



Holy Trinity Catholic Church

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Holy Trinity is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham Trust

Sunday 13 April 2025 – Palm Sunday

Readings: Year C

Dear Parishioners

We are finally at Holy Week! This weekend we begin with the great procession into Jerusalem, "Hosannas" sounding as the King of Israel is greeted, saluted and honoured. Coming through the East gate as the prophet Ezekiel had foretold, this king is not riding a war-horse or on a chariot but a donkey, the animal of the poor. The Hosannas will turn to "Crucify him" fairly swiftly as the crowds realise that this Jesus of Nazareth is not the expected and wanted militant, all-conquering Messiah who will liberate the people of Israel from the Romans, but a preacher of Peace and Reconciliation.

On "Spy Wednesday" the final piece of the diabolical plan is put into place as Judas decides to sell his Master for thirty pieces of silver. In our diocese this is the great Chrism Mass in St Chad's Cathedral, Birmingham, when all the clergy gather with the Archbishop and all his Bishops, to bless and consecrate the new oils of Baptism, Chrism and Anointing. This takes us to The Triduum (Three days) that form the highlight of the Church's liturgical year.

Holy (Maundy) Thursday brings the Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7 pm as Jesus institutes the Eucharist, the Priesthood and the great Command to love one another, symbolised by the washing of feet. Then, we watch with the Lord in the Garden until late in the night.

Good Friday, that terrible day when the Lord dies on the Cross for our sins, is commemorated at 10am with the final Stations of the Cross and 3pm with The Passion.

Then the great Easter Vigil at 8pm on Holy Saturday which starts outside as we light the brazier and mark up the new Paschal candle. This mighty service charts the story of our Redemption from the beginning of the Old Testament through God's Incarnation to the empty tomb and Easter Triumph.

All Triduum services are at Holy Trinity as the numbers require a large church. Sunday dawns and we celebrate in both parishes with great joy and "alleluias" the Victory of Our Saviour over Sin and Death.

Holy Week is demanding but is a wonderful, dramatic telling of our Faith story. Why not try to attend all the Triduum services, which will tax you but give spiritual rewards. This is the culmination of the Church's year.

On Tuesday evening at 7 pm we have our own Service of Reconciliation at Holy Trinity, an opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation and reflect on inner life. There will be three priests to hear Confessions in a quiet, meditative atmosphere.

I look forward to seeing as many of the faithful as possible during Holy Week, especially The Triduum, in this the most important time in the Church's calendar.

God bless everyone Fr Clive

Parish Notices

Holy Week:

13 April - Palm Sunday	Masses 09:15 St Teresa's and 11:00 Holy Trinity
Triduum all at Holy Trinity	
17 April – Maundy Thursday	7pm - Mass of the Lord's Supper
18 April – Good Friday	10am - Stations of the Cross
	3pm - The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ
19 April – Holy Saturday	8pm – The Easter Vigil
20 April – Easter Sunday	Masses 09:15 St Teresa's and 11:00 Holy Trinity

In April we pray with Pope Francis: Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.

Please continue to pray for our sick, housebound and frail parishioners of both our Parishes.

In addition to your own daily prayers please remember: All those who mourn the loss of loved ones: The repose of the souls of those who have died: People whose anniversaries occur at this time: The people of the Middle East, Morocco, Ukraine, Turkey and Syria.

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocese policies and procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is **Tammy Lawson**. Alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding Team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 or at safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concerns.

