

Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

St John, the Evangelist, Bromley Cross, St Columba's, Tonge Moor
and St Brendan's, Harwood

28 March 2021

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord



The readings for Passion Sunday are an introduction to the most important week in our lives. Our Faith is not based on a series of documents or the theological work of learned scholars but on a belief that God exists, that, in His love for us, He sent His Son to live as we live, and that the Son of God died so that we may live, not just for today, but forever. The readings are just words unless, in your heart of hearts, you believe this basic statement of faith. Deep within the meaning of Holy Week is this basic truth and, in the next seven days, we will know once again what it means to be a follower of the Son of God.

Isaiah was writing hundreds of years before the events of Holy Week occurred in historical time. His words, however, echo through the life of the church. Read them carefully for this is an introduction to discipleship, to Christian life. We have a voice, so that we can speak up for those who are less fortunate; we have hearing, so that we can hear the cries of those in pain, in trouble and suffering for their beliefs. When we live as a disciple, we do so knowing; that the power of God is behind our actions and that, whatever comes our way, we are held in His loving arms.

Paul lived as a disciple; he was beaten, stoned, spat at, and left for dead; so he knows the price of discipleship. Through his experiences he can see, clearly, the life and mission of Jesus; and, in today's reading, he gives us a wonderful hymn of faith. The Gospel you will hear today takes us through the events of Holy Thursday and Good Friday; Paul, in this prayer, brings together the essential facts and proclaims that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, who dies that we may be free from sin and have eternal life.

The life of Christ is, in part, a study of the conflict between the different sections of the Jewish people as they try to understand His words and actions. Many fail to make the connection between prophecy and fact. In Mark's Gospel it is left to a Gentile, the Roman Centurion, to speak for us all and proclaim that Jesus is indeed the Son of God. *David Frank*

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Activities this Week

Sunday Cycle B; Weekday Cycle 1

Divine Office Week 2

Isaiah 50: 4-7

Philippians 2: 6-11

Mark 14: 1 - 15: 47

Sunday 28 March

9.30am Mass (SJ)

11am Mass (SB)

3pm Stations of the Cross followed by Exposition & Benediction (SB)

Monday 29 March 7pm Mass (SJ)

Tuesday 30 March 9.30am Mass (SB)

Wednesday 31 March 9.30am Mass (SJ)

The Easter Triduum



Maundy Thursday 1 April

Mass of the Lord's Supper 6.30pm (SB)

Good Friday 2 April

Stations of the Cross 10am (SB)

The Passion of the Lord 3pm (SJ)

Holy Saturday 3 April

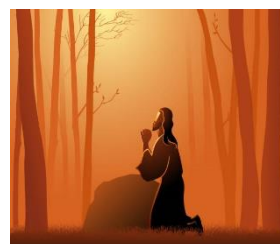
The Easter Vigil 6.30pm (SB)

Easter Sunday 4 April

9.30am Mass (SJ)

11am Mass (SB)

Lent - Weekly Eco-Thought



The drama of this week starts on the Mount of Olives. On Thursday evening we relive the Lord taking bread and wine to be his Body and Blood. Olives, bread, wine, the dying and rising of Jesus.

There can be no olive oil without the crushing of the olives. Bread needs flour but flour cannot be made without the crushing of the wheat. And wine comes forth from the crushed grapes. There can be no Easter without Good Friday. As olives and wheat and grapes, crushed, give rise to something new, so the life of Jesus offered by himself to be crushed as a sacrifice for sin, gives rise, in the Resurrection to new life for Jesus and for ourselves.

In Our Thoughts & Prayers

We pray for all the sick and housebound in our parish, and other relatives and friends: Jackie Harte, Moya Fau-Goodwin, Anne Hurst, Margaret Padfield, Anne Killeen, Fred & Joyce Heywood, Emily Martin, Madeleine Evans, Barbara Pearl, Howard McArdle, Terence Gillett, Pat Margiotta, Mary Bagg, Vernon Holt

Lately Dead: Debbie Tiene, John Stones, Margaret Caton, Brian Teare, Mable Leach, Ned Keaskin, Eric Hyland, Frank Airey, Annie Rabbit

Anniversaries: Jessie Carter, Daniel & Veronica Evans, Angela Morris

May They Rest in Peace

Mass Intentions: Jessie Carter, A sick Person, Debbie Tiene, Daniel & Veronica Evans, In memory of Jack & Nellie Shechter, Angela Morris, Anne Fernhead (100th Birthday Remembrance)...

We continue to pray for victims of the Covid-19 virus, and for all those who are still working tirelessly to keep us safe.

