

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 20th March 2016



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

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

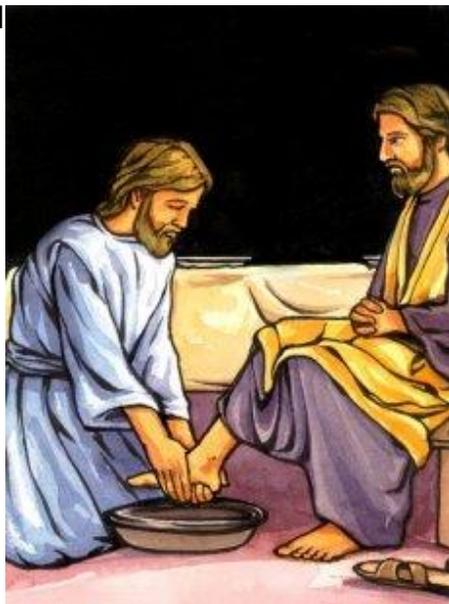
MAUNDY THURSDAY

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.

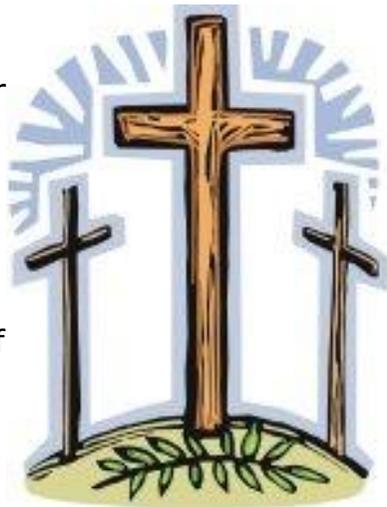
GOOD FRIDAY

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.

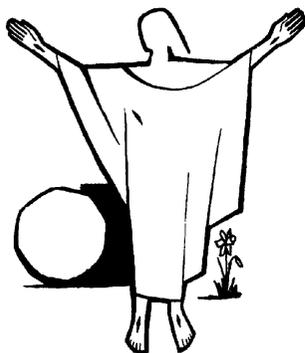
All is in darkness, like the darkness that covered the earth in the beginning - and God said 'Let there be light, and there was light'. A fire is kindled and a flame lit - the flame of the new Easter (or Paschal) Candle - a symbol of the Risen Christ.

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



THE MUSTARD SEED COMMUNITY CAFÉ

The Café will be officially opened by the Mayor of Burgess Hill on

SATURDAY 2nd APRIL at 10.30 a.m.

We are asking all members of St. Edward's to come at **10.00 a.m.** for a short time of prayer and worship in

church and then afterwards for the official opening by the Mayor. There will be lots of balloons and streamers and bunting. This really is a **BIG DAY** for us and the support and encouragement of all members of St. Edward's would be greatly appreciated.

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.

Plant Sale - Saturday 7th May: We will need donations of flowers, shrubs, vegetables, hanging baskets etc.. Please start thinking about what you could plant/grow for us to make the plant sale a success. If and when you want to bring the plants etc you can put them in 'On's Garden' and we will make sure they get watered.

Home Groups: Thank you to everyone who came to our Home Group meeting last Wednesday evening and for all the encouragement given to each other. Just a reminder to Home Group Leaders that there will be a meeting for Leaders on Wednesday 6th April at 7.30 p.m. in church. Home Groups will resume during the week beginning Sunday 10th April. If YOU have not joined a Home Group yet – this would be the perfect time to join one.

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 **THE MUSTARD SEED** Community Café Project, that we would serve God in and through each other.

Please pray for those who are sick:

For those who are sick Within our congregation, we would especially pray for... **Peter Robinson, Frances Roberts, Kathy Sadler, Anne Chitty, Betty Killaspey.**

Paul Myles - diagnosed with Lymphatic Cancer

Marge Breeze - chemotherapy for recurring oesophageal cancer

Bruce Smetham - being treated for recurring cancer

Adrian in Princes Royal Hospital

Liz and Jane – both with cancer

Jim Winter - recovering from stroke, leaking aneurism

Roy –war injury and ME

Richard Brown (priest) with a leaking heart valve

Graham Bailey – terminally ill.

Anniversary of death:

Richard Glaskin, Brother Patrick Dale SSF, (Sunday)

Ronald Paige, Ethel Wright (Monday) Randall Millbank (Tuesday)

Maxine James, Mick Horrobine, Louisa Squires (Wednesday)

Sidney Waller (Thursday) Eric Chapman (Friday)

Lucy Hext, Pam Haig, Mark Wood (Saturday)

**This Pew Sheet is sponsored by Wendy Glaskin
In loving memory of her husband
Richard Glaskin**

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.

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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!

