

# Church of the Transfiguration of Our Lord in Old Town, Stevenage



Parish Priest of THE COMBINED STEVENAGE PARISHES: **Fr Michael Doherty, SDS**,  
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**Web address: <http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/stevenagetransfiguration>**  
**Lister Hospital: The Catholic Chaplain can be contacted on 01438 285138**  
**(24/7 urgent need 01438 314333) via text message 0788 418 7463**  
Archbishop's Safeguarding Service Co-ordinator: Confidential phone numbers:  
01582 712245 or 07814 879129  
Parish Safeguarding Representative: John Sloan 01438 226857 / 0790 013 8371 and  
email address [john@sloan.me.uk](mailto:john@sloan.me.uk).

## PALM SUNDAY

Divine Psalter: Week 2  
14<sup>th</sup> April 2019

- 13<sup>th</sup> Saturday: Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday  
4.30-4.45: Confessions  
5.00: Mass
- 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday: **PALM SUNDAY**  
9.00: Mass
- 15<sup>th</sup> Monday: Holy Week  
9.30: Mass  
**6.30: Penitential Service**  
(followed by Confessions until 7.30pm)
- 16<sup>th</sup> Tuesday: Holy Week  
Chrism Mass at Westminster Cathedral at  
12noon
- 17<sup>th</sup> Wednesday Holy Week  
9.30am Service of the Word

**PLEASE SEE SEPARATE LEAFLET FOR THE  
HOLY WEEK PROGRAMME FOR THE  
3 STEVENAGE PARISHES.**  
**Good Friday 3:00pm (no 9:30am Mass)**  
**Holy Saturday 8:00pm (no 5:00pm Mass)**

Sunday Reading Cycle: Year C  
Weekday Readings: Holy Week Readings  
Palm Sunday

### *Fr Brian writes...*

#### *This is Holy Week. Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion, Cycle C. Background to the Gospel Reading*

*This Sunday, the events of Jesus' passion are proclaimed in their entirety. We will hear these events proclaimed again during the Sacred Triduum when we read the passion of Jesus from the Gospel of John on Good Friday. Throughout Luke's Gospel we see that Jesus' words and actions proclaim the Kingdom of God. This continues throughout Luke's passion narrative. Jesus appears to be in total command of events at the Passover meal as he hands over the kingdom to his disciples. He welcomes them to the Passover meal announcing that this will be his last until the Kingdom of God is fulfilled. When Luke describes the Way of the Cross and Jesus' crucifixion, he calls to our attention many events that are not reported in the other Gospels. Throughout his Gospel, Luke has paid heed to the women who accompanied Jesus. Now, on the road to Calvary, Jesus speaks to the women who walk with him. Only Luke reports Jesus' words of forgiveness spoken from the cross. And only Luke reports the dialogue between Jesus and the good thief. Finally, in contrast with the Gospels of Mark and Matthew, Luke reports no words of abandonment spoken by Jesus on the cross. Instead, Jesus, in full command until his death, commends his spirit to his Father and takes his final breath. Throughout Holy Week, we will continue to reflect on the events of Jesus' passion and death. This Sunday, called Palm or Passion Sunday, is the first day of Holy Week. Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday are called the Sacred Triduum, three days that are the highlight of the Church year. I encourage you to come to all these liturgies. Speak to your children about them and what they signify. Why they are so important. I can't imagine that anyone who calls themselves 'Catholic' would want to be anywhere else or doing anything else.*

**Parish Secretary in the office next week**  
**Tuesday 8:45-11.30am, Wednesday 8:45am-12noon, &  
Friday 8:45am-1:00pm**

**If your enquiry is urgent please email the Secretary**  
**[stevenageoldtown@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:stevenageoldtown@rcdow.org.uk)**  
**(email accessed daily)**

**FR MICHAEL, FR BRIAN AND  
MIKE, OUR SEMINARIAN WISH YOU  
AND YOUR FAMILIES A HOLY AND  
BLESSED EASTER.**

**PENITENTIAL SERVICE**

*Preparing for Easter*  
**MONDAY EVENING, 15<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 6:30PM**  
**FOLLOWED BY CONFESSIONS**  
**UNTIL 7:30PM**

**SACRISTANS:-**

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> : Volunteer needed  
Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> : Donna Holton  
Cleaning Rota : Ma, Alexandrer & John Gaetios  
*Please see Cleaning Instructions on cleaning cupboard door*  
Linen for April : Steve & Emma Hogan

**WEEKDAY MASSES AT ST JOSEPH'S NEXT WEEK**

Wednesday 7.00pm

**WEEKDAY MASSES AT ST HILDA'S NEXT WEEK**

Monday and Tuesday 9.30am

**PLEASE SEE SEPARATE LEAFLET FOR THE  
HOLY WEEK PROGRAMME FOR THE  
3 STEVENAGE PARISHES.**

**HOLY WEEK ROTA**

For Readers and Eucharistic Ministers available from the wall  
beside the tabernacle.

