

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Sunday 25 March 2018: Palm Sunday (Year B)

6.30pm (Saturday)	Susan Allen RIP
9.00am	Favours Received
11.00am	Parishioners
5.30pm	Armando Espiritusanto

Monday 26 March

7.30am	Friars & Benefactors
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Tuesday 27 March

7.30am	Pious Union
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Wednesday 28 March

7.30am	Teresa Scollan
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Thursday 29 March *Maundy Thursday*

7.30pm	<i>Mass of the Lord's Supper</i>	Genoveva Pereira RIP
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Friday 30 March *Good Friday*

3.00pm	<i>The Passion and Death of the Lord</i>
7.00pm	<i>Stations of the Cross</i>

Saturday 31 March *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.

Pray, too, for those whose anniversaries occur about this time, including:

Dhanti Lal, Francis Hunt, Frances Hemmings, Thomas Penders, Christopher Clarkson & Jozeph Korobiecki.

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

COLLECTIONS:

No Second Collection today

Last week's collections:

<i>Offertory</i>	£358.92	+ Gift-aided	£69.00
<i>Diocesan Schools Fund</i>	£97.87	+ Gift-aided	£53.50

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

SS Edmund and Frideswide Roman Catholic Church

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Sunday 25 March 2018: Palm Sunday (Year B)

The Suffering Servant

The speaker of today's first reading is a victim. He speaks, but people beat him, pull out the hairs of his beard, slap him and spit at him. Why? He suffers all this because he has spoken God's rousing word. Every morning God speaks to him and enables him to speak to others. This word gets him into trouble.

The speaker does not quit. He remains firm, committed to the word God gives him, even in the face of resistance. He received God's word, spoke it with eloquence, and suffered at the hands of his enemies.

This Friday we will come forward to show our love for the Cross of Jesus Christ. Christians can face the agony of suffering as it befell Jesus, and as it comes to us, because we know there is something more.



1st Reading: Isaiah 50:4-7

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

2nd Reading: Philippians 2:6-11

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

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 is Palm Sunday (Year B).

Today's Gospel readings commemorate Jesus' entry into Jerusalem for the Passover and 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 version of events before John's account 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 27 March: General Church Cleaning, 6pm-7pm

For one night only! 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.

Holy Week Liturgies

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday: Morning Mass at 7.30am in the Friary Chapel.

On Maundy Thursday, Good Friday & Holy Saturday, there will be no morning Mass. Parishioners are invited to join the Friars at 8am for the Office of Readings and Morning Prayer from the Liturgy of the Hours.

TIMES FOR CONFESSIONS DURING HOLY WEEK

Wednesday 28 March

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, 29 March

Confession will be available from 5pm-6pm.

Good Friday, 30 March

Confession will be available from 12 noon-1pm.

Holy Saturday, 31 March

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

"God is the loving Father who always pardons, who has that heart of mercy for us all."

THE EASTER TRIDUUM LITURGY

Maundy Thursday (29 March): 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.

NB. Volunteers are needed for the Washing of the Feet at the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Maundy Thursday. There is a list at the back of the church for volunteers to sign. Thank you.

[Please also note: There is no Taizé meeting this Thursday.]

Good Friday (30 March): 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 (31 March): Easter Vigil, 9pm

The Easter Vigil is a celebration of our faith in the Resurrection, the cornerstone of our faith. 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 his community.

Other Events during the Triduum:

Good Friday morning: Cowley Road Walk of Witness

Those participating meet at the Methodist Church, Cowley Road, **at 10.15am for a 10.30 start.** At each station there is a simple hymn, Bible reading, and prayer. Finishing at Richard Benson Hall for refreshments.

Good Friday evening: Stations of the Cross, 7pm

Followed by the veneration of the relic of the true cross.

Looking ahead:

Easter Sunday: Cakes & Second-hand Book Sale

Plans are being drawn up for the renovation of our Parish Hall. It would be great if the parish can raise a small proportion of the cost. We are holding a *Cake Sale & Second-hand Book Sale* in the Hall on Easter Sunday after the 9am and 11am Masses. We are asking for **donations of cakes, biscuits, books, etc.** Please drop them off in the Hall before Mass. We hope parishioners will support this event. Thank you!

Now available at the back of the church:

Eastertide 'Walk with Me' booklets—Journey of Prayer. Price £1.

Sunday 8 April: The Feast of Mercy—Divine Mercy Sunday

We celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday, starting at 2pm, with blessing of the Divine Mercy picture, devotions, chaplet and confession, ending with Mass at 5.30pm. All invited.