



Parish Newsletter **Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord Year B 2024**

Mass Intentions 23rd March – 31st March

Our Lady of Fatima (OLF)

St Thomas More (STM)

Saturday	9.00am 6.00pm	Jenette & Barbara Leache (RIP) Sophia Maria Cywinski (Birthday)		
Palm Sunday Polish	10.30am 12.15pm	Ryan Gomes (Birthday) Brian Gomes (SI) & Gomes family (SI) Zbigniew Piątek (RIP)	8.30am	Del Corno Family (SI)
Monday	9.00am	1. Alice Toohey (RIP) 2. People of the Parish		
Tuesday	9.00am	1. Priests in Purgatory 2. Julie Bush (ill)		
Wednesday	9.00am 7- 8pm	1. Michael Evans (Ann., RIP) 2. Ann Taggart (Recently deceased) Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament		
Maundy Thursday	7.30pm	The Priest's intention		
Good Friday	3.00pm	The Passion of the Lord		
Easter Vigil Saturday	8.00pm	1. People of the Parish 2. John W.J. Cywinski (RIP) & Family (SI)		
Easter Sunday Polish	10.30am 12.15pm	Faustina Anyalechi (16 th Birthday) & Family Jan Bielinski (21 Rocznicą śmierci)	8.30am	Elaine Irwin -Grant (SI)



Introduction: (1) All four Gospels tell of the life of Christ differently. But in telling the story of the Passion, they are virtually identical.

(2) Passion story - first item in story-telling tradition of early Church before written narrative.

(3) Story of the Cross biggest problem for early Christians - "Jews want signs; Greeks wisdom; for Jews a hurdle, for Greeks foolishness"

(1 Cor.1:22-23)

(4) Mark - heavy emphasis upon discipleship - privileged group; constant companions; authority to cast out demons and to preach.

(5) Not models - many failures; jealous; did not understand; wanted to call down fire and brimstone on those who did not agree.

(6) Passion story highlights these failures - 1 betrays; 3 go to sleep; 1 denies; and all flee; only one returned to be by the cross; a stranger attended to Christ's burial; and it was the loyal group of women who remained closest and were the eventual messengers to the Apostles that Christ had risen.

Conclusion: The Gospel of Mark reveals the disciples for what they were, and it contains a powerful message on the essence of discipleship. Hopefully, the liturgical services of this coming week may help us to evaluate our discipleship - betrayal, denial, asleep or on the run.

Missionaries of Our Lady of La Salette:

Fr Boguslaw Kot MS: Parish Priest, Fr Leszek Gamracy MS: Assistant Priest

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The Brentwood Diocesan Trust: Registered Charity No. 23409

HALLS

Our Lady of Fatima Hall: olfharlow@gmail.com - 07425633193

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THANK YOU for your February **Collections:** £4281.

Some of the February **Expenses:** Gas £1132, Electric £605, monthly Diocesan Quota £1511, Bank Charges £500, Insurance £893, St. Thomas More House expenses £6000.

HOLY WEEK

SAINT THOMAS MORE RC CHURCH

HODINGS ROAD, CM201TN

Palm Sunday - 24.03.2024 8.30 am Mass

Easter Sunday - 31.03.2024 8.30 am Mass

OUR LADY OF FATIMA RC CHURCH

HOWARD WAY, CM20 2NS

Palm Sunday - 24.03.2024

6.00 pm Saturday Evening Mass

10.30 am Sunday Mass

12.15 am Polish Mass

5.00 pm Reconciliation Service

The Sacred Triduum

Maundy Thursday - 28.03.2024

7. 30 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday -29.03.2024

3.00 pm The Passion of Our Lord

7. 30 pm Stations of the Cross

Easter Vigil - Saturday - 30.03.2024

8 pm - 1st Mass of the Resurrection

Blessing of Food (Polish) - 11 am and 2.00 pm

Easter Sunday - 31.03.2024

10.30 am Mass

12.15 pm Polish Mass

EASTER FLOWERS A collection for flowers Easter will be taken on Palm Sunday.

EASTER RAFFLE Easter Raffle to raise funds for Our Lady of Fatima's Church Spire. Raffle to be drawn Sunday 24th March. Donations for **egg hunt** after the Sunday Easter Mass also welcome.

EASTER CLEANING OLF Tuesday 26th March at 6.00pm

RCIA The RCIA course for those interested in joining the Catholic Church, or those wishing to know more about our faith. The next meeting will be on **Tuesday 26th March at 6.00pm** in The Presbytery

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION The next lesson will be on **Wednesday 27th March 2024 at 5.30pm.**

CATHOLIC COUNSELLING SERVICE for OLF & STM

The service is free to parishioners. Further details and business cards are available in the porch or from Fr. Bogdan or Dr Ray Aldridge-Morris on 07946 854632.

