

All the **Annual Parochial Church Meetings** take place in the week beginning Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> April. Nomination lists are going up in the churches about a fortnight before each one, if you wish to stand either as a Churchwarden or as a member of the PCC during the elections at those meetings. It is probably worth reminding everyone that you must be on the Electoral Roll in order to vote; and also that if you are thinking of standing for election, you must:

- be on the church's Electoral Roll
- have received communion at least three times during the past year
- be aged 18 or over
- not be disqualified by law from being a charity trustee

Also – if you *do* think of standing for any of our PCCs, or as Churchwarden somewhere, don't forget that nominations must be **in writing**, and in Selwyn's hands before the relevant Annual Meeting begins. Copies of the parishes' Annual Reports & Financial Statements, and Agendas for the meetings, will be available in church at the same time.



**Palm Sunday**  
**2010**  
**10:00 am**  
**St Andrew,**  
**Attlebridge**



*We assemble for the procession at The Old Butcher's Shop, Morton. As you arrive, you will be given one of these service leaflets and a palm cross. You will not need any other books for the service.*

The Lord be with you:  
***And with thy spirit.***

Dear friends in Christ: during Lent we have been preparing by works of love and self-sacrifice for the celebration of our Lord's death and resurrection. Today we come together to begin this solemn celebration in union with the Church throughout the world. Christ enters his own city to complete his work as our Saviour; to suffer, to die, and to rise again. Let us go with him in faith and love, so that, united with him in his sufferings, we may share his risen life.

*Please hold up your palm crosses or branches while this prayer is said:*

God our Saviour, whose son Jesus Christ entered Jerusalem as Messiah to suffer and to die, let these palms be for us signs of his victory; and grant that we who bear them in his name may ever hail him as our king, and follow him in the way that leadeth unto eternal life; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke  
***Glory be to thee, O Lord.***

### **GOSPEL: Luke 19.28-40**

Jesus went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying,

‘Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, “Why are you untying it?” say this, “The Lord needs it.”’ So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, ‘Why are you untying the colt?’ They just said, ‘The Lord needs it.’ Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying,

‘Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!  
Peace in heaven,  
and glory in the highest heaven!’

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, ‘Teacher, order your disciples to stop.’ He answered, ‘I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
***Praise be to thee, O Christ.***

*Please follow in procession along the road, across the bridges and the main road, up the path and so into church. As we walk, we sing these hymns. When you arrive in church, please make your way into your pew and remain standing.*

*All glory, laud and honour  
To thee, Redeemer, King,  
To whom the lips of children  
Made sweet hosannas ring.*

Thou art the King of Israel,  
Thou David's royal Son,  
Who in the Lord's name comest,  
The King and blessed One:

*All glory, laud and honour...*  
The company of angels  
Are praising thee on high,  
And mortal men and all things

## Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> April: Second Sunday of Easter

8:00 am Holy Communion (1662) at Weston Longville  
– Canon Jeremy Haselock

10:00 am The Eucharist at Swannington – Canon Jeremy Haselock

10:00 am All Age Worship at Ringland – Sister Stella Noons

**10:15 am Lighthouse** at Weston Longville – Pamela Garrett

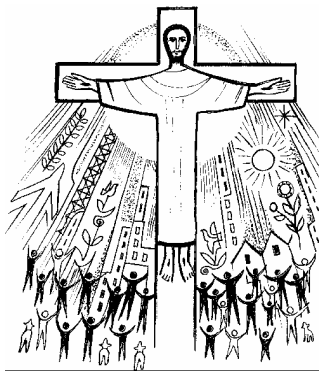
On **Maundy Thursday** night the Eucharist of the Last Supper takes place at **7:30 pm** at **Swannington**. It includes the ceremony of the feet-washing, as we follow the example of Christ's humility. If you wish to be one of those taking part and having your feet washed, please add your name to the list at the back of church (or in any of our other churches).

