

ST PETER AT GOWTS CHURCH

MARCH 25H 2018

PALM SUNDAY

9.30AM SUNG EUCHARIST WITH READING OF THE PASSION

Readings

The liturgy of the Passion according to St Matthew.

Collect

Almighty and everlasting God,
who in your tender love towards the
human race
sent your 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 res-
urrection;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Priest in charge:

Revd Jeremy Cullimore.

The Vicarage,

Sibthorp St, Lincoln.

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email; jscullimore@btinternet.com.

Lay ministry Mrs Mary Rose

Church Wardens

Mrs Mary Rose, Mrs Margaret Simpson

Hall caretaker David Hansell

Hall bookings & baptisms

01522 528215

Please pray for;

the sick; Fred Bowskill, Pam Goodman,
Elizabeth Graham, Joy Gray, Martin
Jefferson, Mandy North, Claire O'Neil,
Stuart Rose, Michael Vaughan , Tim
Wheeldon.

Years Mind;

25 Maude Kitchen
27 Phyllis Edmunds
28 Edith Peatfield
29 Edna Hanson
31 Jack Bartlett

- The institution of Holy Communion (29th the Last Supper)
- The crucifixion of Jesus (30th, Good Friday)
- Those witnessing in the High Street on Good Friday
- The performance of Stainer's 'Crucifixion'
- Autism sufferers and their carers (26th)
- Epilepsy sufferers and their carers (26th)
- Those who have brain tumours (29th)

Upcoming events

27th	Tuesday	10am	Women's social group	church hall
28st	Wednesday	10am	Keep fit	church hall
30th	Friday	10am	Stations of the Cross followed by the Walk of Witness	church
		7pm	Stainer's Crucifixion	church
APRIL				
1st	Sunday	9.30am	Sung Eucharist	church

Hugh de Singleton, bailiff to Lord Gilbert, meditates on the nature of evil

'Shill Brook flowed dark and quiet under the bridge. As was my custom when I had no pressing business, I stopped upon the bridge to gaze into the water, although truth to tell, the evening had become so dark that I could see little of the stream. But I knew it was there. As was the murderer in the castle. There was not enough light yet for me to see the felon, but, like the brook below my feet, I knew he was there.

My thoughts travelled back to the evils which had come to Bampton Castle in the past days. Whence did these evils come? Not from God. But if the devil creates evils, who created the devil but God, who is all goodness? Could not God, all powerful, change the sin in me and other men to good? How does wickedness exist in God's world against His will?

As I pondered this I remembered St Augustine's assertion that all God has made is good, even the perverted things, like human nature. If they were not good, they could not be perverted. A thing which is already evil cannot be defiled, for it is so already. If men were the supreme good, like God, they would be incorruptible, as is He. But if they were not good at all, there would be nothing in them worthy of corruption. Being only evil, men would be incorruptible.

Men, and women also, must fall between the two. Events at the castle in the past days displayed man's perversion. But those evil deeds are an argument that men were originally made good, as Holy Scriptures teach. We are not perfect. Only God is. But neither are we irreversibly evil. There we are, caught in the middle, and unable to save ourselves. We are moral beings, made good in the image of God, but we are corruptible, as God is not, as we abuse the gift of free will. And thence we are inevitably corrupted.

Was it not for the Lord Christ's death upon the cross we would all suffer the penalty of our depraved free will. I turned from the dark stream and set out for Galen house (home) with a lighter spirit. Not because I had been considering how evil influences men, but because the Lord Christ has freed all who accept His sacrifice from the penalty of their depravity. Even me. Somewhere this night within Bampton Castle was a man, or perhaps a woman, who has freely chosen sin and would pay the penalty for the choice, in this world, was I wise enough to discover them; and even if I failed, they would suffer for it in the next.

**From 'Rest Not in Peace' the 6th mystery novel set in the 14th century ,
by Mel Starr**