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PALM SUNDAY (YEAR C) (PAGE 184)

HOLY WEEK

Sunday 13th April

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

- 08.30 Mass for Mary McKeown RIP (Cook) (Fr M)
 Please gather in the Hall from 10.15
 No First Communion Session until 27th April
- 10.30 Service in the Hall and procession with palms to the Church
 Mass for Joyce William RIP (Carolan) (Fr L)
 Children's Liturgy
 Refreshments after Mass
- 17.30 Mass for Canon Michael Cooley RIP (PACT) (Fr M)

Palms will be blessed at each Mass

Retiring collection for Easter Flowers

Monday of Holy Week 14th April

- 09.00 Mass for Holy Souls (Fr L)
 Confessions until 10.00am

Tuesday of Holy Week 15th April

- 09.00 Mass for Stephen Stewart (Guilbert) (Fr L)
 Confessions until 10.00am
- 20.00 Stations of the Cross

Wednesday of Holy Week 16th April

- 09.00 Mass for John Barton RIP (Bird) (Fr M)

Adoration until 10.00am. Prayer for the sanctity of all human life, specifically concerning Assisted Suicide

- Confessions until 10.00am
- 10.00 Cleaning of church for Easter (all welcome)
- 11.30 Chrism Mass at St George's Cathedral
- 18.00 Practice Altar Servers
- 19.30 Confessions (Fr L)

THE EASTER TRIDIUM

Maundy Thursday 17th April

No Mass

- 19.30 Mass of the Lord's Supper (Fr M/Fr L)
 Mass for Ann Bugden RIP (Guilbert)
 Watching at the Altar of Repose until
 Compline (Night Prayer) at 10.00pm.

Good Friday 18th April

A Day of Fasting and Abstinence

- 10.00 Stations of the Cross for Children
- 10.30 Ecumenical Walk of Witness at Christ Church
- 15.00 Solemn Liturgy of the Passion of The Lord (Fr M/Fr L)

Retiring Collection for Holy Places

- 19.30 Stations of the Cross (Fr M)

Holy Saturday 19th April

No Mass

- 10.00am Morning Prayer with Office of Readings
 Confessions until 11.00am
- 11.00am Practice for Altar Servers
- 11.00am Decorating of church (all welcome)

Rest in Peace: Monsignor Canon John O'Toole who died last week aged 75. John was a very talented, witty, entertaining and kind priest with great abilities. We will all miss him. A great preacher and communicator. He had many different roles during his priestly ministry, too many to mention. He was in the next parish to me when I was at Norbury. He was also very kind to me. We were ordained in the same month and year: November 1978. Sadly, he had cancer for some time. He had a great love and care for priests. I will miss him. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

Rest in Peace: Fr Sunith Nonis who died this past week. He was parish priest of St Anthony's Anerley, my first parish. I knew him a little and found him a very prayerful priest. He suffered from MS for many years but served his parishioners devotedly. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

Today we celebrate Palm Sunday: It is our entrance into Holy Week. We will bless and distribute palms at all the Masses. Parishioners should gather in the hall at 10.15 for the 10.30 Mass. We will proclaim the Gospel of the Entry into Jerusalem and process through the back door of the hall to enter the church gates and so process into church. The little children will greet us with bells and other instruments. At every Mass we will proclaim the Passion according to Saint Luke in three parts. Please take the part of the crowd. We stand for this but please sit down if you get tired.

Holy Week/Easter: Copies of our booklet for services are now available in the porch to take home.

What is on this week

Stations of the Cross:

Tuesday at 8.00pm
 Good Friday at 19.30 (Fr M)

Prayer for the sanctity of all human life, specifically concerning

Assisted Suicide:

On Wednesday 16th April, there will be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament after 9.00am Mass until 10.00am.

Cleaning the church for Easter: Can you please spare a couple of hours on Wednesday 16th April at 10.00am to help spruce St John Vianney Church up for Easter? All parishioners are welcome.

Altar Servers:

Practice for Holy Week – Wednesday 16th April at 6.00pm.
 Practice for Easter Vigil – Holy Saturday 19th March at 11.00am.
 Please add your names to the lists in your room

Good Friday: Children's Stations of the Cross at 10.00am. We encourage all children, especially First Holy Communion children and parents to come along and take part.

Decorating our Church: Help is needed on Holy Saturday 19th April at 11.00am to prepare our church in readiness for the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday Services. Jobs entail removing cloths from statues, changing the backdrops etc. to gold, decorating the pillars and font, to name but a few. Also, if you have a talent for flower arranging, your services would be put to good use too! Do come along and have a cuppa and maybe a hot cross bun. Approximately 1-1/2 hours.

Collections during Holy Week:

Retiring collection on Palm Sunday for Easter Flowers
 Retiring collection on Good Friday for the Holy Places
 Easter Collections are your personal gift to Fr Michael and Fr Luke

Book of Remembrance: Please remember to add the name of a loved one to our Remembrance Book at the back of the church by the Offertory Gifts, there is a Remembrance Book for you to add the names of your loved one so that they are remembered this Easter. It is brought up at the Offertory along with the Gifts. Lillies will be included in our Easter flowers.

Why is the newsletter now on coloured paper?

For many years we have had quite a supply of paper in the loft, possibly from Fr Sam's time, and as a cost-saving exercise, we are currently using this to print our newsletter.

