

BRINDLE St JOSEPH'S

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Ampleforth Abbey Trust – Registered Charity no: 1026493

Palm Sunday 24th March 2024

(Sunday cycle year B, weekday cycle year 2, psalter week 2)



“Hosanna!”

Prayer for Holy Week

Almighty Father, who sent your only Son Jesus Christ to save us from our sin, show me how I can honour you and bring glory to your name by walking in the way of Jesus. Give me grace and mercy as I try and fail, guidance when I'm not sure which way to go and wisdom to trust you in all things. For your love brings light and life to all who seek it. May I seek you evermore as I walk with you through this Holy Week and beyond.

THIS WEEK

Sat 23 rd	10.30am	Dorothy Hoole	Saturday of Lent 5
	6.00pm	The Parish	Palm Sunday
Sun 24 th	9.30am	The sick and housebound of the Parish	
Mon 25 th	No Mass today		Monday of Holy Week
Tue 26 th	9.30am	Anne and Peter Chadwick	Tuesday of Holy Week
Wed 27 th	9.30am	For vocations	Wednesday of Holy Week
Thu 28 th	10.00am to 10.30am	CONFESSIONS	MAUNDY THURSDAY
	6.00pm	MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER – Holy Souls (followed by Watching at the Altar of Repose for one hour)	
Fri 29 th	10.00am to 10.30am	CONFESSIONS	GOOD FRIDAY (Day of Fasting and Abstinence)
	3.00pm	SOLEMN LITURGY	
Sat 30 th	6.00pm	EASTER VIGIL – Peace in the World	HOLY SATURDAY
Sun 31 st	9.30am	EASTER DAY MASS – The Parish	EASTER SUNDAY

First Saturday of the Month: Confessions at 10.00am, Anointing of the sick during 10.30am Mass

This week		Reader		Eucharistic Minister		Bookshop	
Sat 23 rd		As arranged		P Cook		L Lomax	
Sun 24 th		As arranged		M Gardner		B Gore	
Bidding prayers	C Snape	Children's Liturgy	A Fowler, B Gorrell	Collection counters	C & K Snape		
Next week		Reader		Eucharistic Minister		Bookshop	
Sat 30 th		As arranged		P Fawcett		Not open	
Sun 31 st		K Snape		B Gore		Not open	
Bidding prayers	P Thompson	Children's Liturgy	In Church throughout Mass	Collection counters	P & J Kitchen		

Last weekend: attendance: 119, collection: £350.79 – thank you!

Readings: Isaiah 50:4-7, Philippians 2:6-11, Mark 14:1-15:47

Prior to his death and resurrection, in all his teachings, did Jesus really think that the people to whom he spoke and taught – the authorities (let alone his closest followers) – did he really think that they would believe his self-identification as the Son of God?

Elsewhere, we do hear of Peter's profession of faith in answer to Jesus' question: *who do you say I am?* He answers: *You are the Christ the Son of God* and in three of the Gospels, after Jesus dies on the cross, the centurion says truly this was the Son of God. But a note to one of the accounts says that that acknowledgement might simply mean just that he was more than a mere man.

We have often reflected upon the Old Testament as a preparation in types and shadows for the New Testament. To expect people of any age to accept that God became man and died out of love for his people without sufficient preparation is a lot to ask. That is why in our age, proper preparation is a prerequisite for reception of the Sacraments.

Our first reading is from one of the four suffering servant songs found in Isaiah. *We hear them from Monday of Holy Week to Good Friday... familiar phrases like: Here is my chosen whom I uphold ... appointed as a covenant to the nations to open the eyes of the blind ... who offers no resistance, no turning away. 'I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard. I did not cover my face against insult and spittle...' a man of sorrows and familiar with suffering ... ours were the sufferings he bore ... he was pierced for our faults, crushed for our sins.*

Written more than 500 years BC, they speak of the role of suffering in God's plan of salvation; finding fulfilment in the person of Jesus. These are some of the types and shadows which prepare a world for the unbelievable truth of God becoming man – who enters a suffering world and somehow transforms suffering and sin into a self-offering to his Father and thereby *earthing*, as it were, its fatal power like a lightning rod on a church steeple.

But that could only be seen in the light of the resurrection and through the enlightenment of the Holy Spirit of Pentecost, as they looked back into their scriptures and recalled the words of Jesus and saw how it all finds fulfilment in Him.

For now, on this Palm Sunday, we identify with the people, still in the dark as to who was riding into Jerusalem ... hoping him to be the long-awaited Messiah who would liberate them from the occupying forces of the Romans with mighty heavenly power and portents. But when these expectations are not met, they will turn upon him with all the hatred of the world – even his closest friends will desert him.

How easy it is to have faith when all goes well in our lives and how quickly **we** may desert him when events turn our lives upside down.

Let us remember that he is the same God of our ups and of our downs and that apart from him, there is no one else to turn to in our own hour of deepest need ... whenever that may come.

