**" Pilate handed Jesus over to be crucified.

After a long day nailed to a cross Jesus died as darkness fell and the Temple Curtain was torn in two. His body was taken by Joseph of Arimathea, assisted by Nicodemus, and placed in a nearby tomb which was sealed and a guard posted.

Was this the end?

Palm Sunday

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.

Readings for Palm Sunday

Isaiah 50: 4-9
Psalm 118: 1-2,19-29
Matthew 21:1-11

Readings for this week

March

29th 2 Timothy 3: 10-17
30th 2 Timothy 4: 1-8
31st 2 Timothy 4: 9-22

April

1st Joshua 14:
2nd Joshua 15: 1-12
3rd Joshua 15: 13-32
4th Joshua 15: 33-63
5th Joshua 16:

Community Shop on the Go and Warm-Space

Next Community Shop: Thursday 2nd April

Warm Space: Every Thursday 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

WANTED - For Your Diary – Action required...

Sunday 19th April will see our Annual Church Meetings at which we gather to review the year 2025 and to elect members of our Parochial Church Council. Over the past year, this body has been running with too few members.

At the meetings we have to elect the following

Two Churchwardens

Three members to the Wath Deanery Synod

Up to **six** Members Of the PCC for various terms

These places **need** to be filled if our church is to run at its best (or even to run at all). It is tempting to leave this to others - but someone has to take on these roles. **PLEASE DO PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER** whether you are being called to any of these positions. To qualify for election, you need to be a communicant member of the Church of England and on our Parish Electoral Roll. Please see Peter for information on the role of Churchwarden and any of the current PCC members for information on their roles (Carol Hunter, John and Sheila McMillan, Lee Pywell, Linda Williams, Kay Valentine, Karen Walton, Aubrey and Margaret Venables)

Prayer Square

This week we are praying for residents of Middlecliffe

Middlecliffe Lane
Rotherham Road
Lesmond Crescent
Ealands Close
Belmont Crescent

Maundy Thursday

derives its name from the Latin *mandatum* a command. Along with the Last Supper, the washing of disciples' feet and the creation of the memories within the Holy Communion Service we remember...

"The new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you" [John 13: 34]

Good Friday

Historically 'Good' in this context means Holy rather than pleasant. Theologically it marks the day that Jesus died on the Cross for the sins of the world. Without it there could be no Resurrection on Easter Sunday which is the cornerstone of our Faith.

"It is finished." [John 19: 30]

Prayer:

Forward any prayer requests to our Prayer Ministry team through

Carol Hunter: 07542 527 331

Thoughtful Thursday at Great Houghton

Thursdays between 11:00 a.m. and noon.

Craft and Natter back after Easter on **19th April**

Resources and Contacts

Churchwarden
PCC Secretary

Peter Robinson
Karen Walton

01226 753 572

Safeguarding

Contact Peter Robinson
07910 728 581

Our Web Site

<http://www.darfieldallsaintschurch.org.uk/>

Email Allsaintschurchdarfield@gmail.com

Facebook [@darfieldallsaints](https://www.facebook.com/@darfieldallsaints)



Find us on A Church Near You

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DEADLINE for Content

Items, preferably via e-mail, to

pdrobinson@live.co.uk

Tuesday 5:00 p.m.

All Saints



St Michael



All Saints PCC Darfield is a Registered Charity (no. 1185316).