**St Robert’s Pannal & St Michaels Beckwithshaw**

**Morning Prayer for Holy Week**

**Opening**

Children sing your praises,

**but we have gone our own way.**

A donkey gladly bears your weight,

**but we have gone our own way.**

A thief will cry to you for mercy,

**but we have gone our own way.**

**Forgiveness**

O Saviour of the human race,
O true physician of every disease,
O heart-pitier and assister of all misery,

O fount of true purity and knowledge,

**forgive us.**

O star-like sun,
O guiding light,
O home of the planets,
O fiery-maned and marvellous one,

**forgive us.**

O holy scholar of holy strength,
O overflowing, loving, silent one,
O generous and thunderous giver of gifts,

O rock-like warrior of a hundred hosts,

**forgive us.**

*Attributed to St Ciaran, adapted by Ray Simpson*

When you were crucified, O Word,
you offered your body

and blood on behalf of all:

your body to refashion us,
your blood to wash us.
You gave up your spirit, O Christ,
to bring us to your Father.

*From St Andrew of Crete*

**Psalm**

Psalm 130 (Monday); 56 (Tuesday); 40 (Wednesday); 116:11–18 (Thursday)

**Old Testament reading**

Isaiah 50:4–10 (Monday); Isaiah 42:1–9 (Tuesday); Lamentations 1:1–12 (Wednesday); Exodus 12:1–4, 11–14 (Thursday)

**You pour out your life for us**

O God, when the ride is bumpy

and the world passes us by,

**you pour out your life for us,**

**right to the very end.**

When we are edged aside
and doors are shut in our face,

**you pour out your life for us,**

**right to the very end.**When others are out to get us

and our home is not secure,

**you pour out your life for us,**

**right to the very end.**When our lives are but a flicker

in the darkness that encroaches,

**you pour out your life for us,**

**right to the very end.**

**New Testament reading**

Luke 19:41–48 (Monday); Luke 20:9–19 (Tuesday); Matthew 26:1–15 (Wednesday); John 13:1–17, 31b–35 (Thursday)

**We, too, will praise you**

The leaders turned on you,
the crowds turned from you.
**But the children sang to you
and even the stones would have praised you.**

You alone have the words of eternal life;
to whom else could we go?
**The children, the stones, and we, too,
will praise you**.

**Intercessions**

As his greatest trial drew near, Jesus looked upon

the city and wept over it, because it did not

recognise its salvation.

**Open our eyes, that we may weep with you.**

*After each petition prayers may be offered or there may be silence.*

We weep with you for the blindness of pride that corrodes the dignity of human life . . .
**Open our eyes, that we may weep with you.**

We weep with you for the mad rush to consume that tramples down on the earth and its children . . .

**Open our eyes, that we may weep with you.**

We weep with you for the lust to control that imprisons the soul and fragments community . . .

**Open our eyes, that we may weep with you.**

*There may be free prayer, and/or silence or music.*

**Closing**

Father, in the life of Jesus you have shown us the way.
**Give us his spirit of self-discipline; lead us more deeply into the way of the cross.**

Before his hands were stretched out on the cross, they were stretched out in love to children, women, and men.
**May your way of the cross be our way, that we, too, may stretch out our hands in love to all.**

Saviour of the world, by your Cross and precious death you have redeemed us;
**save us and help us,**

**we humbly beseech you,
O Lord.**

May we carry your cross in our hearts through this day.
**Your cross be in our eyes and in our looking.**

**Your cross be in our mouths and in our speaking.**

**Your cross be in our hands and in our working.**

**Your cross be in our minds and in our thinking.**

**Amen**