

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD, Year A, 4TH & 5TH APRIL 2020

The Cycle of Prayer

Lent

During Lent we are asked to pray for these intentions: **Candidates for the Sacraments; Women; The Needy and Hungry of the World; Penitents and Wanderers; Survivors of Sexual Abuse.**

SUNDAY READINGS REFLECTION

The Liturgy for Palm or Passion Sunday concentrates on two very different events: the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem as the Messiah King and the events of a few days later, which culminated in his agonizing and shameful death. Palms were leaves of triumph, much like the flags people wave today when a head of state visits. Jesus came towards Jerusalem after raising Lazarus and the people waved him through with palms and joy. That they would turn on him in his Passion reminds us of three truths. Firstly it reminds us of human fickleness, how quickly today's hero can be tomorrow's villain or today's idol can be next year's forgotten person. Secondly the palms place us within the Passion account. The characters of the Passion are not some other people ... they are us. As we read the Passion we can identify with Peter's denial, with Judas' betrayal, with the disciples' flight, with the crowds mindless frenzy. We all have a place in the Passion story. Finally the Palms remind us of Christ's love. Despite what all these people did to him, Jesus died for them all. His love, his truth, his forgiveness, his grace are the foundations on which we can rely and He still freely offers this to us. Despite our failures we can have a new and strong life. Although participating in the celebrations of Easter will be curtailed this year its meaning will not be lost, not only does it remind us of sin but it assures us of victory with the coming of Easter Sunday.

Deacon Terry

HOLY WEEK 2020

Prayer Resources for Holy Week for families and personal prayer are available on the diocesan website. The 'Magnificat' booklet for Holy Week is also recommended as an excellent resource, and is available online and free of charge. This provides Morning, Evening and Night Prayer, the daily Mass Readings, a daily meditation and Saint of the Day at: <https://us.magnificat.net/free>.

In line with the Bishop's instructions, Holy Week Masses and liturgies will be as follows.

Palm Sunday

Mass will be celebrated privately in St Edward's Church and will include the blessing of palms. The blessed palms will be made available to parishioners to take home at a time when the current restrictions on public and social gatherings have been lifted. The Mass will be available to view on the Parish Facebook Page: 'Our Lady Star of the Sea' from 11.00am.

For the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of Holy Week, Mass will be celebrated privately in St Edward's and will be available to view on the Parish Facebook Page from 9.30am.

Maundy Thursday - Chrism Mass

Pope Francis has deferred the celebration of the Chrism Mass in Rome until it is possible to do so with a gathering of the clergy and people. The Bishops of England and Wales, acting in solidarity with the Holy Father, have decided that the celebration of the diocesan Chrism Mass will be postponed.

Maundy Thursday - Mass of the Lord's Supper

The Mass of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated privately in St Edward's Church, omitting the washing of feet and the procession to the Altar of Repose. The Mass will be available to view on the Parish Facebook Page from 7.00pm.

Good Friday

The Solemn Commemoration of the Lord's Passion will be celebrated privately in St Edward's Church and made available to view on the Parish Facebook Page from 4.30pm.

Easter Vigil

The Easter Vigil will be celebrated privately in St Edward's Church, omitting the preparation and lighting of the fire. The Paschal Candle will be lit at the Altar and the Easter Proclamation (Exsultet) will follow.

A shortened Liturgy of the Word will then take place, followed by the Renewal of Baptismal Promises. The Liturgy of the Eucharist will then follow. The Easter Vigil will be available to view on the Parish Facebook Page from 8.00pm.

Easter Day

Easter Sunday Mass will be celebrated privately in St Edward's Church and available to view on the Parish Facebook Page from 9.30am.

RECENTLY DECEASED

- Please pray for the repose of the soul of Bernadette Stephenson of The Lawns Care Home, Monkseaton, who died on 28 March aged 85 years. Her funeral will take place at 2.15pm on 6th April at Whitley Bay Crematorium. Current restrictions limit those who can attend to immediate family only. May she rest in peace. Amen.

URGENT REQUEST FOR HELP

The Diocesan J&P Refugee Project in Newcastle had to close its doors last Monday. It was running out of food because our churches had closed and we could not contact our supporters. We are unable to continue to support 400 with food bags but we intend to try and support another group, 120 of the most destitute, with a monthly payment of cash. If you feel you can commit to a monthly donation, please visit the Diocesan website where you can follow instructions for donating. Contact Anna Griffith 2522703 for further information.