From the end of the Maundy Eucharist the **Watch of Prayer** continues in **Swannington church till midnight**. There are also lists in all our churches dividing this time into 20-minute slots. Please indicate when you could be 'on watch', by your initials or a simple tick. Don't feel you have to come alone; arrange to come with someone and help build up the atmosphere of prayer as we symbolically watch with Jesus.

The service at **2.00 pm on Good Friday** is at **Great Witchingham**, and it will as usual include hymns, Passion readings from Isaiah and St John's Gospel, anthems sung by the benefice choir, intercessions at the foot of the stark wooden cross, times for silence and reflection, and a final simple act of Communion. It is a time not just to focus on the reality of Christ's death but to thank God for his love. Please be there if you can; and if you would like to receive Communion at the end of the service, once again there is a list here and in all our churches. Please just add a tick to indicate you will be taking part.

The celebration of Easter begins with the **Paschal Vigil at 6.00 am** on Easter Day at **Weston Longville**. Our own rising to new life with Christ in Baptism forms the theme of the service, as the world around us comes back to joyful life at the start of a new day. Go on, be brave this year and be there - it is a wonderful experience!

The palm crosses we have received today are a permanent reminder for each of us, all the year round, of what Christ suffered through Holy Week on our behalf. So please keep them somewhere visible at home until early next year – they will be ‘called in’ to be burnt on Shrove Tuesday to provide the ash for the Ash Wednesday service.



This week we are united with our Lord in his suffering, death and resurrection.

We pray that our own faith may be tested, strengthened and confirmed.

We pray that we may be sent out in the power of the Spirit to proclaim the truth of the world's redemption by the quality of our everyday life.

Full details of all the remaining services and events of **Holy Week** are in the special leaflet delivered with the March Wensum Diary, Pilgrim and Ringland Runner; there are also some copies on the table at the back.

All this week we pray particularly for all who live and work along **Sandy Lane** in Ringland and **Sandy Lane** in Weston Longville.

**Please continue to pray** for the sick & those in need:

*Ian Akhurst; Shelagh Ashe; Osvaldo Ferreiro; Peter Frost; Neita Harvey; Peter Hodges; Jo, James & baby Daniel; John & Linda; Guz Jones; Pauline Lomax; Annette; Val; Freda; Colin Woods.*

Created make reply:  
The people of the Hebrews  
With palms before thee went;  
Our praise and prayer and anthems  
Before thee we present:

*All glory, laud and honour...*

To thee before thy passion  
They sang their hymns of praise;  
To thee, now high exalted,  
Our melody we raise:

*All glory, laud and honour...*

*All glory, laud and honour...*  
Thou didst accept their praises,  
Accept the prayers we bring,  
Who in all good delightest,  
Thou good and gracious King:

*All glory, laud and honour...*

Do thou direct our footsteps  
Upon our earthly way,  
And bring us by thy mercy  
To heaven's eternal day:

*All glory, laud and honour...*

Within that blessed City  
Thy praises may we sing,  
And ever raise hosannas  
To our most loving King:

*All glory, laud and honour...*



Ride on, ride on in majesty!  
Hark, all the tribes Hosanna cry;  
Thy humble beast pursues his road  
With palms and scattered  
garments strowed.

Ride on, ride on in majesty!  
In lowly pomp ride on to die:  
O Christ, thy triumphs now begin  
O'er captive death  
and conquered sin.

Ride on, ride on in majesty!  
The wingèd squadrons of the sky  
Look down with sad  
and wondering eyes  
To see the approaching sacrifice.

Ride on, ride on in majesty!  
Thy last and fiercest strife is nigh;  
The Father on his sapphire throne  
Awaits his own  
anointed Son.

Ride on, ride on in majesty!  
In lowly pomp ride on to die;  
Bow thy meek head to mortal pain,  
Then take, O God, thy power, and reign.



*and as many verses as necessary of:*

My song is love unknown,  
My Saviour's love to me,  
Love to the loveless shown,  
That they might lovely be.  
O, who am I,  
That for my sake  
My Lord should take  
Frail flesh, and die?

