

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

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HOLY WEEK *PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD*

27 & 28 March / 4 April 2021

Dear Lord Jesus Christ,

As we begin the Holy Week, we ask you to bless us that we too accompany you on your journey towards the Resurrection.

May I be the donkey that carried you. May I carry you and your values through my words and deeds.

May I be one among the people of Jerusalem to spread their garments on the road and be the children of the Hebrews who sang “Hosanna!” May I always sing your praises remembering your wonders and love in my life.

May I be one with your Apostles who shared your last supper with you. And may I be with you, lying close to you, to listen to your new commandment.

May I too go with you and with Peter, James and John to Gethsemane. May I not sleep but keep watch with you and hear your words, “My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, it will be done”.

On the day of your passion, may I be with your Mother Mary to follow your salvific journey to Calvary. May I carry your cross like Simon of Cyrene. May I be like Veronica to comfort you when you greatly need it.

May I stand near the Holy Cross with your Mother, Mary of Magdala and Mary wife of Clopas. May I hear your voice of great sacrifice giving your Mother to me and to humanity saying, “Woman, this is your Son”, and “This is your Mother”. May I always follow Her to follow You and cherish her Motherly love and care.

May I witness the completion of the mission of your incarnation as you say “It is accomplished”.

And, I on the day of joy, may I be with your Disciples to witness your Resurrection.
Amen

[Fr Antony]

Holy Week in our Parish

Holy Week, “the Great Week of our Salvation” begins today, at one end Passion Sunday and at the other end the Easter Triduum of Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter vigil.

Passion [Palm] Sunday: [Mass Time: 6.30pm (Sat); 9am, 11.30am and 1pm] The palm branches blessed during the celebration of the liturgy will be distributed to the faithful as they leave the church after Mass.

Mass of the Lord's Supper [Mass Time: 6.00pm and 8pm]

The Easter Triduum begins with the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper. Holy Thursday is the anniversary of the Lord's Supper when Jesus ate the Passover meal with His apostles. It was then that He instituted the Eucharist and commanded His first priests to repeat this action as a Memorial to Him. It was also then that He washed their feet and gave us an example and command of love.

Reconciliation Service

[Mon 6.30pm]: This is an opportunity to receive the Lord's healing and forgiveness in the Sacrament. Three priests will be available to hear confessions in different languages.

This year, the Washing of the Feet is omitted and there is no procession to the Altar of Repose. The Reserved Sacrament is kept in the Tabernacle of the church. The altar will not be stripped in the usual manner since the Blessed Sacrament is reserved at that altar. Watching in lieu of the Altar of Repose is not possible this year.

GOOD FRIDAY

This year we shall have the **Stations of the Cross** at **10am, 12 noon, 6pm and 8pm**. A solemn blessing with the relic of the **Real Wood of the Holy Cross** given after each liturgy of the Station of the Cross. **The celebration of the Lord's Passion will begin at 3pm.**

For *The Adoration of the Holy Cross*, we will use the second form for ease. For the *Adoration*, the Veneration of the Cross is limited to the priest alone. After I have done this, I will “invite the people present in a few words to adore the Holy Cross and afterwards, hold the Cross elevated higher for a brief time, for the faithful to adore in silence”. This will be expressed by the faithful through a short period of silent prayer, a gesture such as a bow in their places, followed by another short period of silent prayer.

It is recommended that at all acts of worship on Good Friday in the churches of England and Wales, the opportunity for the faithful to contribute to the Holy See collection for the *Holy Places of Palestine* will be available.

HOLY SATURDAY: The Church waits today at the Lord's tomb, meditating on His Passion and Death. She refrains from all ceremony until nightfall. During the night-watch (Vigil Service) sorrow and mourning give way to joy and celebration. **Morning prayer of the Church 10am; Blessing of Food at 11am.**

Easter Vigil [Mass times: Sat 11am] The Great Vigil of Easter is the most joyous and beautiful liturgy of the Church Year. This most ancient of Holy Days is rich in symbolism, saturated with the Word of God, and is, in fact, the principal celebration of the Resurrection of Our Lord. Throughout the ages, it has been in this service that countless saints have proclaimed, "Alleluia, Christ is risen!"

