

| MARCH 2024 | | PARISH MASSES THIS WEEK | |
|--|---|--|---|
| Sa | 23 | 6pm | Thomas Quinlisk RIP (Gill) |
| Su | 24 | 9am | PALM SUNDAY For the parish |
| | | 11am | |
| M | 25 | 10am | Paul Craig RD (Newstead) |
| T | 26 | 10am | Bernadette Maugham RD (Byrne) |
| W | 27 | 11.30am Chrism Mass; St Chad's Cathedral | |
| Parking restrictions lifted on Maundy Thursday for those arriving after 6pm and leaving before 11pm. | | | |
| Thursday 28th March | | 7.30pm | Mass of the Lord's Supper <i>Watching at the altar of repose after Mass, ends with Night Prayer beginning at 9.15pm</i> |
| Parking restrictions lifted on Good Friday for those arriving from one hour before and leaving within one hour after the end of each service. | | | |
| Good Friday 29th March | 10am Stations of the Cross | | |
| | 3pm Solemn Liturgy of the Lord's Passion 7pm Quiet prayer before the Cross in solidarity with all who suffer. 8pm: <i>Litany of Divine Mercy / Night Prayer</i> | | |
| Parking restrictions lifted on Holy Saturday for arrivals from 7pm and leaving before midnight. | | | |
| Holy Saturday 30th March | | 8pm Vigil and 1st Mass of Easter | |
| No parking restrictions on Easter Sunday for those arriving from 8am and leaving by 2pm. | | | |
| Easter Sunday 31st March | 9am Mass: For the parish | | |
| | 11am Mass: Edward Tokalay RIP (Kyi) | | |
| RESOURCES FOR PRAYER | | | |
| 1. Parish prayer on Zoom (links on parish website homepage) Morning Prayer: Zoom meeting Mon to Sat at 8.30am; | | | |
| 2. Readings of the day and much more at Universalis.com | | | |
| 3. Sunday's Scripture readings: food for prayer during the week. | | | |
| Using the Sunday Scriptures to prepare for Sunday Mass, and to bring to prayer in the days after, is one of the best ways of ensuring that our faith is nourished by the Mass. The readings for next Sunday are Acts 4:32-35 • Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24 • 1 John 5:1-6 • John 20:19-31 | | | |
| Teas and Coffees in the Benedict Room after Wednesday Morning Mass — all are welcome | | | |
| Please pray for those who are sick including Mary Daniels, Lucy Szambir, Betty O'Connor; Theresa Monteiro; Craig Brooks, Brenda Davies; Stephen Burke; Lesley Devlin & Jean Lawlor. Please pray for Sarah Finnegan, Tony Lawlor, Margaret Lane, Kathleen Passey, Bernard Poller, Cara Gough, Margaret O'Gorman and all others whose anniversaries occur at this time. | | | |
| The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocesan policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Mary Rose. She can be contacted at: sg.stnicholas.boldmere@rcaob.org.uk Alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 or safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk | | | |

Homily

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayer of the Faithful

The Liturgy of the Eucharist

The Offertory Song

O King of might and splendour, creator most adored, this sacrifice we render to thee as sovereign Lord. May these our gifts be pleasing unto thy majesty, from sin, O Lord, release us, who have offended thee.

Thy body thou hast given, thy blood thou hast outpoured, that sin might be forgiven, O Jesus, living Lord. As now with love most tender, thy death we celebrate, our lives in self-surrender to thee we consecrate.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus, Dominus Deus Sabaoth. Pleni sunt caeli et terra, Hosanna in excelsis. Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini. Hosanna in excelsis.

Memorial Acclamation

Mortem tuam annuntiamus, Domine et tuam resurrectionem confitemur, donec venias.

THE COMMUNION RITE

The Lord's Prayer

Agnus Dei qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis. (x2)
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem.

Song after Communion

Jesus, name above all names, Beautiful Saviour, glorious Lord. Emmanuel, God is with us. Blessed Redeemer, Living word.

The Concluding Rites

Blessing and Dismissal

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Parish Priest: Fr Allen Morris **Deacon:** Rev John Garvey

Parish Safeguarding: Mary Rose (0121 354 4730)

Our Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No. 234216

The Introductory Rites

Opening Song

*All glory, laud, and honour to thee, Redeemer, King!
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.*

Thou art the King of Israel, thou David's royal Son, who in the Lord's name comest, the King and blessed One.

The company of angels are praising thee on high; and mortal men and all things created make reply.

The people of the Hebrews with palms before thee went; our praise and prayer and anthems before thee we present.

To thee before thy passion they sang their hymns of praise; to thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise.

Thou didst accept their praises; accept the prayers we bring, who in all good delightest, thou good and gracious King.

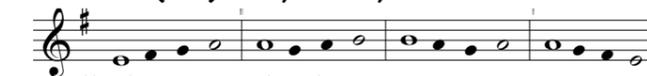
The Liturgy of the Word

Isaiah 50:4-7

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.

Psalm 21 (22):8-9,17-20,23-24



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.'

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.

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!

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.

Philippians 2:6-11

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



Glo - ry and praise to you, O Christ.
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.

The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark 14:1-15:47

Refrain: *Behold the Lamb of God,
behold the Lamb of God,
He takes away the sin, the sin of the world.*

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

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

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

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.' They were distressed and asked him, one after another, 'Not I, surely?' 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!'

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.' 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.'

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.'

Peter said 'Even if all lose faith, I will not.' 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.' But Peter repeated still more earnestly: 'If I have to die with you, I will never disown you.' 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.' 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.' 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.' 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.' 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 in to the hands of sinners. Get up! Let us go! My betrayer is close at hand already.'

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

So when the traitor came, he went straight up to Jesus and said, 'Rabbi!' 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.'

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, '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".' 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, 'Have you no answer to that? What is this evidence these men are bringing against you? But he was silent and made no answer at all.

The high priest put a second question to him, 'Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed One?' 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.' The high priest tore his robes, and said, 'What need of witnesses have we now? You heard the blasphemy. What is your finding?'



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 'Play the prophet!' 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 'You too were with Jesus, the man from Nazareth.' But he denied it saying, 'I do not know, I do not understand, what you are talking about.' And he went out into the forecourt. The servant-girl saw him and again started telling the bystanders, 'This fellow is one of them.' But he again denied it. A little later the bystanders themselves said to Peter, 'You are one of

them for sure! Why, you are a Galilean.' But he started calling curses on himself and swearing, 'I do not know the man you speak of.' 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, 'Are you the king of the Jews?' Jesus answered, 'It is you who say it.' And the chief priests brought many accusations against him. Pilate questioned him again, 'Have you no reply at all? See how many accusations they are bringing against you! 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, 'Do you want me to release for you the king of the Jews?' 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. 'But in that case, what am I to do with the man you call king of the Jews?' They shouted back, 'Crucify him!' Pilate asked them, 'Why? What harm has he done?' But they shouted all the louder, 'Crucify him!' 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, 'Hail, king of the Jews!'

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, 'Aha! So you would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days! Then save yourself: come down from the cross!' The chief priests and the scribes mocked him among themselves in the same way. They said: '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.' 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?' This means 'My God, my God, why have you deserted me?' When some of those who stood by heard this, they said, 'Listen, he is calling on Elijah.' Someone ran and soaked a sponge in vinegar and, putting it on a reed, gave it him to drink saying, 'Wait and see if Elijah will come to take him down.' But Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. And the veil of the Temple was torn in two from top to bottom.

All kneel

The centurion, who was standing in front of him, had seen how he had died, and he said, 'In truth this man was a son of God.'

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 brought 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.