Sometimes they strew his way,  
And his sweet praises sing;  
Resounding all the day  
Hosannas to their King.  
Then 'Crucify!'  
Is all their breath,  
And for his death  
They thirst and cry.

He came from his blest throne,  
Salvation to bestow:  
But men made strange, and none  
The longed-for Christ would know.  
But O, my Friend,  
My Friend indeed,  
Who at my need  
His life did spend!

They rise, and needs will have  
My dear Lord made away;  
A murderer they save,  
The Prince of Life they slay.  
Yet cheerful he  
To suffering goes,  
That he his foes  
From thence might free.

Here might I stay and sing,  
No story so divine;  
Never was love, dear King,  
Never was grief like thine!  
This is my Friend,  
In whose sweet praise  
I all my days  
Could gladly spend.

*As the hymns end, please find your way into the pews.*

**The Collect for the day:**

Almighty and everlasting God,  
who of thy tender love towards the world

be among you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

O thou who through this holy week  
The path of suffering trod,  
Our sins to heal, our souls to seek,  
And bring us to our God;

We cannot comprehend the woe  
Thy love was pleased to bear;  
O Saviour Christ, we only know  
That all our hopes are there.

Then grant us, Lord, this week to trace  
Thy passion and thy love,  
And by thine all-inspiring grace  
Uplift our hearts above:

Beyond the pain, beyond the cross,  
The Christ of glory see,  
And count the things of earth but loss  
To gain our heaven in thee.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord:  
*In the name of Christ, Amen.*

*Coffee will now be served back at The Old Butcher's Shop.*

*We warmly invite communicant members of all Christian churches to receive communion. If you are not a communicant, but would like to receive a blessing, please bring this service booklet to the altar rail with you.*

*At the distribution*

The Body of Christ. ***Amen.***

The Blood of Christ. ***Amen.***

*After Communion:*

Lord Jesus Christ,  
who didst humble thyself by taking the form of a servant,  
and wast obedient even unto the death of the cross for our salvation:  
grant us the mind to follow thee  
and to proclaim thee as Lord and King,  
to the glory of God the Father. ***Amen.***

***Faithful God,  
may we who share this banquet  
glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
our salvation, life and hope,  
who reigneth as Lord, now and for ever. Amen.***

May the Father, who so loved the world that he gave his only Son,  
bring you by faith to his eternal life.

May Christ, who accepted the cup of sacrifice  
in obedience to the Father's will,  
keep you steadfast as you walk with him the way of his cross.

May the Spirit, who strengthens us to suffer with Christ  
that we may share his glory,  
set your minds on life and peace.

And the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,

hast sent thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ  
to take upon him our flesh  
and to suffer death upon the cross:  
grant that we may follow the example of his patience and humility,  
and also be made partakers of his resurrection;  
through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord,  
who liveth and reigneth with thee,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

**Please sit**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 50.4-9a**

The servant of the Lord said:

The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know  
how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens -  
wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. The Lord GOD has  
opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backwards. I gave  
my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out  
the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. The Lord  
GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set  
my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; he who  
vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up  
together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. It is the Lord  
GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

This is the word of the Lord:

***Thanks be to God.***

**PSALM 31.9-16 (please remain seated)**

**Response: *I trust in you, O Lord, for you are my God.***

Have mercy on me, Lord, for I am in trouble;  
my eye is consumed with sorrow, my soul and my body also.  
For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing;  
my strength fails me because of my affliction,

and my bones are consumed. *(Response)*  
 I have become a reproach to all my enemies  
 and even to my neighbours,  
 an object of dread to my acquaintances;  
 when they see me in the street they flee from me.  
 I am forgotten like one that is dead, out of mind;  
 I have become like a broken vessel. *(Response)*

For I have heard the whispering of the crowd;  
 fear is on every side;  
 they scheme together against me, and plot to take my life.  
 But my trust is in you, O Lord.  
 I have said "You are my God. *(Response)*

My times are in your hand;  
 deliver me from the hand of my enemies,  
 and from those who persecute me.  
 Make your face to shine upon your servant,  
 and save me for your mercy's sake." *(Response)*

After the Psalm, **please stand** for the reading of the Passion narrative from St Luke, chapters 22 and 23. If you do not wish to remain standing during the whole reading, you will see some signs ♦ in the text. These mark suitable places where you might decide to sit down.

