

## MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

**Sunday 9 April 2017: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord (Year A)**

6.30pm (Saturday)	Parishioners
9.00am	Sister of Providence int.
11.00am	Manuel Afonso RIP
5.30pm	Hilda Nagyova's Int.

**Monday 10 April**

7.30am	Friars & Benefactors
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**Tuesday 11 April**

7.30am	Vocations
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**Wednesday 12 April**

7.30am	Jimmy, Geraldine & family
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**Thursday 13 April**

***Maundy Thursday***

7.30pm	<i>Mass of the Lord's Supper</i>	Carol Waldock RIP
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**Friday 14 April**

***Good Friday***

3.00pm	<i>Commemoration of the Passion &amp; Death of the Lord</i>	<i>No Mass today</i>
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7.00pm *Stations of the Cross*

**Saturday 15 April**

***Holy Saturday***

9.00pm	<i>Easter Vigil Mass</i>	Parishioners
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**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturday 11.30am-12 noon; 5.30-6.25pm**

**Please pray for those members of our community who are sick.**

**Please pray, too, for those whose anniversaries occur about this time, including:**

Patrick Connell, Margaret Zelly, John Madden, Vincent Tighe, Joseph Morrissey, Fernando Arroyave, Catherine Caroline Hogan, Ellen Carney, William John Charlesworth, Ivy Guilfoyle, Roland Badcock & Paul McCartney.

*May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.*

## COLLECTIONS

***No Second Collection today***

**Last week's collection:**

*Offertory*                      £476.88    + *Gift-aided*                      £98.10

**The Collection next Sunday is your Easter Offering for the Friars**

**Sunday 2 April 2017: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord (Year A)**

## *SS Edmund and Frideswide Roman Catholic Church*

*Iffley Road, Oxford OX4 1SB*

*Parish Priest:*

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### On Palm Sunday...

On Palm Sunday, we experience the greatness and poverty of the human spirit. As Jesus entered Jerusalem, the crowds acclaimed him as the Son of God. But as he stood trial before Pilate, the same crowds called for his crucifixion.

On Palm Sunday, as we approach the end of Lent, we have reflected on our sins, but we have also experienced God's grace in communion, community and Scripture.

On Palm Sunday, we also hear about the greatness and poverty of Jesus. He humbled himself to become like us and to experience what we experience—even death. "Because of this, God greatly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name."

Sometimes in a single day we experience unfettered joy and inconsolable grief. A child is born, someone dies. We receive mercy from a stranger, but we fail to love our neighbour. The extremes of human life are vast. But Christ came to us embracing both extremes. All human life he redeems and makes his own.



1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Isaiah 50:4-7

Response to Psalm: **My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?**

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Philippians 2:6-11

Gospel: *The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew*

**Entrance Antiphon:** Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, the King of Israel. Hosanna in the highest.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory! Christ was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all names. Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

**Communion Antiphon:** Father, if this chalice cannot pass without my drinking it, your will be done.

**Today, 9 April**, is Palm Sunday (Year A). *No 2nd collection today.*

Today's gospel commemorates Jesus' entry into Jerusalem for Passover and for his own Passion. Palm branches recall the day of his entry, and the proclamation of the Passion recalls the day of his death, as we hear another evangelist's vision of events before St John's on Good Friday. Red, the colour of martyrdom and victory, heightens the solemnity of the day as Holy Week begins.

**This Week is Holy Week:**

### **Tuesday 11 April: General Church Cleaning, 6pm-7pm**

On Tuesday evening, parishioners are invited to gather and help with a general cleaning of the church in preparation for the celebration of the Easter Triduum. The church will be open just before 6pm—see you then.

### **TIMES FOR CONFESSIONS DURING HOLY WEEK**

#### **Wednesday 12 April**

From 6pm–7pm the **Blessed Sacrament** will be exposed for quiet prayer and reflection. The **Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)** will be available during this time.

