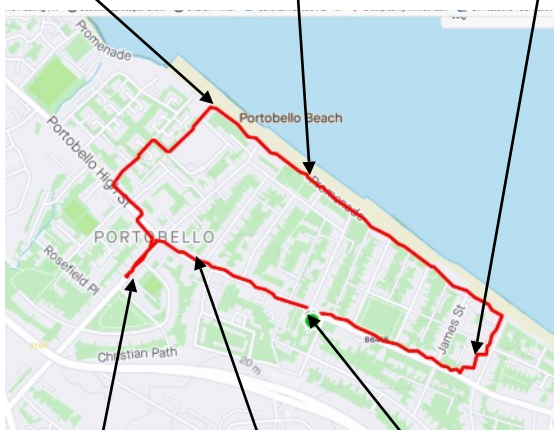


Portobello and Area Churches Together Good Friday walk



A walk from Gethsemane to Golgotha.

Start anywhere on the circuit and pause at the four churches in Portobello and other landmarks for a reading and a prayer.



The Route

- **Pause** at Portobello and Joppa Parish Church, then walk down to the Promenade and turn left.
- **Pause** at the Prince of Wales Fountain.
- Carry on along the Promenade and **pause** at the Tower.
- Turn back and turn right into Beach Avenue and proceed into Figgate Street, turn left into Portobello High Street and turn right into Brighton Place.
- **Pause** outside St John's Church.
- Turn back towards Portobello High Street and turn right.
- **Pause** outside the Baptist Church.
- Carry on and turn right into St Mark's garden. **Pause** at the cross.

**Return home and join all the churches on
Zoom at 12noon.**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87355247186?pwd=OTdiTGt6a01IejM0MDg4dmEvMXVWQT09>

Meeting ID: 873 5524 7186

Passcode: 327551

You may meet others doing this walk from the four churches in Portobello. Please remember to follow the guidelines for meeting outdoors.

Prayer as you start the walk

Almighty God, look graciously, we pray, on this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross; who now lives and reigns with your and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane

1

Luke 22.39-44

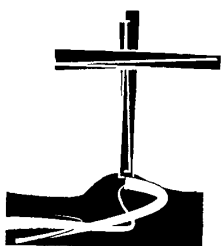
He came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples followed him. When he reached the place, he said to them, 'Pray that you may not come into the time of trial.' Then he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, knelt down, and prayed, 'Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will but yours be done.' 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.

Prayer

Merciful God, on the night before he died your Son endured loneliness and agony in the Garden of Gethsemane but chose to follow your will. We pray for all who face hard choices today, for those who know the pain of the path of love and justice and feel conflicted in their choices. And we remember our own choices and we pray that we may make the right choices in how we love family and friends and in how we respond to disappointment and conflict. Help us to choose the best way to live our lives when we are faced with the cost of our actions to our own comfort and wellbeing, and the cost of our actions to others and to your world. We pray through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Holy God,
Holy and Strong,
Holy and Immortal,
Have mercy upon us.



2

Jesus is betrayed by Judas and arrested

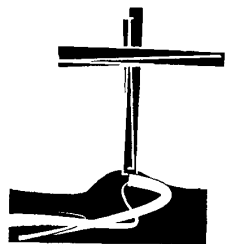
Luke 22.47-53

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, 'Judas, is it with a kiss that you are betraying the Son of Man?' When those who were around him saw what was coming, they asked, 'Lord, should we strike with the sword?' Then one of them struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his right ear. But Jesus said, 'No more of this!' 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, '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!'

Prayer

God of healing, on the night before he died your Son was betrayed with a kiss by one of his closest followers and arrested by the leaders of the church. We pray for all who feel betrayed around the world – betrayed by friends and families, by systems, by governments, by justice, by circumstances and by those who are meant to protect them. We acknowledge the times when we have betrayed others and we pray that we may speak out for those who are excluded by society, that we may support our family and friends and not make scapegoats of others for our own shortcomings. We pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Holy God,
Holy and Strong,
Holy and Immortal,
Have mercy upon us.