Easter Sunday [Mass times: 9am, 11.30am, 1pm and 6pm].

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Live Stream: <https://holy-cross-stream.click2stream.com>

Zoom: **ID:** 7578777461; **Passcode:** 20212021

SAT 6:30pm	Joseph Roe R.I.P.
SUN 09:00am 11.30am 1.00pm	Palm Sunday William Benzynie R.I.P. People of the Parish
MON 09.15am 6.30pm	Rev. John Mulligan R.I.P. <i>Service of Reconciliation</i>
TUE 09.15am	Theresa Green R.I.P.
WED 09.15am	Evelyn & Patrick Fletcher R.I.P.
THU 09.15am [Via Zoom only] 8.00pm	Holy Mass of the Lord's Supper Thanksgiving For all Priests who have served in Holy Cross Len Calver R.I.P.
FRI 10.00am 12.00am 3.00 pm 6.00pm 8.00pm	<i>Stations of the Cross</i> <i>Stations of the Cross</i> The Passion of Our lord <i>Stations of the Cross</i> <i>Stations of the Cross</i>

Virtual Meeting with Fr Antony via Zoom: If you would like to speak to Fr Antony, please use the ID and Passcode, on **Monday this week** from 11am. If there is someone before you, please wait in the Zoom Waiting Room.

Meeting ID: 7578777461; **Passcode:** 20212021

Or [Click Here](#)

9 pm for Night Prayer Every Day: In this Pandemic, let us pray together as God's family and receive His blessings before going to sleep. Please invite your family also to join prayer.

Meeting ID: 7578777461; **Passcode:** 20212021, Or [Click Here](#)

Lenten Retreat via Zoom: Every **Tuesday from 7.30pm.**

Meeting ID: 7578777461; **Passcode:** 20212021

Please watch this video before participating the retreat: [Click Here](#)

For more information, please click the web link of the Diocesan Spirituality

Commission: <http://www.southwarkdsc.org.uk/followme>

The Church Care Team undertakes a deep clean and sanitises our church every Saturday at 12 noon. Sincere thanks to our Church Care Team for their sacrifices. [Please Click](#) here to join the WhatsApp group for the Church Care Team.

Please pray for the sick: Myra Hannon, Melanie Thomas, Florence Nosegbe, Lydia Joseph, Pat Vessey, John Conway, Gala Lobo, Mary Emmanuel, Pat Doyle, Tommy Murphy and Alan Durkin. If you would like the parish community to pray for the sick members of your family and to be added in the newsletter, please send us an email.

Please Join our Holy Cross WhatsApp groups...
[please click and join if you wish to participate]

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[please click and join if you wish to participate]

Morning Blessings [to receive Bible reflections and blessings – every day]:
<https://chat.whatsapp.com/EG7VHLJfMAOHuDqCivs97w>

Church Care Team [every Saturday 12 noon]:
<https://chat.whatsapp.com/LLxRcM2UJgw7CHwGGI5vVA>

Welcome Ministers: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/D1BJE19Dd1O4K3MhO9bjlW>

9pm Monastery [to pray the night prayer of the Church every day at 9pm]:
<https://chat.whatsapp.com/FBNBqhXSuyjBChJn4usA3x>

New to Catholic Faith? [kindly forward those link to anyone who would like to know more about Catholic Faith]: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/GEbv8LihA7w4pWhBirehwF>

Holy Cross Choir [Main Choir for feasts]:
<https://chat.whatsapp.com/GKYGQ1qGjg9iZIAk6unJCI>

Holy Cross Readers [6.30pm – Saturday]:
<https://chat.whatsapp.com/IMm717jaoTdBK92FgSEn2d>

Holy Cross Readers [9am – Sunday]:
<https://chat.whatsapp.com/LEvkwiVE81lH7bg4Wo8u2s>

Holy Cross Readers [11.30am – Sunday]:
<https://chat.whatsapp.com/KucZUJt4dIXF4moTpqMlVz>

Holy Week Service Times 2021

During the time of the pandemic, there is a **maximum of 70 people** allowed in the church.