#### **Maundy Thursday, 13 April**

Confession will be available from 5pm–6pm.

#### **Good Friday, 14 April**

Confession will be available from 12 noon–1pm.

#### **Holy Saturday, 15 April**

Confession will be available from 11am–12 noon & 5pm–6pm.

### **THE EASTER TRIDUUM LITURGY**

#### **Maundy Thursday (13 April): Mass of the Lord's Supper, 7.30pm**

This evening's celebration opens the *Triduum* with the Mass of the Lord's Supper. It commemorates the institution of the *Eucharist* and the *Priesthood*, as well as Jesus' command of love and service. The name 'Maundy' Thursday comes from the Latin *mandatum*, meaning 'commandment', and refers to the words Jesus said as he began to wash the feet of the disciples at the Last Supper: 'A new commandment I give to you...'

The Mass concludes with the Procession of the Blessed Sacrament to the Altar of Repose. Watching at the Altar of Repose continues until 11pm.

#### **Good Friday (14 April): The Passion and Death of the Lord, 3pm**

Good Friday is a celebration of the Passion of Jesus, his suffering and death by crucifixion. Because this event won salvation for sinners, the day is called 'Good' and the Liturgy reflects on love as much as loss. For the faithful, today's commemoration drives home the full weight of our sins, even as it lifts us up by the incomparable measure of God's love. **NB.** *Good Friday is a day of Fasting and Abstinence.*

Please note also that there will be a retiring collection for the Holy Places.

### **Holy Saturday (15 April): Easter Vigil, 9pm**

The Easter Vigil is a celebration of our faith in the Resurrection, the cornerstone of our belief. It ranks highest among the celebrations of the liturgical year and should rank highest in our spiritual lives. The four parts of the Easter Vigil move us through a gradual unfolding of the mystery. The *Fire Rite* immediately shatters the gathering darkness. The *Liturgy of the Word* opens up the path of God's plan throughout salvation history. The *Blessing of the Water and Renewal of the Baptismal Promises* enact the belief of the faithful. The *Liturgy of the Eucharist* brings the celebration to its climax as we experience the presence of the Risen Christ in the community.

**Other Events during the Triduum:**

#### **Good Friday morning: Cowley Road Stations of the Cross**

Those participating meet at the Methodist Church, Cowley Road, at **10.15am for a 10.30 start**. The stations will take place along Cowley Road, finishing at SS. Mary & John Church. Refreshments will be available.

#### **Good Friday evening: Stations of the Cross, 7pm**

On Good Friday at 7pm the parish community is invited to gather again to celebrate the Stations of the Cross in the church.

#### **Holy Saturday (15 April, 10am): Calling all Altar Servers!**

There will be a meeting for all altar servers on Holy Saturday (10am). *Please be there.*

*Looking further ahead:*

#### **Wednesday 19 April: Padre Pio Prayer Group**

The Padre Pio Prayer Group will meet on Wednesday 19 April at **7pm** in the Friary Chapel. Please enter the Chapel via the main door of the Friary (182 Iffley Road). At 7pm we celebrate Holy Mass, followed by Rosary and prayer of intercession to Padre Pio and veneration of his relic. Please come and join us.

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### **Help Needed**

*THE PARISH HALL* needs urgent repair and refurbishment to make it fit for Parish and Community use. It is hoped to obtain Grant funding for at least half of the £100,000 it is likely to cost. Help is needed from a small group of parishioners (3 or 4) who have experience of applying for Lottery and other Grant funding, to handle the written applications. If this is you, please contact Fr Gordon at your earliest convenience.

### **Your prayers are asked for the repose of...**

the soul of Sadar Masih, whose Requiem Mass will be celebrated on **Wednesday 12 April at 11am**, and the soul of Christopher Clarkson, whose funeral service will be held at Oxford Crematorium on **Thursday 13 April at 10.30am**.

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.