



St. Joseph's Episcopal Church

WELCOMES YOU!

We are a Church on the Way and we offer you companionship in Christ. St. Joseph's is committed to love, discipleship and service which strengthen families and communities. Come, let's journey together.

[The Rev. Canon Dr. Winfred Vergara \(Father Fred\)](#)



MEDITATION ON THE 7 LAST WORDS OF JESUS ON THE CROSS

SUNDAY SERVICES

8:00 AM VIRTUAL: Zoom ID: 879 8213 9653 Passcode: 854091

By Phone: 646-876-9923 (Pietra Jones, Digital Coordinator)

**11:00 AM Eucharist at St. Thomas Episcopal Church
6 Commonwealth Blvd., Bellerose, NY 11001**

Organist & Choir Director: Nigel Gretton | Sound: Garfield DaCosta
Seminarian-Musician: Romy John Abraham

**WEDNESDAY PRAYER & PRAISE WITH HOLY COMMUNION (10:30 AM)
99-10 217th Lane, Queens Village, Queens Village, NY 11429**

Volunteer Musician: Angela V. Vergara

**GOOD FIDAY WORSHIP SERVICE
SEVEN LAST WORDS OF JESUS ON THE CROSS**

FRIDAY, MARCH 29, 2024

PRELUDE

**WORDS OF WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP:
(Isaiah 53:1-3)**

L. The Lord be with you.

P. And, also with you.

L. We gather here to worship God.

P. We gather to remember how Jesus suffered and died for us and to thank God for his love and his mercy.

L. Who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

P He grew up before God like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground.

L. He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering.

P. Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

**OPENING HYMN: H 691- “My Faith Looks Up to Thee”
PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

L Let us pray.

P. Merciful God - as we remember how your son Jesus bore our sins in his body on the cross, how seven times he spoke, seven Words of love, we ask you to bless our hearing.

L. Father, as we recall how all three hours His silence cried for mercy on the souls of all, we ask you to help us to understand the mystery of your love and make us into a people who are ever more worthy of it.

P. Amen.

Introduction of the Liturgy and Speakers
THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF JESUS

THE 1st WORD: "Father. Forgive them for they know not what they do." Luke 23:33-34

READER: *Ella Brown*

When they came to the place called "The Skull", they nailed Jesus to the cross there, and the two criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Jesus said "Forgive them, Father! They do not know what they are doing."

Meditation 1: EDEN BROWN

Extinguishing Candle 1

L Lord Jesus - you gave your life for us.

P *You suffered and died that we might be made whole.*

HYMN 441: In the Cross of Christ, I Glory

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THE 2nd WORD: "Today, shalt thou be with me in Paradise." Luke 23:39-43

READER: *Robert Saunders*

One of the criminals hanging there threw insults at him: "Aren't you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" The other one, however, rebuked him, Saying: "Don't you fear God? Here we are all under the same sentence. Ours, however, is only right, for we are getting what we deserve for what we did; but he has done no wrong." And he said to Jesus, "Remember me, Jesus, when you come as King!" Jesus said to him, "I tell you this: Today you will be in Paradise with me."

Meditation 2: ROMY JOHN ABRAHAM

Extinguishing Candle 2

L Lord Jesus - you gave your life for us.

P *You suffered and died that we might be made whole.*

HYMN 2: "Jesus Remember Me" (Repeat 3 x)

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom; Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom. *(Repeat as needed)*

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THE 3rd WORD: "Woman, Behold Thy Son."

John 19:25-27

Reader: *Abigail Sinclair*

Standing close to Jesus' cross were his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Cleopas, and Mary Magdalene. Jesus saw his mother and the disciple he loved standing there; so he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that time the disciple took her to live in his home.

Meditation 3: JUSTIN SINCLAIR

Extinguishing The Candle

L Lord Jesus - you gave your life for us.

P *You suffered and died that we might be made whole.*

HYMN 498: "Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

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THE 4th WORD: "My God, My God, why Hast Thou Forsaken Me?"
Mark 15:33-34

READER: *La Verne Mitchell*

And when the sixth hour had come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. And at the ninth hour, Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Elo-i, elo-i, lama sabach-thani?" which means, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?"