**COLLECTION ON GOOD FRIDAY**

On Good Friday there will be the customary collection for the  
Holy Place.

**LENTEN ALMS/CARDINAL'S APPEAL**

Our Lenten Alms this year will go to the Cardinal's Lenten  
Appeal, which this year has a special focus on food poverty.  
Please pick up a Cardinal's Lenten Appeal donation leaflet from  
the back of the Church for more information. Please read and  
pray for its aims. Thank you.

**DIVINE MERCY HOLY HOUR SUNDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> APRIL**

At St Hilda's Church, Shephall at 2:30pm.

**EASTER FLOWERS**

Lists are available at the back of the church. Please print the  
names of your deceased relatives and friends and return to the  
presbytery with any donation you would like to make.

**SCIMP NEWS**

New Project to be announced at the weekend Masses on the  
27<sup>th</sup>/28<sup>th</sup> April.

Ever Popular **SCIMP Cream Tea on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May**  
at St Joseph's Church Hall Bedwell at 1:15pm.

**All welcome.**

**PLANNED GIVING**

Can anyone with outstanding completed Planned Giving or  
Standing Order forms please return them in an envelope to  
the Parish Secretary in the Presbytery Office. Thank you.

**NEW OFFERTORY ENVELOPES**

Are now ready for collection from the wall beside the  
Tabernacle.

**NO APRIL PRAYER GROUP**

**CONTACTING THE CATHOLIC CHAPLAIN  
AT LISTER HOSPITAL**

If you are admitted to hospital please let the staff know if you  
would like a visit from the Roman Catholic Chaplain. The  
Chaplain and volunteers offer a friendly face, a listening ear,  
and a chance to talk through thoughts and concerns and to  
offer prayer, religious care and to arrange the celebration  
sacraments in Hospital. **The Catholic Chaplain can be  
contacted on 01438 285138 (24/7 urgent need 01438 314333)  
via text message 0788 418 7463**

**CURRENT VACANCIES AT ST MARGARET CLITHEROW**

The Governing Body of this outstanding school are looking for a  
full time class teacher, a part time Nursery teacher (afternoons  
from September 2019) and a full time 1:1 SEN Teaching  
Assistant to join our wonderful school. Please contact Maria  
Streeter in the school office (01438 352863) or visit  
teachinherts.com SEN closes 29th April. Full time teacher and  
Nursery Part time teacher closes 3<sup>rd</sup> May.

**ST JOSEPH'S DRAMA GROUP PROUDLY PRESENTS  
"THE WIZARD OF OZ"**

In St Joseph's Church on Thursday 2nd May @ 7.30pm; Friday  
3rd May @ 7.30pm; Saturday 4th May @ 2.00pm and 7.30pm.  
Tickets are £5.00 adult; £3.00 child (Years 7-13 inclusive) and  
all primary school children free. Please contact David on 07775  
911548 or Margaret on 07875 245094 to reserve tickets.

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY AND MASS REGISTRATION**

**Children's Liturgy** for children from Reception to Year 6.  
All children from **Pre-School Age to Year 6** should sign in for  
Mass. **The sign-in sheets can be found on top of the organ.**  
It is **IMPORTANT** that you write your child's name on the sheet  
each time you attend Mass with your child.  
**Please only sign if your child is with you at Mass.**  
**The sign-in sheets can be found on top of the organ.**

**FOOD BANK COLLECTION AT TRANSFIGURATION**

Thank you for your continuing weekly contributions to the  
Stevenage Food Bank.  
Many Stevenage families are fed from the food bank and your  
continuing generosity in donating food items every week is true  
Christian Love in Action! Thank you.

**GARDENER REQUIRED ONCE A MONTH FOR CHRISTINE**

Please contact Christine Saint on 01438 314697.

**Last Sunday's Collection was:**  
**Envelopes £290.85 Loose £242.97**  
**February's S/O £2424.00 Many thanks!**