

OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH In NEW MILTON

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth

15 Mount Ave, New Milton. BH25 6NT.

Parish priest: *Father George Ngwa*



PALM SUNDAY YEAR "B" 28TH MARCH 2021

FOR OUR CHILDREN: PREPARING TO CELEBRATE HOLY WEEK AND EASTER.
TOWARDS AN ACTIVE AND LIVELY PARTICIPATION

Holy Week stands at the head of our calendar, the holiest week of the entire liturgical year. Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday and continues until Easter Sunday. It celebrates the Paschal Mystery, the passion and death of our Lord, Jesus Christ, and his victorious resurrection, his triumph over sin and death and his glorification by his Father.

Palm-Passion Sunday is a dual feast, Palm Sunday because palm branches are blessed and carried in procession to commemorate the Lord's entrance into Jerusalem, and Passion Sunday because the Passion Narrative is proclaimed. It is the only Sunday when two separate gospels are read. The Passion is the longest Sunday gospel of the year. The Mass has two different moods, jubilation at the outset, then lamentation. Jesus' entry to Jerusalem was exuberant as the people joyfully cheered Hosanna to greet him, but moments later all is gloomy, first with the Suffering Servant who gave his back to those who beat him (Is 50:6), then with Jesus who obediently accepted death on a cross (Phil 2:8), and then with the Passion and his agony, scourging, and crucifixion (Mt 26:14-27:66).

The primary symbol for Palm Sunday is palms, a sign that the people regarded Jesus as their victorious king. Take some palms home and use them to venerate a crucifix or decorate a statue, picture, or sacred object. Go off by yourself to re-read some or all of the Passion and meditate on it. If there are others at home, discuss what it would have been like to have been part of the Palm Sunday procession or to have been standing along the Way of the Cross as Jesus passed by or at Calvary when Jesus was crucified.

The Easter Triduum. The Triduum is the most solemn moment of the church year. It lasts three days. It begins on **Holy Thursday evening with the Mass of the Lord's Supper**, continues with the celebration of the **Lord's Passion on Good Friday**, and reaches its culmination with the **Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday**, and it ends with Evening Prayer late Easter Sunday afternoon.

These days are the "high holy days" of our Christian faith, and as Jews would stream to Jerusalem to celebrate Passover in the Temple, ideally Catholics would stream to their local churches to celebrate these sacred mysteries with their parish communities. Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil are not holy days of obligation, but if there ever was a time that we should want to go to church, it would be for these three holy days. Triduum is the moment to place other things on hold while our faith gets top priority.

The Triduum Fast. With the arrival of Holy Thursday, the forty days of Lent and its discipline are over. Whatever a person's special program was for Lent, whether it was to give something up, add extra prayers, do good deeds, or share alms, the program is done, but one must not relax too quickly. As soon as the forty-day Lenten fast ends, a new three-day fast begins, The Triduum Fast, a period of even more intense self-denial in immediate preparation for the greatest feast of all, Easter. It is customary to extend the Lenten discipline three additional days. Many decide to make one or more commendable additions such as a holy hour, a visit to church, an extended period of silence, no TV, and three days of fasting from physical food etc. It also involves a spiritual fast,

Good Friday from the Mass, but with the reception of the Eucharist, and Holy Saturday, the deepest fast of all, when not only is there no Mass, it is the only day that the Church foregoes reception of the Eucharist.

Holy Thursday. The Easter Triduum begins with the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper. The Mass recounts the establishment of the Jewish feast of Passover; and it commemorates the institution of the Eucharist, the institution of the priesthood, and the washing of feet. John's placement of the foot-washing where the other evangelists place the Last Supper conveys his belief that the real presence of Christ is found not only in the Eucharist but in service. Jesus gave us his *mandatum* or mandate: "You ought to wash one another's feet. I have given you an example. As I have done, so you should also do" (Jn 13:14,15). Jesus is made present when disciples put aside their prideful aspirations, humble themselves, and serve one another, even to the point of doing a menial task joyfully.

Active participation as a Discipleship. If your parish offers a Holy Hour before the Blessed Sacrament after Holy Thursday Mass, consider taking advantage of the opportunity. Offer a prayer that your priest might be devoted to the Eucharist and a humble servant. Be on the lookout for someone who might need assistance, and gladly help without drawing attention to yourself.

Good Friday. The celebration of the Lord's Passion is a gloomy but rather solemn liturgy with three major parts: the proclamation of the Passion, the veneration of the Cross, and the reception of Holy Communion. In addition, there is an extended set of General Intercessions with ten petitions for some of the most important concerns for the Church and the world.

