

The week ahead...

Saturday 13 April Vigil Mass for Passion (Palm) Sunday	5:00pm	Mass: Hilda, James & Joseph Condron and pro populo
Sunday 14 April Passion (Palm) Sunday	NO MASS	
Monday 15 April Monday in Holy Week	9:30am	Mass: Private Intention
Tuesday 16 April Tuesday in Holy Week	6:30pm	Mass: Private Intention
Wednesday 17 April Wednesday in Holy Week	9:30am 7:00pm	Mass: Terry Farthing Stations of the Cross
Thursday 18 April Mass of the Lord's Supper	6:30pm	Mass: Lizzabella and Margaret Jane Morris
Friday 19 April Good Friday	10:00am 3:00pm	Stations of the Cross Commem. of the Lord's Passion
Saturday 20 April Easter Vigil Mass	5:00pm	Mass: Harry and Teresa Coad
Sunday 21 April Easter Sunday	10:00am	Mass: Pro populo



St Patrick's R.C. Church
A Parish of the Finchale Partnership
Goatbeck Terrace, Langley Moor, Co. Durham, DH7 8JJ
Priest in Charge: Fr Robert Riedling **Ph:** (0191) 378 4486
Mob: 07904 833 785
Email: langleymoor.stpatrick@rcdhn.org.uk
Web: www.stpatricksrcchurch.co.uk
St Patrick's R.C. Primary School: **Ph:** (0191) 378 0552
Hospital Chaplain: Fr Paul Tully **Ph:** (01388) 818 544

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion 14 April 2019

"And their shouts were growing louder."

WHEN WE HEAR a reading of the Passion, both on Passion Sunday and Good Friday, there is a small but important part, often overlooked, that occupies just a few words of the very lengthy narrative: the crowd. The crowd, perhaps better called "the mob", says (or rather, shouts) only a few words in the Passion but its words are of hatred and bloodshed. The crowd appears as a shadowy group in the background of the drama but its role is central to the spectacle we witness this weekend. Referring to Jesus, the crowd shouts, "Away with him! Give us Barabbas!" and "Crucify him! Crucify him!" After this, the narrator tells us that "...they kept on shouting at the top of their voices, demanding that he should be crucified. And their shouts were growing louder." Pilate, we hear, then gives his fatal verdict and the mob are thus rewarded.

The crowd is led by the chief priests and scribes, eager to bring about the demise of Jesus. Every crowd has its leaders and agitators and they are always apt to egg the crowd on in order to achieve their aims. One wonders how many of the crowd knew anything about Jesus? How many joined the crowd on a whim? How many called for Jesus to be crucified out of lust for violence than for a deeper cause? How many of those calling for Barabbas to be released knew he was a murderer? Regardless, the leaders clearly whipped the crowd up into a frenzy in order to achieve their aim and they must have been pleased with the outcome.

Crowds and mobs are notoriously fickle and are easily led by those with a cause to promote. We might not think of ourselves as having characteristics similar to those who bayed for Jesus' blood but can we be so sure? How often have we been part of a discussion which has moved into the realm of the anti-Christian and found ourselves not only saying nothing against such talk but actively contributing to it? We might not think of this as quite as bad as the crowd in Jerusalem but surely the damage we do to others, to say nothing of ourselves, can be both negative and long-lasting.

We can understand how dangerous this type of sin is when we consider how subtly it works on us. It may be that we would not normally, out of the context of a group of people, make remarks that are contrary to our faith, (for example, racist or homophobic remarks), but when we are part of a larger group that is doing so, we can find ourselves drawn in to sympathise with such views or, at the very least, not have the courage to challenge them. Perhaps the group dynamic is revealing a latent sympathy with such views that we don't want to acknowledge?

The "mob mentality" we witness in the Gospel of the Passion is more than a part of the drama of Holy Week, it is a reality that we need to guard against. Let us pray for the courage to challenge that which is contrary to our faith and which denies the goodness and divinity of Christ, a courage which eluded not only many of the mob but even the leader of the apostles.

Wishing you a blessed Lenten season,
 Fr Robert



Hosanna h! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord

MINISTRIES
Saturday 13 April
Eucharistic Ministers
 Ambrose & Pauline Burnside
 Angela Harmston
Readers
 Pat Middleton
 Rowan Payne
Children's Liturgy
 Maria Griffiths
 Michelle Dennis
Welcomers
 Halina Holman
 Janet Harrigan
Music
 Bill Wilkinson & Choir

MINISTRIES
Saturday 20 April
Eucharistic Ministers
 Malcolm & Teresa Wass
 Andrew Aberdeen
Readers
 Angela Harmston
 Maria Griffiths
Children's Liturgy
 (In recess during break.
 Resumes 04 May)
Welcomers
 Paul & Anne Kelly
Music
 Bill Wilkinson & Choir

Passion Sunday

Should you have any items for the bulletin or wish to have it emailed to you, please contact the parish via phone or email. Contact details are on the front of the bulletin. Items for publication need to be submitted by **12:00noon on Thursday.**

We pray for our beloved deceased, including....

