

# The week ahead...

Saturday 08 April Weekday of Lent - Week 5	5:00pm	Mass: <b>Frank &amp; Marie Wilson and pro populo</b>
Sunday 09 April Palm Sunday		
Monday 10 April Monday in Holy Week	9:30am	Mass: <b>Private intention</b>
Tuesday 11 April Tuesday in Holy Week	9:30am	Mass: <b>Yana and Kamilla Lederova</b>
Wednesday 12 April Wednesday in Holy Week	9:30am 7:00pm	Mass: <b>James Kelly</b> <b>Stations of the Cross</b>
Thursday 13 April Holy Thursday	6:30pm Maundy Thursday Mass	Mass: <b>Hilda Condron</b>
Friday 14 April Good Friday	10:00am 3:00pm	<b>Stations of the Cross</b> <b>Commemoration of the Lord's Passion</b>
Saturday 15 April Holy Saturday	5:00pm The Great Easter Vigil	Mass: <b>Moran Family and pro populo</b>
Sunday 16 April Easter Sunday	10:00am	Mass: <b>Pro populo</b>

Ministries for this week	
Saturday 08 April	
Eucharistic Ministers	
Jane Smith, Helen Musham	
Wilf Laverty	
Readers	
Ann Canavan	
Angela Tosley	
Children's Liturgy	
Maria Griffiths	
Carol Bainbridge	
Welcomers	
Angela Harmston	
Christine Tracey	

Ministries for next week	
Saturday 15 April	
Eucharistic Ministers	
Ambrose & Pauline Burnside	
Judith Bulmer	
Readers	
Margaret Purdon	
Claire Laverty	
Children's Liturgy	
(In recess during break)	
Welcomers	
Pat Middleton	
Mary Kitching	

LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTION	
Gift Aid: £216	Loose Plate: £244
<b>Total: £460</b>	
Mass Attendance: 167	
DIOCESE OF HEXHAM AND NEWCASTLE	
CHARITY NUMBER 1143450	

Please remember in your prayers people who are sick and housebound in the parish....

Pat Curran, Linda Carter, Tom Taylorson, Sylvia Kelly, Marie Carey, Mary Spears, Rose Crick, Maureen McCrann, Teresa Parkin, Doreen Carroll, Dorothy Dowdle, Tom Tracey, Jean O'Donoghue, Margaret Pouton, Michael Kane, Pat Harrison, Olwyn Morris, Jim Patterson, Denise Oxberry, and Imelda Graham.



## St Patrick's R C Church

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## Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

09 April, 2017

### "Hosanna to the Son of David!"

IF THERE IS one certainty that we can all relate to through brute experience it is that our moments of greatest joy and triumph never last terribly long, certainly not as long as we would like them to. This is evident not just through our own experiences but even through those of the powerful and famous. We witness repeatedly how moments of triumph, be they sought after or not, soon dissipate and the reality of the grind of daily living swiftly reasserts itself.

Whilst we can all find examples in our own lives of this phenomenon, we witness the most moving case in point this weekend as we gather for the opening of Holy Week, the Feast of "Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord", better known to us as simply Palm Sunday. We open our celebration with the blessing of palms, reminiscent of the manner in which Jesus was greeted by the crowds as he entered Jerusalem, the gospels telling us that those present laid cloaks in his path and cut branches from trees for the same purpose. Though Jesus didn't seek the adulation, the crowds, the common people, clearly saw something in Jesus to which the religious authorities were blind. To the crowds Jesus was clearly someone to praise: "Hosanna to the Son of David!" The entry into Jerusalem was a triumph for Jesus, even if he didn't seek the praise which accompanied him.

The religious authorities took a different view. Because they viewed Jesus as a blasphemer and a troublemaker, the triumph of his entry into Jerusalem quickly turned sour, and a tragedy ensued. Ironically, this tragedy marked the beginning of our salvation, for without the tragedy of the Passion and death of Jesus (which we hear in extended form at Mass today), we would not have the triumph of Jesus over the Cross and consequently the possibility of eternal life would be closed to us.

And so we have a distinct dynamic presented to us this week: triumph – tragedy – triumph. As we embark on a week full of drama and tension, let us embrace the gift the Church has given to us of the Holy Week celebrations: Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday. If you normally don't attend these liturgies, why not make the effort to do so this year? We begin on the evening of Holy Thursday, recalling Jesus' last meal with his disciples; we then commemorate the drama of his arrest and his agonising walk to Calvary on Good Friday and conclude the day by remembering his execution; we sit in silence on Holy Saturday as we call to mind Jesus in the tomb; and we then begin our Easter celebrations on Saturday night, celebrating with great joy the fact that he rose from the dead, these celebrations flowing over into Easter Sunday and the octave, the eight days, which follow.

Triumph and tragedy: a dynamic familiar to us all. We however, as Christ's disciples, are grateful that tragedy did not have the final word for the One who triumphed over death once and for all.

The final act of the drama approaches...

Wishing you a blessed Holy Week,

Fr Robert



HOLY LAND COLLECTION	
As is customary, each year parishes throughout the world take up a collection to support the holy places in Israel and Palestine. These places help bring faith alive for many thousands of pilgrims as well as supporting the faith of local Christians. Our collection for the Holy Land Places will happen on <b>Good Friday, 14 April</b> . Please be as generous as you can!	