Cycle of Prayer Part 1 (of 6): We pray especially for: Candidates for the Sacraments; Women; The needy & hungry of the world, Penitents & wanderers

Hope in the Future

This week as a Diocese we pray for the parish of St James and All Souls, Salford, for Fr Frankie Mulgrew, their parish priest, for the chaplaincy to Salford University and for their parish primary school. May they experience divine renewal by faithful listening like disciples.

Offertory

We are always extremely grateful for all you do to help us financially. Donations can be made by posting through the presbytery letter box, by post or alternatively donations can be made through Salford Diocese website, or by setting up a bank standing order. Thank you

Cheques: Please make all cheques payable to *Corpus Christi*. Thank you

Prayer Resource - For those at home to attend the Liturgy Office has prepared a service called "The Lord's Day at Home", based on the Sunday Scriptures, that you can pray on your own or with your family. It is particularly aimed at those not able to follow a Mass on the internet. Please click on the following links:

[LDAH Palm Sunday](#)

[LDAH Maundy Thursday](#)

[LDAH Good Friday](#)

[LDAH Easter Sunday](#)

The Liturgy Office has also prepared single sheet versions of key offices for the Paschal Triduum:

[Evening Prayer for Maundy Thursday](#)

[Evening Prayer for Good Friday](#)

[Evening Prayer for Holy Saturday](#)

[The Office of Readings for Easter Sunday](#)



Holy Week

Please find below the dates and times of services for Holy Week. If you would like to attend any of these services, please book places through the Parish Office by email or phone. It is important that we can plan ahead for where you can sit in accordance with the Government guidelines. The liturgical rites will be simpler this year, so that the duration of the services are not prolonged.

Palm Sunday Masses

As a result of the pandemic our normal Holy Week Liturgy has had to be adapted (more information on back page). This year the Palms will be blessed and then the Gospel will be proclaimed at the beginning of the Mass in the usual manner; the blessed palms will be distributed on your way out of Church by the kind stewards who will be wearing protective gloves. The shorter version of Mark's Passion will be read but the congregation are asked not to join in this year with the part of the crowd as the three readers will also take this part.

Holy Thursday 1 April

6.30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper (SJ)

Good Friday 2 April

3pm The Passion of the Lord (SJ)

10am Stations of the Cross (SB)

Holy Saturday Vigil Mass of Easter 3 April

6.30pm (St Brendan's)

Easter Sunday Mass 4 April

9.30am (St John's); 11am (St Brendan's)

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Our Lord Jesus Christ suffered, died, and rose for our salvation- to forgive our sins and to offer us everlasting life in Heaven. Moreover, He wanted His healing ministry of forgiveness for sin to continue through the Sacrament of Penance. On the night of the resurrection, Jesus appeared to the apostles and said, "As the Father has sent me, so I send you.... Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive men's sins, they are forgiven them; if you hold them bound, they are held bound" (John 20:21-23). Currently, it is still difficult to have a Reconciliation service but confession / reconciliation is readily available. Just ask Fr Alf and he will happily oblige

This Newsletter is sponsored by

HOWARTH'S FUNERAL SERVICE

Peel House

638 Blackburn Road, Astley Bridge, Bolton.

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Special Collections: During Holy week there will be two special collections:

Maundy Thursday is our annual appeal for both our SVP societies. On Good Friday we hold the collection for Shrines of Palestine. Thank you for all your continued support.

Offertory Envelopes: The new Offertory envelopes are available at both churches this weekend. If you are not able to collect your box, and wish to have it delivered, please let us know and we can arrange this. Thank you for all your support.

Newsletter: Next weekend's newsletter will be a "two-week edition" and will be available on Wednesday 31 March. If you have any news items or Mass Intentions, please could they be handed in before Tuesday 30 March. I will also be on leave until Tuesday 13 April. *Thanks Catherine*

Diocesan Environmental Survey: We'd like to find out more about the views of anyone connected to our Diocese on the environment. You are invited to take part in a survey which will go on to shape our environmental strategy. The survey can be found at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/SalfordEnvironment>



Earth Hour - 27 March 2021: No matter where you are in the world, you can make an impact and join WWF for the Hour as we speak up for nature. At 8.30pm, on 27 March, we are encouraged to switch off our lights for an hour. For more ideas on ways to get involved, click here:

<https://latest.earthhour.org/earthhour-at-home>

Catholic Universe Offer: To our Catholic Universe and Catholic Times readers in the parish: you can get it delivered direct to your home every week (free postage). Please go to www.thecatholicuniverse.com or call them on 0161 820 5722 and they will arrange for you. £115.00 Print Copy and Digital Edition, Saving over £39.00. Print Offer £99.00 (Postage Free) Digital Offer £55.00