Palm Sunday

28th March

1830 - Holy Mass [Saturday Evening]
0900 - Holy Mass
1130 - Holy Mass
1300 - Holy Mass

Monday of Holy Week

29th March

0915 - Holy Mass
1830 - Service of Reconciliation

Tuesday of Holy Week

30th March

0915 - Holy Mass

Wednesday of Holy Week

31st March

0915 - Holy Mass

MAUNDY THURSDAY

1st April

1800 - Holy Mass of the Lord's Supper [1]
2000 - Holy Mass of the Lord's Supper [2]

Due to the restrictions in place because of the pandemic, there will be no *washing of the feet* and no *procession to the Altar of Repose*. The faithful will prayerfully leave the church after receiving the Holy Communion.

GOOD FRIDAY

2nd April

1000 - Stations of the Cross
1200 - Stations of the Cross
1500 - The Passion of Our Lord
1800 - Stations of the Cross
2000 - Stations of the Cross

At all services, we will be blessed with the Relic of the Real Wood of the Cross. There will be no individual *Veneration of the Cross* at the 15.00 service.

HOLY SATURDAY

3rd April

1000 - Morning Prayer
2300 - Easter Vigil

At our Easter Vigil there will be no *blessing of the holy fire*, and our parish RCIA candidates will not receive the sacraments at this service. There will be shorter forms of the readings to allow for a shorter-than-usual service.

EASTER SUNDAY

4th April

0900 - Holy Mass
1130 - Holy Mass
1300 - Holy Mass
1800 - Holy Mass


All services will be live streamed for participation from home


Wishing everyone a very prayerful and blessed Holy Week, Fr Antony



HOLY WEEK - READERS

Palm Sunday (27/28 Mar)	READERS		
	Reader	Narrator	Other
6.30 pm Saturday	Brendan Downton	Pat Barber	Andrew Newland
9.00 am Sunday	Mark Sanderson	Lesley Allen	Sam Duncan
11.30 am Sunday	Rosa	Ngozi	Mitchelle
1.00 pm Sunday	Lisa	Rosa	Louise
Maundy Thursday (1 Apr)	Readers		
MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER			
6.00 pm	Ijeoma		
8.00 pm	Jo Flahive		
Good Friday (2 Apr)	Leader		
10.00 am Stations of the Cross	Fr Antony		
Midday Stations of the Cross	Ijeoma		
The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ	Reader	Narrator	Other
3.00 pm	Rob	Ossie	Ngozi
	Leader		
6.00 pm Stations of the Cross	Cath Sanderson		
8.00 pm Stations of the Cross	Ossie Folkes		
Easter Saturday (3 Apr)	READERS		
	Reader One	Reader Two	Reader Three
11 pm EASTER VIGIL	Mitchelle	Anne Mellis	Fabian
Easter Sunday (4 Apr)	Readers		
9.00 am	Ijeoma		
11.30 am	Jo		
1.00 pm	Lisa		
6.00 pm	Andrew		







SUNDAY HOLY MASS

Readings at Mass

First reading – Isaiah 50: 4-7

I did not cover my face against insult – I know I shall not be shamed.

The Lord has given me
a disciple's tongue.
So that I may know how to reply to the wearied
he provides me with speech.
Each morning he wakes me to hear,
to listen like a disciple.
The Lord has opened my ear.
For my part, I made no resistance,
neither did I turn away.
I offered my back to those who struck me,
my cheeks to those who tore at my beard;
I did not cover my face
against insult and spittle.
The Lord comes to my help,
so that I am untouched by the insults.
So, too, I set my face like flint;
I know I shall not be shamed.

