

SUNDAY READINGS & PRAYERS

Palm Sunday Gospel: *Mark 11:1-11*

When they were approaching Jerusalem, in sight of Bethphage and Bethany, close by the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples and said to them, 'Go off to the village facing you, and as soon as you enter it you will find a tethered colt that no one has yet ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone says to you, "What are you doing?" say, "The Master needs it and will send it back here directly".' They went off and found a colt tethered near a door in the open street. As they untied it, some men standing there said, 'What are you doing, untying that colt?' They gave the answer Jesus had told them, and the men let them go. Then they took the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on its back, and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, others greenery which they had cut in the fields. And those who went in front and those who followed were all shouting, 'Hosanna! Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David! Hosanna in the highest heavens!'

Collect

Almighty ever-living God,
who as an example of humility for the human race
to follow caused our Saviour to take flesh and submit to the Cross,
graciously grant that we may heed his lesson of patient suffering
and so merit a share in his Resurrection.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

First reading: *Isalah 50:4-7*

The Lord has given me
a disciple's tongue.
So that I may know how to reply to the wearied
he provides me with speech.
Each morning he wakes me to hear,
to listen like a disciple.
The Lord has opened my ear.
For my part, I made no resistance,
neither did I turn away.
I offered my back to those who struck me,
my cheeks to those who tore at my beard;
I did not cover my face
against insult and spittle.
The Lord comes to my help,
so that I am untouched by the insults.
So, too, I set my face like flint;
I know I shall not be shamed.

Responsorial Psalm: *Ps 21:8-9,17-20,23-24*

R/. My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

1. All who see me deride me.
They curl their lips, they toss their heads.
'He trusted in the Lord, let him save him;
let him release him if this is his friend.' *R/.*

2. Many dogs have surrounded me,
a band of the wicked beset me.
They tear holes in my hands and my feet
I can count every one of my bones. *R/.*

3. They divide my clothing among them.
They cast lots for my robe.
O Lord, do not leave me alone,
my strength, make haste to help me! *R/.*

4. I will tell of your name to my brethren
and praise you where they are assembled.
'You who fear the Lord give him praise;
all sons of Jacob, give him glory.
Revere him, Israel's sons. *R/.*

Second reading: *Philippians 2:6-11*

His state was divine,
yet Christ Jesus did not cling
to his equality with God
but emptied himself
to assume the condition of a slave
and became as men are;
and being as all men are,
he 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 other names
so that all beings
in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld,
should bend the knee at the name of Jesus
and that every tongue should acclaim
Jesus Christ as Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Gospel Acclamation: *Phil 2:8-9*

*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!*

Gospel: *Mark 14:1-15:47*

The Gospel of the Passion

Prayer over the Offerings

Through the Passion of your Only Begotten Son, O Lord,
may our reconciliation with you be near at hand,
so that, though we do not merit it by our own deeds,
yet by this sacrifice made once for all,
we may feel already the effects of your mercy.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon: *Mt 26: 42*

Father, if this chalice cannot pass without my drinking it, your will be done.

Prayer after Communion

Nourished with these sacred gifts, we humbly beseech you, O Lord,
That, just as through the death of your Son
you have brought us to hope for what we believe,
so by his Resurrection you may lead us to where you call.
Through Christ our Lord.

Prayer over the People

Look, we pray, O Lord, on this your family,
for whom our Lord Jesus Christ
did not hesitate to be delivered
into the hands of the wicked
and submit to the agony of the Cross.

ST. GEORGE'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, SUBURY

Sunday 24th March 2024

PALM SUNDAY



Welcome to all at Mass today and especially anyone who is new. Please take this Newsletter home with you. You may wish to share it with family and friends. This newsletter can also be found via our website. We ask God's blessing on you and your loved ones this week and know that we pray for you all each day.

