SUNDAY READINGS & PRAYERS

Entrance Antiphon
Six days before the Passover, when the Lord came into the city of Jerusalem, the children ran to meet him; in their hands they carried palm branches and with a loud voice cried out:

Hosanna in the highest! Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy!

O gates, lift high your heads;
grow higher, ancient doors.
Let him enter, the king of glory!
Who is this king of glory?
He, the Lord of hosts, he is the king of glory.

Hosanna in the highest! Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy!

PROCLAMATION OF THE LORD'S ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM: Matthew 21:1-11

When Jesus and his disciples drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, 'Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, "The Lord needs them", and he will send them at once.' This took place to fulfil what was spoken by the prophet, saying, 'Say to the daughter of Sion, "Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden." '

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, 'Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!' And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, 'Who is this?' And the crowds said, 'This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee.'

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: ***Isaiah 50:4-7***

The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of those who are taught,
that I may know how to sustain with a word him who is weary.
Morning by morning he awakens; he awakens my ear to hear as those who are taught.
The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious;
I turned not backwards.
I gave my back to those who strike, and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard;
I hid not my face from disgrace and spitting.
But the Lord GOD helps me;
therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like a flint,
and I know that I shall not be put to shame.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 22-24.

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, for in him he delights.'

2. For dogs have surrounded me;
a band of the wicked besets me.
They tear holes in my hands and my feet;
I can count every one of my bones.

3. They divide my clothing among them,
they cast lots for my robe.
But you, O LORD, do not stay afar off;
my strength, make haste to help me!

4. I will tell of your name to my kin,
and praise you in the midst of the assembly;
'You who fear the LORD, give him praise;
all descendants of Jacob, give him glory;
revere him, all you descendants of Israel.'

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Second reading: ***Philippians 2:6-11***

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Gospel Acclamation: ***Philippians 2:8-9***

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.
Christ became for us obedient to the point of death,
even death on a cross.
Therefore God has highly exalted him
and bestowed on him the name that is above every name.
Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

Gospel: ***Matthew 27:11-54***

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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.

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ST. GEORGE'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, SUDBURY

Sunday 29th March 2026

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 A
Weekay Mass Readings
Holy Week
Divine Office
Psalter Week 2

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

Masses and Intentions THIS WEEK

Sun 29 March	**PALM SUNDAY**
6.15pm *Sat Vigil*	Doug Belton RIP
8.30am	Kathleen & Dan O'Connor RIP & Patrick Hannon RIP
9.45am	Molly Fabron RIP
11.15am	Rev. Pastor Paul Riani & Younike Younice Paul RIP
5.30pm	PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
Mon 30 Mar	**Monday of Holy Week**
9:30am	Luis Pais RIP
Tues 31 Mar	**Tuesday of Holy Week**
9.30am	Mary McLaughlin RIP
Weds 1 April	**Wednesday of Holy Week**
9.30am	Patrick Dolan RIP

THE PASCHAL TRIDUUM

MAUNDY THURSDAY	
Thurs 2 April	**Mass of the Last Supper & watch until Midnight**
8.00pm	S. Manuelpillai RIP & Fr Anthony Psaila's Intentions
GOOD FRIDAY	*Day of Fasting & Abstinence*
Fri 3 April	**The Solemn Liturgy**
3.00pm	*(No intention today)*
HOLY SATURDAY	
Sat 4 April	**The Easter Vigil**
8.00pm	Joan Boyle RIP & Peggy Maloney Get Well Intentions Newly Baptised Intentions
EASTER SUNDAY	
Sun 5 April	**EASTER SUNDAY**
8.30am	Mickey Power RIP
9.45am	PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
11.15am	Arama Rabbie & Anduwa Maria Arama RIP
5:30pm	**No Mass**

TODAY'S MASS



As we begin Holy Week, let us not forget that we too are a pilgrim people, making our journey of faith in this life by walking together, not just with the "children of the Hebrews" but with the children of God of all nations and all ages, -ultimately tracing the footsteps of Jesus himself, who humbled himself to share in our humanity, that we might share in his divinity, and might follow him into his Kingdom.

Gospel at the Procession with Palms: ***Matthew 21:1-11***
Jesus enters Jerusalem as the crowd waves palm branches and shouts, "Hosanna!"

First Reading: ***Isaiah 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, and God has exalted him.

Gospel Reading: ***Matthew 26:14—27:66***
Jesus is crucified, and his body is placed in the tomb.

