

Passion Sunday - Jesus enters the city of Jerusalem to a rapturous welcome, and is then condemned to die.

1st Reading Isaiah 50:4-7 - God's true servant will suffer and will not be shamed.

2nd Reading *Philippians* 2:6-11 - This early Christian hymn tells of the humility of Jesus.

Gospel Matthew 26:14-27:66 - The Passion according to Saint Matthew.

MESSAGE FROM FR. PETER: And so it is we begin the holiest week of the year. We joyfully wave our palms this weekend, welcoming Christ into Jerusalem, and into our hearts and minds as we do at every mass, before solemnly recording his Passion for the first time this week. The readings of the first three days of Holy Week recount the events leading up to the Passion: Jesus' anointing with oil by Mary, the beginning of the Last Supper, and then, on Spy Wednesday we hear of the betrayal of Jesus. This leads us to the beautiful service of Maundy Thursday, where our First Communion children will have their feet washed, Jesus' example of service as recorded in John's Gospel, before we clear the altar, and silently pray with Jesus in his Garden of Gethsemane altar of repose. On Good Friday we will solemnly celebrate the Passion of the Lord, adoring the Cross of Life which brings us salvation, until finally, on Holy Saturday night and Easter Sunday Morning, we adorn the Church with light, flowers, and music, as we joyfully celebrate the Resurrection of Our Lord, and also receive two dear candidates into full communion with the Church. A whole Holy Week, of beautiful services, let's make a special effort to attend these great liturgies, thankful for the gift of them, and ever thankful for the events they celebrate.

Please note, that in addition to the usual Lent timetable this week, there is an extra hour of the Sacrament of Reconciliation in each Church before Stations of the Cross on Monday and Tuesday.

Everyone is invited into the presbytery on Saturday night after the vigil for a small celebration with refreshments. After Mass in each Church in the respective Halls on Sunday Morning there is an Easter Celebration to which all are welcome.

Please Pray for the repose of the soul of Fr. Joe Diskin, who died in the peace of Christ last week, and who served as assistant priest here at St. Peter's 1961 - 1968, and also please keep in your Prayers Fr. Frank Flynn, who has been in hospital but has now returned to McAuley Mount, but remains gravely ill.

FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK: Please continue to pray for: Jennie Antoine, Anne Jones, Graham Bentley, Fred & Mary Wylie, Anne Smith, Kath Hywel-Buckley, Joe Ainsworth, John Lavelle, Jean Bolton, Tony Bolton, Phoebe Rowlings, Patrick Gilligan, Robin Upton, Michael Golowicz, Brian Craig, Greta Turner, Fr Frank Flynn, and all those in the Hospice, Hospital, Rest Homes & Convents. **May God give them His healing grace.**

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Please submit any newsletter items direct to Mary Waddington by 4pm each Thursday. Many thanks

HOLY WEEK AND THE EASTER TRIDUUM AT ST. JOSEPH'S AND ST. PETER'S 2023 Please make a special effort to attend our most beautiful liturgies Palm Sunday 2nd April St. Joseph's 6pm Saturday Vigil Mass, Sunday St. Joseph's 9.15am, St. Peter's 10.30am Mon 3rd April: St. Peter's 9am Mass, followed by Confessions & Exposition until 10am Sacrament of Reconciliation 6pm - 6.55pm. Stations of the Cross & Benediction at 7pm Tuesday 4th April St. Joseph's 10am Mass, followed by Confessions & Exposition until 11am Sacrament of Reconciliation 6pm to 6.55pm. Stations of the Cross & Benediction at 7pm Spy Wednesday 5th April St. Peter's 9am Mass, Lent Course 7pm in SP's Parish Hall Maundy Thurs 6th April SJ's 7pm Mass of the Lord's Supper, led by our First Holy Communion Children from SJ's & SP's with Washing of the Feet, Blessed Sacrament Procession and watching until 10pm with Night Prayer of the Church at 9.50pm. Good Friday 7th April Stations of the Cross St. Peter's 10am and St. Joseph's 7pm St. Joseph's 3pm and St. Peter's 3pm Solemn Celebration of the Passion of the Lord

Holy Saturday 8th April St. Joseph's 7pm Easter Vigil and Service of Light Easter Sunday 9th April SJ's 9.15am Easter Sunday Morning Mass, SP's 10.30am Easter Sunday Morning Mass

'Thank You'

Collection Sunday 26th March: £401.50. Envelopes via St Joseph's: £225.00. Many thanks for your generosity.