Please join in *confidently* and read the lines marked **DISCIPLES, MEN, PRIESTS, CROWD and SOLDIERS.**

### The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

Evangelist	Jesus took his place at table, and the apostles with him. He said to them,
Jesus	I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; for I tell you, I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.
Evangelist	Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he said,

*thy will be done;  
 on earth as it is in heaven.  
 Give us this day our daily bread.  
 And forgive us our trespasses,  
 as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
 And lead us not into temptation;  
 but deliver us from evil.  
 For thine is the kingdom,  
 the power and the glory,  
 for ever and ever.  
 Amen.*

We break this bread  
 to share in the body of Christ.  
*Though we are many, we are one body,  
 because we all share in one bread.*

*O Lamb of God,  
 that takest away the sins of the world,  
 have mercy upon us.*

*O Lamb of God,  
 that takest away the sins of the world,  
 have mercy upon us.*

*O Lamb of God,  
 that takest away the sins of the world,  
 grant us thy peace.*

Jesus is the Lamb of God  
 who takes away the sin of the world.  
 Blessed are those who are called to his supper.  
*Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldst come under my  
 roof, but speak the word only and my soul shall be healed.*

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father,  
we remember his offering of himself  
made once for all upon the cross;  
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;  
we look for the coming of his kingdom  
and with this bread and this cup  
we make the memorial of Christ thy Son our Lord.

Jesus Christ is Lord:  
*O Saviour of the world,  
who by thy cross and precious blood hast redeemed us,  
save us, and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.*

Accept through him, our great high priest,  
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,  
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts  
in the presence of thy divine majesty,  
renew us by thy Holy Spirit,  
inspire us with thy love,  
and unite us in the body of thy Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord;  
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory be unto thee,  
O Father almighty,  
world without end. *Amen.*

#### **Please kneel**

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

*Our Father,  
who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;*

Jesus Take this and divide it among yourselves; for I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.

Evangelist Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying,

Jesus This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

Evangelist And he did the same with the cup after supper, saying,

Jesus This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood. But see, the one who betrays me is with me, and his hand is on the table. For the Son of Man is going as it has been determined, but woe to that one by whom he is betrayed!

Evangelist Then they began to ask one another, which one of them it could be who would do this. A dispute also arose among them as to which one of them was to be regarded as the greatest. But he said to them,

Jesus The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those in authority over them are called benefactors. But not so with you; rather the greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like one who serves. For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one at the table? But I am among you as one who serves. You are those who have stood by me in my trials; and I confer on you, just as my Father has conferred on me, a kingdom, so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and you will sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel. Simon, Simon, listen! Satan has demanded to sift all of you like wheat, but I have prayed for you that your own faith may not fail; and you, when once you have turned back, strengthen your brothers.

Evangelist And he said to him,

Peter Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death!

Jesus I tell you, Peter, the cock will not crow this day, until you have denied three times that you know me.

Evangelist He said to them,

Jesus When I sent you out without a purse, bag, or sandals, did you lack anything?

Evangelist They said,

**DISCIPLES** *No, not a thing.*

Evangelist He said to them,

Jesus But now, the one who has a purse must take it, and likewise a bag. And the one who has no sword must sell his cloak and buy one. For I tell you, this scripture must be fulfilled in me, 'And he was counted among the lawless'; and indeed what is written about me is being fulfilled.

Evangelist They said,

**DISCIPLES** *Lord, look, here are two swords.*

Evangelist He replied,

Jesus It is enough. ◆

Evangelist He came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples followed him. When he reached the place, he said to them,

Jesus Pray that you may not come into the time of trial.

Evangelist Then he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, knelt down, and prayed,

Jesus Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will but yours be done.

