

HOLY WEEK: THE JOURNEY OF JESUS FROM THIS WORLD TO THE FATHER.

National Gallery Pictures at Quarr Abbey

Welcome to Quarr Abbey!

Holy Week and Easter lie at the heart of the Christian year. The events they commemorate constitute the very foundation of the Christian faith.

This exhibition tells the story of Jesus' Passion, Death and Resurrection through reproductions of paintings held by the National Gallery in London.

We would like to thank Sir Gabriele Finaldi, Director of the National Gallery for his kindness and help in enabling the exhibition to go ahead.

We would also like to express our gratitude to Dr. Dominic Fontana and The Friends of Quarr Abbey, whose generosity and hard work made it all possible.



The Raising of Lazarus



Jesus, Son of Mary and Son of God, demonstrates his divine power. He raises his friend, Lazarus, from the dead. But the Lord troubles the earthly powers. They fear losing control of the people and the political situation. They take counsel how to put him to death.

Artist Sebastiano del Piombo, incorporating designs by Michelangelo

Artist Dates About 1485 - 1547; 1475 - 1564

Painting Date 1517-19

Medium Oil, originally on wood, transferred to composite board

Size 381 × 289.6 cm

National Gallery ID NG1

Christ driving the Traders from the Temple



Jesus further scandalizes the public authorities. Following his entry into Jerusalem, he visits the temple and drives out the traders. With a whip of cords he cleanses the house of God his Father. It was made to be a house of prayer, but has become a den of robbers.

Artist El Greco

Artist Dates 1541 - 1614

Painting Date About 1600

Medium Oil on canvas

Size 106.3 × 129.7 cm

National Gallery ID NG1457

Christ washing the Feet of the Disciples



Knowing that the end of his earthly life is near, Jesus celebrates the Jewish feast of Passover with his disciples. Before the meal he washes their feet. He, their Lord and Master, becomes as a slave. The Power that rules the world wills to serve. How much more should we?

Artist Jacopo Tintoretto

Artist Dates About 1518 - 1594

Painting Date About 1575-80

Medium Oil on canvas

Size 204.5 × 410.2 cm

National Gallery ID NG1130

Eucharist



During the meal Jesus takes bread and wine and institutes the mystery of the Eucharist. He makes a gift of his body and blood for the spiritual nourishment of his disciples. Done in memory of his self-sacrifice in death, it will become the source of divine life for all who believe.

Artist Nicolas Poussin

Artist Dates 1594 - 1665

Painting Date About 1637-40

Medium Oil on canvas

Size 95.5 × 121 cm

National Gallery ID NG6700

The Agony in the Garden



Left alone by his exhausted disciples, Jesus turns to his Father, as he contemplates the excruciating death which he knows is coming. His human flesh is in agony, shrinking from what it quite naturally fears, but his Spirit is unconquerable, wholly given over to the Father's will.

Artist Andrea Mantegna

Artist Dates About 1431 - 1506

Painting Date About 1455-6

Medium Egg tempera on wood

Size 62.9 × 80 cm

National Gallery ID NG1417

The Betrayal of Christ



Jesus suffers the additional pain of betrayal. One of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, leads the soldiers to where he knows his master will be. And with a kiss, a sign of love, he disguises the mystery of iniquity which he now ushers into the world.

Artist Ugolino di Nerio

Artist Dates Documented 1317-27, died possibly 1329

Painting Date Possibly 1325-8

Medium Egg tempera on wood (probably poplar)

Size 40.4 × 58.8 cm

National Gallery ID NG1188

Christ before the High Priest



Jesus is taken first to Caiaphas, the Jewish High Priest. Here is no impartial tribunal. The Jewish authorities are looking for a guilty verdict. False witnesses come forward, but their testimonies disagree. Finally, Jesus is condemned for divine claims he makes about himself, for speaking the truth.

Artist Gerrit van Honthorst

Artist Dates 1592 - 1656

Painting Date About 1617

Medium Oil on canvas

Size 272 × 183 cm

National Gallery ID NG3679

Christ before Pilate



The Jewish Council has no authority to pass a death sentence, so Jesus is sent to Pilate, the Roman Governor. Pilate is not malicious, but weak. He quickly realises Jesus is innocent, but afraid of stirring up trouble, washes his hands of a problem, and agrees to have Jesus crucified.

Artist Jan Baegert (Master of Cappenberg)

Artist Dates Active about 1500 - about 1525

Painting Date About 1520

Medium Oil on wood (Netherlandish/West German oak, identified)

Size 99.1 × 69.2 cm

National Gallery ID NG2154

Christ crowned with Thorns



A man shows himself abused, exhausted, in pain. Jesus bears the instruments of his suffering: the crown of thorns, brushwood for beating. But, with the eyes of faith, we see a man, given wholly to the Father's will for the world's salvation, a true man, perfected in love.

