Presbytery

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Parish Priest

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Also in Residence (for advanced studies) Fr Daniel Isah

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Paddington Office

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Mass Times

See Holy Week Leaflet

Walking the Walk



What are we thinking when we pick up a palm and process into church on Palm Sunday?

It's likely that we feel we are commemorating an historic event. When Jesus rode his

donkey into Jerusalem all those centuries ago, he was the centre of attention. Some thought he would be a powerful leader who would lead the people in an uprising against the occupying Romans. Others were just swept along in a sense of pageant. Few had grasped the true significance of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. Jesus Parishes of OUR LADY OF LOURDES & ST VINCENT DE PAUL (HARROW RD) and OUR LADY OF SORROWS, (PADDINGTON) MARCH - MONTH OF THE ST JOSEPH 24TH MARCH 2024 PALM SUNDAY (YEAR B)

had not come merely to overturn the Romans. Jesus' picture was a much more universal one. Jesus' mission was the salvation of the whole world for future generations.

How many of us would remember Jesus today if his mission had been simply to lead an uprising against a Roman occupation? Jesus was riding into Jerusalem to meet his destiny. He could have heeded the warnings of his disciples and bypassed Jerusalem altogether. He could have continued his ministry of teaching and healing into old age; but whatever else Jesus was about, he wasn't about compromise. In riding into Jerusalem, Jesus was telling us that his mission to save each and every one of us was more important than life itself.

We can all walk into church waving our palms. We can all commemorate an historical event, but the more discerning of us know that this day is about 'walking the walk'. We are the reason Jesus rode into Jerusalem. On this day we honour him not with palms but with the quality of our lives.

Fasting and Abstinence

The Church sets aside certain penitential days and invites us to observe Ash Wednesday and Good Friday as days of fast and abstinence. "Fasting means that the amount of food we eat is considerably reduced. Abstinence means that we give up a particular kind of food or drink or form of amusement". Fridays throughout Lent, and during the rest of the year are also days when we are encouraged to do some form of penance.

Triduum—Holy Thursday, Good Friday, the Easter Vigil.

The Easter triduum, marking the days of Jesus' passion and resurrection, is the most important time of the Church year. It begins with the evening Mass of Holy Thursday, reaches its high point in

(Continued overleaf)

Mass Intentions for both parishes for week beginning Saturday 23rd March 2024

Saturday	6:00 pm	Mary Kinsella (Ints)	Sunday	9:30 am	People of the Parish
Sunday	11:30 am	Leney O De Restrepo (Ints)	Monday	10:00 am	Margaret Poku (Bday Ints)
Tuesday	10:00 am	-	Wednesday	No Mass	
Thursday(Harr Rd) 6:00 pm	Mereadite Mandaja (Ints)	Thursday (Padd)	8:00 pm	-
Friday (Harrow Rd & Paddington) 3:00 pm (Good Friday Liturgy)					
Saturday (Padd)	8:30 pm	-	Saturday (Harr Rd	l) 8:30 pm	People of the Parish
Sunday (31.3)	9:30 am	-	Sunday	11:30 am	Sylvia Marris (RIP)

the Easter Vigil, and closes on Easter Sunday evening.

The services during Holy Week tell a continuous story, so try if you can to attend them all

Holy Thursday "Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper."



The Easter Triduum begins with Mass on Holy Thursday evening, when Jesus sacramentally anticipated the gift he would make of himself on the cross. His command to serve others is dramati-

cally recalled this night in the ceremony of the washing of the feet, which he performed in the supper room for his disciples.

Good Friday



The Good Friday rites centre around the reading of the Passion of Jesus. With simple dignity that story is retold, followed by prayers for the entire world, for this powerful mystery brings blessings to the world. On this day we are invited to venerate the cross. It is a day of fasting and quiet mourning.

Holy Saturday



The Easter Vigil is the high point of the Easter triduum celebrating the passion and resurrection of Jesus. The vigil opens with a service of light. The lighting of the fire and the Easter can-

dle is a sign that Christ is "the light of the world," and celebrates the victory of light over darkness that humanity has ever longed for.

Holy Places Collection

On Good Friday a collection will be taken up to aid Christian parishes and their outreaches in the Holy Land. This initiative has been an annual tradition in the Church since its institution by Blessed Pope Paul VI. According to Paul VI, the collection was created "not only for the Holy Places but above all for those pastoral, charitable, educational, and social works which the Church supports in the Holy Land for the welfare of their Christian brethren and of the local

Diocesan News

Chrism Mass. On **Tuesday 26th March** at **12:00** noon in Westminster Cathedral. At this Mass the Cardinal consecrates all the sacred oils which will be used in our parishes during the year. (The oils from last year are burned at the Easter Vigil when we light the new Paschal Candle) All the priests of the diocese attend and we renew our priestly promises during the Mass. The Cardinal also asks at this Mass for the laity to pray for him and the priests. All are welcome to come to this mass.

Parish News

Parish Merger Consultation. Many thanks to those who contributed comments about the proposed parish merger after the Masses last weekend. I am somewhat disappointed that no-one stayed behind after the 11:30 Mass, but I have sufficient comments to be able to feed back to the bishops, as most of the comments were stating the same sentiments.

Lourdes Pilgrimage 19th- 26th July 2024 – Registration for the Westminster diocesan pilgrimage led by Cardinal Vincent Nichols is now open via the application form on <u>https://rcdow.org.uk/pilqrimages/lourdes/</u> or by contacting the Pilgrimage Office on 020 7798 9173. Options to travel by plane, train or coach are available and there are many volunteering opportunities for those wishing to serve. All need to also complete the Medical Form. All applications to join this year's pilgrimage need to be submitted by Tuesday 30th April.

Fr Daniel will be coming also. I will be booking to stay at the Alba (where most of the redcaps stay) and will be going by air rather than train.

Redcaps (age 16-25)—please apply to the Catenian Bursary to help fund your trip—last year each applicant received £100. Goto <u>https://catenianbursary.com/lourdesawards/</u> to apply.

Holy Week Liturgies. With Fr Daniel here, this year we will be able to offer the Triduum services (Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Vigil) in both parishes. Please take a leaflet home with all the dates and times of the Holy Week Liturgies. They are available at the back of the church.