Evangelist Then an angel from heaven appeared to him and gave him strength. In his anguish he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down on the ground. When he got up from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping because of grief, and he said to them,

He is the victim who dies no more,  
the Lamb once slain, who lives for ever;  
our advocate in heaven to plead our cause,  
exalting us there to join with angels and archangels,  
for ever praising you and saying:

*Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts,  
heaven and earth are full of thy glory.  
Glory be to thee, O Lord most high.*

*Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.*

### **Please remain standing**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,  
through thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
and as we follow his example and obey his command,  
grant that by the power of thy Holy Spirit  
these gifts of bread and wine  
may be unto us his body and his blood;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread;  
and when he had given thanks to thee,  
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take, eat;  
this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

Likewise after supper he took the cup;  
and when he had given thanks to thee, he gave it to them, saying:  
Drink ye all of this;  
for this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me.

Within the holiest stood,  
And sprinkled all the mercy-shrine  
With sacrificial blood;

So he who once atonement wrought,  
Our Priest of endless power,  
Presents himself for those he bought  
In that dark noontide hour.

His Manhood pleads where now it lives  
On heaven's eternal throne,  
And where in mystic rite he gives  
Its presence to his own.

And so we show thy death, O Lord,  
Till thou again appear,  
And feel, when we approach thy board,  
We have an altar here.

The Lord be with you.

***And also with you.***

Lift up your hearts.

***We lift them to the Lord.***

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

***It is right to give thanks and praise.***

It is very meet, right and our bounden duty,  
that we should at all times and in all places give thanks unto thee,  
O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God,  
through Jesus Christ thine only Son our Lord.  
For as the time of his passion and resurrection draws near  
the whole world is called  
to acknowledge his hidden majesty.  
The power of the life-giving cross  
reveals the judgement that has come upon the world  
and the triumph of Christ crucified.

Jesus Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray that you may  
not come into the time of trial.

Evangelist While he was still speaking, suddenly a crowd came, and  
the one called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading  
them. He approached Jesus to kiss him; but Jesus said  
to him,

Jesus Judas, is it with a kiss that you are betraying the Son of  
Man?

Evangelist When those who were around him saw what was  
coming, they asked,

**DISCIPLES** ***Lord, should we strike with the sword?***

Evangelist Then one of them struck the slave of the high priest and  
cut off his right ear. But Jesus said,

Jesus No more of this!

Evangelist And he touched his ear and healed him. Then Jesus  
said to the chief priests, the officers of the temple  
police, and the elders who had come for him,

Jesus Have you come out with swords and clubs as if I were a  
bandit? When I was with you day after day in the  
temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your  
hour, and the power of darkness!

Evangelist Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him  
into the high priest's house. But Peter was following at  
a distance. When they had kindled a fire in the middle  
of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among  
them. Then a servant-girl, seeing him in the firelight,  
stared at him and said,

Servant-girl This man also was with him.

Evangelist But he denied it, saying,

Peter Woman, I do not know him.

Evangelist A little later someone else, on seeing him, said,

Bystander 1 You also are one of them.

Evangelist But Peter said,  
Peter Man, I am not!  
Evangelist Then about an hour later still another kept insisting,  
Bystander 2 Surely this man also was with him; for he is a Galilean.  
Evangelist But Peter said,  
Peter Man, I do not know what you are talking about!  
Evangelist At that moment, while he was still speaking, the cock crew. The Lord turned and looked at Peter.  
Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, 'Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times'. And he went out and wept bitterly. ♦  
Now the men who were holding Jesus began to mock him and beat him; they also blindfolded him and kept asking him,

**MEN** *Prophecy! Who is it that struck you?*

Evangelist They kept heaping many other insults on him.  
When day came, the assembly of the elders of the people, both chief priests and scribes, gathered together, and they brought him to their council. They said:

**PRIESTS** *If you are the Messiah, tell us.*

Evangelist He replied,  
Jesus If I tell you, you will not believe; and if I question you, you will not answer. But from now on the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the power of God.

Evangelist All of them asked,  
**PRIESTS** *Are you, then, the Son of God?*

Evangelist He said to them,  
Jesus You say that I am.

