

THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF CHIPPENHAM & CORSHAM

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PALM SUNDAY

OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

5pm (Sat) (Ch) Vigil Mass

with Solemn Entrance (*Pro Populo*)

9am (Cor) Procession & Sung Mass

(*Pro Populo*)

11am (Ch) Sung Mass

with Solemn Entrance (*Parish Benefactors*)

14th April Monday of Holy Week No Mass

15th April Tuesday of Holy Week

12.10pm Mass (Ch) (*Holy Souls*)

(12.45pm Rehearsal for Servers)

16th April Wednesday of Holy Week

11am Chrism Mass at Clifton Cathedral

6pm Mass (Cor) (*Fr Bill Watson*)

THE SACRED PASCHAL TRIDUUM

HOLY THURSDAY 17TH APRIL (Ch)

7.30pm SOLEMN MASS

OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

followed by Solemn Watch until

10pm Night Prayer (*Compline*)

GOOD FRIDAY 18TH APRIL

(Day of Fasting & Abstinence)

SOLEMN CELEBRATION OF

THE PASSION OF THE LORD

3pm (Cor) & 3pm (Ch)

HOLY SATURDAY 19TH APRIL

10.30am Office of Readings

& Morning Prayer (Ch)

11.15am Blessing of Easter Baskets (Ch)

(12.30pm Rehearsal for Servers and Elect) (NB

There is NO 5pm Mass today)

8.00pm THE SOLEMN EASTER VIGIL

with Baptisms and First Mass of Easter

(*Pro Populo*)

EASTER SUNDAY 20 APRIL

9am Solemn Mass of the Day (Cor)

(*Pro Populo*)

11am Solemn Mass of the Day (Ch)

PALM SUNDAY

OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD (C)

TODAY IS PALM SUNDAY of the Lord's Passion during which we commemorate Christ's entry into Jerusalem for the completion of the Paschal Mystery. We proclaim Christ as a Victor... Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord. He is the Messiah, the Son of David and the Son of God. He is the sign of contradiction, acclaimed by some and reviled by others. Sent into this world to wrest us from sin and the power of Satan, he underwent His Passion, the punishment for our sins, but issues forth triumphant from the tomb, the victor over death, making our peace with God and taking us with him into the kingdom of His Father in heaven. This celebration begins the great Holy Week of Christians.

THE SACRED PASCHAL TRIDUUM The period between the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday to Evening Prayer on Easter Sunday is considered the most solemn part of our liturgical year. This three-day period is referred to as the *Easter Triduum*. The word "triduum" comes from the Latin word *triduum*, which comes from *tris* ("three") + *dies* ("day"). The Sacred Triduum is one great festival recounting the last three days of Jesus' life on earth, the events of his Passion and Resurrection, when the Lamb of God laid down his life in atonement for our sins. Though chronologically three days, they are liturgically one day unfolding for us the unity of Christ's Paschal Mystery. This is at the very heart of our faith as Catholics. We should do our utmost to maintain the unity of the triduum and participate in the celebration of Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil. Yes, it is a commitment, but this is literally about life and death, our life and death in Christ. This is no mere remembrance of something that happened over two thousand years ago, but the effectual making present of those mysteries TODAY. Please do come and support those being baptized and those being received into full communion that night.

SERVERS REHEARSALS Would Holy Week servers please attend the following rehearsals: one for Holy Thursday and Good Friday from both parishes on Tuesday 15th April at 12.45pm, and a second rehearsal on Saturday 19th April at 12.30pm for the Easter Vigil. The Elect are also asked to attend the second rehearsal. Both rehearsals will be at St Mary's.

TRIDUUM SIGN-UP SHEETS Please would Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Stewards and Readers volunteer on the sign-up sheets.

EASTER LILLIES If you would like to give an Easter Lily in memory of a departed loved one, please give a (monetary) contribution to Teresa in the Office or Fr Michael, stating which Church this is for and the person remembered.

HOLY THURSDAY WATCH Would parishioners please sign the Holy Thursday Solemn Watch List to ensure that all slots are covered. Do come and pray before the Blessed Sacrament after the Mass of the Lord's Supper. Compline (Night Prayer) will be prayed at 10pm. Jesus said to his disciples, "Will you not watch with me for one hour?"

GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION for the Holy Places of the Holy Land at the Good Friday liturgies.

EASTER COLLECTION This is our traditional collection made for the support of our Parish Priest. Envelopes are available in the Churches. Giving may also be done via the Dona machine or online. Thank you.