Hilda, James & Joseph CONDRON
 Terry FARTHING (Rec. Dec.)
 Kevin BOYLE
 June BENSON

Please remember in your prayers those who are sick and housebound in our parish....

*Mary Spears, Frances Harland,
 Sylvia Kelly, Rose Crick,
 Frank Moran, Doreen Carroll,
 Tom Taylorson, Jack Tobin,
 Margaret Pouton,
 Vera Lumsden and
 Pat & Gordon Harrison*

£ LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTION
 Gift Aid: £236 Loose Plate: £186
TOTAL: £422
 Mass Attendance: 144
 DIOCESE OF HEXHAM AND NEWCASTLE
 CHARITY NUMBER 1143450



What's going on...?

Holy Week Schedule: Please note the Mass and service times for Holy Week on opposite page as well as the back of the bulletin. Note the extra Mass on **Monday, 15 April at 9:30am**. Of course, there is no Mass on the morning of Holy Thursday.

Family Fast Day Collection: Thank you to those who have donated. Our collection so far amounts to **£333.05**. This is the last weekend for donations. Please drop your envelope in the collection basket. You can also donate online at www.cafod.org.uk.

Lenten Alms Collection: There will be a retiring collection taken up for Lenten Alms **this weekend**. Please be as generous as you can as the funds go to assist **St Cuthbert's Care** and the marvellous work they do.

Holy Places Collection: As usual, we will be taking up a Holy Places collection on Good Friday. This important collection not only ensures that key Christian religious sites remain accessible in the Holy Land but also that Christians are able to remain living in this part of the world since a lot of the donations support young families, parishes, seminaries, schools, hospitals and clinics, refugees and small businesses. Please be as generous as you can.

Stations of the Cross: The final Stations will be celebrated this Wednesday, **17 April**.

Fundraiser for Senior Citizens Summer Party: A fundraiser is to be held on **26 April** at the British Legion. Raffle tickets will be on sale **Saturday 13 and 20 April**.

Celebration of Marriage: Bishop Robert Byrne CO will celebrate Mass in St Mary's Cathedral on **Saturday 18 May** at 11:00am to give thanks for the Sacrament of Marriage. He has invited each parish community to be represented by at least two couples, young or old, newly married or celebrating a significant anniversary. In addition, everyone is welcome to attend. This promises to be a wonderful celebration and will provide affirmation and support for Marriage across the Diocese and the wider North-East community.

Donations for flowers: If you would care to make a donation for Easter flowers, there is a collection plate at the back of church.

Finchale Partnership open afternoons: People often say they would like to know more about the other parishes and churches in the partnership. So, 5 of our churches will host an open afternoon between May and October 2019. The first one will be at Ss Joseph, Patrick and Cuthbert, Coxhoe on the afternoon of 05 May. **Our Open Day here at St Patrick's will be on the afternoon of Sunday 02 June**. Please see the poster on the noticeboard for more details.

Bill Huebsch: We are looking forward to welcoming Bill Huebsch back to the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle on Saturday 18 May to lead us on a day exploring 'The Mission to Accompany' at St Mary's Catholic School, Benton Park Road, Benton, Newcastle Upon Tyne from 9.45am - 3.30pm. Refreshments and lunch will be provided on the day, and we are suggesting a donation of £10.00 to help cover the costs of the day. Booking is essential by telephone: 0191 243 3302 or www.billhuebsch.eventbrite.co.uk Donations will be gratefully accepted on the day.

Fr Ejaz Report: The latest report on Fr Ejaz's project in Pakistan and a financial statement are now posted on the noticeboard.

Good Friday Word-Find

J C C L O T H E S H E
M A R Y D I E D I O S
C R O W N J U J N U S
J R S I M O N E S R H
E Y S D T H O R N S O
W R I K I N G U A E S
S O L D I E R S I J A
P D D M A G D A L E N
E S F O H I L L S S N
A R W H I P P E D U A
R O M A N M E M A S S

See if you can find all the words in CAPITALS in the puzzle. Use the left over letters to fill in the blanks.



