

GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD



What Makes Holy Week Holy? - Here we are again at the beginning of Holy Week, but what is it that makes Holy week holy? As we process into Church on Palm Sunday waving our palms or weaving them into crosses, it's tempting to feel that this is all just a commemoration of the past. But if Holy Week doesn't impact on our lives a little more with each passing year, then it really is just a story about something that happened a very long time ago.

It's the very first 'Palm Sunday' and the excitement is growing like wildfire. Jesus rides into Jerusalem and his followers throw down palms and robes. Only Jesus seems aware that something is very wrong with this triumphant parade. The followers are misguided. They think that Jesus has come like some great military deliverer to overthrow the authorities. But in truth, Jesus doesn't ride into Jerusalem on a stallion with great might and power, he rides into Jerusalem on a donkey and he comes in peace, humility and servitude. He comes to stand up for what he believes without any hint of compromise or aggression. He comes ready to lay down his life. He comes to show humanity what real love means and he brings the promise of his heavenly kingdom for all those who can realise his teaching.

Those original Palm Sunday crowds had a very poor grasp of what Jesus was about, and so it's no wonder that by the end of Holy Week they had switched to shouts of 'Crucify!' Like those original Palm Sunday crowds, we celebrate Jesus' life, but we celebrate for the right reasons. Hopefully we are not celebrating someone we think can wave a magic wand and make everything right for us. Holy Week brings into sharp focus what Christianity should be about. Each year we endeavour to make Holy Week holy with greater insight and a greater maturity of faith. Each Holy Week we endeavour to become better ambassadors for Christ.



We thank all our many parish volunteers and groups for their help each week in supporting the running and daily and spiritual life of the parish.



PARISH PRAYER – Father, pour out your Spirit upon our parish. Grant us a new vision of your glory, a new faithfulness to your Word and a new consecration to your service, that your love might grow among us and your kingdom come, through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Permanent Deacon: Rev. Martin Sanderson
Parish Music team: Judy Reid, Kathleen Edmunds & William Preddy.
Parish Safeguarding Representatives: Paul McIntee & Kate Meehan

Sacred Heart & St Margaret Mary



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Sunday 13th April 2025

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

[Sundays Year C, Holy Week, Weekdays Year I, Psalter Week 2]

MASSES in the PARISH

Saturday 12th April	
18.00 <i>First MASS of Sunday</i>	For the People of the Parish
Sunday 13th April	Palm Sunday / Passion of the Lord
09.00 MASS	Michael Carolan+ (GC)
11.00 MASS <i>Live streamed</i>	For George & Peggy Mealy (GC)
Monday 14th April	Monday of Holy Week
10.00 MASS	Mila Kaunaite (for healing) (PG)
Tuesday 15th April	Tuesday of Holy Week
11.30 CHRISM MASS at St John's Cathedral	
Wednesday 16th April	Wednesday of Holy Week
10.00 MASS	Jose Thomas Int. (in thanksgiving)
Thursday 17th April	Maunder Thursday
10.00 Morning Prayer	
10.30 Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
19.30 MASS of the Lord's Supper	Juvencio+ & Caridad+ Pantas and Alith Mendoza (DM)
Friday 18th April	Good Friday
10.00 Morning Prayer	
10.30 Children's Stations of the Cross	
15.00 The Passion of the Lord	
Saturday 19th April	Holy Saturday
10.00 Morning Prayer	
20.00 Easter Vigil MASS	For Sheeba Antony's Ints.
Sunday 20th April	Easter Sunday
09.00 MASS	For George Mealy (healing) (GC)
11.00 MASS <i>Live streamed</i>	For the People of the Parish

For Live Streamed Masses Search for Dereham Catholic Church on YouTube, or use the link on the parish website.

The parish newsletter is available on the parish website from Friday each week.

Anniversaries this week: Brigid Mary Murphy, Daniel Creamer, Colin Nicholson, Eileen Wells, Peter Francis Brown, Christina Duffield, Joan Mary McManus, Peter Knight, Enid Whatmore, Bernard Reddington, Edwin Gatt, Margaret Warner, Frederick Hetherington, Tony Lannon, Pamela Clark, George Albert Webster. *May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.*

Hospital Visits: If you or any member of your family is admitted to the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital and would like to have a visit from a Catholic Priest, please inform a nurse on the ward and contact will be made through the Chaplaincy. If you are admitted to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in King's Lynn, please contact Fr. Peter Rollings at the Presbytery on 01553 772220. If you would like to receive the Sacrament of the Sick before going into hospital, please contact Fr. Jay either by phone or by email.

