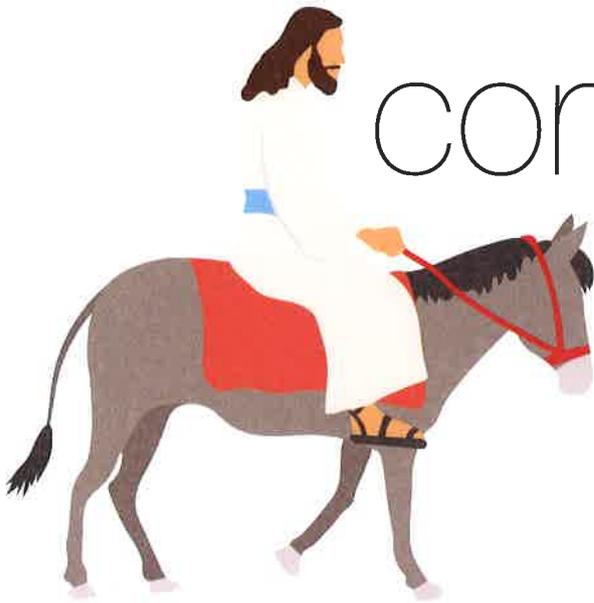


SUNDAY *Plus*

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord **Divine Office Week II** Year A

Your king
comes
to
you



Why an ass? Was it simply that he was tired? It hardly seems likely, for Jesus, throughout the Gospel narrative, seems to have been a very vigorous walker. Probably he wished to give some ceremony to his last entry into the city, but there was nothing very dignified in such a mount... The significance of the choice becomes evident when we remember that, throughout the Old Testament, the ass is the symbol of peace, humility and a quiet life, while the horse is the symbol of war, rapine and luxury... by the choice of this humble mount, Jesus gave the messianic gesture; the triumphal entry he was preparing was that foretold by the prophet Zechariah, and he wished, upon this day when the strands of his destiny were knotting together, to proclaim the fact.

It was not a Roman triumph; there were no marching legions or captives in chains...

The Pharisees, who had spies everywhere, were alarmed. They had expected that Jesus would come to Jerusalem for the Passover but they hoped he would arrive inconspicuously, as he had always done in the past. But, instead, he was being accorded a triumphal entry and ostensibly assuming the messianic pose. St Luke tells us that some of the Pharisees angrily besought Jesus to rebuke the acclaiming crowds. "I tell you, if they should keep silence," he said, "the stones will cry out instead." ...

He must have entered the city by the Golden Gate... the nearest to the Temple to which Jesus immediately went.

Henri Daniel-Rops,
Jesus and His Times

Let us resolve to bring [God's] love everywhere, never forgetting that each of our sisters and brothers is a dwelling place of God and that his presence is manifested above all in the little ones, in the poor and the suffering, who ask us to be thoughtful and compassionate Christians.

Pope Leo XIV

The Donkey

When fishes flew and forests walked
And figs grew upon thorn,
Some moment when the moon was blood
Then surely, I was born.

With monstrous head and sickening cry
And ears like errant wings,
The devil's walking parody
On all four-footed things.

The tattered outlaw of the earth,
Of ancient crooked will;
Starve, scourge, deride me: I am dumb,
I keep my secret still.

Fools! For I also had my hour;
One far fierce hour and sweet:
There was a shout about my ears,
And palms before my feet.

G. K. Chesterton

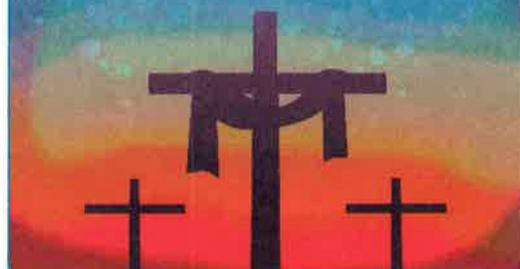
Lord, many people are hurting and walk with you in a special way during Holy Week, Comfort them and give them the courage and strength that they need.  Amen.

Feast of the week
Friday 3 April

Good Friday

The road to Calvary passes through the streets we tread each day. Usually, Lord, we are walking in the other direction, and so it may just happen that we encounter you, catch sight of your face, meet your gaze. We are going about our way as usual, and you are coming towards us. Your eyes look into our hearts. Then we find it hard to continue on, as if nothing happened. We can turn around, contemplate you and follow you. We can walk in your footsteps and come to realize that it was good for us to change direction.