Responsorial Psalm – Ps 21

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

All who see me deride me.
They curl their lips, they toss their heads.
'He trusted in the Lord, let him save him;
Let him release him if this is his friend'.

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Many dogs have surrounded me,
a band of the wicked beset me.
They tear holes in my hands and my feet.
I can count every one of my bones.

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

They divide my clothing among them.
They cast lots for my robe.
O Lord, do not leave me alone,
my strength, make haste to help me!

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

I will tell of your name to my brethren
And praise you where they are assembled.
‘You who fear the Lord give him praise;
all sons of Jacob, give him glory.
Revere him, Israel’s sons.’

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Second reading - Philippians 2: 6-11

Christ humbled himself, but God raised him high.

His state was divine,
yet Christ Jesus did not cling
to his equality with God
but emptied himself
to assume the condition of a slave
and became as men are;
and being as all men are,
he was humbler yet,
even to accepting death,
death on a cross.
But God raised him high
and gave him the name
which is above all other names
so that all beings
in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld,
should bend the knee at the name of Jesus
and that every tongue should acclaim
Jesus Christ as Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Gospel Acclamation – Phil 2: 8-9

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!
Christ was humbler yet,
even to accepting death, death on a cross.
But God raised him high
and gave him the name which is above all names.
Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCODING TO MARK

Key: N. Narrator. ✠ Jesus. O. Other single speaker. C. Speaker representing the crowd.

N. It was two days before the Passover and the feast of Unleavened Bread, and the chief priests and the scribes were looking for a way to arrest Jesus by some trick and have him put to death. For they said,

C. It must not be during the festivities, or there will be a disturbance among the people.

N. Jesus was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper; he was at dinner when a woman came in with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment, pure nard. She broke the jar and poured the ointment on his head. Some who were there said to one another indignantly,

C. Why this waste of ointment? Ointment like this could have been sold for over three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor.

N. and they were angry with her. But Jesus said,

✠ Leave her alone. Why are you upsetting her? What she has done for me is one of the good works. You have the poor with you always, and you can be kind to them whenever you wish, but you will not always have me. She has done what was in her power to do: she has anointed my body beforehand for its burial. I tell you solemnly, wherever throughout all the world the Good News is proclaimed, what she has done will be told also, in remembrance of her.

N. Judas Iscariot, one of the Twelve, approached the chief priests with an offer to hand Jesus over to them. They were delighted to hear it, and promised to give him money; and he looked for a way of betraying him when the opportunity should occur.

On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb was sacrificed, his disciples said to him,

C. Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the passover?

N. So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them,

✠ Go into the city and you will meet a man carrying a pitcher of water. Follow him, and say to the owner of the house which he enters, 'The Master says: "Where is my dining room in which I can eat the passover with my disciples?"' He will show you a large upper room furnished with couches, all prepared. Make the preparations for us there.

N. The disciples set out and went to the city and found everything as he had told them, and prepared the Passover.

When evening came he arrived with the Twelve. And while they were at table eating, Jesus said,

✠ I tell you solemnly, one of you is about to betray me, one of you eating with me.

N. They were distressed and asked him, one after another,

C. Not I, surely?

N. He said to them,

✠ It is one of the Twelve, one who is dipping into the same dish with me. Yes, the Son of Man is going to his fate, as the scriptures say he will, but alas for that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! Better for that man if he had never been born!

N. And as they were eating he took some bread, and when he had said the blessing he broke it and gave it to them, saying:

✠ Take it: this is my body.

N. Then he took a cup, and when he had returned thanks he gave it to them, and all drank from it, and he said to them,

✠ This is my blood, the blood of the covenant, which is to be poured out for many. I tell you solemnly, I shall not drink any more wine until the day I drink the new wine in the kingdom of God.

N. After psalms had been sung they left for the Mount of Olives. And Jesus said to them,

✠ You will all lose faith, for the scripture says: 'I shall strike the shepherd and the sheep will be scattered.' However, after my resurrection I shall go before you to Galilee.

