

#### FR CHRIS'S THOUGHTS FOR SUNDAY:

One of my favourite stories from the Old Testament is when the prophet Nathan confront David about his adultery with Bathsheba and having told him the story of the rich man taking the poor man's calf, he says to him: You are that man!". As we have listened to the story of the Passion, we might be appalled by the behaviour of some of the characters such as Judas, Pilate, Peter, Herod, the soldiers, the disciples, the crowd and so on. Listening to the Passion we too stand accused: You are that man, Judas Pilate Peter. Indeed, the crowd as one man howled: *Away with him! Give us Barabbas! crucify him! We could debate who was responsible for his death, the Romans the Jewish leaders, the crowd but in the end this week we must recognise that we are. Our sins were the cause of Jesus death: he died for us. This must be the first recognition as we live Holy Week. I am responsible.*

However, there are other characters as well who was there during that week. Mary the mother of our Lord, Mary Magdalen, Simon of Cyrene, the Roman Centurion, St. John and the others. We too are those people in our lives. We are Mary Magdalene, reconciled sinners who remain faithful to the Lord to the end. We are Simon of Cyrene, helping the Lord — albeit perhaps reluctant at first — to carry the Cross. We are St. John, receiving Mary into our home. We are the Centurion proclaiming Jesus to be the Son of God. we pray that we can be a bit more like them in our Christian living. Instead of putting Jesus on the cross we are called to lighten his cross through our love of him particularly in our brothers and sisters who needs help in carrying their crosses.

During lent we have had some of the great gospels of mercy such as the prodigal son the woman caught in adultery. These have highlighted the call to repentance and the mercy of God. As Luke tells the Passion story, we see all the hatred that surrounds Jesus. All the physical, spiritual, and mental abuse he suffers with the mocking and the insults, yet he responds only with silence and the words: *Father, forgive them; they do not know what they are doing. He invites us to a true and deep sorrow for our sins so that we may hear those words spoken to from the Cross. As we read & meditate on the passion this week, we can come to that deeper sorrow or contrition which is inspired more by love of God than anything else. The words of the Passion Story can move us as we read them. The various characters can help us. It may be a short phrase that stays with us in our heart, and we repeat over and over in our heads and hearts during the week. But above all we lift our eyes to the crucified Lord. Maybe we look at him from our own cross whatever it may be. We reach the summit hear of the story as the Good Thief speaks his confession. He has been looking at Jesus from his cross and taking in all that was happening but above all looking and listening to Jesus. He has come to a moment of perfect contrition. What a journey! Perhaps he was rather like the other thief, but he has opened his heart to Jesus. He recognises fully his own sin and says yes, he deserves that he is getting. He has no excuses or mitigations but a frank confession. He then hears those most wonderful of words today you will be with me in paradise. The first Saint goes straight to heaven, and he is a convicted criminal.*

This weekend we enter Holy week. Indeed, we enter Jerusalem with Jesus. Our reading, prayer and meditation prepares us for our Liturgies when these great events are made present to us and for us in the mysteries of the liturgies we celebrate Palm Sunday the upper room with the last supper, the agony in the garden, Calvary itself and culminating in the new garden of Eden the garden of the resurrection. The liturgy enables us to encounter here and now, what Jesus went through then. In other words, we commemorate and relive during this week our own dying to sin and selfishness and rising in Jesus, healed, reconciled to God and each other, and redeemed by His death and rising for us. The three days of the Triduum, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter are the climax of our year and springboard for new joy and more through meeting our Lord risen from the dead.