Evangelist Then they said,

**Please kneel or sit** as you are comfortable for the prayers. Each petition ends:

... Let us pray to the Lord.  
***Lord, have mercy.***

After the final section:

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

**Please sit** for any notices and **stand** to share the Peace:

Once we were far off, but now in union with Christ Jesus we have been brought near through the shedding of Christ's blood, for he is our peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you:  
***and with thy spirit.***

*We greet those around us informally as an expression of Christian fellowship.*

Once, only, once, and once for all,  
His precious life he gave;  
Before the Cross in faith we fall,  
And own it strong to save.

'One offering, single and complete,'  
With lips and hearts we say;  
But what he never can repeat  
He shows forth day by day.

For as the priest of Aaron's line

Evangelist Jesus replied,  
 Jesus Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.  
 Evangelist It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said,  
 Jesus Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.  
 Evangelist Having said this, he breathed his last.  
*(Please KNEEL for a brief moment of silence, standing again as the reading resumes)*  
 When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said,  
 Centurion Certainly this man was innocent.  
 Evangelist And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. ♦  
 But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.  
 Now there was a good and righteous man named Joseph, who, though a member of the council, had not agreed to their plan and action. He came from the Jewish town of Arimathea, and he was waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then he took it down, wrapped it in a linen cloth, and laid it in a rock-hewn tomb where no one had ever been laid. It was the day of Preparation, and the sabbath was beginning. The women who had come with him from Galilee followed, and they saw the tomb and how his body was laid. Then they returned, and prepared spices and ointments. On the sabbath they rested according to the commandment.

**PRIESTS** *What further testimony do we need? We have heard it ourselves from his own lips!*  
 Evangelist Then the assembly rose as a body and brought Jesus before Pilate. They began to accuse him, saying,  
**PRIESTS** *We found this man perverting our nation, forbidding us to pay taxes to the emperor, and saying that he himself is the Messiah, a king.*  
 Evangelist Then Pilate asked him,  
 Pilate Are you the King of the Jews?  
 Evangelist He answered,  
 Jesus You say so.  
 Evangelist Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds,  
 Pilate I find no basis for an accusation against this man.  
 Evangelist But they were insistent and said,  
**PRIESTS** *He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee where he began even to this place.*  
 Evangelist When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. And when he learned that he was under Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him off to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time. When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had been wanting to see him for a long time, because he had heard about him and was hoping to see him perform some sign. He questioned him at some length, but Jesus gave him no answer. The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. Even Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him; then he put an elegant robe on him, and sent him back to Pilate. That same day Herod and Pilate became friends with each other; before this they had been enemies. Pilate then called together the chief priests, the leaders, and the people, and said to them,

Pilate You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and here I have examined him in your presence and have not found this man guilty of any of your charges against him. Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us. Indeed, he has done nothing to deserve death. I will therefore have him flogged and release him.

Evangelist Now he was obliged to release someone for them at the festival. Then they all shouted out together,

**CROWD** *Away with this fellow! Release Barabbas for us!*

Evangelist This was a man who had been put in prison for an insurrection that had taken place in the city, and for murder.

Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again; but they kept shouting,

**CROWD** *Crucify, crucify him!*

Evangelist A third time he said to them,

Pilate Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no ground for the sentence of death; I will therefore have him flogged and then release him.

Evangelist But they kept urgently demanding with loud shouts that he should be crucified; and their voices prevailed. So Pilate gave his verdict that their demand should be granted. He released the man they asked for, the one who had been put in prison for insurrection and murder, and he handed Jesus over as they wished. As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus. A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. But Jesus turned to them and said,

Jesus Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For the days are

surely 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 this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?

Evangelist Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said,

Jesus Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.

Evangelist And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying,

**CROWD** *He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!*

Evangelist The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying,

**SOLDIERS** *If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!*

Evangelist There was also an inscription over him, 'This is the King of the Jews'. One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying,

Robber 1 Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!

Evangelist But the other rebuked him, saying,

Robber 2 Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.

Evangelist Then he said,

Robber 2 Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.