Meditation 4: Carlton Mitchell

Extinguishing Candle 4

L Lord Jesus - you gave your life for us.

P *You suffered and died that we might be made whole.*

HYMN 168: "O Sacred Head " (Verses 1-4)

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THE 5th WORD: "I Thirst"- John 19:28

Reader: *Sonia Dodson*

After this Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfil the scripture), "I thirst."

Meditation 5: PAULINE DE BOURG

Extinguishing The Candle

L Lord Jesus - you gave your life for us.

P *You suffered and died that we might be made whole.*

HYMN 685: "Rock of Ages"

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THE 6th WORD: "It is finished"- John 19:29-30

READER: *Dale-Marie McKie*

A bowl was there, full of cheap wine mixed with vinegar, so a sponge was soaked in it, put on stalk of hyssop and lifted up to his lips. When Jesus had received the wine, he said, "It is finished"

Meditation 6: SANDRA SIMPSON

Extinguishing The Candle

L Lord Jesus - you gave your life for us.

P *You suffered and died that we might be made whole.*

HYMN 474: "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

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THE 7th WORD: "Father, into Thy Hands I Commend my Spirit"- Luke 23:46

READER: *Angela Vergara*

Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, "Father, into thy hands I commit my spirit!" And having said this he breathed his last.

Meditation 7: WINFRED VERGARA

Extinguishing The Candle

L Lord Jesus - you gave your life for us.

P You suffered and died that we might be made whole.

SILENT MEDITATION

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Responsive Reading: Isaiah 53-4-6,9

(Carol Carrington)

L Surely, he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows, yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God and afflicted.

P But he was wounded for our transgressions, and he was bruised for our iniquities. Upon him was the chastisement that made us whole.

L All we like sheep have gone astray; each of us has turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid upon him the iniquity of us all.

P He was assigned a grave with the wicked and with the rich in his death, although he had done no violence nor was any deceit in his mouth.

HYMN: 172: "Were You There" (verse 1-2)

Prayer of Dedication:

L Lord God, you have given us everything.

P You have not held anything back.

L Help us in like manner to give of ourselves

P Sanctify us Christ's name.

L Bless us and all that we think, feel, say, and do.

P That we, like Jesus, may be a blessing unto others,

L We ask this and all things that we ask of you through him, saying the prayer that he taught us...

P. Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is 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, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

CONCLUDING HYMN: 1982 Hymnal 693 “Just as I Am”

Please note that at the back of the church there is a donation box solely for donations to The Anglican Communion Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East.

BENEDICTION

Depart now in peace - and may the Spirit of Christ, go with you, may his faith and trust abide within you, and may the knowledge of his love support you both now and forevermore. **Amen.**

(Please depart quietly. See you tomorrow Saturday at the Easter Vigil at 7:00pm)

2024 St. Joseph's Focus Group

Father Fred (interim PIC), Robert Saunders (Warden), Sandra Simpson (Warden), Coretta Johnson (Treasurer), Jeffrey Samms, Edline Severe Joseph. Sandra Jones, Oren Adams, Carlton Mitchell, Cynthia Lewis, Justin Sinclair, Pauline Parchment and Shirley Jones.

Church Leadership

Priest-in-Charge	The Rev. Canon Dr. Winfred Vergara
Wardens	Robert Saunders Sandra Simpson
Vestry Members	Roxanne Adams, Clerk; Coretta Johnson, Treasurer; Reginald Byfield; Olidia Gordon; Justin Sinclair; Angela Brown; Jennifer Maxfield; Harold Lowe; Jeffrey Samms; La Verne Mitchell; Edline Severe-Joseph; Nichola Walker
Committee Co-Chairs	
Finance	Angela Brown and Harold Lowe
Building & Grounds	Jennifer Maxfield and Jeffrey Samms
Stewardship	La Verne Mitchell and Reginald Byfield
Youth & Young Adult	Nichola Walker and Justin Sinclair
Outreach	Edline Severe-Joseph and Olidia Gordon

CONTACT US

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For Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, and Spiritual Counseling please call the Church Office
at 718 464 8913.

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Priest-in-Charge

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For more information, visit our website at: www.stjosephqv.org