## Our Lady of Victories

Market Harborough

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Parish Accountant: finance@olvic.com  
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Parish Pastoral Council Members: see photos on notice board

10th April 2022  
Holy Week  
Psalter Week 2

#### Times of Services

##### Sunday: PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

Sat. 6.00pm: Mass: People of the Parish  
9.00am Mass: Fr Owen Anniv  
11.00am: Mass: Paolo Di Cicco RIP Anniv (Sellecchia)  
4.30pm: Rosary outside Church

##### Monday of Holy Week

11.00am: Funeral of Adrian Weston  
6.00pm: Reception of the Body of Clive Blencoe  
6.30pm: Confessions

##### Tuesday of Holy Week

2.30pm Funeral Clive Blencoe

##### Wednesday of Holy Week

6.30pm: Confessions  
7.00pm Mass: Jozek Fialkowski RIP

##### Thursday: MAUNDY THURSDAY

7.00pm: Mass of the Lords Supper - Douglas Fam, M. Tear, Cockrell E. & P.) Int B  
Followed by watching at the Altar of repose till 11.00pm

##### Friday: GOOD FRIDAY

11.00am: Ecumenical Prayer & Witness in the Square  
3.00pm: Liturgy of the Passion  
7.00pm: Stations of the Cross

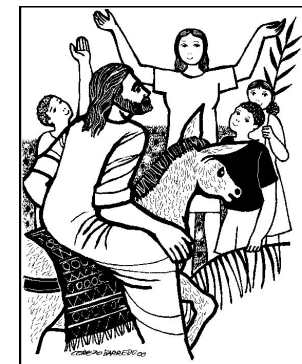
##### Saturday: HOLY SATURDAY

11.00am: Confessions  
12.00noon: Blessing of Easter Food

8.00pm: Easter Vigil: People of the Parish

##### Sunday: EASTER DAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

9.00am Mass: Helena Nowakowska RIP Anniv  
11.00am Mass: Bogush Nowakowski RIP



*Blessings on  
him who  
comes in the  
name of the  
Lord.*

**PLEASE NOTE:** Booking is no longer needed for Masses. However, please sanitise as you enter the church and we encourage people to wear masks but please respect those who do not. Please to not come to Mass if you have any symptoms of a viral infection

**FR CHRIS WRITES:** This weekend we begin Holy Week or the Great week as it is often called. Simply put with Jesus we enter Jerusalem. We seek to take part in the events of our Salvation through our Liturgies in Church and our devotions at home such as a family Stations of the Cross and the rosary. If we are watching television perhaps we could view more religious films on TV or You Tube. I know people have mentioned the Chosen. We also try to live the Spirit of the Triduum. We can also give witness this week by placing some branches in our windows or on our door and a cross or crucifix in our window in Holy week and then may be flowers or white cloth on Easter Sunday or the children could do some drawings! Also a very important Christian witness is our Good Friday Ecumenical witness at 11.00am. One of the things I remember from being a child was the sombre solemnity of Good Friday, then the sense of silence and waiting on Holy Saturday looking forward to the joy of the resurrection. We sit by the tomb waiting with Mary, Mother of the Lord. For our family, it was a day of preparation and quiet with no television or radio! Then the great joy of Easter broke forth with the village bells ringing again, the Liturgy and Easter egg hunts in the Garden!

This Sunday is also the Anniversary of the death of Fr Owen. We thank him for his life as a Priest and fellow Christian. We pray for his soul. In memory of Fr Owen the most popular suggestion has been a stained glass window behind our Lady. It could be something simple and fitting such as a Rose or other symbol of our Lady.

May God Bless you all and you loved ones in these coming Days of grace.

**COVID-19:** We are now making all the benches available for people to sit on except those under the Choir gallery at the back. These remain for social distancing. A reminder that if you do not want people to sit next to you, please put your Hymn book or mass book on the bench.

**A PRAYER FOR UKRAINE:** We pray that the Lord God send His Holy Spirit to all the people of Ukraine and gives them the grace of endurance in faith, hope and love amid the current ordeals; may peace be granted throughout Ukraine and may the Ukrainian nation be delivered from all enemies, so that we may glorify the good and merciful God in justice and truth. Lord hear us and have mercy. Amen.