On Good Friday morning, JESUS, who had been arrested the night before, was judged by Pontius Pilate, the ROMAN governor. Pilate had him WHIPPED. Then to make fun of Him the SOLDIERS made a CROWN of THORNS and put it on His head. They threw a purple cloth on Him and beat Him with RODS, saying, "Hail, KING of the JEWS!" Then Pilate had Jesus brought out in front of the people and asked them what they wanted to do with Him. The people, who had welcomed Him into JERUSALEM a few days before with their HOSANNAS, now shouted that He should be crucified.

So Jesus was made to CARRY a heavy CROSS out of the city and up a big HILL. Because He was so weak from being beaten, a man named SIMON of Cyrene was forced to help Him. The soldiers tore off Jesus' CLOTHES and attached Him to the cross with NAILS through His hands and feet.

Jesus offered His life for our SINS. He hung on the cross for three HOURS until He DIED. Nearby were His mother MARY, JOHN the Apostle, and Mary MAGDALEN. After He died a soldier stuck a SPEAR into His side to be sure He was dead.

Did you know that at every MASS we re-offer Jesus' sacrifice on the cross in an unbloody way on the altar?

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Monday 15 April: Mass at 9:30am

Tuesday 16 April: Mass at 6:30pm

Wednesday 17 April: Mass at 9:30am

Thursday 18 April: Mass of the Lord's Supper at 6:30pm (**NO 9:30am Mass**)

Friday 19 April: Stations of the Cross at 10:00am

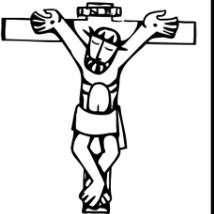
Commemoration of the Lord's Passion at 3:00pm

Saturday 20 April: Easter Vigil at 5:00pm

Sunday 21 April: Mass at 10:00am

Monday 22 April: Mass at 9:30am

christ became obedient for us unto death even to death on a CROSS



SCHOOL NEWS

Statement to Live By

This week's statement was, 'I try to forgive people when they hurt me.' We shared the story of Jesus, who, in answering Peter's question about forgiveness, clearly stated that we should forgive 'not just 7 times, but 77 times', meaning that we should always forgive those who are truly sorry for having hurt us.

Stations of the Cross and Infant Liturgies

Thank you to all those who came along to the Stations of the Cross in the school hall this week and to the infant liturgies, held in our school chapel. Your presence makes our celebrations really special.

Palm Sunday Procession

Thank you to all the children who took part in the procession at the beginning of Mass this evening. Many thanks to Greg Mearman for taking the time to come into school, in order to prepare the children and for this support this evening.

CAFOD

Our Mini Vinnies have raised in excess of £170 for CAFOD's 'Give it up' campaign. They organised a tombola stall, resourced with chocolate treats, donated by pupils and held a book sale. Well done, children!

Easter Break

School closed for the Easter break on Friday and re-opens on Monday 29 April. We wish all our families and parishioners a very happy and holy Easter!



~ CHURCHES TOGETHER IN DH7 ~

Pope Francis' Mission Statement for April

For doctors and their humanitarian collaborators in war zones, who risk their lives for others.

"Growth in holiness is a journey in community, side by side with others."



~ CHURCHES TOGETHER IN DH7 ~

Prayer Group & Bible Study

The monthly **Prayer Group** is held in the presbytery here at St Patrick's. Next meeting will be on **Tuesday, 16 April**, 9:30am - 10:15am. Refreshments are served from 9:15am.

The **Bible Study Group** will next meet on **Monday 13 May**, 3:30pm - 4:45pm at St Andrew's, Brandon. Refreshments beforehand.

All are welcome at both of these gatherings!



DID YOU KNOW...?

...that though we are celebrating Palm Sunday this weekend, there is no mention whatsoever of palms in Luke's Gospel of Jesus's entry into Jerusalem?

Luke's account of Jesus's entry into Jerusalem doesn't mention greenery at all. We hear that the people spread only their garments on the road to welcome Jesus. In Matthew we hear that people also did this but that some "cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road". In Mark's Gospel for Palm Sunday, people spread their garments and "others spread leafy branches which they had cut from the fields." Only John mentions palms.



"QUOTE OF THE WEEK"

"If prayer leads us into a deeper unity with the compassionate Christ, it will always give rise to concrete acts of service. And if concrete acts of service do indeed lead us to a deeper solidarity with the poor, the hungry, the sick, the dying and the oppressed, they will always give rise to prayer."

Henri Nouwen (1932-1996)
Priest, writer and theologian



PLEASE PRAY....for the following intentions during Lent as requested by Bishop Robert:
Candidates for the Sacraments; Women; The Needy and Hungry of the World; Penitents and Wanderers; Survivors of Sexual Abuse. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer....