Pope Francis, *Via Crucis* 2025



READINGS

Today:
Isaiah 50:4-7
Philippians 2:6-11
Matthew 26:14 - 27:66

Monday:
Isaiah 42:1-7
John 12:1-11

Tuesday:
Isaiah 49:1-6
John 13:21-33. 36-38

Wednesday:
Isaiah 50:4-9
Matthew 26:14-25

Thursday:
ChrisM Mass:
Isaiah 61:1-3. 6. 8-9
Apocalypse 1:5-8
Luke 4:16-21
Evening Mass:
Exodus 12:1-8. 11-14
1 Corinthians 11:23-26
John 13:1-15

Friday:
The Celebration of the
Passion of the Lord:
Isaiah 52:13 - 53:12
Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9
John 18:1 - 19:42

Saturday:
Romans 6:3-11
Matthew 28:1-10

Next Sunday:
Acts 10:34. 37-43
Colossians 3:1-4 or
1 Corinthians 5:6-8
John 20:1-9



St Cecilia's Church

101 Stonecot Hill, North Cheam, Surrey SM3 9HN

Contact us Via St Cecilia's Parish Office: Tel: **020 8641 3141**

Email: northcheam@rcaos.org.uk Website: www.stceciliarcchurch.co.uk

Facebook: [SaintCecilia Ncheam](https://www.facebook.com/SaintCeciliaNcheam).

Parochial Administrator: Fr Benedict Fadoju

Confessions: 5:00pm – 6:00pm Saturdays or please contact Fr Benedict on request

Hospital Chaplain: Fr Philip Pak Telephone: St Helier: 0208 296 2917

Useful information can be found by visiting the Diocesan Website at www.rcsouthwark.co.uk and the Sutton Deanery Website at www.suttondeanery.weebly.com

'He left behind the glory which He had with His father before the world was made and went forth for the salvation of His people.' St Anastasia of Antioch

PALM SUNDAY

Sat. 28th Mar. 6:30pm Helen Davey (RIP)
Sun. 29th Mar. 9:00am Deidre Egan (First Anniversary RIP)
11:00am For the Departed Souls of the Fernandez & Pinto Family (RIP)

Mon. 30th Mar. NO MASS
The church is open for private prayer.

Tues. 31st Mar. 11:00am. Funeral Mass of John Lydon (RIP)
Please note no 10am Tues

Wed. 1st Apr. 10:00am. No Mass
Everyone is invited to attend the Chrism Mass at 12:30pm at St George's Cathedral, London SE1

7:30pm. Stations of the Cross

EASTER TRIDUUM

Thur. 2nd Apr. 8:00pm. Mass of the Last Supper For all Priests
Waiting on the Lord until Midnight
Follows directly after Mass

Fri. 3rd Apr. 10:00am. Children's Stations of the Cross
3:00pm. The Passion of the Lord

Sat. 4th Apr. HOLY SATURDAY
10:00 am. Blessing of the Baskets

EASTER

8:00pm. EASTER VIGIL MASS
This Easter we welcome into the church Michael, Aaliyah, Henry & Owen All the Holy Souls and Murty Conneely (First Anniversary RIP)

Sun. 5th Apr. EASTER SUNDAY
THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD
9:30am Deirdre Griffiths (RIP)
11:00am Alf and Marie Oliva (RIP)

Offertory Good Friday is for the Holy Places of Palestine.

Easter Offertory The Easter Offertory is a gift to your Parish Priest. Please give generously what you can in support. Please keep all our priests past present and future in your prayers.

The Second Offertory of Easter will be for the parish's Lay Ministry Support to enable our parish groups to continue to function.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION

Prayers for the Sick & Housebound:

Please pray for the wellbeing of:
D.H.

- Adelaide Cotter, Paul Fairhall, Amy Bradbury, Marie Goti, Michael Christou, John Rosenow, Mary Silva, Michael Hoskins, Mary McFarlane, Brian Newman

If you wish to request a visit for the sick or housebound please contact the parish office.



Upcoming Mass Intentions for the Coming Week

- 7th Dorothy Upton, 8th Phyllis Fibley, 9th John Gorham, 10th Carmel Fitzgerald, 11th Helen Davey, 11th Lorraine Brookes, 12th Oscar Rosaria, 12th John Rigida & Family, 12th George Foran



Repose of the Soul

Please pray for the Repose of the Soul of John Lydon whose Funeral Mass is 31st March at 11am.

For the Repose of the Soul

of Noel Long who died unexpectedly on Friday 20th March aged 67. Funeral Mass is 16th April at 12.30pm and at the Cemetery at 2pm.

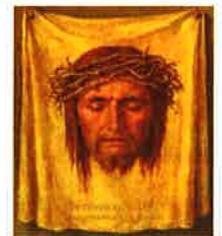
For the Repose of the Soul

of Eileen Quirke, Funeral Mass 17th April at 12noon, burial at Merton & Sutton Joint Cemetery, SM4 4NW at 2:00pm

For the Repose of the Soul

of Donal Smith a long standing member of our parish. Funeral Mass is on the 23rd April at 11.30am and at the Crematorium 1.20pm.

May they Rest in Peace and Rise to Glory. Amen.



Parish Surgery Hours during Holy Week

There is no parish surgery on Tuesday and Thursday during Holy Week. Please call for emergencies only.

Parish Office Hours

There is no Parish Office attendance during Holy Week.

GIFT AID BOXES

if you are registered for gift aid, the boxes are now available for collection from the Narthex.