

## **PALM SUNDAY – 10<sup>th</sup> April 2022**

### **HOLY WEEK AND EASTER**

Through Palm Sunday we enter into Holy Week, ascending to Mount Calvary where, in the Humiliation of the Cross, the Son glorifies the Father in the most sublime offering of worship ever to be offered, in surrendering Himself to the Will of the Father that He should be obedient to His witness to the Truth even unto death; that He should not seek in any way to defend Himself and that in surrendering Himself to death, as a willing and innocent victim, He would overthrow and conquer death in His Glorious Resurrection from the Dead and make that Resurrection Power forever available to us, as we surrender to Him in His surrender to the Father. May this Holy Week be for us a new consecration to the Risen Jesus as we pray that the Risen, Ascended and Glorified Jesus may pour out the Holy Spirit upon us in a New Pentecost and especially on those preparing this month for the Sacrament of Confirmation. May God grant us all a Holy and Blessed Eastertide.

**N.B.** Although the omicron virus seems not to be as debilitating as previous outbreaks, in view of the number within both our congregations contracting covid ( some for the second time) and to respond to a general desire to proceed cautiously, we shall once again this year **greatly simplify** our Holy Week and Easter ceremonies so that, in seeking to accommodate larger numbers this year, everyone feels comfortable in attending. Hopefully, God willing, next year we can return to the fuller celebration of the rituals and ceremonies of Holy Week and Easter.

**Palm Sunday** Please pick up a Palm Cross as you enter - there will be a simple Blessing of the Palms, the First (Entrance ) Gospel and then the first hymn. This year, as last year, the Passion Gospel will be the shorter version and not divided into parts for different voices.

**Holy Thursday** As last year, there will be no washing of feet or stripping of the Altar. After Mass the Blessed Sacrament will be reposed in the Tabernacle behind the Altar ( rather than in the Lady Chapel ) and the church will remain open until 9 o'clock for private prayer in which the Holy Father has asked that, in particular, we remember the people of Ukraine.

**Good Friday** The Passion Gospel will be the shorter version and not divided into parts for different voices. The Solemn Intercessions will include an additional petition ( from the Bishops' Conference ) for the people of Ukraine. As last year, there will be no processing to, and kissing of, the Cross but the Crucifix will be lifted up for general veneration with the words "Behold the Cross on which hung the Saviour of the World" with the response, "Come let us adore".

**Easter Vigil** As last year, there will be no Easter Fire outside the church but begin with the blessing and lighting of the Paschal Candle ( in situ ).

**HOLY WEEK** ( No Mass on Monday or Tuesday ). Wednesday (13<sup>th</sup> April ) 11-30 a.m. Chrism Mass at the Cathedral; **Holy Thursday** ( 14<sup>th</sup> April ) 7-00 p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper; **Good Friday** ( 15<sup>th</sup> April ) 2-00 p.m. Liturgy of the Lord's Passion; 6-00 p.m. ( St .John Kemble ) Stations and Veneration of the Cross; **Holy Saturday** – 8-00 p.m. Easter Vigil; **Easter Sunday** – 7-30 a.m ( Dawn Mass ); 9-00 a.m. Mass ( St. John Kemble ); 10-30 a.m. Mass.

**Mass Intentions this Sunday:** ( **PALM SUNDAY** 10<sup>th</sup> April ) **Saturday** ( St.John Kemble) 4-00p.m. Parish & People; (St. Joseph's) 6-00p.m. Gillian Boland (RIP) ( S.J.P.G. ); **Sunday** – **N.B. NO 8-00a.m.** 10-30a.m. Michelle O'Brien (RIP) ( Philip & Patrick ).

**Weekday Mass Intentions:** Holy Thursday ( 14<sup>th</sup> April ) Colin Stockton (RIP) ( B.Payne & family );

**Mass Intentions next Sunday** ( 17<sup>th</sup> April – Easter Day ) **Saturday** 8-00 p.m. (St.Joseph's ) Parish & People; **Sunday** 7-30 a.m Maureen Pitt (RIP) ( Sharon Morgan & family ); 9-00 a.m. ( St. John Kemble ) Catherine Newcombe (RIP) ( June & family);10-30a.m. Marjorie Grant (RIP) ( SJPG ).

**Readers: This Sunday** ( 10<sup>th</sup> April – Palm Sunday ) 6-00 p.m. Patrick McAteer; 10-30 a.m. Peter Buckingham. **Next Sunday** ( 17<sup>th</sup> April - Easter Day ) 7-30 a.m. Adrian & Paula Macpherson-Jones; 10-30 a.m. Babs Hunt.

