

Parish Church of All Saints Boyne Hill Maidenhead

# Holy Week and Easter 2018

Palm Sunday is the start of the most important week in the Christian Calendar - **Holy Week**.

We invite you to follow Jesus on the Way of the Cross, from his triumphant entry into Jerusalem, through the Last Supper, his Trial, Crucifixion, and Death, on to his glorious Resurrection.

Seven days from Hosanna!, through Crucify! and on to victory Alleluia!

Since the Gospels give differing accounts of what happened during this momentous week, we cannot say with accuracy what took place when and where.

Holy Week is not an historical pageant but a living liturgy, when hopefully we experience something new each time we make this spiritual journey. This year we will be using the book 'How to pray like Jesus and the Saints' by Alfred McBride. In this booklet we have tried to set out the significance of the days and give details of worship at All Saints.

Do have a blessed Holy Week wherever you are.

## Palm Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> March

**8.00am** The Parish Communion will be a short service during which the Palms are distributed.

**9.45am** A combined service in the Desborough Suite at the Town Hall. There will be distribution of palms followed by The People's Passion led by the Roughshod Theatre Company.

**6.00pm** Stations of the Cross for Passion Sunday

## Monday in Holy Week 26<sup>th</sup> March

This may have been the day that Jesus "cleansed the Temple", and the evening that he was anointed with precious ointment by a woman thought by some to be Mary Magdalene.

Today may provide an opportunity for you to undertake a spiritual spring clean, maybe in preparation for making your Confession? (see page 6)

**7.30pm** Eucharist with address by Jo Sheppard 'Small deeds—great love' - St. Therese of Lisieux.

## Tuesday in Holy Week 27<sup>th</sup> March

From an early date pilgrims in Jerusalem followed the last journey of Christ from Pilate's house to Calvary and the tomb. This devotion takes place during Lent and Passiontide in many churches, moving to each of the fourteen stations in turn, singing hymns and meditating on what each station portrays.

**7.30pm** Eucharist with Address by Jeanette Lock 'Pray with Mary - Mary's Song- The Magnificat.'

## EASTER DAY 1<sup>st</sup> April

***Alleluia! Christ is Risen, He is Risen indeed, Alleluia!***

This is the Day that the Lord has made, all Christians should be in Church on this day to celebrate our Lord's triumph over death opening the Gate of Heaven to all who believe.

**8.00am** Holy Communion according to the Book of Common Prayer. a traditional quiet and reflective service.

**10.00am** The All Age Parish Eucharist with Procession during which the Easter Garden is blessed.  
Preacher Fr Jeremy Harris.

Easter-tide lasts for fifty days from Easter Day until Pentecost. As we have kept the forty days of Lent in reflective and penitential mode let us now keep the Feast until the coming of the Holy Spirit on the birthday of the Church.

***We are an Easter people and Alleluia is our name!***

St. Augustine

*With prayers and every blessing for a joyful*

*Easter-tide*

*Fr. Jeremy,*

*Revd Judith,*

*, Jeanette Lock,*

*the Churchwardens*

*and members of the Parochial Church Council.*

## THE SACRAMENT of RECONCILIATION

*(commonly called CONFESSION)*

You may wish to consider making your Confession, as a result of keeping Holy Week. In the Church of England it is usual to do this before the major Festivals especially at Easter. Fr Jeremy (01628 626921) is available to hear Confessions by appointment.

### Making your Confession is easy

Spend some time in preparing yourself, going over your life and thinking about those particular sins which seem to constantly defeat you. Be honest and keep your list fairly simple, write the points down.

You can either sit or kneel down and your Confession can be formal using the words on the blue side of the card or completely informal. List your sins with explanation if you like.

The Priest will listen and possibly give advice before pronouncing the Words of Absolution. This is an assurance from Jesus that your sins are forgiven. The Priest may also give you a small penance, possibly a Psalm to say or a Bible Passage to read, you can either do this in Church or at home.

All Priests who hear Confessions are bound by The Seal of the Confessional which means they are not allowed to talk about anything you say in your Confession not even to you.