Offertory Envelopes : Offertory Envelopes for year starting on 6th April are now available for collection from the sacristy.

Easter Sunday - Coffee Morning & Easter Egg Hunt

Could I ask all the lovely bakers in the Parish for any donations of cakes, biscuits or any other such yummy delights for this coffee morning.

We are also planning to have both a raffle and a tombola and would appeal to you for donations. All profits that we make at this event will go towards Club Day funds for our lovely Rose Queen Elect, Phoebe. Many thanks, Ali Croft.

Flower Garden: We all need to do our bit to be more sustainable, so the "Flower Ladies" are going to plant a cut flower border around the front lawn at St. Peter's. They hope to be able to cut the various flowers and shrubs all year round to use for the Altar flowers. This will not only save us money in the long run, but it will stop us from buying flowers that have travelled half way across the world.

If you would like to sponsor a plant or contribute towards the cost please see **Cath Powell or Pauline** or place your donation in an envelope marked 'Flower Garden' and hand it to **Deacon Michael**. Many thanks, Cath.

MESSAGE FROM FR PHILIP NEWBOLD a priest of the Archdiocese of Birmingham, who has retired to Freckleton and has helped with supply work in Parishes in the area.

He has decided to use his time during Lent 2023 to support "Aid to the Church in Need" (Emergency Aid for Ukraine). This provides food, clothing and shelter for those caught up in the war. He will walk 10,000 paces per day for the 40 days of Lent.

If you wish to support him, you can sponsor him on line at: www.justgiving.com/page/fr-philip-newbold-167?

OR sign the sponsor form to be found in the church porch and he will arrange collection after Easter. **Thank you.**

The next meeting of the CWL will be on Thursday 6th April at 2pm in the Parish Hall. **BINGO EVENING -** BIG thanks to all who attended, donated & assisted to make this event such a success and a great night! Thanks also to Fr Peter our bingo caller who was very entertaining and who will now be our resident bingo caller. We raised a staggering **£376.10** for our Rose Queen Elect Phoebe and her retinue. Thank you again.

THE BIG LENT WALK 2023 - Throughout the 40 days of Lent, a team of parishioners: Chris, Daisy, Kathy, Gretta, Lise, Anne, Trish, Pat, Sue and our resident super stepper Fr. Peter, will be walking 5km per day. Every £1 raised will help CAFOD to be there for people fighting extreme poverty globally. You can sponsor us, and follow our progress on the web page: https://cafod.enthuse.com/pf/stpeterslytham

Alternatively, there will be a sponsor form at the back of church. Many thanks for your support and prayers.

Please pray for **Margaret Fearn** and **Fr Joe Diskin** and all who have died recently - and those whose anniversaries occur at about this time:

Pope John Paul II, Veronica Slater, James Slater, Gerard Connolly, Ted Parker, Stan Fenton, Lucy Simpson, John Worden, Alfred Sinclair, John Smith, Hanneke Sharp, Bernard Craig, William Sinclair, Mary Nolan, Hilda Check, Bernard Costigan, Mary Hall, Pauline Noblet, William Holland. May they rest in peace. Amen.

> Sanctuary Lamp Booking -Red Lamp "Special Intention - B" Our Lady "Tina - B"

To book, email Sue on info@stpeterslytham.co.uk (or speak to her). Suggested **minimum** donation - $\pounds 5$ each lamp.

Responsorial Psalm for Palm Sunday

and the response is:

"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"
