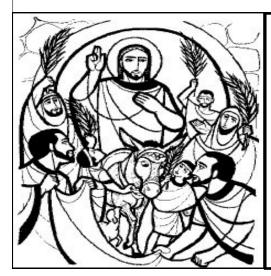
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# PARISH NEWSLETTER

Palm Sunday & Holy Week (b) 24th Mar 2024



Sometimes they strew His way, And His sweet praises sing; Resounding all the day Hosannas to their King: Then "Crucify!" Is all their breath, And for His death They thirst and cry.

Samuel Crossman

# Hosanna to the Son of David!

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DATE	MASS OTHER
Sun 24th	<b>PALM SUNDAY</b> 9.15 (BB) for the parish 11am (HAD) private int
Mon 25th	MONDAY IN HOLY WEEK 9.30 (HAD) Mary Baldwin RIP
Tues 26th	TUESDAY IN HOLY WEEK 9.30 (HAD) (school end-of-term Mass) Anne Heard's ints
Wed 27th	WEDNESDAY IN HOLY WEEK (Chrism Mass, Cathedral) Sean Quinn RIP (fam)
Thurs 28th	THURSDAY IN HOLY WEEK 9.30 (HAD) morning prayer
	THE SACRED TRIDUUM
	7pm (BB) Mass of the Lord's Supper Anthony Burkinshaw RIP (fam)
Fri 29th	GOOD FRIDAY9.30 (HAD) morning prayer3pm (HAD & BB) LITURGY OF THE LORD'S SUFFERING AND DEATH <i>fopm (HAD) Stations of the Cross</i>
Sat 30th	HOLY SATURDAY9.30 (HAD) morning prayer7.30pm (HAD) Easter Vigil & first Mass of Easter Josie Couban RIP
Sun 31st	EASTER SUNDAY (B) 9.15 (BB) for the parish 11am (HAD) Karin Beibl RIP (AU)
PALM SUNDAY (B) Psalter Week 2	
Introduction: With Palms we hail our King and Redeemer.	
First Reading : Is 50 : The Suffering Servant.	
Resp.Ps. MY GOD! MY GOD! WHY HAVE YOU FORSAKEN ME!	
Second Reading : Philipp 2 : Christ humbled himself; God raised him high.	
Gospel : Mark 14 and 15 : The Passion Narrative.	

SICK AND HOUSEBOUND and ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH Please remember to support and pray for those listed as sick and housebound in our parish: Peter James, Pauline Anderson, Isabella Phillips, Joe Singleton, Joan Killeen, Una Wilkinson, Christine Wild, David Healey, Mike Lally, Jacob Ibbotson, Beatrice & John Eaton, Keith Winston.

Please recall in prayer our deceased priests and parishioners whose anniversaries occur about this time; Revv Edward Byron, John Berry, Leo Moens, James Kearns; Sean Quinn, Eileen Berry, Christine Liley: Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine on them: may they rest in peace. Amen

### PARISH NOTES

**THIS SUNDAY** Following the Jews' example we proclaim Christ as a Victor... Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord. But by our faith we know, as they did not, all that His triumph stands for. He is the Messiah, the Son of David and the Son of God. He is the sign of contradiction, acclaimed by some and reviled by others. Sent into this world to wrest us from sin and the power of Satan, He underwent His Passion, the punishment for our sins, but issues forth triumphant from the tomb, the victor over death, making our peace with God and taking us with Him into the kingdom of His Father in heaven.

IN THE GOSPEL we follow Jesus as he is revealed in three significances:

1. Jesus deserted The gospel of Mark is concerned to show Jesus as a real, human person. So the story of the Passion begins with the very real fear and horror of Jesus in the garden. Mark represents Jesus as almost beside himself with apprehension at the torture which he knew he would suffer. Again and again he returns to seek companionship from his disciples, to find them callously asleep. The Passion-story ends, too, with a loud cry of agony as Jesus breathes his last.

2. **The divine Jesus** The core of the Passion-story is the trial scene. Before the high priest Jesus acknowledges that he is the Messiah of Judaism, and the Son of the Blessed One. To these titles he joins 'Son of man'. In the Book of Daniel the Son of man is a glorious figure who triumphs over persecution to receive from God all power on earth. So now Jesus claims to share God's throne as that Son of man. It is for these divine claims that is rejected as a blasphemer and handed over to the Romans.