Active participation as a Discipleship. It is worthwhile to set aside some silent time, particularly between the hours of 12:00 noon and 3:00 p.m. Be sure that at least one crucifix is prominently displayed in the home, because veneration of the cross is not just for Good Friday, but for every day. It is an ideal day to offer Jesus a prayer of thanks for all he suffered on our behalf, and to renew our pledge to avoid the sins that we have committed that put him on the cross.

The Easter Vigil. Weeks of fasting and self-denial are directed toward the highest point of the church year, the Easter Vigil, the feast of the resurrection. It ranks first because our entire faith hinges on it. As Paul said, "If Christ has not been raised, your faith is in vain" (1 Cor 15:17). But the pillar of our faith is that "Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep" (1 Cor 15:20), and in this firm conviction the Church rejoices with all of the energy it can muster: Alleluia! The Easter Vigil begins with the Service of Light, the lighting of the Easter Candle and the singing of the Easter Proclamation, the Exsultet. Then after an extended Liturgy of the Word, the Vigil continues with the Liturgy of Baptism during which the Litany of Saints is sung, the water of the font is blessed, baptismal promises are made, the candidates are baptized, and for the adults, confirmation is received. The Vigil concludes with the Liturgy of the Eucharist and first Holy Communion for the newly initiated members.

Easter Sunday. Easter Sunday is the daytime celebration of the Resurrection of the Lord. The congregation is jubilant over the risen Christ and the triumph of his most holy Cross. The church is festively decorated. The vestments are white and gold. The Glory to God and the Alleluia are restored. The Creed is replaced with the renewal of baptismal promises, followed by a sprinkling rite. The church resounds with a joyful sound: *Jesus Christ is risen today! Alleluia!*

Great news cannot be contained: share the Good News with someone! Jesus preached love, and he died out of love for us. On Easter Sunday go out of your way to love someone with all your might, because where there is love, there is the risen Christ.

Fr. George Ngwa

ANNOUNCEMENTS

INCORRECT DATE ON JERUSALEM MASS SHEETS FOR PALM SUNDAY

When the Jerusalem Mass Sheets were delivered from the supplier, we noticed that the Jerusalem Mass Sheets for Palm Sunday have an incorrect date: the date should read “**28th March 2021**” not *3rd April*. Apologies for any confusion!

BRITISH SUMMER TIME BEGINS THIS WEEKEND

Don't forget to put your clocks forward on Saturday night, otherwise you might be late for Mass on Sunday! Even though we lose an hour's sleep, we gain longer, lighter evenings and renewed hope with the arrival of Spring.

HOLY MASS BOOKING ON LINE DURING CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

As we are still in Lock Down it will be necessary to continue restricting the number of parishioners in Church for each Mass to approximately 45 + (depending on bubbles), which means that you will need to book your place in advance. We now have an “on-line” booking system in place, which you can find by going onto our website at <https://www.nfwf.org.uk> - (scroll down left-hand column to CORONAVIRUS: Welcome to Our Lady of Lourdes, New Milton and click on CORONAVIRUS: How to book a seat for Mass). Alternatively the Links for Masses over Easter and for the remaining Sundays in April are as follows:-

Maundy Thursday - <https://forms.gle/cwYX5hfem8xBVA89A> **Good Friday** - <https://forms.gle/whLED5XUbKowxJuo6>

Easter Sunday - <https://forms.gle/eSnmQUghWCsMDb2v9> **11th April** - <https://forms.gle/2ySDb8BFWBwmbQKf8>

18th April - <https://forms.gle/aDDFd95MDpFXNos29> **25th April** - <https://forms.gle/2WN63S6oAYL3DVzf7>

FINANCIAL SUPPORT during the COVID PANDEMIC. Whether or not you are a Gift Aider and you would like to continue supporting your Church through this difficult time, you may wish to organise a Standing Order arrangement with your bank to pay your collection directly into our Church bank account. Details as follows: - Lloyds Bank - Sort Code 30-93-04, Account No: 00883116, Account Name – PRC DTR New Milton Our Lady. Or you may prefer to give your donation directly to the Office. Thank you! If you do decide to pay money directly into our Bank Account, it would be very helpful for our Treasurer if you could write what it is for in the Reference Box when paying on line, i.e. Church donation, Intention, Cafod etc.

EASTER SUNDAY COLLECTION The Easter Sunday Collection traditionally supports our Parish Priests, in recognition for all the dedication, guidance and care they give across our Diocese and in each Parish. If you would like to give a gift to support Fr. George in his vocation and mission this Easter, please visit:

<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/new-milton-easter-sunday-collection> Details can also be found on our Website.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES Would all those on the Gift Aid Scheme please remember to pick up their Gift Aid Envelopes for the new Fiscal Year beginning on 6th April. These will be distributed at Masses on Palm Sunday, 28th March & Easter Sunday 4th April. If anyone is interested in joining the scheme, please contact Lizzie in the Parish Office for further details and a Gift Aid Declaration Form. The current Gift Aid envelopes are for use up until and including Easter Sunday and the new envelopes are for the fiscal year beginning 6th April 2021. Please note that Gift Aid Envelopes are only available to those who have completed a Gift Aid Declaration form for the Parish. Those of you who are donating via their bank, will only receive a small box set of envelopes for second collections.