This most sacred week, Holy Week, is an opportunity to meditate upon the scriptures of both Old and New Testaments and to try to see how they find their fulfilment in the suffering servant, Jesus Christ, whose own suffering and death gives meaning to all human suffering.

Reflections on love and suffering for Holy Week.

Love and suffering are clearly linked like the sun and the light. We cannot love without suffering and we cannot suffer without love. St Gianna Beretta Molla.

If there is a true way that leads to the everlasting kingdom, it is most certainly suffering patiently endured. St Colette

The trials that you have had to bear are no more that people normally have. You can trust God not to let you be tried beyond your strength, and with any trial he will give you a way out of it and the strength to bear it. St Paul.

With prayers and best wishes for Holy Week and Easter.

Fr Raphael.

MASS THIS SUNDAY will start in Chapel Fold with the blessing of palms and from there we'll process into church – weather permitting, of course.

HOLY WEEK POSTERS are available from the back of church.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY Services for Children during Holy Week: Palm Sunday - 9.30am Mass, Procession into Church and the Liturgy group. Good Friday 3pm - Liturgy activities in the Parish room. Easter Sunday 9.30 Mass.

COLLECTIONS

There should only be one envelope for the Easter Offerings either named as such or dated 31st March – please use one or the other, not both.

Maundy Thursday: no collection.

Good Friday: for the Holy Places.

GRAVEYARD: As the growing season begins, please could we avoid planting shrubs or any other plants or placing any items in front of graves which might prohibit the passing of a lawn mower and to remember with thanks our volunteers who try to keep the graveyard in good order for you.

PLEASE PRAY for those who are sick or housebound including Fr Laurence Mayne, Kathleen Bamber and Bill Warbrick, and for those whose anniversaries occur about this time.

DURING LENT WE ARE ASKED TO PRAY FOR: Candidates for the Sacraments; Women; The Needy and Hungry of the World; Penitents and Wanderers.

100 CLUB: The winner for week 15 is number 10, Angela Livingstone.

Would you like to be a Youth Ministry Leader in the Lake District? Castlerigg Manor (diocese of Lancaster Retreat Centre) are looking for a Programme Leader to join their youth group ministry team. The work involves working on retreats in the heart of the Lake District and occasionally working on outreach visits around the area. The post is residential and comes with a salary package in the range of £26-28k, made up of paid salary, accommodation, food etc. Would suit someone with youth ministry experience perhaps recently graduated, interested? – jack@castleriggmanor.co.uk

HOSPITAL CHAPLAINS: If you or someone you know would like a visit from the Catholic Chaplain while in hospital, please ring 01257 262713 (for Chorley hospital) or 01772 719604 (for Preston). For St Catherine's Hospice, contact Brownedge St Mary's on 01772 335168.

TEA AND COFFEE are served after Mass on Sunday mornings. Please come along – you'll be very welcome.

In the unlikely event of the need to evacuate church for any reason, the **ASSEMBLY POINT** is in Chapel Fold, by the statue of St Joseph.

The **KEY FOR THE TOILETS** is available at the back of church during Mass.

Can **PARKING** in front of the church be left for those who need it, please?

If you're the last one out of church after a weekend Mass, could you please check that the lights are turned off and doors closed? Thank you.

REGISTRATION FOR CONFIRMATION may still be open at <https://www.liverpoolcalled.co.uk/confirmation>.

Bidding Prayers for 24th March (Palm Sunday)

Priest: In humble obedience to our baptismal call we pray for the needs of the world.

We pray that Christians may follow Christ, who taught people to serve rather than be served. Lord, hear us...

In this year of many elections we pray that all voters reflect on their decisions and are given wisdom and that all temporal leaders remember that their power should be used fairly and wisely. Lord hear us...

As we recall the welcome of the Lord into Jerusalem and then His Passion and Death, let us pray for that spirit of welcome, especially towards the most vulnerable, allowing us to see the Lord in people who are homeless, those who are disabled, immigrants, and the unborn. Lord hear us...

We pray that all people that are suffering in times of conflict or under oppressive regimes may find some peace and comfort this Easter season. Lord hear us...

Jesus knew that the adulation of the people was short-lived. Let us pray that we put greater value on spiritual development than we do on material development. Lord hear us...

We ask Jesus' mother to add her support to our prayers as we say: Hail Mary...

Let us take a moment to make our own petitions.

Priest: God of compassion, in the death and resurrection of Jesus, you show your love for us. Hear our petitions, and grant them, through Christ our Lord. Amen

PRAYER FOR THE SICK

Priest: As we thank God for the gift of his Son in Holy Communion, let us remember those of our Parish who are sick or housebound.

All: May the body and blood of your Son, which we now send to them through our Eucharistic Ministers, bring them consolation and peace. We ask this in the name of Jesus, Our Lord. Amen.