Please continue to pray for **Jenna** our catechumen.

Pray for the sick: Fr Bernard Grogan, Angela Walsh, Billy Lomasney, Christopher Hill, Jeremy Collins, Peter Kelly, Lisa Vose, Pam Matthews, Andrew Dodge, Władysław Borecki, Ewa Samborska, Peter, Tom Ryan, Adele Ryan, Nial Briody, Maria Lunnon, Fabian Andrade, Des and Eileen, David Riches, Helen Doherty, John Brickley, Pamela Barnard, Philip Ketedzi, Caroline Berry, Anna Sweeney, Stanislaw Kostecki, Carmel Delaney, Conrado Shea, Donnah Dris, Ryan Tomlin, May Quinlan, Krystyna, Josie Cronin, Mary Quinlan, Anna Borsuk, Ruby Antony, Eileen Jolly, Anna Słota, Monica, John O'Donnell and their children, Neil, Anna Gawlik, Eileen, Kathleen Kidney, Andrew Sinclair, Pauline, Alice and Rodney Bill, Valda, sick parishioners from Ashlyn, Alexandra and Abbot Care Home.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of: Janina Zdrojewska, Zbigniew Piątek, Józef Chapski, Zofia Pisula, Peter Mwangi Gekonyo, Eileen Hynes, Irene Heaphy, Joby Joy, PJ Thomas, Eveline Falzon, Jakub Rutkowski, Amos Manyati, Dolores Lawless, Zbigniew Sienkiewicz, John Cywinski, Maria Cristina Galagala, Conway Love, Giuseppe Lobue, Thomas Nelson, Paul Gaize, Bridget Minihane, Katarzyna Kisala, Barbara Vernem, Romie Quinn, Zofia Bajan, Paul Bellairs, Stefan Morawa, Ellen (Eileen) Martyn, and all those whose anniversaries occur this month.

We extend **our deepest sympathy** and prayers to **Mariusz Zdrojewski** on the recent death of **his mother Janina.**

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The summit of the Liturgical Year is the Easter Triduum—from the evening of Holy Thursday to the evening of Easter Sunday. Though chronologically three days, they are liturgically one day unfolding for us the unity of Christ's Paschal Mystery.

The single celebration of the Triduum marks the end of the Lenten season and leads to the Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord at the Easter Vigil.

The liturgical services that take place during the Triduum are:

Mass of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday of the Lord's Passion

Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord

On Holy Thursday, we reenact the Lord's Last Supper, which He shared with His apostles on the night He was betrayed and arrested. This is one of the most beautiful liturgies of the entire liturgical year. At the Mass, the priest will wash the feet of twelve men, just as Jesus did. Also on this night, priests all over the world will renew their sacred vows. This is because, at the Last Supper, Jesus not only instituted the Mass (Eucharist) but also the ministerial priesthood.

On Good Friday, the day of the crucifixion and death of our Lord, we have the veneration of the Cross. A service is held at three o'clock in the afternoon (the hour He is believed to have died) and another later in the evening. We go forward and kiss the Cross in order to show honour and respect for Christ's sacrifice for our sake. There is no consecration of the Eucharist on this day, and the Communion we receive will be from the night before, which has been reserved in the tabernacle.

Holy Saturday is a vigil. We keep watch for the expectant rising of Our Savior. This was the day He went down into the netherworld in order to bring back up with Him into heaven those who had died before His coming. Up to this time, the gates to heaven were closed and no one could go there because of the original sin of Adam. Jesus changed all that. By paying the price for our sins on the Cross, He gained for us our eternal salvation, and heaven was opened once more. Also on this night, persons who have spent months of preparation will be received through Baptism and Confirmation into the Catholic Church for the first time. It is a joyous occasion.

Those who engage themselves wholeheartedly in living the entire paschal cycle (Lent, Triduum and Easter's Fifty Days) discover that it can change them forever. This is especially so of the Triduum which, standing at the heart of the Easter season, is an intense immersion in the fundamental mystery of what it is to be Christian. During these days, we suffer with Christ so that we might rise with Him at His glorious Resurrection. Holy Week is a time to clear our schedules of unnecessary activities. Our minds and hearts should be fixed on Jesus and what He did for us. Let us bear the Cross so that may be worthy of wearing the crown He wore.