THE SEASON OF EASTER

Saturday 19th April

20.00 The Easter Vigil (The Holiest Night of the Year)

Mass for the Parishioners (Fr M/Fr L)

Easter Sunday 20th April

The Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ

08.30 Mass for Colin Ryall RIP (Carter) (Fr L)

10.30 Mass for Anne Brady RIP (1st Anniv) (Manning) (Fr M)

Following Mass there will be an Easter Egg Hunt in the garden (Cost is £1.00 per child)

No Evening Mass

The Collection at Easter is your personal gift to
Fr Michael and Fr Luke

*A very joyful and peaceful Easter to you all
From Fr Michael and Fr Luke*

PARISH EVENTS

Parish Easter Egg Hunt: Easter Sunday after 10.30 Mass

Thank you to those who have offered to help, however, we could really do with some more volunteers please. Please email the parish office bexleyheath@rcaos.org.uk if you can spare the time. We would also appreciate donations of Easter Eggs too. Please put donations in the porch behind the Mass book trolley. Thank you.



PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE

Parish Day – Sunday 25th May:

Masses will be 8.30am, **11.00am** and 5.30pm. We ask parishioners to bring along some food, maybe a native dish, to share with one another. Food will be served after 11.00am Mass. Volunteers are needed to help prepare beforehand and also assist on the day with serving the food and refreshments. Please add your name to the volunteer list on the noticeboard.

Pilgrimage – 5th July 2025 at St John Vianney

On this day, we shall be welcoming other parishes in our Deanery to join us for a prayer service at 1.00pm followed by refreshments in the hall. Please keep this date in your diary. Help will be needed in welcoming and serving the refreshments too. Please contact the parish office if you are able to help: bexleyheath@rcaos.org.uk As there are 8 parishes in the Deanery so we are expecting quite a few Pilgrims.

Please pray for the sick and those in special need of your prayers: Annie Biggs, Stelian, Claire Wansbury, Mary McGinty, Alan and Rene Fisher, Baby Jemima Rita James, Fr Jeff, Shirley Angerer, Josephine Treloar, Jacqueline Downey, Steve Smith, Annie and Gerry McDonagh Snr, Gerry McDonagh Jnr and Martin McDonagh, Keith Smith, Samantha Butler, Carole, Dean McClumpha, Mrs Chris Lynch, Ashleigh, Fr Michael, Kathy Blakemore, Kirsty, Robin Robinson, Alice, John Moore, Pauline Viegas, Deirdre Collins, Susan Dassanyake, Nuala Pawley, Helena Riley, Richard Whiteside, Sally Pain, Florrie Pereira, Fr John Ryan (former Parish Priest of Crayford), Jo O'Donnell, Matthew Butler, Nadia Sheehy, Steve Pitt, Goretti Stone, Little Buster Sprules, David Collison, Christine Edwards, Santana Fernandes, Maria Pereira, Leonie Viegas, Paul Robson, Jack Goodrich, Gloria Slaney, Andy Wansbury and Roy Miller.

Hiring of Hall: Please contact Cath Bird: 07989 156111 or email: bexleyheath@rcaos.org.uk

Receiving electronic newsletter: Please email bexleyheath@rcaos.org.uk

HOW TO MAKE YOUR OFFERTORY DONATION: Donations for the Offertory Collection can be made in the usual way via the basket. Alternatively, you can donate via BACs to our bank account (details below). Payments can be made for Masses this way too. You can also make payments via our card machine, located in the porch. You can also pay for Repository items, Second Collections and Candles via this method too.

Please remember to Gift Aid if you are tax payer. Forms are situated in the porch on the lefthand side as you enter.

Payment online: Account No: 21089620 **Sort Code:** 51-70-14 **Account Name:** RCAS Bexleyheath

Mass in Celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage, July 12th at St George's Cathedral: If you are celebrating your 1st/10th/25th/40th/50th/60th + wedding anniversary this year, please let us know as soon as possible, and no later than the middle of May, providing the following details: your names in the format John and Mary Smith, your home address, your parish, and the anniversary you are celebrating, so you can receive an invitation from the Archbishop for the renewal of vows during Mass. Spaces are limited. Contact us at mflse@rcaos.org.uk As the title of your email, please write your parish location e.g. Clapham, Beckenham.

Gift Aid: We still have some 2025/26 boxes which haven't been collected by parishioners in the porch.

Food Bank Items: It would greatly be appreciated if you could donate any food items to support our local food banks at Trinity Place and Devonshire Road. Usual items are needed, rice, tinned meat & fish, pasta and pasta sauces, long life milk, rice, etc. If you can spare some nice treats too, that would be amazing. Please leave items in food bank box in porch. Thank you.

CAFOD Myanmar Earthquake Appeal: Following the devastating earthquake in Myanmar, CAFOD is responding through the Catholic Church there to support families affected by the disaster. Your donations will provide essentials like water, food, solar lights, and mosquito nets. Please give to CAFOD's Myanmar Earthquake Appeal in church or you can donate online at cafod.org.uk/myanmar or by calling 0303 303 3030. You can also **text EARTHQUAKE to 70450** to donate £10.



The Secular Clergy Common Fund ('Big M') is looking to appoint a new CEO. It makes grants to our sick and retired priests and looks after two Catholic cemeteries in London. The role is 0.6FTE and offers flexible working and a salary of £50k-£60k pro rata. For further details contact Angela Rowe secretary@secularclergy.org.uk Closing date 28th April 2025.

Job Vacancies at St Catherine's Catholic Girls' School: Currently there are vacancies for SENDco, Chaplain and Deputy Head Teacher. Please see job descriptions in the porch or alternatively see their website under "Our School", "Vacancies".

St Catherine's and St Columba's are looking to recruit foundation governors who can assist in ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction for our schools, working with other governors to ensure that our schools are outstanding in all areas of our work and provides all our young people with the best possible secondary education. If you are interested in supporting through this vital role please contact the school directly, St Catherine's info@stccg.co.uk or 01322 556333 or St Columba's office@st-columbas.bexley.sch.uk or 01322 553236. Nicola Thompson and Dave Evans

Archdiocesan Jubilee Celebration at The Friars, Aylesford – Saturday 8th June