GIFT AID

Do you pay tax and could you join the Gift Aid scheme? To join or for more information, please contact Michael Cosgrove on 0191 2686006 or Michael Reynolds on 0191 6704364.

PARISH OFFICE

If you need to contact the Parish Office for any reason please email parishofficeolss@btconnect.com or ring St Edward's Church on 0191 2528021. A Mass may still be requested from the Parish office via email.

OTHER NOTICES

GOOD NEIGHBOURS SCHEME - HELP WITH SHOPPING, DELIVERIES OF ESSENTIALS.

VODA (North Tyneside) have a scheme in place to help those who are self isolating and for those who cannot get out because they are elderly or vulnerable. You can ring the gateway team on 0191 6432632 for assistance or for more information. Anyone who is interested in volunteering for the above project please email admin@voda.org.uk

Contact email addresses, numbers and website:

Monsignor Andrew Faley (St. Edward)	stedwardsne26@btconnect.com	(0191) 2528021
Star of the Sea Primary School	starofthesea.primary@ntlp.org.uk	(0191) 6432080

Cluster Website www.northtynesidecatholic.org.uk

A comprehensive Parish Directory is held in the parish office. The directory contains names and contact numbers for those responsible for various groups and activities associated with our parish and can be viewed in the parish office or you can telephone if you have an enquiry (number below).

Parish Office opening hours: Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays 10.00am - 1.00pm, Immaculate Heart of Mary Church.
For bulletin entries please contact the Parish Secretary - email parishofficeolss@btconnect.com or telephone 0191 2527066.
Items for inclusion in the bulletin should be received by 10.00am on Thursdays.

MASS INTENTIONS & OTHER SERVICES			
DAY	ST EDWARD'S	IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY	OUR LADY AND ST EDMUND'S
Saturday 4th April	9.00am Angela Brown (EB)		
Sunday 5th April PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD	9.00am People of the Parish		
Monday 6th April	9.00am George, Martha & Edmund Wilson (MW)		
Tuesday 7th April	9.00am Donal Lehene		
Wednesday 8th April	9.00am Brian Smith (KS)		
Thursday 9th April HOLY THURSDAY	9.00am Alan Connors-Fowler (Alison)		
Friday 10th April GOOD FRIDAY			
Saturday 11th April HOLY SATURDAY	9.00am Vigil Mass - People of the Parish		
Sunday 12th April EASTER SUNDAY	9.00am Joe & Deirdre James Golden Wedding Anniversary		

Please remember in your prayers Nicola Burns, Sheila Godwin, and Marie Rooney who are ill. Please also remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time and those who have died recently, Elizabeth Bartley and Bernadette Stephenson.

HOSPITAL CHAPLAINS

North Tyneside General Hospital & Northumbria Specialist Emergency Care Hospital, Cramlington: Contact Fr Stephen Watson and Deacon Stephen Boulter on 07768 387393.

RVI, Freeman and Walkergate Hospitals: Contact Fr Arockia Mariadass Pagyasamy OCD, at St Teresa's, Heaton on 0191 2655290. **Newcastle General Hospital:** Sister Teresa, 0191 2336161 ext. 28465.

PRIESTS' TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Fr Martin Stempczyk 0191 2513770, Fr Chris Hughes 0191 2575801, Fr John McElhone 0191 2623820, Fr David Smith 0191 2623882. Deacons Terry McGann and Frank Forde, contact via the Parish Office: 0191 2527066.

READINGS AT MASS
PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD, 5TH APRIL 2020

First Reading

Isaiah 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, 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.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 21(22):8-9,17-20,23-24

Response: *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.' | 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. |
| 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! | 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. |

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.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

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

Matthew 21:1-11

When they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, 'Go into the village facing you, and immediately you will find an ass tied, and a colt with her: untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, "The Lord has need of them," and he will send them immediately.' This took place to fulfil what was spoken by the prophet, saying, '*Tell the daughter of Sion, Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on an ass, and on a colt, the foal of an ass.*' The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the ass and the colt, and put their garments on them, and he sat thereon. Most of the crowd spread their garments 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 shouted, '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, all the city was stirred, saying, 'Who is this?' And the crowds said, 'This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth of Galilee.'

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

The Reading of the Lord's Passion.