Sunday Cycle
Readings Year B

Weekday Mass Readings
Holy Week

Divine Office
Holy Week

For children,
download a weekly sheet:
<http://www.sdc.me.uk/sundayliturgy/>

THIS WEEK HOLY WEEK

Sun 24 March 6.15pm (vigil)	PALM SUNDAY William Patrick Johns RIP (2nd) Kathleen O'Connor RIP & Patrick Hannon RIP (8th) Baptiste Fernandes Ints. Louis Pais RIP THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
8.30am	Holy Week Bhardwaj family Ints.
9.45am	Holy Week Private Ints.
11.15am	Holy Week Lucille Thomas Ints.
5.30pm	Holy Week Lucille Thomas Ints.
Mon 25 March 9.30am	Holy Week Bhardwaj family Ints.
Tues 26 March 9.30am	Holy Week Private Ints.
Weds 27 March 9.30am	Holy Week Lucille Thomas Ints.
Thurs 28 March 8.00pm	MAUNDY THURSDAY Watts & Ledo families RIP
Fri 29 March 3.00pm	GOOD FRIDAY Solemn Liturgy (no intention)
Sat 30 March 8.00pm	HOLY SATURDAY Mr Bala RIP (6th) Lionel Stonehouse RIP (4th)
Sun 31 March 8.30am	EASTER SUNDAY Teresa Isaacs RIP & Florence Ferdinand RIP THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH Michael O'Connell RIP (10th) Yvonne Fernando RIP
9.45am	THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
11.15am	Michael O'Connell RIP (10th)
5.30pm	Yvonne Fernando RIP

TODAY'S MASS



HOSANNA MK 11:9

The triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem gives way to his passion and death. Yet Jesus is king and within a week will rise triumphant from the dead. He is the firm ground of our hope that all suffering in this life are lost in the power of his resurrection.

Gospel at the Procession with Palms: *Mark 11:1-10*
Jesus enters Jerusalem as the crowds shout, "Hosanna!"

First Reading: *Isalah 50:4-7*
The Lord's servant will stand firm, even when persecuted.

Second Reading: *Philippians 2:6-11*
Christ was obedient even to death, but God has exalted him.

Gospel Reading: *Mark 14:1-15:47*
Jesus is sentenced to death and crucified. The centurion who witnessed his death declared, "This man was the Son of God."

SPIRITUAL QUOTE OF THE WEEK

Christians must lean on the Cross of Christ just as travellers lean on a staff when they begin a long journey. They must have the Passion of Christ deeply embedded in their minds and hearts, because only from it can they derive peace, grace, and truth. - St. Anthony of Padua

MAKING CONTACT AT ST. GEORGE'S

Parish Priest: Mgr. Jeremy Fairhead jeremyfairhead@rcdow.org.uk
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Charity No: 233699
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GOSPEL REFLECTION

DAILY MASS TIMES

SUNDAY MASS: 6.15pm (Saturday Vigil), 8.30am, 9.45am (Family) & 11.15am (Solemn), 5.30pm.

WEEKDAY MASS: Monday – Saturday 9.30am.

HOLYDAYS OF OBLIGATION: 9.30am, 8.00pm.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Friday 9.00-9.30am, Saturday 5.15-6.00pm.

CONFESSIONS: Saturday 5.15pm -6.00pm. *and any time by appointment.*

DIVINE MERCY: Tuesday 10.30am.

ROSARY: Daily after Mass.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

SICK & HOUSEBOUND: *Marie Rego, Eileen Kidd, Christopher Browne, Noel Gill, Dee Auriol, Allan Noronha, Fiona Power, Aaran Thayaparan, John, Shaun Scoon and Helen Jordan, Sean Marren, George Beel, Anne McShine-Jones, Marian Lynch, Shane & Paul, Martha Conway, Jean Lurshay, Patrick, Gerry & Corrine Gilbert, Edward Granger, Chris Sweeney, Marjorie Hoareau, Catherine Corcoran, Barbara Gill, Dan O'Connor, Ciara I, Raj, Hugh Singarayyer*

RECENTLY BAPTISED: *Jesse Francis Masterson*

RECENTLY DEPARTED: *Fr. Michael Daley*

ANNIVERSARIES OF THE DEPARTED: *Kathleen O'Connor (8th), Patrick Hannon (8th), Michael O'Connell (10th), Marita Ledo, William Patrick Johns (10th), Mr Bala (6th)*

BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP

Intentions of Baptiste Fernandes

LAMP AT THE ALTAR OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM

Intentions of Baptiste Fernandes

POPE FRANCIS' INTENTIONS for March 2024

For the new martyrs

We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm.

Holy Week is a privileged time when we are called to draw near to Jesus: friendship with him is shown in times of difficulty.

Pope Francis

In Mark's Gospel, Jesus' passion and death are presented as the consequence of the tension between the Jewish authorities and Jesus that had been building throughout his public ministry. This tension reached its breaking point when Jesus drove the merchants and moneychangers from the Temple. After this event, the chief priests and scribes began seeking a way to put Jesus to death, and yet, this is only the surface explanation for his death.

When Jesus was arrested and brought before the Sanhedrin—the council of Jewish priests, scribes, and elders—he was charged with blasphemy, citing his threat to the Temple. When he was brought before Pilate, however, the religious authorities presented his crime as a political one, charging that Jesus claimed to be king of the Jews. In continuity with a theme of Mark's Gospel, the messianic claim of Jesus is widely misunderstood.