3. The triumph of God When Jesus cries out on the Cross, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me', he is not in despair, but is beginning Psalm 22. The Psalm begins in persecution, but ends in the triumph of God and the vindication of the sufferer. This gives the meaning of his Passion: by it Jesus brings the triumph of God and his own vindication by God. The Cross is the moment, not of abandonment by God, but of the most complete union of Jesus to the Father. Jesus here establishes the Sovereignty of his Father by his total, loving obedience. This is why the centurion proclaims, 'Truly, the man was Son of God'. It is also significant that here for the first time in the gospel a human being recognises Jesus as Son of God. It is not a Jew but a gentile – the beginning of the spread of the gospel to all nations of the world.

**PLENTY OF PALMS** Please take palms also for friends, relatives and fellow parishioners who can't make it to Mass. But what to do with them?

1. Place one prominently on your front door or window, to whisper to the passing world of

your Christian discipleship;

2. Hang one above your bedstead seeking divine protection as you sleep;

3. Take down the air-freshener / boxing-gloves / furry dice hanging from your rear-view mirror, and let your Palm Cross indicate your devotion to the Way, the Truth and the Life.

4. Put one through a neighbouring door and a sign of friendship.

**POSTERS** We have plenty of 'This is Holy Week' posters. Display one at your home and share this week's journey with passers-by.

**SPY WEDNESDAY** as Wednesday in Holy Week is called by some, is the day when the Bishop invites all his clergy together to the Cathedral to celebrate the Chrism Mass, and also renew their commitment to the priesthood.

**MORNING PRAYER** is offered this Holy Week on Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 9.30 at St Charles. **MAUNDY THURSDAY** I hope to visit the sick & housebound on this anniversary day of the institution of the gift of the Eucharist. If you or someone you know would welcome a visit, please let me know.

**FASTING** Good Friday is the second of the two remaining days of fasting and abstinence. **COLLECTION FOR THE HOLY PLACES** will take place during the Good Friday afternoon liturgy.

MAGNIFICATS for Holy Week are still available.

*"MY DAY-BY-DAY"* for the Easter season is available free-of-charge from the back of church. **RECENT TOTE WINNERS St Charles** : £40: C Cowley; £20 : N Garlick. Immaculate Conception: £40: M Davis; £20 : D Storey.

**STANDING ORDERS:** Immaculate Conception : Sort Code 30-13-32 A/c "St Margaret's church/ collection (or tote)" 00510567.St Charles : Sort Code 30-13-32 A/c "Charles church/collection (or tote)" 00269177.

**PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES** available for collection from this weekend from the back of church. The latest series begin the weekend after Easter Sunday. The number of box-users has diminished—not least because of the take-up of payments in support of the parish directly via the bank. Also a number of box-set users have moved away—or have died. Or even lapsed. The allocation of numbers therefore has changed.

**FLOWERS FOR EASTER** Please use the envelopes found at the back of church to make donations florally to decorate our churches at Eastertide.

**SCHOOL VISITS** A perfect joy to welcome a large contingent from St Margaret's school to Friday morning Mass. It is a major logistical enterprise to get the children from school to church, involving multiple mini-bus trips. But both staff and pupils were outstanding in their presence and presentation. And the regular parishioners were wreathed in smiles. A huge Yes! To the many requests "can we come again?"!

We look forward to St Charles' school similar visit to Mass on Tuesday. Always welcome! SCHOOL HOLS Best wishes to the staff and students of St Charles' & St Margaret's and other local schools who are breaking up for Easter hols this week. We wish you a good break and hope it is filled with sunshine!

**EASTER EGG HUNT** This delight is being arranged for after Mass at St Charles on Easter Sunday. THE **THE VERNAL EQUINOX** occurred shortly shortly after 3am last Wednesday. This event set the clock ticking to Easter Sunday, which is annually dated to be on the first Sunday after the full moon after the spring equinox.

**SLEEPY HEADS** I hope that (I and) most folk remember to spring forward an hour after the Saturday evening Vigil Mass! Clocks go forward early on Easter Sunday.

