

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 29th March 2015



Today is **PALM (PASSION) SUNDAY**:

Jesus fulfils an Old Testament prophecy by entering Jerusalem riding on a donkey - an animal symbolic of peace and humility.

The crowds acclaim Him as the Son of David - HOSANNA!

TODAY we begin a journey - a journey right through HOLY WEEK - that takes us into the mysterious depths of a love that is stronger than death.

This is the love that leads Jesus to the place outside Jerusalem where He was crucified.

OUR WORSHIP TODAY

6.00 p.m.

(Saturday evening) Vigil Mass

10.00 a.m.

Blessing and Procession of Palms

SOLEMN MASS of THE PASSION

with 'Kidz Zone'

6.00 p.m.

'VISUAL' STATIONS OF THE CROSS

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 a very special service of **PRAYER & PRAISE** with **'VISUAL' STATIONS OF THE CROSS** at **6.00 p.m.**

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

HOLY WEEK

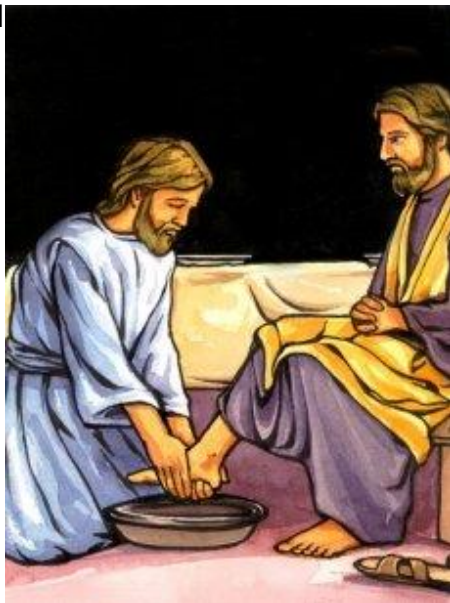
MAUNDY THURSDAY

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 utmost 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**
*with **Kidz Zone***

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'.

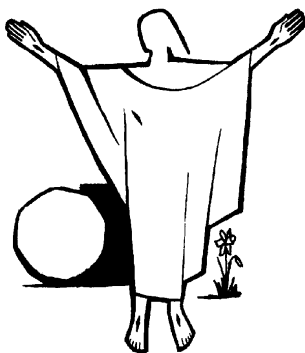
A fire is kindled and a flame lit - the flame of the new Easter (or Paschal) Candle - a symbol of the Risen Christ.

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**'!!!



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

If we have truly kept this week 'Holy' -
set apart for the Lord,
our joy on Easter Day will know no bounds.
As your Parish Priest, I ask YOU to commit to this most
holy of all weeks.

Please be here with your sisters and brothers in Christ
to celebrate the story of our redemption.

With my love and prayers,
Father Denis

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.

Maundy Thursday Watch of Prayer: In order to ensure that the Watch of Prayer after the Maundy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper is kept not only unbroken, but by as many of us as possible, PLEASE sign the list on the table at the back of the church.

The Annual Spring Clean: Once a year we give the church building and church hall 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. One part of that way is through the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Forgiveness (Confession and Absolution).

What does the Church of England teach about Sacramental Confession?

ALL may - **NONE** must - some **OUGHT**.

Father Denis (and Father Clay) would make themselves available to anyone at any time by arrangement to celebrate this personal sacrament.

Father Denis (241300) **Father Clay** (254429)



Thank you to everyone who has invited me for a meal over these past couple of months. It has been a wonderful experience for me to get to know people better and also to get to know their spouses/partners over a dinner table!

Since January 19th the kitchen at the Vicarage has been unusable since several walls have been knocked down and spaces for a new study and kitchen/diner has been created.

Over the past couple of weeks, the new kitchen has been gradually installed – but, as I write (in my tiny study in a spare bedroom) it is far from completed! The kitchen units have been installed but are still without doors (having had the wrong doors delivered initially!) I am hoping and praying that the new kitchen will be up and running by Easter, but from my experience of these past two and a half months, I'm not convinced that it will be!

The new study will have carpet laid tomorrow (Monday) and is now decorated. However, I will be unable to move into the new study for a while as the PCC have very kindly agreed to decorate the lounge and so everything from the lounge will have to be stored in the new study until after the lounge is decorated and re-carpeted!

I want to thank everyone for their patience with me over the past couple of months. This has truly been the most stressful winter as well as Lent, Holy Week and Easter I have ever experienced. Even as I write this now, I am going to have to stop because the electricity is about to be switched off! Back! And so, thank you to everyone for all your help, support and encouragement over the past few months. It is my hope to be able to return the compliment to all those who have so kindly fed Alan and me over the next few months in our new kitchen/diner!

With my love, prayers and gratitude,

Father Denis

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.

Please pray for our **Home Groups** as they prepare to re-start after Easter. Pray that more people would join and share in these groups which help us to grow in our Christian walk with the Lord.

Please pray for those who are sick:

Frances Roberts - after a procedure on her mouth.

Chris Reeve – Treatment now finished but very vulnerable and back in hospital with an infection.

Steve Brooker – diagnosed with spinal tumours

Fletcher Mephram (aged 6) battling cancer.

Pray too for his family

Libby Trotter (aged 11) – battling cancer

Peter (psychosis) and for his parents

Peter Bustin – going through a difficult time in his life.

Please pray for the recently departed:

And in great love we commemorate the souls of...

Charles Player (Monday)

Anthony Otterwell (priest), Pansy Dadswell (Tuesday)

Roland Heath, Ethel Fellows (Thursday)

Ena Brash, Dorothy Brosannovitch, William Broomer, and Sophia Pennington (Saturday)

**This Pew Sheet is sponsored by
Eddie Fisher
In loving memory of
BARBARA**

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!

