

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord (Year B)

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Key: SM = St Mary, SG = St Gregory, OLSM = Our Lady & St Michael, Sat 23 Mar Vigil: Palm Sunday 17.45 SM Confessions Mass (Michael Eilbeck) 18.00 SM Sun 24 Mar 24 Palm Sunday SG 09.15 Confessions 09.30 SG Mass (People of the Parish) 10.30 **OLSM** Mass (Brendan & Brenda O'Donnell) 18.00 OLSM Mass (Tony O'Hare) Monday in Holy Week Mon 25 Mar 10.00 OLSM Mass (Winnie Lewis) 18.00 OLSM Evening Prayer Tues 26 Mar Tuesday in Holy Week 09.30 SMAdoration 10.00 SMMass (Joe Rogerson) 18.00 OLSM Evening Prayer Wed 27 Mar Wednesday in Holy Week 11.30 SG Lectio Divina 12.00 SG Mass (Terence & Jean Cantley) **OLSM** 18.00 Evening Prayer 18.30 **OLSM** Mass (McKenna & McCourt Families) Thur 28 Mar Holy Thursday 19.00 OLSM Mass of the Last Supper Fri 29 Mar **Good Friday** 10.00 SG Stations of the Cross 14.00 OLSM Confession 15.00 **OLSM** Celebration of the Lord's Passion Sat 30 Mar **Holy Saturday** 12.00 OLSM Polish Blessing of Food 19.30 **OLSM** Mass (Robert Smith) Sun 31 Mar 24 **Easter Sunday** 08.30 SM Mass (People of the Parish) 09.30 SG Mass (Alan Beck)

Sanctuary Lamps (week beginning 24.03.24)
OLSM: In Loving Memory of George McKeown

Mass (Maureen McCartney)

OLSM

10.30

SG: People of the Parish
SM: Holy Souls

Sacred Heart: The Sick & Housebound. Lady Altar: Stanley Lawson

Please remember in your prayers those who died recently. Michael Davidson, Funeral Service Monday 15 April, 11.15am, St Gregory's church.

The sick & housebound: Catherine Wilson, Mabel Tognarelli, Doreen Doran, Fletcher Ditchburn, Anne Braniff, Dennis Castleton, Jack Gullen, Veronica Tubman, Joan Rodgers, Margaret McAleavey, Ibrahim Tobya Shsha, Maureen Dolan, Brendan McManus, Donald Pettitt, Mary Cronolly, Gilbert Carruthers, Marie Blair, Mary Murphy, Jim Cunningham, Geoff Williamson, Helen Bailey and Joan Ainsworth.

And those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Denise Hurley, Tony O'Hare, Mary Jones, Claire Hunter, Kevin Byrne, Mark Carini, Peter Chambers, John McCrea, Mark Ainsworth, Helen Farrer and Lewis Irving.

Finance

Thank you to the family of the late Marie Shanklin for directing some of the collection at her recent funeral to parish funds.

Donations for Easter Flowers will be gratefully received either by online banking (use Easter flowers as the reference) or put an envelope in the collection and mark 'Easter flowers', thank you.

Offertory income for February £6810.43; WSMP donations for February £120; White Fathers £1376.09. Online banking details: Account - LRCDTR Christ the Good Shepherd. Sort Code: 40-27-02. A/c No. 91752146

This week we approach Holy Week, the heart of our faith. When we celebrate Mass, we enter into the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Christ. But in Holy Week, it is as if we walk through these events in slow motion, or more truthfully, we enter into the very events themselves. So, the services are a little longer, but incredibly beautiful and very deep in their mystery. Please don't sit on the sidelines; clear your diaries and set aside time to enter into each of these days prayerfully. If you do, your life will be changed. On Palm Sunday, we enter into Jerusalem. The mood of the Mass changes as