Information from Caritas on the Ukraine and the Welcome scheme is available from the [Grapevine Newsletter](https://www.grapevine.org.uk/) Also see **Catholic Social Action Network (CSAN)** <https://www.csan.org.uk/ukraine/>



**EASTER OFFERING:** Traditionally the Easter Offering goes to the Priest of the Parish and forms a major part of his income for the year. Envelopes for the Offering can be found at the back of Church.

**Easter Walk with me booklets** for adults and Calendars for children are available in the Church entrance. They help us to pray the great Season of easter for which we have been preparing

**GOOD FRIDAY EVENT FOR ALL CHRISTIANS:** Churches Together in Harborough are inviting you to a service of worship and witness on the Square **on Good Friday at 11.00am**. We hope that many in the town will join us, and there will a retelling of the Passion Story by children from our schools. It is an opportunity to gather together, show our unity and friendship, and pray together for the town and the world, on this special day. The service will be approximately 30 minutes starting at 11.00am, but you are welcome to start gathering on the Square at 10.30am, when there will be worship music playing along with a video presentation on a large screen.

#### **TIMES FOR HOLY WEEK:**

**Palm Sunday** times as normal. However the 11.00am will have the procession with Palms.

**Wednesday:** Chrism Mass at the Cathedral 11.30am

**Maunder Thursday** 7.00pm followed by watching at Altar of Repose

**Good Friday:** 11.00am: Ecumenical Prayer & Witness in the Square  
3.00pm Liturgy of the Passion  
7.00pm Stations of the Cross

**Holy Saturday:** 11.00am Confessions  
12 Noon Blessing of Easter Food

**Easter vigil:** 8.00pm – First Mass of easter: Mother of all Masses

**Easter Sunday:** 9.00 & 11.00am



**READERS FOR HOLY WEEK:** Would any reader who would like to assist at any of the Holy Week services, (see announcement of days and times on this page), please either email Margaret or sign the list on the noticeboard in the cloister."

#### **RESULTS OF THE APRIL DRAW:**

1st Prize £70 A Burgess ticket No 40

2nd Prize £30 D Morgan ticket No 44

3rd Prize £20 E Kendall ticket No 173

Winnings are sent by letter, if you haven't received your letter, I may have the wrong address please contact Keith Shiers 07814419322 Thank you

**'A RECITAL FOR SPRING' - St. Mary's Church, Husband Bosworth.** Friday, 22 April 2022 starting at 19:00hrs. £10 per ticket includes a glass of mulled wine and nibbles

Fourteen year old Mila, a former chorister at Manchester Cathedral and Chetham's School of Music, studies singing at Wells Cathedral School under Mr Andrew Kidd. She is the BBC Young Chorister of the Year highly commended runner up 2021 and has recorded songs for radio as a soloist with the BBC Philharmonic Orchestra and the BBC Concert Orchestra. Tickets available on the evening or be emailing [fr.matthew.pittam@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:fr.matthew.pittam@rcaob.org.uk)

Following helpful comments from members of the parish and in keeping with the modern age, **the Third World Group** is planning to change its title to **AID TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. (ADC)**. We would once again like to offer our very deep and sincere appreciation to everyone who continues to support our very needy causes through our envelope scheme and by donating clothes and goods for us to sell ( Ebay total is approaching £4000! ) We are so grateful that your generous response to our appeals has enabled us to donate some money throughout the pandemic to each of our six charities even though our fundraising events were severely curtailed.

Our collection box for donated goods will be situated as usual under the table in the Cloister and will be labelled with our new title . Please continue to help us support the very poor and underprivileged in our world . The new sets of green envelopes will be available to collect from church in the near future. Many thanks from ADC.

		<b>Sat. 6.00 pm</b>	<b>Sunday, 9.00 am</b>	<b>11.00 a.m.</b>
Readers	Apr 9/10	P. Danks	C. Goddard	B. Tyrrell
	Apr 16/17	C. Baldam	C. Reed	K. Lilley