Sick & Housebound [with GDPR Permissions] – Please pray for: Shirley Liebenhals, Derek Williams, Patsy Gray, Colette Barrow-Nessian, William Dunne, Pauline Buckland, Gretta Cummings, Katherine Vella, Pauline Organ, Pat Grout, George Mealy, Peggy Mealy, Richard Allison, Marion Ring-Davies, Patsy Thompson, Ann McWilliams, Diana Banks-Conney, Margaret Glendon-Doyle, Mila Kaunaite.

Money Matters: Offering for last Sunday: Plate £291.39 and Offertory donations by standing orders for March £2450. Thank you.

Good Friday – Collection for Holy Land Shrines (*Mandatory*).

For those who would like to make their regular offerings by Standing Order, the information you need is: Account name: **Sacred Heart and St Margaret Mary Catholic Church**. The Sort Code is: **40-20-08** and the Account number is: **11311115**. If you are a tax payer, please also consider **Gift Aid**. **Gift Aid forms** are available at the back of church. This will help to maximize our donations in the Parish.

Please note - There will be **Mass on Monday at 1000** and **Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) on Maundy Thursday at 1030**.

Chrism Mass Coach to the Cathedral | Tuesday, 15th April – The coach to St John's Cathedral for the Chrism Mass at 1130 **will depart promptly from the Church at 1030 and will return at 1430**. Please sign up using the form at the back of the Church.

Easter Triduum Schedule

- 17 April, Maundy Thursday: 1930 - Mass of the Lord's Supper
- 18 April, Good Friday: 1030 - Children's Stations of the Cross
1500 Celebration of the Lord's Passion
- 19 April, Holy Saturday: 2000 – Easter Vigil
- 20 April, Easter Sunday 0900 – Mass
1100 – Mass

Diary for the week Sunday 13th – Saturday 19th April	
Sunday: 1100 Mass	No Children's Liturgy – resumes on 27 th April.
Monday: 1400-1600	Tea Buddies – Emmaus Room. All welcome for a cuppa & natter.
Monday: 1900-2030	AA Group Meeting - Emmaus Room
Wednesday: 1430	Queen of Peace Prayer Group – Emmaus Room. All welcome.
Parish Garden Club – To volunteer, please contact Sonia on 07985 521578.	

Polish Blessing of the Food – As Polish tradition, there will be a blessing of the food at **1100** in the church on **Holy Saturday**.

Easter Sunday, 20th April | Parish lunch and BBQ after the 1100 Mass – Bring and share lunch at the Parish Garden.

Children's Easter Egg Hunting - Due to lack of participants, the Easter Egg Making Contest is now changed to Kids' Easter Egg Hunting on Sunday after the 1100 Mass at the Parish Garden.

Church Cleaning Team need a volunteer to fill a vacancy – Can you spare just two hours one day every six weeks to join our team rota? Please contact Catherine Perkins or Fr. Jay.

A Word of Thanks - 40 copies of the Parish Mass Books have now been purchased for the Ordinary Time; many thanks to the donor.

Dates for your Diary – Please make a note of these future events:

- **Diocesan Pilgrimage to Our Lady of Walsingham** | 5th May 1200-1630.
- **Solemn Mass in Latin, Vespers & Benediction** | 10th May at the Cathedral of St John the Baptist. Please see details posted on the notice board.
- **Diocesan Jubilee of Hope Children's Pilgrimage to Walsingham** | **Saturday 31st May** – Further details to follow.
- **Pentecost Sunday** | **8th June 2025** – This Pentecost Sunday, instead of our usual International Mass, we will welcome a special Mission Appeal from the Holy Ghost Fathers (Spiritans). As we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, let us respond with generosity to support their vital missionary work around the world.
- **Parish Christian Initiation of Adults** | **5th July at 1800** – We are pleased to announce that after a year of rigorous instruction, four adults have expressed their conviction and desire to be baptised and initiated to the Catholic Faith. This will take place on 5th July at the 1800 Mass. We ask your support and prayers for the candidates in this journey.