BLESSING OF EASTER EGGS for the children at Masses on Easter Sunday.

CHILDREN'S EASTER PARTY at St Patrick's from 3-5pm on Monday 21st April at St Patrick's. All are welcome.

ST MARY'S ALBS Thank you to those who have laundered the servers albs.

ST PATRICK'S LUNCH CLUB Wednesday 23rd April on St George's Day this month instead of 16th. All welcome.

THE JUBILEE ICON To commemorate the Jubilee Year Pilgrims of Hope, was commissioned from Mulugeta Araya in Ethiopia, for the Catholic Church in England and Wales. The icon interprets Jesus' teaching of healing and liberation in the Synagogue in Luke 4:16-21, which refers to Isaiah 61:1-2: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me..." Do visit it :30th April: St John's, Bath; 1st -2nd May: St Nicholas of Tolentino, Bristol 3rd May: Holy Rood, Swindon 7th-9th May: Shrine of Our Lady of Glastonbury. Webinar: to explore the meaning and symbolism of the Icon: Please register here: [The Jubilee Icon in Clifton Diocese Tickets, Wed 23 Apr 2025 at 19:30 | Eventbrite](#)

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION FOR CORSHAM & CHIPPENHAM. The next session is Sat 26th April at 4pm in St Mary's Hall. Parents, please ensure that the Mass children's participation cards are signed each week as attendance at Mass and the Catechetical sessions are naturally a prerequisite of completing the course. If you have not yet given the Parish Administrator size details for our special new First Communion Albs, please do so asap.

CATECHISTS COURSE A new [six-week formation course](#) at St John's Bath, for new catechists: Thursday (7 – 9pm), starting on 1 May. Refreshments from 6.30pm. Dates are 1 May, 8 May, 15 May, 22 May, 29 May & 5 June. This series is limited to 20 spaces, so do book early at Eventbrite link: catechistsbath.eventbrite.co.uk

THE PARISH OFFICE will be closed on Tuesday 22nd and Friday 26th April.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION - CONFESSIONS St Mary's on Sat 4.15 pm and 4.45pm and at St Patrick's after the weekday mass or by prior arrangement. Do ensure that you make your confession during the penitential season of Lent before the Sacred Triduum. Please note confessions are not heard on Good Friday or Holy Saturday.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

The Sick: Our Holy Father, Pope Francis. Corsham: Fr Bill Watson, Richard Keat, Anne Keat, Sheila Taylor, Christopher Brawl, Lindsay Price, Robert Wilkins. Chippenham: David Lunt, Michael Kenny, Mike Merry, Nic Pollastrone, Chris Rosario, Victoria Kiss, Pamela Naylor, Anne Martin, Sue Sheehan, Patrick Adams. Pray for all in our hospitals, nursing homes and those who care for them.

RIP Anniversaries: Margaret Harvey, Eric Lindfield, Lil Stephens, Rosemary Donaldson, Jim Curran, Michael Vickers.

Peace in the Holy Land and in Ukraine. Candidates for the Easter Sacraments. People of Myanmar.

The Holy Father's Prayer April Intention: Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and help us face the crises of our times.

Diocesan Prayer Link: Christ the King, Thornbury; Holy Cross, Wotton-under-Edge.

In compliance with the requirements of GDPR permission must be sought from an individual (or next of kin) before their name can be added to a list of those who are sick. Do please advise us of any changes to be made to this list.

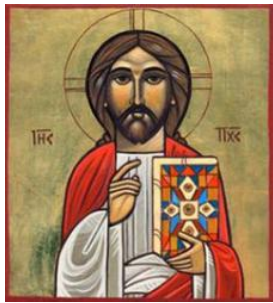
April – The Month of the Blessed Sacrament & the Holy Spirit



The month of April is dedicated both to devotion to the Eucharist and devotion to the Holy Spirit. This tradition has developed because Easter Sunday often falls in April, and when it does fall in March, the Easter season continues on through all of April. In essence, April is a month of Easter, and during the Easter celebration we remember the Eucharistic sacrifice Christ gave us and the baptism in the Holy Spirit, which would come after Jesus's resurrection. This month we might commit ourselves to a period of Eucharistic adoration and pray a Holy Spirit prayer every day. There are periods of adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in our parish. The goal is to be able to gaze lovingly and in awe at the Consecrated Host and share that love with others with the guidance of the Holy Spirit. "I put before you the one great thing to love on earth: the Blessed Sacrament," J.R.R. Tolkien

Prayer to Jesus in the Holy Eucharist

My Lord Jesus Christ, Your Eucharistic presence teaches me how to love as you have loved me. In your great love for me you continue to give yourself, body, blood, soul, and divinity in this sacrament of your love. As I pray in your Eucharistic presence, enkindle in me the fire of your gospel. Nourish me with your love and compassion, so that I may be sent out in the power of the Holy Spirit to be your living presence to all I meet. Amen.



