



Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion (A)
Mass Times and Intentions
Divine Office – Psalter Week 2

Saturday 28 th March	5.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 29 th March	11.00am	John Roscoe
Monday 30 th March	9.30am 7.00pm	Harold Davies (Anniversary) Service of Reconciliation
Tuesday 31 st March	9.30am	Susan Wignall
Wednesday 1 st April	9.30am	Claire and Annie Glover

The Sacred Triduum

The next three days plunge us into the central mystery of our faith, the “solemnity of solemnities”, the event by which we are saved. The three days, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday night are the climax of the whole Christian year. It is the time when the mystery of the cross and resurrection brings us new life through the sacraments.

Thursday 2 nd April Maundy Thursday	5.30pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper Maureen Coleman
Friday 3 rd April Good Friday	3.00pm	Liturgy of the Lord's Passion
Saturday 4 th April Holy Saturday	7.30pm	The Easter Vigil
Sunday 5 th April	11.00am	Ken Fidler

Sunday Liturgy

Proper of the Mass		p. 177
Penitential Rite	Form A	p. 8
Profession of Faith	Apostles'	p. 12
Preface	Passion of the Lord	p. 73
Eucharistic Prayer	Prayer 2	p. 25



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Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion (A)
29th March 2026



In the First Reading, from the Prophet Isaiah we hear from the prophet who, like Jesus, was persecuted because the people didn't like what he said. Here he is explaining how he persevered even under severe persecution. You might consider Isaiah as being a precursor of Jesus, who was thought by his own people to be a prophet.

The Responsorial Psalm begins with the words, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" These are the same words that Jesus cries out from the cross; first because He is human and in anguish, but also because these words were written about Him more than 200 years before as a prophesy of God's suffering servant, a role that Jesus is now fulfilling. The end of this psalm is a victory claim in anticipation of the victory of the Resurrection.

The Second Reading, from the Paul's Letter to the Philippians, is a poetic summary of the role of Jesus Christ (the Son of God, coming to earth, living and dying out of love for His Father and for all people) and the honour bestowed on Him by the Father: that of being called or recognized by all as "LORD" and equal to God.

The Gospel Reading for Palm Sunday is a three-part reading from the Gospel of Matthew. In it, we hear the familiar story of the Last Supper, the betrayal of Judas, the arrest and suffering of Jesus and finally the crucifixion. Not until Easter Sunday do we hear the third part of this great triune event. So listen carefully! Put yourself into the crowd scene. Are you one who is shouting, "Crucify Him!" or are you one who is quietly standing by silently saying, "Oh God, be merciful to me, a sinner?"



Offertory Collection/Donations

If you do not have any cash you can donate by scanning this QR code with a smart phone.

The Holy Father's Prayer Intention for March



For disarmament and peace. Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.

March is the month of St Joseph, husband of Mary. He was the foster father of God's only Son, Jesus, "hence it came about that the Word of God was humbly subject to Joseph, who ministered to all the needs of the family at Nazareth" (Pope Leo XIII). He is the Patron of the Universal Church, and his Feast is on 19th March.

Easter Services

The main Holy Week Services this year will be:

Passion Sunday	~	5.30pm Saturday Mass with Blessing of Palms
	~	11.00am Mass with Blessing of Palms
Maundy Thursday	~	5.30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper
Good Friday	~	3.00pm Liturgy of the Lord's Passion
Holy Saturday	~	7.30pm Easter Vigil
Easter Sunday	~	11.00am Mass of Easter

All Services during Holy Week are listed in a booklet available in the porch – do please take one.

Grand Spring Raffle

Thank you so much for a wonderfully generous response to our Spring Raffle, which raised an incredible **£1145.00** for our Parish funds. This is far more than we expected, and at a time when there are so many calls on your generosity. There is a full list of winners in the porch.

Chrism Mass

The Chrism Mass, celebrated by the Archbishop, takes place in the Metropolitan Cathedral at 7.30pm this coming Wednesday, 1st April. During this Mass the Holy Oils are blessed, and with these oils the ministry of Christ's service is continued in the Church: the Oil of Catechumens (used in Baptism); the Oil of Chrism (used in Baptism, Confirmation and Ordination); finally the Oil of Infirmorum (Anointing of the Sick).

At this Mass priests throughout the world gather with their Bishop to renew their personal commitment to their priestly service, and to the service of those who are entrusted to their care. All are welcome to this important and very special celebration.

Service of Reconciliation

As part of our preparation for Easter there will be a Service of Reconciliation, with General Absolution, at 7.00pm on Monday of Holy Week (30th March).

CAFOD Lent Fast Day

There are baskets at the back of Church and in the porch for the return of CAFOD Family Fast envelopes and any extra donations to CAFOD. We will keep the collection open during Lent. Thank you for your generosity.

Minsteracres Retreat/Holiday 2026

Come and enjoy a holiday in a Passionist Retreat House in beautiful Northumberland, Friday 31st July – 6th August 2026. The cost is £625 and includes all meals and travel to and from Northumberland. The coach stays with us, so we can enjoy afternoons out to local villages and places of interest and evenings of family fun. There is a bar. A deposit of £100 secures a place is due by 15th March, the remaining balance is due by the end of June. For more information please ring Karen on 07709603166

Feast Days This Week

Monday

St Peter Regulatus - Peter was born in the year 1390 at Valladolid, Spain, to a noble family, and entered the Franciscan Order in his native city at the age of thirteen. After several years, he transferred to a far more austere monastery at Tribulos, where he became known for his severe asceticism as well as his abilities to levitate and enter into ecstasies. A success as abbot, he gave himself over to bringing needed reforms to the monastery and to promoting reforms in other Franciscan houses. For his zeal in adhering to the rules of the community he was designated Regulatus. He was also noted for his charity to the poor. He died in th 1456, and his grave became a place of pilgrimage.

Wednesday

St Melito of Sardis – He was the bishop of Sardis near Smyrna in western Anatolia, and who held a foremost place among the early Christian bishops in Asia due to his personal influence and his literary works, most of which have been lost. What has been recovered, however, has provided a great insight into Christianity during the second century. Jerome, speaking of the Old Testament canon established by Melito, quotes Tertullian to the effect that he was esteemed as a prophet by many of the faithful. This work by Tertullian has been lost, but Jerome quotes sections regarding Melito for the high regard in which he was held at that time. Melito is remembered for his work on developing the first Old Testament Canon. Though it cannot be determined what date he was elevated to an episcopacy, it is probable that he was bishop during the arising controversy at Laodicea in regard to the observance of Easter, which resulted in him writing his most famous work, an Apology for Christianity to Marcus Aurelius. Little is known of his life outside the works which are quoted or read by Clement of Alexandria, Origen, and Eusebius.

Saturday

St Isidore – He was born about the year 260 at Seville in Spain. After the death of his father he was brought up by his brother, Leander. He was appointed Bishop of Seville and was a prolific writer as well as calling together and presiding over councils in which wise regulations were made for the Church in Spain. He died in the year 366.