The Priest "forgets" everything said in the Confessional, and so should you. "An ancient rule *Of* confession *recommends* that all may make Confession, some *Of* us *should*, but no one *must*."

**"Go, your sins are forgiven and remember me, a sinner."**

Closing words from a Confessor

## Wednesday in Holy Week 28<sup>th</sup> March

A day in which Jesus may have rested, knowing the ordeal he was about to go through and how it would end. His followers were at this stage fairly confident that he was about to bring in the Kingdom. A day for prayer and reflection.

Today Fr. Jeremy will give the address on 'Thus shall you pray-The Our Father'

**10.00am** Eucharist Fr Jeremy

**7.30pm** Eucharist Fr Jeremy

## THE EASTER TRIDUUM

### Maundy Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March

*On this day at the Cathedral Church of Christ Oxford our Bishops, Priests and Deacons will be renewing their vows at The Chrism Eucharist at 11.00am when the Holy Oils are Blessed*

Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter belong together, try and take part in each of the three main services starting with the Eucharist of the Lord's Supper, tonight, and concluding with an Easter Eucharist.

The Last Supper was the occasion of the institution of the Eucharist. It is almost certain that Jesus was celebrating Passover with his apostles. At the close of the meal he took bread and wine which he blessed and then gave it to them saying. "*This is my body which is given for you.* then he took the cup saying, "*This is my blood of the New Covenant shed for you and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this in remembrance of me*". Most Christians have continued to carry out this command in a variety of settings and with differing interpretations, as the central act of worship.

It was at the start of the Supper that Jesus took the servant rôle and washed the feet of the disciples and gave a new commandment. That we should love one another, as he loves us. Why not come forward at the Foot-washing, an act of humility. This is a liturgical act and so only one foot is washed.

The Eucharist begins in joyful mood, the bell is rung at the Gloria and then remains silent until Easter Day. The Eucharistic Prayer and the rest of the service is said simply. At the close the remaining consecrated elements are taken in solemn procession to the Altar of Repose for the Gethsemane Watch which lasts until Midnight. Do try and stay for at least half an hour in prayer, or return during the Vigil. There is a list on the Cross-aisle table to try and ensure that at least two people are present during each half hour of the Watch. Please initial if you can be present for some of the time. Of course you can stay for as long as you wish. It would be great if there are at least twelve people in Church at any time throughout the watch.

The Altars are stripped and the Church left bare for Good Friday.

**7.30pm** Eucharist of the Last Supper and Gethsemane Watch  
Fr Jeremy celebrating and preaching

**11.50pm** **Night Prayer**

## Good Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March

Once a holiday, Good Friday has become an ordinary working day for many. This is as it was on the first Good Friday. Jesus endured a mock trial and then sets off with his Cross to be crucified between two convicted thieves. Peter had denied that he ever knew Jesus and most of the other disciples had fled away. Think for a moment of Jesus' loneliness, his utter humiliation, the mocking and jeering, the sheer agony of crucifixion. Jesus died.

**10.00am** Morning Prayer and The Litany from Common Worship

**11.00am** An opportunity to join with other Christians in the town for a Walk of Witness, starting from Sainsbury's Piazza in Provident Place and finishing at the High Street Methodist Church.

**3.00pm** The Passion of Christ. An hour at the Cross. We focus on the Crucifixion with Readings, Hymns, Reflection, Prayers, Veneration of the Cross, and Communion from the Reserved Sacrament, which is brought from the Altar of Repose. The Service ends around 4.00 pm. Hot Cross Buns will be served at the back of Church.

## Holy Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> March

Help is needed to prepare the Church for Easter:

- cleaning,
- flowers,
- Easter Garden,
- banners etc.

Do come and be part of this preparation.

This was the day Jesus' body was prepared for burial, what a surprise lay in store!

***The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) by appointment, see page 6.***

**8.00pm** **Easter Ceremonies and First Mass of Easter.** The New Fire is kindled, the Paschal Candle lit and brought into Church, for a Festival of Light, the Exultet is sung, Baptismal Vows are renewed and the First Mass of Easter is celebrated. Followed by Easter hospitality.