In Mark's Gospel, Jesus' disciples are rarely models of faith and do little to invoke confidence in their capacity to continue his ministry after his death. They fare no better in Mark's narrative of Jesus' passion and death. At the Last Supper, the disciples insisted that none among them would betray Jesus. When Jesus predicted that their faith would be shaken in the events ahead, Peter and the other disciples protested vehemently. Yet in the garden of Gethsemane, Jesus returned three times to find them sleeping. Jesus prayed in agony over his impending fate while his disciples slumbered through the night. Just as Jesus predicted, Peter denied Jesus, and the disciples were absent during Jesus' passion and death. Only the women who had been followers of Jesus in Galilee are said to have been present at the Crucifixion, but they remained at a distance. The Roman centurion, however, affirmed what Mark has presented throughout this Gospel: Jesus is the Son of God. Nowhere was this revealed more fully than in his death on the cross.

During Holy Week, we prayerfully remember the events of Jesus' passion and death. As we meditate on the cross, we ask again and anew what it means to make the statement of faith that Jesus, in his obedient suffering and dying, revealed himself to us as God's Son.



NEWS UPDATE



WELCOME to all at Mass today and a big welcome to anyone who is new or a visitor.

ARE YOU NEW TO THE PARISH? It always helps us to get to know you and also your family if you register with us. We can then send you information about the parish and opportunities. Registration forms can be found at the back of Church (underneath the picture of Pope Francis).

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER Don't miss out! Please make it a top priority to come to St. George's this Holy Week. Reserve some time to be with the Lord. Suspend errands and jobs around the house, especially on Good Friday. Drop everything and enter into the mystery of the faith. For Catholics, this is the most important time of the year. It is our opportunity to renew our Christian identity, to feed the soul, to stand proud and be counted. The great week begins with today with PALM SUNDAY, Jesus' triumphant arrival into Jerusalem - the Holy City. **PLEASE TAKE A HOLY WEEK LEAFLET WHICH IS AVAILABLE TODAY. TO TELL YOU ABOUT ALL THE TIMES AND LITURGIES.**

DON'T FORGET: The clocks spring forward one hour to British Summer Time **next** Sunday, Easter Sunday 31st March. So now you know, no excuse to be late for Mass!

HOLY WEEK & EASTER POSTERS are available today. Thanks to the Knights of St Columba who generously provide these. Don't forget to turn up "He is risen" and then bring it down next Sunday. These posters are a great witness in our windows.

HOLY WEEK GUIDES for both ADULTS and CHILDREN are available from the back of the church. Take one as it will help you understand better this special week.

BLESSING OF EASTER FOODS both on Saturday and Sunday. Please see our Holy Week Leaflet for exact times.

FLOWERS FOR EASTER thank you to all who gave so generously last week. We raised around £900. If you would like to dedicate an Easter lily in memory of someone and have their name inscribed in a book please fill in one of the envelopes you can find at the back of church for this purpose.

SPONSOR OUR CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES - Our Confirmation Candidates are making a **5km Sponsored Walk on THIS Sunday 24th March** in aid of **Aid to the Church in Need, our Lenten Charity**. To sponsor our Candidates please visit the **Sponsored Walk Page on our Website** (under News and Events) or visit <https://www.justgiving.com/page/sponsoredwalkforaidtothechurchinneed/>. Thank you.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION - At **Session 8 of Part 2** of the FHC Programme, on **Tuesday 26th March**, the children will be reflecting in their Small Catechist Groups about how 'Jesus' love unites us'. Thank you for arriving promptly for the start of the session at your child's unique Catechist Small Group entry/exit point at 7pm.

CONFIRMATION 2024 - At **Session 5**, on **Monday 25th March**, the Confirmation Candidates will be provided with a 'A Guide to Holy Week'. Thank you for arriving promptly for the start of the session in the **Parish Centre at 7.30pm**.

CHILDREN READING AT 9.45 FAMILY MASS - If your child has made their First Holy Communion, they are **welcome to read at the 9.45 Family Mass**. If your child might be interested in reading, or your family might like to take responsibility for the readings once a month, please contact our 9.45am Family Mass Readers Coordinator, **Roann Etan**, at roann.etan@gmail.com.

GOOD FRIDAY CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP & STATIONS AROUND THE CROSS - We are delighted that we are able, once again this year, to provide the children with an opportunity to reflect on the real meaning of Good Friday with their own workshop & stations. This will take place on **Good Friday from 11.30am-12.30pm**. All children participating must be accompanied by a Parent/Carer.

OVER 60'S GROUP: **NO** meeting next week on Tuesday 26th March. Next meeting will be after Easter on Tuesday 2nd April at 1pm. There will also be an exercise class that day at 1pm. ALL are welcome.

GIVING ENVELOPES. For next year have not yet arrived. We'll have them out for you as soon as possible.

ADVANCE WARNING: Social Dance is coming to St George's on Friday 26th April. 8.00pm till late. Tickets on the door. A date for your diary.

SADLY we had a break-in to the church the week before last Sunday evening. It achieved nothing as the money boxes had all been emptied earlier. So all that is left is wasteful damage and to one of the stained glass window (near to Our Lady of Walsingham) where they made entry. We can claim on insurance but we all need to be vigilant.

MINIBUS TO MASS - The Parish is hoping to set up a **new Minibus service** in the coming year to safely accompany vulnerable adults, living in the Parish, to Mass at St. George's. Might you consider helping as a **Driver or Escort?** Those generously offering to help will be required to complete a **DBS for Vulnerable Adults** with the Parish and a little online training supporting them in this new ministry with vulnerable adults. We are hugely grateful to **Stefan Scielinski** who has generously offered to coordinate this new initiative. If you might consider helping, please contact **Stefan** at stefanscielinski@gmail.com.

SVP ACTIVITIES—looking ahead: **Collection of food for local food banks** - Collection 27/28th April. Any cash donated would be used to buy food for our beneficiaries. **Bingo fundraiser.** May 11th, after the Saturday vigil. **Bacon butty morning fundraiser.** Sunday 23rd June. Dates for your diary.

REFERENCES - If you require a formal reference, for a job or voluntary work, or a passport signed from one of the Parish Team please ensure you contact them personally **before** providing their contact details to those requesting the reference.

SUPPORTING YOU WHILST IN HOSPITAL - If you, or a loved one, are heading to hospital and would like a little pastoral & sacramental support whilst you are there, please let us know so we can ensure this is provided. There is a Catholic Chaplain resident at Northwick Park Hospital.

CALLING NEW CONFIRMATION CATECHISTS - Might you consider **helping with our Confirmation Preparation Programme in 2025?** This ministry offers an opportunity to serve the young people of the Parish, in Year 10 and above, as they prepare for this important moment in their life of faith. For those wishing to receive it, this also offers invaluable teaching experience. You would be helping to facilitate a Small Group with experienced Catechists. If you might consider helping next year please contact Peter, our Catechetical Coordinator, at peterkingsley@rcdow.org.uk. Thank you.

GIFT AID/PLANNED GIVING: If you are a standard tax payer and do not already have a gift aid in place, **PLEASE** consider completing a gift aid declaration. By gift aiding your donation, which must be made by planned giving envelope, bankers' order or cheque, you are increasing your donation by 25%. That means every £1 donated become £1.25. At the end of the financial year we can claim this 25% tax back from the Inland Revenue. This does not cost you anything extra because as a standard tax payer you have already paid this tax. 'Gift Aid/ Standing Order forms are available at the back of the church or please apply to the parish office'.

THE REPOSITORY now has items for sale: is stocked with Easter Cards and other new item. If you have a moment, take a look.

MUSIC at the 9.45am Mass and the 11.15am. Could you help with the singing or even playing a musical instrument at 9.45am We need your help...don't sit or stand on the side-lines in 2024!

ROSARY AT HOME If you'd like to be part of our prayer network, or know more please simply contact Cheryl on 07941002161.

WE ARE STILL ON THE LOOKOUT for anyone who might be a good counter of money. Each week our collection needs counting and bagging up. It takes time and a good deal of attention to make sure there are no discrepancies. Could you help? Let us know. The best way to do this is to drop us an email with all your details and which days you might be free. **THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HAVE ALREADY OFFERED THEIR TIME ETC.**

FOR RENT: One double bedroom available with access to all amenities, including transport and this church. Please telephone 07717124517.

DRIVING OUT OF THE CAR PARK. It would seem some people are cutting the corner on right (where once there was a tree, but no longer) over the verge which has now become a muddy mess. Please try to keep on the road!

HOW IS EASTER SUNDAY DETERMINED? Easter is celebrated on the first Sunday *after* the first full moon of the Spring equinox. So Easter in the Gregorian calendar in use today, always falls between 22nd March and the 25th April. You might have heard that our Orthodox Christian brothers and sisters celebrate Easter at a different time? This is because they still use the Julian calendar, which calculates Passover and Easter to a different date.

THE EASTER OFFERING ENVELOPES available from the back of the church contribute, in a small way, to the stipend (salary) of priests working at St George's throughout the year. They are not a personal gift, and are not given in addition to the annual stipend for our priests or pastoral workers. Your support, as always is very much appreciated.