

TYNEMOUTH PRIORY PARTNERSHIP

Parish of

**OUR LADY & ST OSWIN'S TYNEMOUTH
&
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Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle – Reg Charity No: 1143450

St Mary's Church Hall Bookings – The Presbytery ☎ 251 3770

St Oswin's Meeting Room Bookings

Partnership Web: www.northtynesidecatholic.org.ukDiocesan Website: www.rcdhn.org.ukFacebook Page: www.facebook.com/diocesehn

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Palm Sunday Year A – 5th April 2020

Bishop Robert has written a pastoral letter which can be viewed directly from the Diocesan website. In the meantime all churches remain closed.

Further information, and for resources on how to celebrate Holy Week at home, please see the Diocesan Website: www.rcdhn.org.uk

We remember those who have asked for our prayers in April:

Anniversaries: Violet McKie, John Graham, Leslie Hyett, Gerard Mason, Walter Gibbons, Sylvia Rackham, Ronald Banks, Arthur Boyle, Joseph Mastaglio.

We pray for the repose of the soul of Irene McNally who died recently. Her funeral service will take place at Tynemouth Crematorium on Thurs 9 April at 2.15pm followed by burial. May she rest in peace.

Helpline: Please call **251 3770** if you live alone with no one to help, and would like assistance with your shopping.

If you would like to volunteer to help then please ring the above number.

Prayer for the End of the Virus:

Almighty and merciful Father, who show your love to all your children.

We come before you asking for a quick control of the Coronavirus currently ravaging our world.

Hear graciously the prayers we make for those affected by the virus in various parts of the world.

Grant healing to the sick, eternal life to the dead and consolation to the bereaved families.

We pray that an effective medicine to combat the sickness be speedily found.

We pray for the relevant governments and health authorities that they take appropriate steps for the good of the people. Look upon us in your mercy and forgive us our failings. Amen.

Please note the Blessed Sacrament Chapel is now closed.

Fr Martin will be saying Mass, on his own, during this time. The Intentions will be for the People of the Parish but if parishioners would prefer for a Mass intention to be celebrated then please let the parish office know in the usual way. We continue to pray for one another.

Cancellations: Obviously due to the circumstances all Diocesan events have been cancelled. Please refer to the Diocesan website for further information.

Items for the Newsletter can still be submitted electronically via the parish e-mail address or in writing delivered to the presbytery.

Live streaming of Mass from various cathedrals, basilicas and churches is available via the Internet at www.churchservices.tv and EWTN on Sky TV. Mass will also via the Internet from St Mary's Cathedral - see the diocesan website.

Prayer for the 'God who Speaks' Year of the Word:

Living God, you walk alongside us and speak to us throughout the Scriptures.

Your Son, Jesus Christ, listens to our hopes and fears and shows us how to live for one another.

Send us the Holy Spirit to open our hearts and minds so that we may be your witnesses throughout the world. Amen.

Procession Gospel

Matthew 21:1-11

At the heart of this account is the quotation from the prophet Zechariah: the royalty of Christ is that of a gentle and peaceful king, bringer of peace and salvation. In faith we acclaim him as the one sent by God.

When they were near Jerusalem and had come in sight of Bethpage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, 'Go to the village facing you, and you will immediately find a tethered donkey and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, you are to say, 'The Master needs them and will send them back directly.' This took place to fulfil the prophecy: *Say to the daughter of Zion: Look, your king comes to you; he is humble, he rides on a donkey and on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden*'. So the disciples went out and did as Jesus had told them. They brought the donkey and the colt, then they laid their cloaks on their backs and he sat on them. Great crowds of people spread their cloaks on the road, while others were cutting branches from the trees and spreading them in his path. The crowds who went in front of him and those who followed were all shouting: 'Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heavens!'. And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil. 'Who is this?' people asked, and the crowds answered, 'This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.'

Reflection

When momentous events happen, often only a few people are able to grasp their full significance. On Palm Sunday there were only a few in the crowd who had any idea of what the real picture was. The crowd cheered and sang; the children were enjoying every moment of Jesus's entry on a donkey into Jerusalem. It was a colourful pageant and a welcome diversion from the religious duties of the festival period. But only a few knew that the man on the donkey was no mere rabbi, politician or rebel leader. He was, in fact, God's Son. He was the Messiah sent by God to bring good news to his people and to reveal the sort of God that they had. Only a few people could see that the cheering crowd would turn before the week was over and, bored once more, would demand a public spectacle again... this time an execution. In this they were representative of the people at large who rejected the message of Jesus. Most people would have expected him to argue his case and try to defend himself against the charges of treason in order to save his skin. But a few people were convinced that he would remain absolutely faithful to the will of his Father. That's because he knew that his mission depended on this. And while the vast majority of the crowd thought that the whole thing was something of a damp squib and the fun was over after his death, a few understood that his life and death had a purpose. Though he was innocent he gave his life in order to reveal the gift of the resurrection. Some people knew that, but not many. On Palm Sunday we are invited to be among those in the crowd who join in the celebration because we know the love that Christ Jesus has shared with us and we wish to proclaim this still.



Question of the week

(for Further Personal Reflection on these Readings)

We are called to die to ourselves in love for others. How do you live that in your own life?