## What's going on...?

**Stations of the Cross:** Final celebration is this **Wednesday, 12 April at 7:00pm** here in the church.

**'The Way We See It': A Response:** As we move into new partnerships, an important emerging priority is our relationship with young people. The report of the young people's survey 'The Way We See It' and Pope Francis' call for a Synod on Youth invite us to reflect on this relationship. All adult parishioners and young people of sixth form age are invited to a diocesan conference at the Newcastle Academy Rooms on **Saturday 13 May**. Further details are in the booking form available from the parish priest or from the Youth Ministry Team on 01207 592244 or [admin@ymt.org](mailto:admin@ymt.org). Details also on YMT website [www.ymt.org](http://www.ymt.org).

**Lourdes Pilgrimage:** Please see the noticeboard for details of this year's Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes which takes place from 28 July - 04 August. Direct flight from Newcastle to Lourdes with an overland Jumbulance option too.

**St Patrick's Social Committee:** Our Senior Citizens' Spring Party will be on Saturday 22 April at the Royal British Legion, Meadowfield, from 12:30pm. If you would like to attend please put all names on the list at the back of the church. We will be selling raffle tickets after Mass. Any donations for prizes would be most gratefully received!

**Parish Job Vacancies:** The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle is looking to appoint the following:

- St Paul's, Alnwick (and partnership parishes) - Administrator, 12 hours per week;
  - Our Lady Star of the Sea, Backworth, West Monkseaton and Whitley Bay – Cleaner, 8 hours per week.
- Both vacancies are 12 month fixed-term contracts. For further information and an application pack please visit our website [www.rcdhn.org.uk](http://www.rcdhn.org.uk) or contact us 0191 243 3301, [emailhuman.resources@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:emailhuman.resources@diocesehn.org.uk).



## The Kids' Bulletin

Palm Sunday / Passion Sunday  
April 9, 2017

TAHBICSDIESFMGYHBLJ  
OKOLDMONFOTPHQERN  
ETWUCWOXVYEZNAABNCT  
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**Easter Journey**  
On Friday afternoon, Class 1 (Years 5 and 6) visited St. Andrew's Methodist Church and 'journeyed' around prayer stations, reflecting on the Easter Story.

**Palm Sunday**  
The children will take part in this evening's procession at the beginning of Mass. Thank you to Joe Lennox, who visited school this week to teach the children a hymn to celebrate this part of Holy Week. Weather permitting, the children will sing this hymn in the parish garden, at the beginning of tonight's service.

Staff and governors wish all our families and parishioners a happy, holy and peaceful Easter.

## ~ Holy Week and Easter Week Schedule ~

**Monday, 10 April:** Mass @ 9:30am

**Tuesday, 11 April:** Mass @ 9:30am (**Note:** No evening Mass)

**Wednesday, 12 April:** Mass @ 9:30am

Stations of the Cross @ 7:00pm,  
followed by Reconciliation

**Thursday, 13 April:** Holy Thursday Mass @ 6:30pm

**Friday, 14 April:** Stations of the Cross @ 10:00am

Commemoration of the Lord's Passion @ 3:00pm  
**Saturday, 15 April:** The Great Easter Vigil  
Mass @ 5:00pm

**Sunday, 16 April:** Easter Sunday Mass @ 10:00am

**Monday, 17 April:** Easter Monday Mass @ 9:30am

**Tuesday, 18 April:** Easter Tuesday Mass @ 9:30am **and** 6:30pm

**Wednesday, 19 April:** Easter Wednesday Mass @ 9:30am

**Thursday, 20 April:** Easter Thursday Mass @ 9:30am

**Friday, 21 April:** Easter Friday Mass @ 7:00am **and** 9:30am

**Saturday, 22 April:** Easter Saturday Mass @ 9:30am  
Vigil Mass of Second Sunday of Easter @ 5:00pm

**Sunday, 23 April:** No Mass

**Monday, 24 April:** Mass (Solemnity of St George) @ 9:30am

**~ Mass times then resume as normal ~**



## DID YOU KNOW...?

...that the gospels that tell of Jesus entering Jerusalem that we hear on Palm Sunday, do not specifically mention palms?

In fact, in Luke's version of this Gospel there is no mention of the crowds placing anything on the road Jesus was taking except that they "spread their garments on the road." Matthew and Mark both mention the crowds spreading garments in the path of Jesus. These two Gospels also talk of the people cutting branches and spreading them before Jesus, but no mention in particular of palms. We can only assume that because palms are so common in the Middle East that these were cast before Jesus as he entered the Holy City. In any case, it is the gesture that counts!

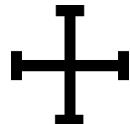
## QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"No easy application for membership, then, fulfils the demands of real Christianity. It is a crisis, a radical choice, a deep and costly change. When we judge our own lives by this standard we realise that full entrance into the Church's real life must for most of us be a matter of growth. There are layers of our minds...resisting the action of God."

**Evelyn Underhill (1875-1941)**

English spiritual writer

*The School of Charity*



**DON'T FORGET....gathering after Mass!** We will be gathering **next Saturday** after the **Easter Vigil Mass** for an opportunity to deepen our unity by getting to know one another better. Again, this is not about fundraising or an opportunity for speeches, just a chance for a chat, a cuppa and a snack! Please come along—for a short time or longer, whatever takes your fancy!