Artist Follower of Jan Mostaert

Artist Dates Active 1498, died 1552/3

Painting Date About 1520-30

Medium Oil on wood (Baltic/Polish oak, identified)

Size 30.5 × 20.9 cm

National Gallery ID NG3900

Christ carrying the Cross and the Virgin Mary Swooning



Jesus carries his cross to the place of execution. On the way he meets Mary, his mother, and John, his beloved disciple. Mary falls by the roadside, shares his suffering as only a mother can. John does nothing now, but will bear witness to all he has seen and heard.

Artist Boccaccio Boccaccino

Artist Dates Before 1466 - 1525

Painting Date About 1501

Medium Oil on wood (probably poplar)

Size 136.6 × 134.6 cm

National Gallery ID NG806

Saint Veronica with the Sudarium



Veronica followed Jesus on the way. She saw him and had compassion, then ran and wiped his bleeding face with a towel. He left the image of his face on the cloth. If we love Jesus, we receive his likeness into ourselves. We become true icons (veronicas) of him.

Artist Master of Saint Veronica (Meister Wilhelm)

Artist Dates Active early 15th century

Painting Date Probably late 1410s to early 1420s

Medium Oil on wood (walnut, identified)

Size 44.2 × 33.7 cm

National Gallery ID NG687

Crucifix



God, the Son of God, hangs upon the cross for the salvation of the world. His mother, Mary, and John, the beloved disciple, stand nearby. Jesus offers himself in sacrifice to God the Father out of love for sinful mankind, and all crimes and offences are taken away.

Artist Segna di Bonaventura

Artist Dates Active 1298, died 1326/31

Painting Date About 1310-15

Medium Egg tempera on wood (probably poplar)

Size 213.5 × 184 cm

National Gallery ID NG567

The Lamentation over the Dead Christ



Jesus' body has a strange dignity, even beauty, in death. The glory of the divine nature still shines through. But Mary, John and Mary Magdalene mourn the loss of a Son, a teacher, a friend. God dies and disciples can only watch and wait and weep.

Artist Jusepe de Ribera

Artist Dates 1591 - 1652

Painting Date Early 1620s

Medium Oil on canvas

Size 129.5 × 181 cm

National Gallery ID NG235

Christ carried to the Tomb



In Jesus God identifies himself with us totally. He allows himself to be carried to the grave and buried in the earth. Nothing that is human is alien to him. Yet his will governs all things. And he knows this is not the end!

Artist Sisto Badalocchio

Artist Dates 1585 - after 1621?

Painting Date After 1609

Medium Oil on copper

Size 43.7 × 33.6 cm

National Gallery ID NG86

Christ rising from the Tomb



On the third day Jesus rises from the dead. Nothing can be the end of him who is the beginning of everything. Death can no longer have dominion over him. As for the soldiers guarding the body, they become like dead men. Human power is powerless before the Lord.

Artist Gaudenzio Ferrari

Artist Dates Active 1508, died 1546

Painting Date About 1540

Medium Oil on wood (poplar, identified)

Size 152.4 × 84.5 cm

National Gallery ID NG1465

The Three Marys at the Sepulchre: Upper Tier Panel



The burial of Jesus was the burial of his disciples' hope, but it was not the extinction of their love. On the Sunday three women visit the tomb to anoint the corpse. They find an angel and an empty grave. If we keep loving we find more than we desire.

Artist Jacopo di Cione and workshop

Artist Dates Documented 1365, died 1398 -1400

Painting Date 1370 - 1371

Medium Egg tempera on wood (probably poplar)

Size 95.6 × 49.1 cm

National Gallery ID NG576

The Incredulity of Saint Thomas



Thomas was absent when Jesus appeared to the other disciples. Therefore Thomas disbelieved. But the Lord has mercy on weakness. He appeared again. Thomas saw, believed and placing his hand in the wound in the side, knew his Lord and God. Our faith may fail, but we can rise again.

Artist Guercino

Artist Dates 1591 - 1666

Painting Date 1621

Medium Oil on canvas

Size 115.6 × 142.5 cm

National Gallery ID NG3216

The Supper at Emmaus



The disciples were scattered by Jesus' death. But the Lord did not abandon them to despair. He journeys with them in disguise, teaches them, and finally reveals himself in the breaking of bread. He does so even today, for us. Have we ears to hear, eyes to see?

Artist Michelangelo Merisi da Caravaggio

Artist Dates 1571 - 1610

Painting Date 1601

Medium Oil on canvas

Size 141 × 196.2 cm

National Gallery ID NG172