N. Peter said,

O. Even if all lose faith, I will not.

N. And Jesus said to him,

✠ I tell you solemnly, this day, this very night, before the cock crows twice, you will have disowned me three times.

N. But he repeated still more earnestly,

O. If I have to die with you, I will never disown you.

N. And they all said the same.

They came to a small estate called Gethsemane, and Jesus said to his disciples,

✠ Stay here while I pray.

N. Then he took Peter and James and John with him. And a sudden fear came over him, and great distress. And he said to them,

✠ My soul is sorrowful to the point of death. Wait here, and keep awake.

N. And going on a little further he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, this hour might pass him by. He said:

✠ Abba (Father)! Everything is possible for you. Take this cup away from me. But let it be as you, not I, would have it.

N. He came back and found them sleeping, and he said to Peter,

✠ Simon, are you asleep? Had you not the strength to keep awake one hour? You should be awake, and praying not to be put to the test. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.

N. Again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. And once more he came back and found them sleeping, their eyes were so heavy; and they could find no answer for him. He came back a third time and said to them,

✠ You can sleep on now and take your rest. It is all over. The hour has come. Now the Son of Man is to be betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up! Let us go! My betrayer is close at hand already.

N. Even while he was still speaking, Judas, one of the Twelve, came up with a number of men armed with swords and clubs, sent by the chief priests and the scribes and the elders. Now the traitor had arranged a signal with them. He had said,

O. The one I kiss he is the man. Take him in charge, and see he is well guarded when you lead him away.

N. So when the traitor came, he went straight up to Jesus and said,

O. Rabbi!

N. and kissed him. The others seized him and took him in charge. Then one of the bystanders drew his sword and struck out at the high priest's servant, and cut off his ear.

Then Jesus spoke:

✠ Am I a brigand, that you had to set out to capture me with swords and clubs? I was among you teaching in the Temple day after day and you never laid hands on me. But this is to fulfil the scriptures.

N. And they all deserted him and ran away. A young man who followed him had nothing on but a linen cloth. They caught hold of him, but he left the cloth in their hands and ran away naked.

They led Jesus off to the high priest; and all the chief priests and the elders and the scribes assembled there. Peter had followed him at a distance, right into the high priest's palace, and was sitting with the attendants warming himself at the fire.

The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for evidence against Jesus on which they might pass the death sentence. But they could not find any. Several, indeed, brought false evidence against him, but their evidence was conflicting. Some stood up and submitted this false evidence against him,

C. We heard him say, 'I am going to destroy this Temple made by human hands, and in three days build another, not made by human hands.'

N. But even on this point their evidence was conflicting. The high priest then stood up before the whole assembly and put this question to Jesus,

O. Have you no answer to that? What is this evidence these men are bringing against you?

N. But he was silent and made no answer at all. The high priest put a second question to him,

O. Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed One?

N. Jesus said,

✠ I am, and you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power and coming with the clouds of heaven.

N. The high priest tore his robes, and said:

O. What need of witnesses have we now? You heard the blasphemy. What is your finding?

N. And they all gave their verdict: he deserved to die.

Some of them started spitting at him and, blindfolding him, began hitting him with their fists and shouting,

C. Play the prophet!

N. And the attendants rained blows on him.

While Peter was down below in the courtyard, one of the high priest's servant-girls came up. She saw Peter warming himself there, stared at him and said,

O. You too were with Jesus, the man from Nazareth.

N. But he denied it, saying.

O. I do not know, I do not understand, what you are talking about.

N. And he went out into the forecourt. The servant-girl saw him and again started telling the bystanders,

O. This fellow is one of them.

N. But again he denied it. A little later the bystanders themselves said to Peter,

C. You are one of them for sure! Why, you are a Galilean.

N. But he started calling down curses on himself and swearing,

O. I do not know the man you speak of.

N. At that moment the cock crew for the second time, and Peter recalled how Jesus had said to him, 'Before the cock crows twice, you will have disowned me three times.' And he burst into tears.

