



Welcome to the Parish Church of St Stephen

Sunday 28th March 2021



Blessing of Palms

God our Saviour, whose Son Jesus Christ entered Jerusalem as Messiah to suffer and to die, let these palms be for us signs of his victory; and grant that we who bear them in his name may ever hail him as our King, and follow him in the way that leads to eternal life; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Palms are distributed and the Gospel is read

Dear friends, Christ enters his own city to complete his work as our Saviour, to suffer, to die, and to rise again. Let us go with him in faith and love, so that united with him in his sufferings, we may share his risen life.

Start of Procession

Let us proceed in Peace

In the Name of Christ. Amen

End of Procession

Deliver me from mine enemies O God

Defend me from them that rise up against me

True and humble king, hailed by the crowd as Messiah; grant us the faith to know you and love you; that we may be found beside you on the way of the cross, which is the path of glory. **Amen.**

Services Today

9:30am Said Mass with Hymns and Sermon
Hymns: 511: 92

11:00am Sung Mass with Sermon & Procession
Hymns: 511/509: 86:S.8: 92

681 Palm Sunday

Antiphon Hosanna to the Son of David: blessed is he that cometh in the Name of the Lord. O King of Israel: Hosanna in the highest.

Gradual Christ became obedient for our sakes unto death: even the death of the Cross. *V.* Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him: and given him a Name which is above every name.

Offertory Thy rebuke hath broken my heart, I am full of heaviness: I looked for some to have pity on me, but there was no man: neither found I any to comfort me; they gave me gall to eat, and when I was thirsty they gave me vinegar to drink.

Communion O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it: thy will be done.

Collect

Almighty and everlasting God,
who in your tender love towards the human race
sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ
to take upon him our flesh
and to suffer death upon the cross:
grant that we may follow the example of his patience and humility,
and also be made partakers of his resurrection;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Old Testament Reading - Isaiah Ch50 v4-9a

⁴The Lord GOD has given me
the tongue of a teacher,
that I may know how to sustain
the weary with a word.
Morning by morning he wakens—
wakens my ear
to listen as those who are taught.
⁵The Lord GOD has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious,
I did not turn backwards.
⁶I gave my back to those who struck me,
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;
I did not hide my face
from insult and spitting.
⁷The Lord GOD helps me;
therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like flint,
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;
⁸ he who vindicates me is near.
Who will contend with me?
Let us stand up together.
Who are my adversaries?
Let them confront me.
⁹It is the Lord GOD who helps me;
who will declare me guilty?

New Testament Reading - Philippians Ch2 v5-11

⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
⁶who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,
⁷but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,
⁸ he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,
¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
¹¹and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Gospel Acclamation

Priest: Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal Glory.

Christ humbled himself and became obedient unto death,
even death on a cross.
Therefore God has exalted him
and given him the name that is above every name.

All: Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

Gospel – Mark Ch15 V1-39 (40-47)

¹⁵As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate. ²Pilate asked him, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' He answered him, 'You say so.' ³Then the chief priests accused him of many things. ⁴Pilate asked him again, 'Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you.' ⁵But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed. ⁶Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. ⁷Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection. ⁸So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. ⁹Then he answered them, 'Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?' ¹⁰For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over. ¹¹But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. ¹²Pilate spoke to them again, 'Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?' ¹³They shouted back, 'Crucify him!' ¹⁴Pilate asked them, 'Why, what evil has he done?' But they shouted all the more, 'Crucify him!' ¹⁵So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified. ¹⁶Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. ¹⁷And they

clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him.¹⁸ And they began saluting him, 'Hail, King of the Jews!' ¹⁹They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him.

²⁰After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

²¹ They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus. ²²Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull).

²³And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. ²⁴And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take.

²⁵ It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. ²⁶The inscription of the charge against him read, 'The King of the Jews.' ²⁷And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. ²⁸Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, 'Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, ³⁰save yourself, and come down from the cross!' ³¹In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying, 'He saved others; he cannot save himself. ³²Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe.' Those who were crucified with him also taunted him.

