

# ST THOMAS MORE – PARISH NEWSLETTER

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## SUNDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2024

### PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD (Year B)

#### Palm Sunday



Jesus' entry into Jerusalem manifested the coming of the kingdom that the King-Messiah was going to accomplish by the Passover of his Death and Resurrection. It is with the celebration of that entry on Palm Sunday that the Church's liturgy solemnly opens Holy Week.

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 560*

#### Lenten Stations of the Cross

Please note, on Good Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March the Stations of the Cross will be in the morning at 10am.

#### First Holy Communion Classes

The First Holy Communion classes have been interrupted for the Easter school holidays. They will resume on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April.

#### Parish Shop

Devotional items will be on sale in the parish shop (repository) on the ground floor of the hall after the 11am Mass on Palm Sunday.

#### March Magnificat

The March edition did eventually arrive, too late to go on sale. However, the separate Magnificat for Holy Week is on sale in the Narthex for £2.00.

#### Adult Baptism

There is now a small group of adults in the parish interested in learning more about the Catholic Faith, with a view to being baptised. At present meetings are held fortnightly at 4.30pm on Sundays. If you know anyone who is considering baptism in the Catholic Church do mention this to them and encourage them to contact Fr Nicholas for more details.

## **Collection for the Holy Places — Good Friday 2023**

Every year on Good Friday, a collection is taken up in Catholic Churches all over the world to support the work of the Franciscans working in the Holy Land. Christians there rely heavily on the help that comes to them from this worldwide collection.

The money raised is used to support and improve the Holy Places and shrines in the Holy Land, support educational projects and also various works in favour of the local community. This enables those who live in the Holy Land and, in normal times, those who visit to deepen their faith and their spiritual and cultural connection to salvation history. Social & charitable activities help Christians to remain in the Holy Land, including the poor and young couples and medical assistance is provided for the needy.

## **Cardinal's Lenten Appeal 2024**

All funds raised go towards projects across our Diocese. Each year, the Diocese uses donations made to support the work of its services, such as Marriage & Family Life, Youth Ministry and Education. Funds are also used to support the work of Caritas Westminster, who work for and with some of the most vulnerable people. Donation envelopes are provided in the entrance to the church during Lent. One of the collection boxes in the wall of the Narthex is used for this purpose. You can also use the QR code to make your donation online. However, it is not possible to use the card reader in the Narthex for this appeal due to difficulties with regard to gift aid issues. Thank you for your generosity.

## **Gift Aid and Planned Giving**

The new boxes of envelopes for the next tax year starting on 7<sup>th</sup> April are ready to be collected. Please ask our Finance Officer Yolaine or one of the priests for yours.

If there has been any change in your situation (new address, change in tax status, change of name), please kindly contact Yolaine at: [swisscottagefin@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:swisscottagefin@rcdow.org.uk) as soon as possible.

If you are a UK Income or Capital Gains Taxpayer, please sign a Gift Aid Declaration and support our parish in this free, easy way (donating either via online transfers to the parish bank account, standing order, weekly envelopes or using the Contactless devices). Gift Aid means our parish can claim an extra 25p for every £1 you donate, at no extra cost to you. Thank you!

## **Chrism Mass**

On Tuesday the Chrism Mass takes place, at 12 noon in the Cathedral. The priests of the Diocese concelebrate Mass with their Bishop, signifying the unity of the presbyterate of the Diocese. During the Mass the priests renew their priestly promises and the Bishop blesses the Holy Oils which will be used during the year throughout the Diocese for baptisms, confirmations, ordinations and the anointing of the sick.

## **The Altar of Repose**

After the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Thursday night, "The Blessed Sacrament should be reserved in a closed tabernacle. The place where the tabernacle is situated must not be made to resemble a tomb, and the expression tomb is to be avoided: for the chapel of repose is not prepared so as to represent the Lord's burial but for the custody of the Eucharistic bread that will be distributed in communion on Good Friday. The faithful should be encouraged to spend a suitable period of time during the night in the church in adoration before the Blessed Sacrament that has been solemnly reserved."

## Young children during Sunday Mass

If you are new to the parish it may help to know that during the 9.30am and 11am Masses on Sundays we generally open the parish hall and project a view of the sanctuary onto the screen in the seminar room (top floor). This enables parents with small children who become restless to follow the Mass from there if they so wish. Please help to make newcomers aware of this helpful area in the parish hall.