Jesus is denied by Peter

3

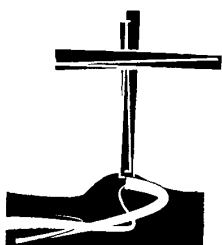
Matthew 26.69-75

Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. A servant-girl came to him and said, 'You also were with Jesus the Galilean.' But he denied it before all of them, saying, 'I do not know what you are talking about.' When he went out to the porch, another servant-girl saw him, and she said to the bystanders, 'This man was with Jesus of Nazareth.' Again he denied it with an oath, 'I do not know the man.' After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, 'Certainly you are also one of them, for your accent betrays you.' Then he began to curse, and he swore an oath, 'I do not know the man!' At that moment the cock crowed. Then Peter remembered what Jesus had said: 'Before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.' And he went out and wept bitterly.

Prayer

Loving God, on the night before he died your Son was denied by his closest follower three times. Give us courage to follow your Son without ever turning away from him and to love him without hesitation so that we may never have any regrets. We pray for all who deny you or your people today; for all who deny those they love. We pray for families and friends, torn apart by fear, misunderstanding or lack of courage. We are sorry for the times when we deny you – in words, in action, in lack of love and we pray that our comfort and desires may never compromise your justice and way of life. We pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Holy God,
Holy and Strong,
Holy and Immortal,
Have mercy upon us.



Jesus is judged by Pilate

4

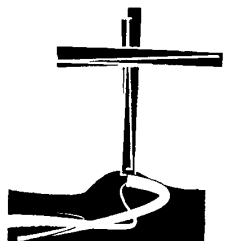
Matthew 27:1-2,11-14,24-26

When morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people conferred together against Jesus in order to bring about his death. They bound him, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate the governor. Now Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' Jesus said, 'You say so.' But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer. Then Pilate said to him, 'Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?' But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed. So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, 'I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves.' Then the people as a whole answered, 'His blood be on us and on our children!' So he released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

Prayer

God of righteousness, on the day of his death your Son was bound and brought before the authorities but did not answer the charges but remained silent. We pray for all who are accused just now; for all who are involved in the justice system, who face accusations in law, from others, from our government, from the benefit system and from our media. We call to mind the times when we pass on accusations or false news about others and we pray for wisdom not to jump to conclusions about others because of their circumstances, their race, faith or way of life. We pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Holy God,
Holy and Strong,
Holy and Immortal,
Have mercy upon us.



Jesus is scourged and crowned with thorns

5

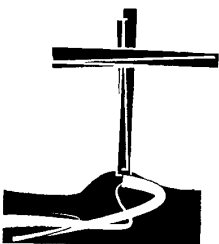
John 19.2-5

And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple robe. They kept coming up to him, saying, 'Hail, King of the Jews!' and striking him on the face. Pilate went out again and said to them, 'Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no case against him.' So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, 'Here is the man!'

Prayer

Gracious God, on the day of his death your Son was struck, mocked and condemned to death and then suffered on the cross although Pilate could find no case against him. We pray for all who are mocked today; for those who are bullied – at school, at work, in their families, and all those who bully. And we pray for all who jeer and mock to cover their own insecurities or hurt others. We acknowledge when our lives make a mockery of our faith, or we join in laughing at the misfortune or ignorance of others. We pray that we will not condemn others unjustly and that you will not condemn us for our sins but forgive us in your abundant mercy for the merits of your Son. We pray through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Holy God,
Holy and Strong,
Holy and Immortal,
Have mercy upon us.



6

Jesus takes up his cross; Jesus is helped by Simon of Cyrene to carry his cross; Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem

Luke 23:26–32

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, ‘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?’ Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him.

Prayer

Eternal God, on the day of his death your Son was condemned to die on a cross which was carried for him to Golgotha by Simon of Cyrene. We pray for all who suffer today, and those whose suffering is prolonged and anticipated. We pray for all who seek to relieve the suffering of others, for all who continue to see humanity in the face of pain. We pray for the courage to walk with those who suffer, and to do all we can to alleviate suffering and challenge injustice. Open our eyes and our ears to your call and to the cries of your people. May we in the company of Simon and all the saints shoulder our own cross and cheerfully and resolutely follow Jesus wherever he may lead us. We pray through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Holy God,
Holy and Strong,
Holy and Immortal,
Have mercy upon us.