SPIRITUAL QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"We can't let Holy Week be just a kind of commemoration. It means contemplating the mystery of Jesus Christ as something which continues to work in our souls."
St. Josemaria Escriva

MAKING CONTACT AT ST. GEORGE'S

Parish Priest: Mgr. Jeremy Fairhead jeremyfairhead@rcdow.org.uk
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Telephone: 020 8904 2552. Phone Options: 1. Mass Times; 2. Parish Office/ SVP Information 3. Mgr Jeremy; 4. Fr Jude; 5. Catechetical Coordinator.
Charity No: 233699
Email: sudbury@rcdow.org.uk Website: parish.rcdow.org.uk/sudbury

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.
EUCHARISTIC 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, Noel Gill, Christopher Browne, Dee Auriol, Fiona Power, John, Aaran Thayaparan, Shaun Scoon and Helen Jordan, Sean Marren, George Beel, Marian Lynch, Shane & Paul, Martha Conway, Patrick, Gerry & Corrine Gilbert, Edward Granger, Ciara I, Mary O'Connell, Leslie De Lima, Paul Pereira, Nora Hunt, Mario, Maureen Chick, Ramzan, Larry Sicat, Andras Nagy, Sheena Chambers, Tony Eivers*

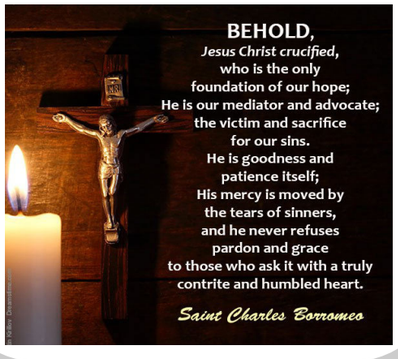
RECENTLY BAPTISED: *Niamh Russell, Avenly Fernandes*

RECENTLY DEPARTED: *Maria Doyle, Anne McShine-Jones, Chris Wheeler, James (Jim) Galvin, Bernard Timon, Chris Cooney*
RECENTLY MARRIED:-
RECENTLY CONFIRMED:
ANNIVERSARIES OF THE DEPARTED: - *Danny Collins (20th)*

BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP
In Memory of Francina Yap

LAMP AT THE ALTAR OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM
In Memory of James Darby

THE POPE'S INTENTIONS for April
For priests in crisis
Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.



Today we begin Holy Week, the days during which we journey with Jesus on his way of the cross and anticipate his Resurrection on Easter. Today's liturgy begins with the procession with palms to remind us of Jesus' triumphant entrance into Jerusalem.

The events of Jesus' Passion are proclaimed in their entirety in today's Liturgy of the Word. Those events will be proclaimed again when we celebrate the liturgies of the Triduum—Holy Thursday's Mass of the Lord's Supper, the Good Friday of the Lord's Passion and the Easter Vigil. These days are indeed profound and holy.

Jesus acts in obedience to the Father even in death, so that sins may be forgiven. Matthew makes this clear in the story of the Lord's Supper. As Jesus blesses the chalice, he says: "for this is my blood of the covenant, which will be shed on behalf of many for the forgiveness of sins." (Matthew 26:28)

There are many vantage points from which to engage in Jesus' Passion. In the characters of Matthew's Gospel, we find reflections of ourselves and the many ways in which we sometimes respond to Jesus. Sometimes we are like Judas, who betrays Jesus and comes to regret it. We are sometimes like Peter, who denies him, or like the disciples, who fell asleep during Jesus' darkest hour but then act rashly and violently at his arrest. Sometimes we are like Simon, who is pressed into service to help Jesus carry his cross. Sometimes we are like the leaders who fear Jesus or like Pontius Pilate, who washed his hands of the whole affair. Jesus dies so that our sins will be forgiven.

The events of Jesus' Passion, death, and Resurrection are called the Paschal Mystery. No amount of study will exhaust or explain the depth of love that Jesus showed in offering this sacrifice for us. After we have examined and studied the stories we have received about these events, we are left with one final task—to meditate on these events and on the forgiveness that Jesus' obedience won for us.

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 photo of Pope Leo.

THE PARISH OFFICE HOURS will now be Monday—Friday 10.00am-2.00pm. Outside these hours, **urgent** matters can be directed to the Presbytery. Please note the Parish Office will be closed from Friday 27th March to Monday 13th April 2026.

THANK YOU to everyone who has made Fr Jude feel so welcome at St George's. He is settling in well, especially now that the heating is working correctly in the Presbytery!!

TODAY Is PALM SUNDAY. Please take a Palm (not too many—don't be greedy as others require them!).

HOLY WEEK begins this weekend. Please take a Holy Week Programme/leaflet with all the opportunities available here at St. George's. Maybe you could pass one to a friend or neighbour—and encourage them to be with you and join us.

TUESDAY FILM NIGHT We will be showing the film "Mary Magdalene" in the Café/Bar. Doors open at 7.00pm for 7.30pm showing. All welcome.

A GUIDE TO HOLY WEEK FOR ADULTS AND A GUIDE TO HOLY WEEK FOR CHILDREN. These two leaflets are available for you to take and can be found at the back of the church.

GOOD FRIDAY CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP & STATIONS OF THE CROSS - Children are welcome, **accompanied by a Parent/Carer,** to reflect on the meaning of Good Friday through a **Workshop in the Parish Centre** followed by **Stations of the Cross** in the Church taking place from **11.30am-12.30pm.**

HOLY PLACES There will be a traditional collection for Holy Places & the Holy Land on Good Friday, 3rd April.

HOLY WEEK POSTERS are available today (thanks to the Knights of St Columba). Please take one and put it in your window as a witness to this great week. Remember to fold up the bottom part and put it down on Easter Sunday.

SERVERS please make sure you have signed the list in the sacristy if you wish to serve at the Holy Week Services.

ST. GEORGE'S OVER 60'S CLUB is now closed and will re-open on Tuesday 14th April at 1pm in the Parish Centre.

SECOND COLLECTION There will be a second collection towards the Easter flowers after all the Palm Sunday Masses today. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

EASTER LILLIES If you'd like to sponsor a lily in memory of loved ones, there are envelopes at the back of church for you to make a contribution. The names of the departed will be enrolled in a special book for the season.

THE EASTER OFFERING ENVELOPES available from the back of the church contribute in 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.

BLESSING OF EASTER FOODS both on Saturday and Sunday, 4th and 5th April in the parish centre. Please see our Holy Week Leaflet for exact times.

CHURCH CLEANING AND DECORATING FOR EASTER— Saturday morning, 4th April Can you spare an hour or so from 10am to 1pm?

GOING AWAY THIS EASTER we wish you a happy break and a very happy Easter when it arrives!

NEXT SUNDAY—EASTER SUNDAY there is an Easter egg hunt after the 9.45am Mass.

GOOD NEWS at long last we have just finished the project to renew the windows (and doors) in the main parish hall. They look very neat and tidy.

FUNERAL LITURGY of **James (Jim) Galvin** on Wednesday 1st April at 12 noon in the East Chapel, Breakspear Crematorium. May he rest in peace.

FUNERAL MASS of **Muriel Anne McShine-Jones** on Wednesday 8th April at 11.00am followed by cremation at West London Crematorium. May she rest in peace.

FUNERAL MASS of **Bernard Timon** on Thursday 9th April at 11.00am followed by cremation at Breakspear Crematorium. May he rest in peace.

FUNERAL MASS of **Maria Doyle** on Friday 10th April at 11.00am followed by burial at Alperton Cemetery. May she rest in peace.

MEMORIAL MASS of **Peter McGrath** (former headteacher of St George's School) on Thursday 16th April at 9:30am. Refreshments afterwards in the Parish Centre. RSVP via WhatsApp to Pauline on +44 7946 758 724.

COLLECTION OF LENT APPEAL BOXES - Thank you to all who have been using their 'Let the Children Live' collection boxes during Lent. Please bring your filled collection boxes to Mass on Maundy Thursday.

CHURCH CANDLES must always be placed on a candle stand (and NOT beside a particular statue on the wood) as this poses a fire risk. Recently we have had to move candles from St Anthony's shelf on a number of occasions. Please ONLY use candles that are supplied in the church.

'GOOD NEWS' FOLLOWING THE SPONSORED WALK - Thank you to our Confirmation Candidates and all who sponsored them. We are delighted to announce that over **£1,700** has been raised so far for **Let the Children Live!** It is not too late to make a donation. Please visit the **Sponsored Walk Page** on our **Website** (under **News and Events**) or **https://letthechildrenlive.enthuse.com/pf/sponsoredwalk**.

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES If you have not collected your planned giving envelopes over the past few weekends, they will be available for collection from the Parish Office from Tuesday 14th April 2026.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION - At **Session 9** of Part 2 of the FHC Communion Programme, on **Tuesday 14th April**, we will be reflecting on how **Jesus is the Bread of Life.** Thank you for arriving in **good time** for the start of the session, at your child's unique **Catechist Group Entry/Exit point,** so the Catechists can **begin promptly at 7pm**.

CONFIRMATION 2026 - At **Session 5**, on **Monday 13th April**, the Confirmation Candidates will be experiencing **Prayer, Praise and Adoration.** Thank you for arriving promptly for the start of the session at **7.30pm.**

BAPTISM PREPARATION - Baptism Preparation sessions at the Parish provide **essential** formation for Parents/Carers as they prepare for this important Sacrament. If you are expecting a baby, or would like your baby baptised, please **pick up a Baptism Pack** from the **Parish Office**. To attend **April's Baptism Preparation** you will need to **complete** the **Baptism Application Form** (in the Pack) & **return It to the Parish Office by Monday 27th April 2026.**

INTEREST IN BECOMING A CHRISTIAN? If you are interested in becoming a Christian we would be delighted to accompany you on this journey. Please **speak to one of the clergy** or **email our Catechetical Coordinator**, Peter, at **peterkingsley@rcdow.org.uk**, so we can provide further information. If you were baptised but have not yet received the gifts of the Holy Spirit in confirmation we would also be happy to support you on this journey.

SOUTH VALE PRE-SCHOOL summer registration is now open. We are based in St George's church Youth Centre. Free childcare places for children from 18 months. Tel: 07745 860 794 for further details.

CATENIAN ROSARIES FOR THE WORLD If you have one too many rosary's at home and wish to help spread Our Blessed Lady's message of Love, Peace and Hope, we are collecting unwanted rosary's. There is a basket in the Church Porch for you to drop them off. Thank you.

ANNUAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY, Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 23rd May 2026 at 2:30pm. The Archbishop is inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese, who are celebrating their **5th 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60)** wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2026. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please email the Parish Office on sudbury@rcdow.org.uk giving the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and contact email (or telephone number, if no email). Thank you.