First thing in the morning, the chief priests together with the elders and scribes, in short the whole Sanhedrin, had their plan ready. They had Jesus bound and took him away and handed him over to Pilate.

Pilate questioned him:

O. Are you the king of the Jews?

N. He answered,

✠ It is you who say it.

N. And the chief priests brought many accusations against him. Pilate questioned him again:

O. Have you no reply at all? See how many accusations they are bringing against you!

N. But, to Pilate's amazement, Jesus made no further reply.

At festival time Pilate used to release a prisoner for them, anyone they asked for. Now a man called Barabbas was then in prison with the rioters who had committed murder during the uprising. When the crowd went up and began to ask Pilate the customary favour, Pilate answered them

O. Do you want me to release for you the king of the Jews?

N. For he realised it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed Jesus over. The chief priests, however, had incited the crowd to demand that he should release Barabbas for them instead. Then Pilate spoke again:

O. But in that case, what am I to do with the man you call king of the Jews?

N. They shouted back,

C. Crucify him!

N. Pilate asked them,

O. Why? What harm has he done?

N. But they shouted all the louder,

C. Crucify him!

N. So Pilate, anxious to placate the crowd, released Barabbas for them and, having ordered Jesus to be scourged, handed him over to be crucified.

The soldiers led him away to the inner part of the palace, that is, the Praetorium, and called the whole cohort together. They dressed him up in purple, twisted some thorns into a crown and put it on him. And they began saluting him,

C. Hail, king of the Jews!

N. They struck his head with a reed and spat on him; and they went down on their knees to do him homage. And when they had finished making fun of him, they took off the purple and dressed him in his own clothes.

They led him out to crucify him: they enlisted a passer-by, Simon of Cyrene, father of Alexander and Rufus, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross. They brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha, which means the place of the skull.

They offered him wine mixed with myrrh, but he refused it. Then they crucified him, and shared out his clothing, casting lots to decide what each should get. It was the third hour when they crucified him. The inscription giving the charge against him read: 'The King of the Jews.' And they crucified two robbers with him, one on his right and one on his left.

The passers-by jeered at him; they shook their heads and said,

C. Aha! So you would destroy the Temple and rebuild it in three days! Then save yourself: come down from the cross!

N. The chief priests and the scribes mocked him among themselves in the same way. They said,

C. He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Christ, the king of Israel, come down from the cross now, for us to see it and believe.

N. Even those who were crucified with him taunted him.

When the sixth hour came there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice,

✠ Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?

N. which means, 'My God, my God, why have you deserted me?' When some of those who stood by heard this, they said

C. Listen, he is calling on Elijah.

N. Someone ran and soaked a sponge in vinegar and, putting it on a reed, gave it him to drink, saying:

O. Wait and see if Elijah will come to take him down.

N. But Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.

All kneel and pause for a moment.

And the veil of the Temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The centurion, who was standing in front of him, had seen how he had died, and he said,

O. In truth this man was a son of God.

N. There were some women watching from a distance. Among them were Mary of Magdala, Mary who was the mother of James the younger and Joset, and Salome. These used to follow him and look after him when he was in Galilee. And there were many other women there who had come up to Jerusalem with him.

It was now evening, and since it was Preparation Day (that is, the vigil of the sabbath), there came Joseph of Arimathaea, a prominent member of the Council, who himself lived in the hope of seeing the kingdom of God, and he boldly went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Pilate, astonished that he should have died so soon, summoned the centurion and enquired if he was already dead. Having been assured of this by the centurion, he granted the corpse to Joseph who bought a shroud, took Jesus down from the cross, wrapped him in the shroud and laid him in a tomb which had been hewn out of the rock. He then rolled a stone against the entrance to the tomb. Mary of Magdala and Mary the mother of Joset were watching and took note of where he was laid.