## Mass Intentions

Please use the brown Mass Offering envelopes in the Narthex to request a Mass and provide the information requested. These envelopes can be handed to a priest or put through the letterbox of the presbytery. Please speak to Maggie Ainsworth in the Parish Office (Tuesday or Friday mornings) or email her at [swisscottage@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:swisscottage@rcdow.org.uk) about any Masses you wish to be offered on a specific day.

If your Mass intention is for someone who has recently died or is seriously ill, we shall try to allocate a Mass as soon as possible. However, bear in mind that it is not unusual for Masses to be offered several weeks after they have been requested.

Please do not use the Mass Offering envelopes for general donations to the church, as there are separate larger blue donation envelopes for this purpose.

## Annual Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Matrimony

The Cardinal is inviting to a Mass in **Westminster Cathedral, 2:30pm, Saturday 25th May 2024** 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 2024. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please give Fr Nicholas the following details: husband and wife's

names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email).

## HOLY WEEK 2024

### 24<sup>th</sup> March - Palm Sunday:

Masses: 9.30am, 11am and 6.00pm

### 28<sup>th</sup> March - Maundy Thursday:

N.B. There is no morning Mass today

8.00pm Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper. (Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament until 10.30pm)

### 29<sup>th</sup> March - Good Friday:

10.00am Way of the Cross

3.00pm Liturgy of the Lord's Passion (Confessions from 2.30pm)

### 30<sup>th</sup> March - Holy Saturday:

11.30am – 1pm Confessions

8.00pm Easter Vigil

### 31<sup>st</sup> March - Easter Sunday

9.30am Easter Day Mass

11.00am Easter Day Mass

N.B. There is no 6pm Mass today

### 1<sup>st</sup> April - Easter Monday (Bank Holiday)

10.00am Mass

### Confessions:

Apart from the usual times:

Good Friday: from 2.30pm

Holy Saturday: 11.30am to 1.00pm

# ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH

## Palm Sunday

Tel: 020 7435 1388

24<sup>th</sup> March-30<sup>th</sup> March 2024

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/swisscottage/>

	MASS	OTHER ACTIVITIES
<b>SUN 24<sup>th</sup> March</b> <b>PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD</b>  (Readings. Year B)	<b>9.30am</b> Colin Cardozo (RIP) <b>11am Mass</b> Jack Nally (RIP) <b>6pm Mass</b> People of the Parish	The Church opens at 9.15am <b>10.30am</b> Confessions   <b>5.30pm</b> Confessions
<b>MON 25<sup>th</sup> March</b> <b>MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK</b>	<b>10am Mass</b> Benjamin Piscoya (RIP)	Church <u>opens</u> at 9.30am Monday to Saturday  Church closes 1pm on Monday. See below for Holy Week closure times
<b>TUE 26<sup>th</sup> March</b> <b>TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK</b>	<b>10am Mass</b> Joan Ross (RIP)	12 Noon Chrism Mass at Westminster Cathedral
<b>WED 27<sup>th</sup> March</b> <b>WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK</b>	<b>10am Mass</b> Frances Brown (RIP anniversary)	
<b>THU 28<sup>th</sup> March</b> <b>MAUNDY THURSDAY</b>	<b>No Morning Mass</b> <b>8.00pm Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper</b> for Vocations to the Priesthood	The Church will close at 1pm  Church reopens at 7.30pm
<b>FRI 29<sup>th</sup> March</b> <b>GOOD FRIDAY</b>  <i>Fasting and abstinence</i>	<b>No Morning Mass</b> <b>10.00am</b> Stations of the Cross  <b>3pm Liturgy of the Lord's Passion</b>	 <b>2.30pm</b> Confessions
<b>SAT 30<sup>th</sup> March</b> <b>HOLY SATURDAY</b>	<b>No 10am Mass</b>  <b>8.00pm Easter Vigil Mass</b> for all those receiving baptism	<b>No First Holy Communion Class</b>  <b>11.30am to 1pm</b> Confessions  Church closed from 1pm to 7.00pm

### Prayer Intentions:

**Recently deceased:** Joan Ross; Maria Maguire; Mervyn Agnew; Fr Terry Murray OMI; Brian Ainsworth; Vasil Chornay; Evenamede Afiavi  
**Anniversary:** Mabel Bull; Nick Aldridge; Letizia Goodfellow; Patrick O'Donnell; Helen Birch; Frances Brown

### Confessions:

Weekdays: before and after 10am Mass  
 Sunday: 9.30am then 10.30am and 5.30pm (before Mass)

### Forthcoming liturgical celebrations:

31<sup>st</sup> March: **EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD**