

The Parish Church of
**SAINT EDWARD THE CONFESSOR,
BURGESS HILL**

Building a Community of God's People in the Power of the Holy Spirit

Sunday 25th March 2018



OUR WORSHIP TODAY

10.00 a.m.

**Blessing and Procession of Palms
SOLEMN MASS of THE PASSION**
with 'Kidz Zone'

6.00 p.m.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS
and Benediction**

THIS WEEK IS HOLY WEEK

Holy Week is magnificent, challenging, powerful, exhausting, intriguing and utterly remarkable.

Each year we dive out of our own space and time to be immersed in the great events of salvation - not as a memory or a story, but as a reality which changes our lives and world in a way beyond imagining. Much of this is achieved through the celebration of the liturgy.

One of the most challenging aspects of the liturgy of Holy Week - and the Triduum in particular - is that it is different. It is not the usual day by day or week by week liturgy that our parishes celebrate.

Perhaps you have not celebrated Holy Week as a whole before, or even not at all. Give it a go, and see how marvellous Easter is afterwards.

THIS IS HOLY WEEK

This week will only be 'HOLY' Week if we set it apart for the Lord whose passion, death and mighty resurrection we celebrate at this most moving time of the year.

Brothers and sisters in Christ, I ask you, as your Parish Priest, to think and pray very seriously about **YOUR** response to Christ during this Holy Week.

I ask you to join with me in the very special liturgies of this Holy Week - most especially **MAUNDY THURSDAY** evening, **GOOD FRIDAY** morning and **HOLY SATURDAY** evening.

THIS EVENING: We enter into Holy Week this Palm Sunday evening with

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

at **6.00 p.m.**

If at all possible, please come back this evening and share in this very powerful worship to begin Holy Week.



Please note that the **MUSTARD SEED CAFÉ** will be **CLOSED** this week.

The Café will re-open on

Thursday 5th April, Friday 6th April

10.00 a.m. – 3.30 p.m.

and Saturday 7th April.

10.00 a.m. – 2.00 p.m.

Looking ahead: QUIZ NIGHT on Saturday 14th April.

Please sign the list if you would like to join us for this fun evening in the Mustard Seed Café. The cost will be £8 which will include a Fish & Chip supper. These Quiz Nights are very popular so sign up ASAP to ensure you have a place – and also start thinking about getting your team together (Teams of 4 please)

HOLY WEEK

MAUNDY THURSDAY

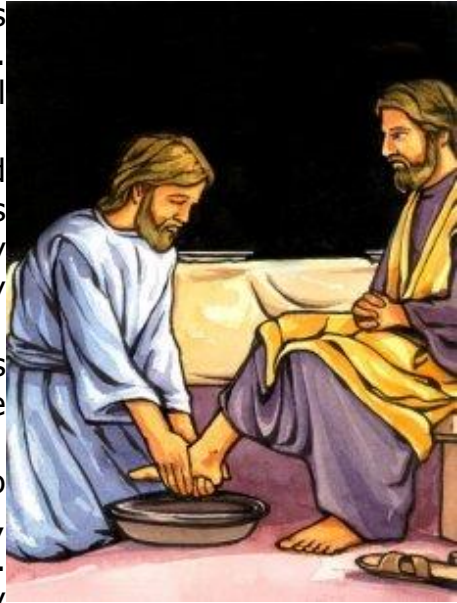
On the night before his death Jesus had a final meal with his friends. This meal was one of the festival meals for Passover.

Before the meal Jesus did something which surprised his friends. He washed the feet of every person, a task which was normally done by a servant.

By doing this he wanted to show his followers that they should love one another in humble ways.

Later in the meal which is known to Christians as 'The Last Supper', Jesus passed round bread and wine. He said the bread was his body

broken for them and the wine was his blood shed for them. He was telling them that he was going to die and that when they share bread and wine they should remember him. Christians share bread and wine in the Eucharist all year round, but it is even more special on Maundy Thursday. Jesus also told his friends that they should love one another. It was later on this night that Judas betrayed Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane. All these themes are rein-acted in the special Liturgy of this day.



OUR MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP:

7.30 p.m.

THE LITURGY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

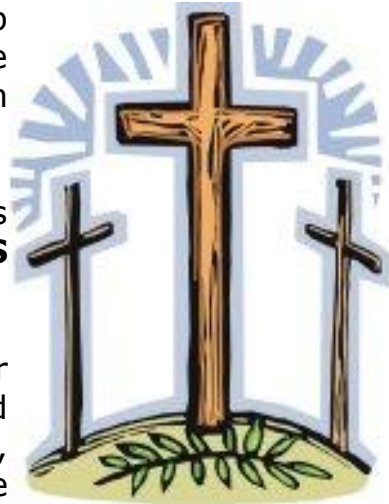
*Followed by The 'Watch of Prayer'
at the 'Altar of Repose' until midnight.*

GOOD FRIDAY

After the intense and personal worship of Maundy Thursday, there is a change of mood on **Good Friday**. The church and altar are bare - no decoration at all.

This day then is the day which we as Christians celebrate **THE LORD'S DEATH**.

In human terms, we always remember the anniversary of the death of our loved ones - how much more then should we, as Christ's followers, observe and make holy this day of all days?



Good Friday is *NOT* a holiday. This day is a **HOLY DAY**. This must surely mean that each and every member of the church will do their absolute best to be at worship at this most moving of all services.

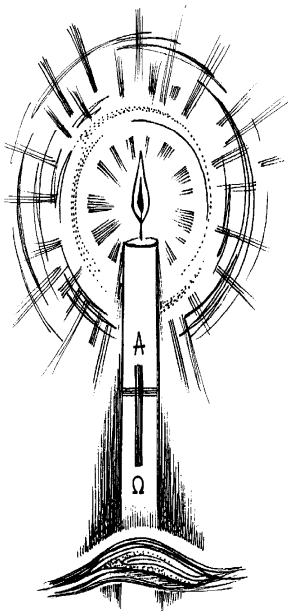
If it is (really) impossible for you to come at any other time, **PLEASE** make **GOOD FRIDAY** a **PRIORITY**

OUR GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP:

10.00 a.m.

THE LITURGY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

The Service on Good Friday will be followed by
tea/coffee and **HOT CROSS BUNS**



THE EASTER VIGIL: Saturday at 7.30 p.m.

On the evening of Holy Saturday – **EASTER EVE**, we gather for the most awesome liturgy of all! We gather to keep vigil. In the darkness we listen to the story of our liberation as told in the Old Testament, beginning with Genesis, going on to the Exodus, Isaiah and Ezekiel (Four readings) Between each readings we sing a Worship Song or hymn and have a prayer.

All is in darkness, like the darkness that covered the earth in the beginning - and God said 'Let there be light, and there was light'.

A fire is kindled and a flame lit - the flame of the new Easter (or Paschal) Candle - a symbol of the Risen Christ.

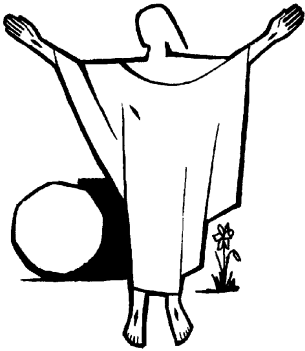
The Easter 'Exultet' is sung and we greet the Risen Lord with the singing of the Gloria in excelsis.

We ring bells - WE REJOICE! *Please try to remember to bring a bell or anything else that makes a joyful noise - let's wake up the whole of Burgess Hill with our rejoicing!*)

The true joy of Easter is breaking upon us. We renew our Baptism promises and our commitment to Christ our Risen Lord, and we are sprinkled with the newly blessed water from the font, and finally we celebrate with joy our **FIRST MASS** of **EASTER** and receive our Easter Holy Communion.

This special Liturgy is truly **THE** service of the whole Christian year. Miss out on this and you miss out on so much. Do come and experience the JOY and FUN for yourself! The service will be followed by a joyful '**RESURRECTION PARTY**'!!!

**THE EASTER VIGIL & FIRST MASS OF EASTER
HOLY SATURDAY/EASTER EVE at 7.30 p.m.**



EASTER SUNDAY
Alleluia! Christ is Risen
He is Risen indeed – ALLELUIA!

OUR EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP

10.00 a.m.

**PARISH MASS of the
RESURRECTION
with Kidz Zone**

EASTER is truly a message of hope, as we see the triumph of love over death and failure.

Take hold of Jesus' love for you this Holy Week, and let it take root in your heart so that as you follow His journey to the cross you may truly celebrate the joy of Easter.

May each and everyone one of us who count St. Edward's as our Spiritual Home keep this Holy Week and Easter like never before.

The Annual Spring Clean: Once a year we give the church building and church hall (Café) a good 'Spring Clean' in preparation for the celebration of Easter. Our BIG clean this year will be this coming Saturday morning (Holy Saturday) from 9.00 a.m.

This is one of those days when we ask for 'All hands on deck'! Please come and help if you are able to. There will be a list of jobs to be done, and hopefully with enough of us we could get it all done in one morning, leaving the 'Flower Girls' to decorate in the afternoon and for all the other preparations for the Easter celebrations.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation:

One of the ways in which Christians prepare for a great festival is through self-examination and Confession. Father Denis will make himself available to anyone at any time by arrangement to celebrate this personal sacrament.

Please telephone (01444) 241300 for an appointment.

The **Altar Servers** will have a rehearsal for the Holy Week & Easter liturgies on **Wednesday** evening – beginning with Mass at 7.30 p.m.

Easter Flowers: If you would like to make a donation towards the flowers this Easter – perhaps in memory of a loved one, please let Pat have your donation as soon as possible. If you would like the flowers in memory of a loved one do make sure you let pat know who they are in memory of and they will be remembered at the altar every day during Easter week.



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Roger Sadler
on Wednesday.**

FOR OUR PRAYERS

Please pray that we would keep this **Holy Week and Easter** in a very special way, that each of us would commit ourselves to setting this special week apart and that our Holy Week Liturgies and celebrations would truly touch our hearts and minds.

For the **Mustard Seed Community Café** – and for our outreach to our Parish Community.

For those who are SICK:

Within our congregation we would especially pray for ...

Kathy Sadler, Anne Chitty, Gloria Baptist-Smith, Jenny Smith, Stephen Gray, Doug Myers, Cathie Ford, and Amelia Hill.

And for:

Gill Oldfield: numerous cancers – that God's will be done.

Sally Slatter: in very poor health, now registered blind.

Mark: mental health problems. **Jack Fernee** very ill in hospital

Charlotte- undergoing chemotherapy

Maggie & Peter Daly – ongoing medical health problems

Carmela – in a very difficult place at this time

Peter – recurring secondary cancer **Gerry** – recovering from 3 strokes

Recently departed: Roger Waterson And in love we commemorate the souls of Eric Chapman (Sunday) Mark Wood, Lucy Hext, Pam Haig (Monday) Ethel Lower (Tuesday) Barbara Fisher (Wednesday) Charles Player (Friday) Pansy Dadswell, Anthony Otterwell (priest) (Saturday)

THIS WEEK IS HOLY WEEK

Much has been said and written to encourage us to share and participate in the most awesome week of the Christian year. In the end, only we can make a personal response ourselves. May this week be truly a *HOLY* week for each and every one of us as individuals and together as the Church.

Monday in Holy Week: **Mass at 7.30 p.m.**

Tuesday in Holy Week: **Mass at 7.30 p.m.**

Wednesday in Holy Week: **Mass at 7.30 p.m.**

MAUNDY THURSDAY:
THE LITURGY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER
at 7.30 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY:
THE LITURGY OF THE LORD'S PASSION
at 10.00 a.m.

EASTER EVE:
THE LITURGY OF THE LORD'S RESURRECTION
(The 'Easter Vigil') at 7.30 p.m.



EASTER SUNDAY
PARISH CELEBRATION MASS
at 10.00 a.m.

With Kidz Zone

And Easter Eggs for everyone!

Followed by 'Drinks & Nibbles'