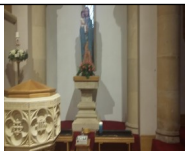


FR. OWEN: Please remember him in your prayers. He is a bit weaker this week with some pain which he is being treated for. He is in contact with his family but that is all he can manage at the moment.

Sadly we lost **Fr James Earley, Parish Priest of Alfreton & Clay Cross** on Sunday. He had been taken to the QMC. He was ordained the same year as myself, though he was older. He was a kind and gentle priest. May he rest in peace.



FR CHRIS'S THOUGHTS ON THE READINGS:

At the beginning of this Great week, this Most Holy of weeks, as we celebrate Jesus's entry into Jerusalem, there is a great exhortation that begins the Liturgy of Palm Sunday that is both urgent today and ancient in that comes from the Psalms the prayer of Israel. **O gates, lift high your heads; grow higher, ancient doors. Let him enter, the king of glory! Who is this king of glory? He, the Lord of hosts, he is the king of glory. (Ps 23/24)**

We are called to fling open the gates of our hearts, as individuals, as families, as a church as a world. The Lord desires to enter. That is the first thought. He is neither hesitant nor reluctant as perhaps we are. But neither will he force himself on us with power, and earthly glory, or even earthly wisdom. We are invited to let him enter. He comes humbly on a foal on a donkey, not with a great and splendid army but with his lowly followers, simple men and woman and of course the repentant sinners and lepers in tow.

There are great graces made available to us during these days. But his coming is easily missed such is his humility, so different are his ways from our expectations. Even in this time when it is difficult to receive the sacraments, the Lord will come to us in our prayer, reading and Meditation if we endeavour to live this week as best we can in the circumstances.

How will we receive Him? It is good to meditate on the various characters of the Passion and put ourselves in their place within Mark's Passion story. There is Simon the leper who cannot understand the love of the woman who pours nard on the head of Jesus. The mysterious people who provide the donkey on Palm Sunday and the upper room for the Last Supper. Peter with his fervent avowal of faith, then failure and repentance. The disciples who cannot understand anything and the flee. We can imagine ourselves in the Garden of Gethsemane with Jesus which is a good one for Holy Thursday. What about the unnamed young man who flees? The false witnesses the Priests and Pilate and most disturbing the fickle crowd who from being cheerers become jeerers. The betrayal of Judas and his inability to repent and turn to Jesus for mercy? The reluctant Simon of Cyrene who helps Jesus with his cross. The centurion who had watched Jesus die on the cross and makes the greatest act of faith of the entire Gospel and last but by no means least the great women who stood by Jesus the whole way through. Do we dare put ourselves in the place of Jesus? What went on in his heart? Jesus enters Jerusalem this Sunday with one overriding desire for the week especially the last three days: to open his heart to us for ever on the cross that we may enter have life to the full. He speaks loud and clearly from the silence of the cross "I love you and always." His heart is forever open! Praise God! Thank God!

**Let him enter, the king of glory!
God bless you and your families! Fr. Chris**



Our Lady of Victories

Market Harborough

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Convent: Presentation Sisters 01858-462432
Parish Website: www.olvic.com

Schools:
Parish Primary: St. Joseph's Academy 01858-465359.
Deanery Comprehensive: St. Paul's 0116 241 4057
Parish Accountant: Angela Wade: 0777 322 9041
Parish Gift Aid Organiser: Catherine Parry 01858 434959

Parish Pastoral Council Members: see photos on notice board

Diocese of Nottingham: Company Number 7151646 Charity Number: 1134449

Registered Address: Wilson House, 25 Derby Road, Nottingham, NG1 5AW

28th March 2021
Palm Sunday & Holy
Week
Psalter Week 1

Times of Services

Sunday: Palm Sunday

Sat 6.00pm: Mass - Sheila Plowright RIP (Pat & Angela)

9.00am: Mass: People of the Parish

11.00am: Mass: Karen McVea Ints (Governors)

Monday of Holy Week

Private Mass: Riona McHugh (Sr Lucy)

Tuesday of Holy Week

10.00am Mass: Barney Cox RIP (Bretherick)

Wednesday of Holy Week

Private Mass: Ward F. RIP (Int A)

MAUNDY THURSDAY - THE MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

7.00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper - Fr Owen (Clearkin)

GOOD FRIDAY - THE PASSION OF THE LORD

3.00pm: Liturgy of the Passion

7.00pm STATIONS OF THE CROSS

HOLY SATURDAY

11.00am Confessions

7.30pm Easter Vigil first Mass of Easter - John Kelly RIP

EASTER SUNDAY

9.00am: Mass: People of the Parish

11.00am: Mass: Bogush Nowakowski RIP

PLEASE NOTE: YOU MUST PRE BOOK FOR OUR Holy Week Liturgies:

Please note different times for Holy Week

BOOK NOW

TO PRE BOOK TO COME TO MASS:

TO BOOK TO COME TO **MAUNDY THURSDAY & GOOD FRIDAY:** Please ring Judith Snaith on 01858 419108 on **Monday & Tuesday Evening 5 – 7.00pm**

TO BOOK TO COME TO THE 7.30PM **EASTER VIGIL MASS**, please ring Angela Wade on 01858 462293. **WED 5-7.00PM & THURS 5.00- 6.30PM**

TO BOOK TO COME TO THE **SUN 9AM MASS**, please ring Jo Shellard on 01858 440983 **ON WED 5-7.00PM & THURS 5.00- 6.30PM**

TO BOOK TO COME TO THE **11AM MASS**, please ring Stephen McGlone on 01858 465939. **ON WED 5.00-7.00PM & THURS 5.00- 6.30PM**



*Had you not
the strength to
keep awake one
hour?*

FR CHRIS WRITES:

My dear People, today we celebrate Jesus's entry into Jerusalem together with His Passion as we hear Mark's great account. We too enter into a special week, as part of the community of the new Jerusalem (the church full of sinners & saints) as we pray this most special of weeks. We must strive as best we can to celebrate it, whether at Church this year (Thank God!) or at home within our families in Spirit joining with the whole community and indeed the whole Church. Maybe, we can pray at this time for a deeper longing and deeper appreciation of our Liturgies and the gift of the Sacraments not least our Mass. We can ask God's pardon for taking then for granted, as something we can take or leave as our whim decides. May we realise how vital that is to say, how life giving our church life is. Indeed, may we realise we cannot truly live without it!

Those at home can take part through the various live streaming of the Liturgies whether at the Cathedral or our mother Church (www.stbarnabascathedral.org.uk/01_Community/livestream.html) [Walsingham](http://www.walsingham.org.uk/) <https://www.walsingham.org.uk/> or with the [Holy father in Rome](http://www.vaticannews.va) www.vaticannews.va

The key ones are the Chrism Mass on Wednesday live-streamed from the Cathedral, the Mass of the Lord's supper on Maundy Thursday evening and the watching at the Altar of Repose afterwards. We cannot have this but it is [being live streamed](https://www.holyspiritwb.org/live/) from the Holy Spirit West Bridgford till 8.30pm -9.30pm <https://www.holyspiritwb.org/live/> The Liturgy of the Passion on Friday 3.00pm, Stations of the cross in the evening. Do join the Holy father from [Rome](http://www.vaticannews.va). The Easter vigil: Saturday evening and Easter Sunday Morning Mass.

Then there are our family devotions and prayers: The stations of the cross: maybe each member of the family could make a prayer or give a thought at a station. This would be a highlight on Good Friday. The Rosary of course, which we can say as a family seeking Mary's intercession at this time: and then our personal prayer time reading the Scriptures especially the Passion accounts of Mark and John. 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!

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!

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

Fr. Chris

MRS McVEA: We have said goodbye to Mrs McVea and thank her for her 11 years as Head teacher at St Joseph's and the great work she has done at the school to build it into the community it is today. After the holidays she will start at Holy Cross Leicester which will be a great blessing for them. We had a lovely Liturgy for her on Thursday in the school garden. May God bless her in new school which I am sure will: Believe, Achieve, Succeed! I wish all our Staff a blessed holy week and a good rest!



VACANCY: The post of full time Roman Catholic Chaplain (priest, deacon, religious or lay person) for HMP Stocken is now being advertised. Please follow the link for more details or to apply: <https://justicejobs.tal.net/vx/mobile-0/appcentre-1/brand-13/candidate/so/pm/1/pl/3/opp/42456-42456-Roman-Catholic-Chaplain-Full-Time-Roman-Catholic-Ordained-Priest-Ordained-Deacon-Religious-Brother-Sister-Lay-Person/en-BB>

ONLINE EASTER AT ST BEUNO'S Thursday 01 - Sunday 04 Apr 2021 (6:30pm - 12:30pm) A triduum retreat: at <https://www.pathwaystogod.org/courses-events-retreats/online-easter-st-beunos>

NDCYS: The youth service: news and including a Stations of the Cross.

[New week, new headlines... \(mailchi.mp\)](mailto:New%20week,%20new%20headlines...%20%20@mailchi.mp)

To help children understand the importance of Holy week there is a very good animated video on YouTube which is very easy for them to follow Here is the link to video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t2TiXMHATPg>

CAFOD also have **Children's Liturgy activity resources** on their website. Please see the link: <https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Children-s-liturgy>



APF Red Boxes:

Could you please bring in your boxes for emptying.



POSSIBLE DATES FOR REOPENING:

Baptisms & Weddings from 17th May 2021 with up to 30 People.
1st Holy Communion will be celebrated in late June.

COMPLETE THE SURVEY: HOW HAS COVID-19 AFFECTED YOU AND YOUR FAITH?

Bishop Patrick would like to hear from you! The Diocese of Nottingham has launched a short survey in order to deepen its understanding of Covid-19's impact on all Catholics across the diocese. Bishop Patrick is eager to know more about peoples' experiences of the pandemic, with a view to ensuring that the faithful are well supported and understood in the years ahead. Please visit <https://www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/whats-on/news/share-your-story-how-has-covid-19-affected-you-and-your-faith> and fill out the short questionnaire. Please encourage other parishioners to do so. **The deadline for submissions is July 4th 2021.**



Offertory Envelopes: I think you should have had your envelopes by now. Many thanks to our counters for dropping them off. Many thanks to all who continue to give to the Church. I have forms for making a Standing Order and of course gift Aid forms in the Church if you are a tax payer and make a donation to the Church email Fr Chris parishpriest@olvic.com and I can send you one by email. We can claim an extra 25% on top of anything you give if you are tax payer..



VACANCY: The Catholic Diocese of Nottingham seeks to appoint an experienced Safeguarding Professional to lead and manage its Safeguarding Service. Working with the Bishop, the Diocesan Trustees, Safeguarding Commission and Clergy and Parishes of the Diocese, this person will lead and develop safeguarding strategy and practice to the highest levels, and implement national policies and procedures fully and consistently.

This is a key senior role, central to the commitment of the Bishop and the Diocese to minimise safeguarding risks, achieve excellent outcomes with and for children and vulnerable adults, and enable a protected, supportive environment in which the Mission of the Church demonstrably takes place safely across the Diocese. The successful applicant will be a highly motivated, energetic and enthusiastic individual with proven team leadership skills, and an expertise in, and commitment to, safeguarding children and vulnerable adults. **Salary:** £43,800 - £47,800 dependent on qualifications and experience. **For more information and an application pack email:** office@dioceseofnottingham.uk Closing date 11th April 2021. Interviews are expected to take place in person week commencing Monday 19th April 2021.