³³ When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. ³⁴At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, 'Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?' which means, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?'

³⁵When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, 'Listen, he is calling for Elijah.' ³⁶And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying, 'Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down.' ³⁷Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. ³⁸And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. ³⁹Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he^{*} breathed his last, he said, 'Truly this man was God's Son!'

⁴⁰ There were also women looking on from a distance; among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome. ⁴¹These used to follow him and provided for him when he was in Galilee; and there were many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem.

⁴² When evening had come, and since it was the day of Preparation, that is, the day before the sabbath, ⁴³Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God, went boldly to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. ⁴⁴Then Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he had been dead for some time. ⁴⁵When he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. ⁴⁶Then Joseph bought a linen cloth, and taking down the body,^{*} wrapped it in the linen cloth, and laid it in a tomb that had been hewn out of the rock. He then rolled a stone against the door of the tomb.

⁴⁷Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where the body was laid.

Post Communion

Lord Jesus Christ,
you humbled yourself in taking the form of a servant,
and in obedience died on the cross for our salvation:
give us the mind to follow you
and to proclaim you as Lord and King,
to the glory of God the Father.

Please remember in your prayers

Hazel and John Greany, Christine Shaw,
Brenda Penfold, Alisha De Guerin, Val Moullin,
a woman suffering from depression, Anthony De La Mare,
Melvyn Boxall, Janice Firth, a woman battling with alcoholism,
Maria, Jeanette, Alan Warner, Eileen Price, James and
Gillian Harvey.

Services for Holy week

Tuesday 30th March 10.20am Ladies' College Easter Service

Maundy Thursday 1st April 7.00pm Sung Mass, Stripping of the Altar
followed by the Watch

Good Friday 2nd April 9.30am Reproaches

2.00pm Stations of the Cross

Easter Saturday 3rd April 8.00pm Easter Vigil & First Mass of Easter

Sunday 4th April

EASTER DAY

9.30am Said Mass and **Messy Church**

11.00am Sung Mass with Sermon & Procession

Maundy Thursday Watch

This year the Watch will be from the end of the Mass until 10.00pm

Please put your name on the list at the back of church.

If we are to keep these traditions going we need everyone's support.

Help Required

We will be cleaning the Church at **9.30am on Wednesday 31st March** ready for Easter.

Any time you can give would be much appreciated.

Flowers for Easter

Would anyone like to do a simple flower arrangement in a window at church to celebrate our joyous return for Easter? If you do please let Ann Goss know as soon as possible.

Tax Forms

If you have not done so already could you please return your tax form as soon as possible to John Greany so we can submit the claim.

Any money (£500 or over) you have given to the Church during 2020 can be added, be it collections, Gift Month or donations. The Taxman will then kindly give the Church back the tax you have paid.

This is an essential income for us at no cost to ourselves so please remember to fill out a form.

Easter Cards

Marg's Easter cards are available in the Library corner.

APCC

There will be a meeting of the APCC at **7.00pm on Tuesday 13th April**.

More Passing Thoughts

Fr. Marc has produced a More Passing Thoughts booklet which you can find in the book rack next to the Church Magazines. Please take a copy.

Church AGM

The Church AGM will be held on **Sunday 25th April** after the **10.30am Combined Mass**.

As previous years we will produce a booklet of Reports
Would all who contribute to the reports please have them available by
Easter Sunday at the very latest.

The list for nominations for the Elections at the AGM will be up soon.
Please consider if you would like to stand for any of the positions as we need to fill all the positions especially during this Interregnum period.



THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST STEPHEN

SERVICES FOR HOLY WEEK



Tuesday 30th March

10.20am Ladies' College Easter Service

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Thursday 1st April

7.00pm Sung Mass followed
by the Watch



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Friday 2nd April

Good Friday

10.00am Reproaches

2.00pm Stations of the Cross

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Saturday 3rd April

8.00pm Easter Vigil & First Mass of Easter

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SUNDAY 4th April

Easter Sunday

9.30am Said Mass and **Messy Church**

11.00am Sung Mass with Sermon

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