Come, Holy Spirit!
Give us the grace today to rise up,
to open wide the doors,
to go out of ourselves so as to
draw others to Christ,
to be disciples and to make
disciples, that we may walk in your
ways joyfully and build up Your Church
across West Cumbria.
We make this prayer through
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

the joy of the crowds waving their branches changes as we hear Luke's account of the Passion of Christ. Holy Thursday begins with the Chrism Mass at 11.30am at the Cathedral, Lancaster. In the evening we celebrate 'Maundy' Thursday, 'Maundy' from the Latin word, 'Mandatum', which means 'command', the command to love as Christ has loved. The Maundy Thursday Mass celebrates the institution of the Eucharist and the Priesthood, and the washing of the feet. (sign-up sheet at the back of the church), followed by Pesaha Appam in the Stella Maris Room led by the Keralan community. Mass finishes with the procession to the Garden of Gethsemane and the time of Watching when we are invited to spend an hour with Jesus in silent prayer until 10pm. On Good Friday, we follow the Stations of the Cross in St Gregory's church, and at the Hour at which Christ died, at 3pm, we gather to remember the Passion and Death of Jesus. Everything in the church is stripped bare and we creep towards the Cross and venerate the wood on which our salvation hung. This day is a day of fasting and abstinence when we deny ourselves food and feel some hunger so as to remind ourselves of what Christ has done for us and there is a collection for the Holy Places in Jerusalem. And then we go into Holy Saturday and feel the emptiness of a world bereft of God. Jesus is dead and the world awaits. On Holy Saturday there will be Polish blessing of foods at 12 noon. The Easter Vigil at 7.30pm, the highpoint of the whole Church's Year, we gather in the darkness around the paschal fire, and process the Easter candle into a darkened church, a sign that Christ has overcome the darkness of Death, and we sing the Resurrection praises. We then listen attentively to the Word of God and how God has worked through history to rescue us. The life that has been won for us is given to us through our baptism and we renew our own baptismal promises before celebrating the Eucharist and receiving the new life given to us in Christ. Easter Sunday Masses - 8.30am in St Mary's church, 9.30am in St Gregory's church & 10.30am in Our Lady & St Michael's church. No Sunday evening Mass

Altar Server Easter Rehearsals in Our Lady & St Michael's church. Wednesday 27 March, 5.15pm, for those serving Mass of the Lord's Supper. Friday 29 March, 11.30am for those serving the 3pm Celebration of the Passion. Saturday 30 March, breakfast 8.30am in the Priory followed by rehearsal at 9.30am for those serving the Easter Vigil.

Soup Lunch on Wednesday 27 March at St Gregory's after the midday Mass, in support of CAFOD

Lenten Scripture Group on Wednesday 27 March at St Gregory's at 7.15pm, a prayerful reading of the Gospel.

Parish Craft Workshops. Learning new skills and sharing your skills with others – initial meeting Wednesday 17 April 1-3pm in Stella Maris room. Please see poster in each church for more details or contact Ann Leigh or Ann Diamond.

Offertory Envelopes for use from Sunday 7 April 2024 are now available for collection from the back of each church (OLSM at the back of the porch area). For those who use online banking we also have a supply of envelopes just for special collections, if you would like a box of these please contact Sharon asap. Due to the increase in bank charges for depositing cash/cheques please consider donating via Standing Order/online banking. In Our Lady & St Michael's there is a contactless payment facility. It is not too late if you wish to cancel your offertory envelopes for one of these methods. Mass Intentions. Money donated for Mass intentions is now paid into the parish account and can be Gift Aided. Please mark 'Gift Aid' on the front of the Mass intention envelope.

A Gift Aid tax reclaim will soon be submitted to HMRC for the tax year 06.04.23 to 05.04.24. Please notify Sharon (parish office) of the following: 1. If you are no longer a tax payer or you paid insufficient tax during 2023/24 to cover the tax that will be reclaimed on all your donations given under Gift Aid to all charities in any one tax year (at the current basic rate of tax 20%, for every £1 net donated charities can reclaim 25p. It is the responsibility of the donor to pay any shortfall). 2. If you want to cancel your declaration. 3. Change of name or home address. 4. If you are now in a position to Gift Aid your donations please complete a Gift Aid declaration available from the back of church or contact Sharon.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to 'England's Nazareth', the National Shrine at Walsingham (Norfolk) with Bishop Paul Swarbrick, 2-6 September 2024. Coach leaving from Workington, cost no more than £500 all inclusive, contact Deacon Charlie to book place: charlie.conner@lrcd.org.uk Tel: 07895 742 732.