THE WORD THIS WEEK

HOLY WEEK PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD (C)

Gospel of the Lord's Entrance into Jerusalem

Luke 19:28-40

At that time: Jesus went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. When he drew near to Bethphage and Bethany, at the mount that is called Olivet, he sent two of the disciples, saying, 'Go into the village in front of you, where on entering you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever yet sat. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, "Why are you untying it?" you shall say this: "The Lord has need of it."'

So those who were sent went away and found it just as he had told them. And as they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, 'Why are you untying the colt?' And they said, 'The Lord has need of it.' And they brought it to Jesus, and throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. And as he rode along, they spread their cloaks on the road. As he was drawing near — already on the way down the Mount of Olives — the whole multitude of his disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, saying, 'Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!' And some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, 'Teacher, rebuke your disciples.' He answered, 'I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out.'

First reading

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah

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.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 22(21)

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

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.'

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.

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!

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.'

Second reading

A reading from Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians

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.

The word of the Lord.

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

Luke 23:1-49

The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

At that time: The whole company of the elders of the people, both chief priests and scribes, arose and brought Jesus before Pilate. And they began to accuse him, saying, 'We found this man misleading our nation and forbidding us to give tribute to Caesar, and saying that he himself is Christ, a king.' And Pilate asked him, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' And he answered him, 'You have said so.' Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, 'I find no guilt in this

man.’ But they were urgent, saying, ‘He stirs up the people, teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee even to this place.’

When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. And when he learned that he belonged to Herod’s jurisdiction, he sent him over to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time. When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had long desired to see him, because he had heard about him, and he was hoping to see some sign done by him. So he questioned him at some length, but he made no answer. The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. And Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him. Then, arraying him in splendid clothing, he sent him back to Pilate. And Herod and Pilate became friends with each other that very day, for before this they had been at enmity with each other.

Pilate then called together the chief priests and the rulers and the people, and said to them, ‘You brought me this man as one who was misleading the people. And after examining him before you, behold, I did not find this man guilty of any of your charges against him. Neither did Herod, for he sent him back to us. Look, nothing deserving death has been done by him. I will therefore punish and release him.’ But they all cried out together, ‘Away with this man, and release to us Barabbas’ — a man who had been thrown into prison for an insurrection started in the city and for murder. Pilate addressed them once more, desiring to release Jesus, but they kept shouting, ‘Crucify, crucify him!’ A third time he said to them, ‘Why? What evil has he done? I have found in him no guilt deserving death. I will therefore punish and release him.’ But they were urgent, demanding with loud cries that he should be crucified. And their voices prevailed. So Pilate decided that their demand should be granted. He released the man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder, for whom they asked, but he delivered Jesus over to their will.

And as they led him away, they seized one Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, and laid on him the cross, to carry it behind Jesus. And there followed him a great multitude of the people and of women who were mourning and lamenting for him. But turning to them Jesus said, ‘Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For behold, the days are coming when they will say, “Blessed are the barren and the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!” Then they will begin to say to the mountains, “Fall on us”, and to the hills, “Cover us.” For if they do these things when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?’

Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. And Jesus said, ‘Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.’ And they cast lots to divide his garments. And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at him, saying, ‘He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!’ The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine and saying, ‘If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!’ There was also an inscription over him, ‘This is the King of the Jews.’ One of the criminals who were hanged there railed at Jesus, saying, ‘Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!’ But the other rebuked him, saying, ‘Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong.’ And he said, ‘Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.’ And he said to him, ‘Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise.’

It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, while the sun’s light failed. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, ‘Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!’ And having said this he breathed his last.

All kneel for a period of silence.

Now when the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God, saying, ‘Certainly this man was innocent!’ And all the crowds that had assembled for this spectacle, when they saw what had taken place, returned home beating their breasts. And all his acquaintances and the women who had followed him from Galilee stood at a distance watching these things.