Cathedral Centre Books: The Cathedral Centre Bookshop is open Mondays and Thursdays (8.30am to 4.30pm) for processing online and phone orders. You can make orders from the bookshop's new website:

www.cathedralcentrebooks.com



Caritas - Stations of the Cross

We are delighted that our schools have responded to our invitation to provide art work for our Caritas Stations of the Cross resource. This has enabled

us to produce three unique short videos, each containing five Stations of the Cross with reflections and prayers representing the voices of the voiceless - the most vulnerable in our communities whom Caritas work with on a daily basis. We are now pleased to share these video Stations of the Cross with you as part of our #LockdownLent prayer resources:

Stations 1-5

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2UUi0zHIGWU>

Stations 6-10

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vodabhHE9C0>

Stations 11-15

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eHqLSQ1cfqc>

Alpha Online: On 13 April, Youth 2000 will begin running the next instalment of Alpha online. We have been amazed at the fruit from our first three Alpha courses. We are inviting parishes across the country to join Youth 2000 by bringing their youth groups or parish groups to Alpha Online. The sessions are organised over Zoom. The evening begins with a welcome from the Youth 2000 team, followed by the watching of the video, and then we go into small group discussions using the Zoom 'Breakout Room' feature; as a parish youth group, you have the option of either having the discussion online in a breakout room. The Online Alpha Course will run for 9 weeks on Tuesday evenings, starting on Tuesday 13 April (7.30-8.30pm). For more information please contact Liam at liam.riley@youth2000.org.



200 CLUB: Subscriptions are now due (£12 per number). These can be handed in by the following ways:

1. Post/deliver to the Parish Office
2. Leave at the front of either church in the basket provided.
3. Contact me on 01204 302912/ 07528027295. For options 1 and 2 please place your subscription and your details in an envelope F.A.O Ann Gracie. **New Subscriptions are Welcome. If you want to find out more please ring!** All cheques made payable to Corpus Christi. *Many Thanks, Ann.*

Fr Alf would like to thank people for their kind birthday wishes and gifts for his 2nd Lockdown Birthday!

Adaptations to the Triduum 2021 from the Bishops' Conference

Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper

The Washing of the Feet is to be omitted and there will be no procession to the Altar of Repose. The Reserved Sacrament is to be kept in the Tabernacle of the church.

Holy Communion should be given under one kind in accordance of the previous Guidance offered by the Bishops' Conference.

Fr Alf will spend some time in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament in the Tabernacle before exiting the sanctuary.

For reasons of safety, we are not allowed to keep watch with the Lord, therefore once Fr Alf leaves the sanctuary please leave in silence and socially distanced.

Good Friday Passion

The proclamation of the Passion according to St John should be read in a dignified et expeditious manner.

The crowd parts should not be exclaimed by the congregation.

The Universal Prayer will still be carried out.

For the Adoration of the Cross, the Veneration is limited to the celebrant alone. After this, Fr Alf will "invite the people present in a few words to adore the Holy Cross and afterwards, holds the Cross elevated higher for a brief time, for the faithful to adore in silence."

This may be expressed by the faithful through a short period of silent prayer, a gesture such as a genuflection or bow in their places, followed by another short period of silent prayer.

Holy Communion should be given under one kind from the Reserved Sacrament according to the previous Guidance offered by the Bishops' Conference.

The Easter Vigil

For the celebration of the Easter Vigil, the Paschal candle should be prepared, enthroned and lit in the Sanctuary before the people gather in the church, or simply lit at the beginning of the celebration.

At the end of the Greeting, the Easter Proclamation (the *Exsultet*) immediately follows, preferably using the Shorter Form. This will be sung by a single voice.

The faithful should not have votive candles for the Easter Vigil.

A Message from the NHS

Please help us to supply lifesaving blood to the hospitals during the pandemic by giving blood in your area

Last Drop Village Hotel & Spa
Hospital Road, Bromley Cross
Bolton BL7 9PZ

Wednesday 7 April

12:50pm - 19:00pm

Book an appointment or register to give blood at [blood.co.uk](https://www.blood.co.uk) or call **0300 123 23 23**

Please be assured that during any Covid-19 restrictions in England all blood donation sessions will continue to run. We have extra safety measures in place and every precaution is being taken to eliminate the risk of covid-19 transmission at our blood donation sessions. Having an appointment to give blood is classed as essential travel and will be exempt from any local or national travel restrictions.

Thank you for your support in helping us save and improve lives in these unprecedented times.