MASS INTENTIONS As we are running out of Mass intentions - If you would like a Mass Intention said in memory of a loved one or to celebrate a special occasion, please complete a Mass Intention Envelope and hand it to Lizzie in the Parish Office or post through the Presbytery letterbox. We will try to accommodate your preferred date.

SAFEGUARDING MINISTER Is there anyone who feels that they are able to volunteer? Once a volunteer has come forward, I will pass their name on to Vanessa Eastwood, the Diocesan Safeguarding Parish Support Officer, who will commence the recruitment process. She can also offer further information about the role on Tel: 02394 216490 or via Email: veastwood@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk Many thanks! Lizzie

LIVE-IN CARER/COMPANION – If you know of anyone who needs live-in care or companionship, please contact Helen on 07867 978 558. Helen can offer excellent references, has DBS clearance and her own vehicle.

PALM SUNDAY YEAR "B" 28TH MARCH 2021

Sunday Vigil	27	2021 Mar.	Vigil Mass of Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord Year B	18:00 Holy Mass - <i>Edward Hawkins (for health & wellbeing)</i>	Blessing of Palms before Mass in Church
Sunday	28	Mar.	PALM SUNDAY of the Passion of the Lord Year B	08:00 Holy Mass – <i>Philip Holyoak (RIP)</i> 10:00 Holy Mass – <i>Mary Conway (RIP)</i>	Blessing of Palms before each Mass in Church
Monday	29	Mar.	Monday of HOLY WEEK Year B		
Tuesday	30	Mar.	Tuesday of HOLY WEEK Year B	18:00 Exposition 18:30 Rosary 18:50 Benediction 19:00 Holy Mass –	11:00 Chrism Mass at the Cathedral in Portsmouth
Wednesday	31	Mar.	Wednesday of HOLY WEEK Year B	09:25 Stations of the Cross 10:00 a.m. Holy Mass – <i>Joseph Thomas (RIP)</i>	No Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
THE EASTER TRIDUUM					
Thursday	01	Apr.	MAUNDY THURSDAY Year B	20:00 MASS OF THE LAST SUPPER – <i>Maynard & Obleksik Family (God's Blessing)</i>	
Friday	02	Apr.	GOOD FRIDAY Year B	10:00 Office of Readings & Morning Prayers for Good Friday –15:00 CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S PASSION	Confession afterwards by arrangement *
Saturday	03	Apr.	HOLY SATURDAY Year B	10:00 Office of Readings & Morning Prayers for Holy Saturday	Confession afterwards * The Sacraments are not celebrated today
Saturday Vigil			EASTER VIGIL Year B	20:00 EASTER VIGIL <i>Sr. Maria Alonso (Intention)</i>	
Sunday	04	Apr.	EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD YEAR B	08:00 - Holy Mass – <i>Brigid Horan (RIP)</i> 10:00 – Holy Mass - <i>Don & Agnes Campbell (RIP)</i>	

Good Friday – 2nd April – 2nd Collection (Obligatory) for the Holy Places

Parish priest: Father George Ngwa

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Parish office: 01425 614968 lolnewmilton@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Hall Bookings suspended during the Pandemic.

Secretary: Lizzie Davies– Office Hours 12.00h to 15.00h Wednesdays & Fridays

Our Parish Live Streaming: <http://churchservices.tv/newmilton> Website: www.nfwp.org.uk

Safeguarding Minister: There is a vacancy for this position. If you are interested please tell Fr. George!

PRAYER FOR THE RENEWAL OF OUR DIOCESE – (to be said at home even with Church closure).

O Sacred Heart of Jesus, we beg you to change us, to convert us and to make us holy. Fill us with a deeper faith, hope and love for you. Send into our hearts the cleansing fire of the Holy Spirit and powerfully renew all the clergy, religious and laity of our Diocese. Unite us in love and respect for one another and unify us as your one, holy people. Grant us a new passion and zeal for the Catholic Faith, for Mission, Outreach and Service. Help us to proclaim your Gospel generously to the poor and needy that many more souls may be saved by finding their way to you in your Church. May Mary Immaculate help us. May St. Edmund of Abingdon and Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati pray for us. Amen

Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel - St Michael, the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who wander through the world seeking the ruin of souls - AMEN