**Candles** The Sacred Heart – Annie & William Cochrane (RIP); Our Lady - The Green Family ( Well-being); St. Joseph – Norman Evans (RIP)

**Anniversaries:** Of your charity, remember in prayer those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Benetia Whittington (2020); Dorothy Palfrey (2006); Mario Berni (2009); Raphaela Aprea ( 2007 ); James O'Donnell (2007); Edna May McCarthy (2011); *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, And let light perpetual shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.*

**UKRAINE** Our Lady of Kiev is probably the most famous Icon of Our Lady ( **please see the Hymn Sheet and the icon in front of the statue of Our Lady** – you may wish to light a candle ) was made in 1132. It is a masterpiece, comparable for its beauty and psychological depths to the Mona Lisa and is the first great work in the Ukrainian School of Iconography. The Icon displays the great tenderness of Our Lady for her Divine Child. The Virgin's head touching the baby is a gesture of deep affection and the icon set the standard for Ukrainian icon painters which has never been surpassed. Providence has preserved the icon through centuries of war and ( ironically ) it was removed to Moscow in 1395.

**Prayer for Ukraine** ( from the Bishops 'Conference ) *"Mary, Our Lady of Kiev, Mother of God, We ask you to intercede for the people of Ukraine, For their government and all who suffer as a result of war. Be with them as you stood beside your Son, Suffering on the Cross at Calvary. Give them strength and courage, Through faith, hope and justice. May we, in our turn, Support them through prayer and generosity, That lives may be saved, the injured healed, that the dead may rest in peace, And that war will end in peace".*

**The Sacrament of Confirmation** Please remember in your prayers those preparing for Confirmation – Zaira and Joshua Zambrano, Carys Smitham, Tommy Parel, Maria Grabczewski, Oisín and Cian Fitchett, Eve Abell, Daniel Rowlands, Mia Faure, Joseph Payne, William Heslop, Callum Lavin, Martin and Marya Joseph and Bethany Clifford, Sophie Wheatley. The Confirmation Group meets after the 10-30 a.m. Mass. There will be no meetings on Palm Sunday or Easter Sunday – but a **full rehearsal** of the Confirmation Mass on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> April .

**Note for the diary!** - Archbishop George Stack will visit us on **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> April** (7-00 p.m. ) to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation. Four confirmation candidates from the Parish of Llandeilo will join with our 17 candidates which means that 21 pews will be reserved for each candidate, their sponsor and a few family/friends also in the pew. Extra family/friends may occupy the remaining 15 pews. If you do not have a seat reserved in the pew of one of the candidates, please come early to be sure of a seat! Please keep all the candidates in your prayers for the special day.

**Donations** toward the cost of decorating the Church with flowers at Easter - and also toward the cost of flowers and shrubs in the church grounds gratefully received. Many thanks.

**The Rosary and Marian Prayers of Devotion** Every Tuesday at 2-00 p.m. in the Lady Chapel ( for about half-an-hour). All welcome.

**Last Sunday's Collection:** St.Joseph's - £327-11 ( plus Direct Debits ); St.John Kemble – £60-00. Many thanks. **N.B. Envelope Boxes** – now available for collection at the back of the Church.

**The Sick and Housebound** Please continue to remember in your prayers all those who are sick and housebound, those in hospital and in our local care homes. Especially at this time, Peggy Swan ( Glynneath), Jane Boland, George Johnson, Nancy Morris, Cheryl Ford, Andrew Jenkins, Jason Saunders, Stephen Saunders, Yolanda Jones, Elizabeth Fluck, Lorna O'Brien, Betty Hopkins, Rose Williams, Donie O'Connell, Margaret Jeffrey, Dennis Taylor, Marion Brocksopp, Peter Thomas. Owen O'Connell. If you would like others to be remembered in this prayer list (with their permission) please supply their names.

**TO CONTACT THE PARISH/FATHER NEIL** - The Presbytery, Hillside Lane, Neath, SA11 1TG. 01639 643323  
**N.B. The phone in the Presbytery is now re-connected.** Parish Website – [www.catholicchurchneath.org.uk](http://www.catholicchurchneath.org.uk)

## ENTRANCE

- 1 Ride on! Ride on in majesty!  
Hark, all the tribes hosanna cry;  
thy humble beast pursues his road  
with palms and scattered garments strowed.
- 2 Ride on! Ride on in majesty!  
In lowly pomp ride on to die;  
O Christ, thy triumphs now begin  
o'er captive death and conquered sin.
- 3 Ride on! Ride on in majesty!  
The wingèd squadrons of the sky  
look down with sad and wondering eyes,  
to see the approaching sacrifice.
- 4 Ride on! Ride on in majesty!  
Thy last and fiercest strife is nigh;  
the Father, on his sapphire throne,  
expects his own anointed Son.
- 5 Ride on! Ride on in majesty!  
In lowly pomp ride on to die;  
bow thy meek head to mortal pain,  
then take, O God, thy power, and reign.

## OFFERTORY

- 1 Hail, Redeemer, King divine!  
Priest and Lamb, the throne is thine,  
King, whose reign shall never cease,  
Prince of everlasting peace.  
*Angels saints and nations sing:  
'Praised be Jesus Christ, our King;  
Lord of life, earth, sky and sea,  
King of love on Calvary.'*
- 2 King whose name creation thrills,  
rule our minds, our hearts, our wills,  
till in peace each nation rings  
with thy praises, King of kings.
- 3 King most holy, King of truth,  
guide the lowly, guide the youth;  
Christ thou King of glory bright,  
be to us eternal light.
- 4 Shepherd-King, o'er mountains steep,  
homeward bring the wandering sheep,  
shelter in one royal fold  
states and kingdoms.

## HOLY COMMUNION

- 1 From heaven You came, helpless babe,  
entered our world, Your glory veiled,  
not to be served but to serve,  
and give Your life that we might live.  
*This is our God, the Servant King,  
He calls us now to follow Him,  
to bring our lives as a daily offering  
of worship to the Servant King.*
- 2 There in the garden of tears  
my heavy load He chose to bear;  
His heart with sorrow was torn,  
'Yet not my will but yours,' He said.
- 3 Come see His hands and His feet,  
the scars that speak of sacrifice,  
hands that flung stars into space  
to cruel nails surrendered.
- 4 So let us learn how to serve  
and in our lives enthrone Him,  
each other's needs to prefer,  
for it is Christ we're serving.

## OUR LADY OF KIEV



" Mary, Our Lady of Kiev, Mother of God, We ask you to intercede for the people of Ukraine. For their government and all who suffer as a result of war. Be with them as you stood beside your Son, suffering on the Cross of Calvary. Give them strength and courage, through faith, hope and justice. May we in our turn, support them through prayer and generosity, that lives may be saved, the injured healed, that the dead may rest in peace, and that war will end in peace"

### **Prayer of Self-Dedication to Jesus Christ**

*Oblatio Sui*

*Ascribed to Saint Ignatius of Loyola (1491-1556)*

Lord Jesus Christ, take all my freedom, my memory, my understanding, and my will. All that I have and cherish you have given me. I surrender it all to be guided by your will. Your grace and your love are wealth enough for me. Give me these, Lord Jesus, and I ask for nothing more.

## RECESSIONAL

- 1 My song is love unknown,  
my Saviour's love to me,  
love to the loveless shown,  
that they might lovely be.  
O who am I, that for my sake,  
my Lord should take, frail flesh and die?
- 2 He came from his blest throne,  
salvation to bestow;  
but men made strange, and none  
the longed-for Christ would know,  
but O, my friend, my friend indeed,  
who at my need his life did spend!
- 3 Sometimes they strew his way,  
and his sweet praises sing;  
resounding all the day  
hosannas to their King;  
then 'Crucify!' is all their breath,  
and for his death they thirst and cry.
- 4 Why, what hath my Lord done?  
What makes this rage and spite?  
He made the lame to run,  
he gave the blind their sight.  
Sweet injuries! Yet they at these  
themselves displease, and 'gainst him  
rise.
- 5 They rise, and needs will have  
my dear Lord made away;  
a murderer they save,  
the Prince of Life they slay.  
Yet cheerful he to suffering goes,  
that he his foes from thence might free.
- 6 In life, no house, no home  
my Lord on earth might have:  
in death no friendly tomb  
but what a stranger gave.  
What may I say? Heaven was his home;  
but mine the tomb wherein he lay.
- 7 Here might I stay and sing,  
no story so divine,  
never was love, dear King,  
never was grief like thine.  
This is my Friend, whose sweet praise  
I all my days could gladly spend.

## **NOVENA to the HOLY SPIRIT**

Renew your wonders  
in this our day  
as by a new Pentecost.

Pope John XXIII

God the Holy Spirit  
Comforter and Sanctifier.  
Melt our hearts  
That we may accept your love.  
Renew our minds  
That we may know your truth.  
Strengthen our wills  
That we may serve you faithfully.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen