

THE BLESSED SACRAMENT CATHOLIC CHURCH

Copenhagen Street

Clergy: Mgr. Séamus O'Boyle (Parish Priest) Fr Allan Alvarado Gil
Fr Larry Milby (retired, in residence)

Pastoral Assistant: Sister Miriam Bruder SSND (home: 020 7837 8378)

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Parish Office opening times: Tuesday-Friday 10.00am -2.00pm



PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

14th April 2019

What Makes Holy Week Holy?



Here we are again at the beginning of Holy Week, but what is it that makes Holy week holy? As we process into Church on Palm Sunday waving our palms or weaving them into crosses, it's tempting to feel that this is all just a commemoration of the past. But if Holy Week doesn't impact on our lives a little more with each passing year, then it really is just a story about something that happened a very long time ago.

It's the very first 'Palm Sunday' and the excitement is growing like wildfire. Jesus rides into Jerusalem and his followers throw down palms and robes. Only Jesus seems aware that something is very wrong with this triumphant parade. The followers are misguided. They think that Jesus has come like some great military deliverer to overthrow the authorities. But in truth, Jesus doesn't ride into Jerusalem on a stallion with great might and power, he rides into Jerusalem on a donkey and he comes in peace, humility and servitude. He comes to stand up for what he believes without any hint of compromise or aggression. He comes ready to lay down his life. He comes to show humanity what real love means and he brings the promise of his heavenly kingdom for all those who can realise his teaching.

Those original Palm Sunday crowds had a very poor grasp of what Jesus was about, and so it's no wonder that by the end of Holy Week they had switched to shouts of 'Crucify!' Like those original Palm Sunday Crowds we celebrate Jesus' life, but we celebrate for the right reasons. Hopefully we are not celebrating someone we think can wave a magic wand and make everything right for us. Holy Week brings into sharp focus what Christianity should be about. Each year we endeavour to make Holy Week holy with greater insight and a greater maturity of faith. Each Holy Week we endeavour to become better ambassadors for Christ.



LENTEN ALMS: There will be a retiring collection today for the Cardinal's Lenten Appeal.

PREPARING THE CHURCH FOR EASTER: Many hands make light work. Can you please come and give a hand getting the church ready for Easter on Holy Saturday morning at 10:00 a.m.? Thank you.

EASTER VIGIL: Following the Easter Vigil (Saturday at 8:30 p.m.) there will be a reception in the hall to celebrate the Risen Christ and to greet each other for Easter. If you are able to bring along some simple finger food, that would be much appreciated.

READERS AND MINISTERS OF COMMUNION: If you indicated your availability in Holy Week, your rota is available today. For those not on email, you can pick it up beside the organ. If you are on email, a rota has been sent to you. Please contact Sister Miriam if you did not receive it or if you have any questions.

FIRST COMMUNION PROGRAMME: Next Children's class, Sunday 28 April, 9:45; next Parent's Meeting, Thursday, 2 May, 7:00 p.m.

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES: please collect your new box of envelopes from the back of the Church and begin using them. If you Gift Aid your donation, would you please complete one of the forms to help update our records. Please do not use any of the pink envelopes from last year. Many thanks.

REQUESTS FOR PRAYERS:

Please remember to pray for Russell Reyes and Douglas Goodbody who died recently, and for all those whose anniversaries are about this time. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

HEALING FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK: especially Liam Buckley, Doreen Clayton, Tom Hunt, Sophia O'Donnell, Monica Smith (O'Leary), Cassie Robinson, Tessa Charlton, Michael Hehir, Emmanuel Tala, Mary Wallace, Nina & Jocelyn Hillgarth, Filomena Barbo, Colin Harris, Nora Moran, Maria Carrano, May Cullen., Gordana Tancevska, Irene Bryan, Phuong Quach, Albert Boateng, Anne & Thomas Griffin, Freddie Mudd, Margaret Cross, Catherine Barnes, Hazel Hoyte, Angela Neary, Irene Cullen, Gerry Twomey, Barbara Johnson, Josephine Onwuka, Pauline Timlin, Kevin Corcoran, Patrick McShane, Margaret Walsh, Florence S Philip, Amidu (Blessing) Yamba, Evelyn Corcoran, Gerry Corcoran, Eamon Hanahoe, Mary Paditey, Kieran Vos, Bridget Ryan, Barbara Baggs.

MASSES THIS WEEK:			
DATE	FEAST DAYS	TIME	INTENTION
Sunday 14 th April	PALM SUNDAY <i>(Parish Mass Book p.184)</i>	8.30am	All our Parishioners
		11.00am	Peter Waddick RIP (Anniv)
Monday 15 th April	Monday in Holy Week	10.30am	Private Intention
Tuesday 16 th April	Tuesday in Holy Week	10.30am	**NO MASS TODAY**
Weds. 17 th April	Wednesday in Holy Week	10.30am	Private Intention
Thursday 18 th April	MAUNDY THURSDAY	<u>7.30pm</u>	<i>Mass of the Lord's Supper</i> <i>+ Watching in Prayer until 10pm</i>
Friday 19 th April <i>Fasting & Abstinence</i>	GOOD FRIDAY	<u>3.00pm</u>	<i>Solemn Remembrance of the Passion</i>
		<u>7.00pm</u>	<i>Stations of the Cross</i>
Saturday 20 th April	HOLY SATURDAY	<u>8.30pm</u>	<i>Easter Vigil</i>
Sunday 21 st April	EASTER SUNDAY <i>(Parish Mass Book p.258)</i>	8.30am	Private Intention
		11.00am	All our Parishioners

Weekday Masses: Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday 10.30am

Weekend Masses: Saturday 10.30am, Sunday 8.30am & 11.00am

Confessions: Sunday 8am-8.20am: 10.30am – 10.50am

Weekday Mass at St John the Evangelist Monday - Friday at 10.00am – All welcome

Confessions at St John's on Saturday 10.30-11.15am and 5.15-5.45pm