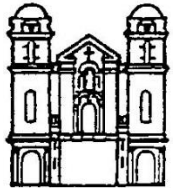


The Church of St James the Greater
Leicester



GOOD FRIDAY 2015
HOUR BEFORE THE CROSS

Led by the Reverend David Clark

SEEING THE FACE OF CHRIST ON THE CROSS
with Lady Julian of Norwich

Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me!
“Come,” my heart says, “seek his face!” Your face, Lord, do I seek. Do not hide
your face from me.

(Psalm 27 verses 7 & 8)

The more clearly the soul sees the blessed face by grace and love, the more it
longs to see it in its fullness. Although our Lord God is with us and dwells in us,
holding and enfolding us in tender love, never to leave us; and although he is
nearer to us than our tongue can tell or heart can think – even so we shall
never cease from sighs and tears, nor yet from yearning, till we come to see
clearly his most blessed face. In that lovely sight no grief can love, no blessing
fail. *(Julian of Norwich: Revelations of Divine Love, Chapter 72)*

Hymn 67 When I survey the wondrous cross

**TALK I Introduction: The Lady Julian and the Pain and
Suffering of Jesus**

Reading: Matt 27:27-36 (or 42)

The Revelations of Divine Love: from chapters 2, 16, 17, 31

Prayer – Silence

**TALK II In the midst of his own agony, Jesus’ awareness of and
compassion for others.**

Hymn

(P. Gerhardt (1607-76) adapted.)

O sacred head, surrounded
By crown of piercing thorn!
O bleeding head so wounded,
Reviled and put to scorn!
Death's pallid hue comes o'er thee,
The glow of life decays;
Yet angel hosts adore thee
And tremble as they gaze.

With thy most sweet compassion
My heart doth cry to share
In this thy bitter passion,
Thy cross with thee to bear.
Beneath thy cross abiding
For ever would I rest,
In thy dear love confiding,
And with thy presence blest.

Thy beauty, long desired,
Has vanished from our sight;
Thy power is all expired,
And quenched the light of light.
Ah me! For whom thou diest,
Hide not so far thy grace:
Show me, O love most highest,
The brightness of thy face.

Readings: Luke 23: 33-34
Luke 23: 39-43
John 19: 25b-27

The Revelations of Divine Love: from chapters 18 & 31

Prayer - Silence

TALK III *Jesus' sense of achievement, completion and joy.*

Hymn 129 Lord Jesus think on me

Reading: John 19: vv 28-30.

The Revelations of Divine Love: from chapter 21

Prayer - Silence

Hymn 63 My song is Love unknown (verses 1,2,4 & 7 only)