



Newsletter

*Parish of St John Vianney, incorporating the former
Parishes of St Andrew, Holy Family & St Mark
St Therese of Lisieux Pastoral Area*

Parish Administration:

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for a priest, all enquiries should please be
directed to the Parish Office (0151 486 9883) in
the first instance.*

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord, 9 April 2017

Today we begin Holy Week, the days during which we journey with Jesus on his way of the cross and anticipate his Resurrection on Easter. Today's liturgy begins with the procession with palms to remind us of Jesus' triumphant entrance into Jerusalem.

The events of Jesus' Passion are proclaimed in their entirety in today's Liturgy of the Word. Those events will be proclaimed again when we celebrate the liturgies of the Triduum—Holy Thursday's Mass of the Lord's Supper, the Good Friday of the Lord's Passion, and the Easter Vigil. In communities that celebrate the Sacraments of Initiation with Catechumens, these liturgies take on special importance because they invite the Catechumens and the community to enter together into the central mysteries of our faith. These days are indeed profound and holy.

In Cycle A, we read the Passion of Jesus as found in the Gospel of Matthew on Palm, or Passion, Sunday. (On Good Friday, we will read the Passion of Jesus from the Gospel of John). The story of Jesus' Passion and death in Matthew's Gospel focuses particularly on the obedience of Jesus to the will

of his Father. As Jesus sends his disciples to prepare for Passover, he indicates that the events to come are the will of the Father (Matthew 26:18). In Jesus' prayer in the garden, he prays three times to the Father to take away the cup of suffering, but each time, Jesus concludes by affirming his obedience to the Father's will (Matthew 26:39-44). Even Matthew's description of Jesus' death shows Jesus' obedience to the Father.

Another theme of Matthew's Gospel is to show Jesus as the fulfillment of Scripture. Throughout the Passion narrative, Matthew cites and alludes to Scripture to show that the events of Jesus' Passion and death are in accordance with all that was foretold. And if the events were foretold, then God is in control. In addition, Matthew is particularly concerned that the reader does not miss the fact that Jesus is the Suffering Servant of the Old Testament.

Jesus acts in obedience to the Father even in death, so that sins may be forgiven. Matthew makes this clear in the story of the Lord's Supper. As Jesus blesses the

chalice, he says: “. . . for this is my blood of the covenant, which will be shed on behalf of many for the forgiveness of sins.” (Matthew 26:28)

While the Gospels of Matthew and Mark have many parallels in their narrative of the Passion, there are a few details worth noting that are unique to Matthew. Only Matthew indicates the price paid to Judas for betraying Jesus. The story of Judas's death is also found only in Matthew, as is the detail that Pilate's wife received a warning in a dream and that Pilate washed his hands of Jesus' death. Finally, Matthew's Gospel alone mentions the earthquakes and other phenomena that happened after Jesus' death.

Matthew places the responsibility for Jesus' death on the Sanhedrin, the chief priests and elders who were responsible for the Temple. However, the animosity that those Jewish leaders and the Jewish people demonstrate toward Jesus is not to be interpreted in ways that blame the Jewish people for Jesus' death. Throughout Matthew's Gospel, the narrative reflects the tension that probably existed between the early Christian

community and their Jewish contemporaries. At the Second Vatican Council, the Council Fathers made clear that all sinners share responsibility for the suffering and death of Jesus and that it is wrong to place blame for Jesus' Passion on the Jewish contemporaries of Jesus or on Jewish people today.

There are many vantage points from which to engage in Jesus' Passion. In the characters of Matthew's Gospel, we find reflections of ourselves and the many ways in which we sometimes respond to Jesus. Sometimes we are like Judas, who betrays Jesus and comes to regret it. We are sometimes like Peter, who denies him, or like the disciples, who fell asleep during Jesus' darkest hour but then act rashly and violently at his arrest. Sometimes we are like Simon, who is pressed into service to help Jesus carry his cross. Sometimes we are like the leaders who fear Jesus or like Pontius Pilate, who washed his hands of the whole affair. Jesus dies so that our sins will be forgiven.

The events of Jesus' Passion, death, and Resurrection are called the Paschal Mystery. No amount of study will exhaust or explain the

depth of love that Jesus showed in offering this sacrifice for us. After we have examined and studied the stories we have received about these events, we are left with one final task—to meditate on these events and on the forgiveness that Jesus' obedience won for us

With You Always

Family Session 7 will be held on Monday, 24 April at St Andrew's School, 4.45pm-5.45pm or 6.00pm-7.00pm.

Baptismal Information



The next Baptism Registration Meeting will take place on Monday, 8 May 2017 at 6.00pm in St Mark's Annexe.

Families anticipating a baptism this year are strongly advised to register early as dates and places are filling quickly.

RHS Flower Show Tatton Hall, Saturday, 22 July 2017

The Parish of Christ the King & Our Lady, Queens Drive have

organised a coach to the above event. Adults £33.50, under 16s £10. Contact Jacqui in the office if you are interested.

Good Friday Children's Liturgy Service

This will take place at 3.00pm in St Mark's Club. Parents are invited to drop their children off before they attend the main service in Church

Important Notice for Altar Servers & Their Families



All altar servers and their families are invited to take part in the Mass of Chrism (for the blessing of the oils) at the Metropolitan Cathedral at 7.30pm on Wednesday, 12 April. Altar servers should arrive at 7.00pm, report to the Gibberd Room and bring their albs with them.

Vianney's Voice

There will be a meeting at 10.30am, Thursday, 13 April at Holy Family to prepare for Good Friday.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 26 April, 7.00pm-8.30pm at Holy Family.

Job Opportunity

St Mary's Catholic High School, Tyldesley, Manchester, Head of Department, Religious Education. This is an opportunity to lead a core faculty in the largest school in the Archdiocese of Liverpool. See noticeboard for more details. Closing date noon, 21 April 2017.

Called to Serve

We have a great number of volunteers across our parish community who give of their time, as they are able, to build up the life of our community. From time to time there are roles that need filling. Please take a moment to consider if you might be being called to serve...

Volunteer/s to Clean the Annexe Meeting Room at St Mark's. Many groups use our Annexe for meetings – it is a very useful resource for us. It does however need cleaning every now and then. Could you help? Please contact the Parish Office.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) A Faith Journey

Please keep in your prayers Kate Perry and Alison Nicky who after months of preparation, will be received into full communion with the church at the Easter Vigil. Also, for Ann McCann who will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Please give them your prayerful support as they enter the final weeks of their journey of faith.

Is The Lord Calling You To Be A Priest?

Monthly meetings for those discerning the call on the first Saturday of every month, St Charles Borromeo Presbytery, 10.00am-3.00pm, Vocations Director Father James Preston, email frjamespreston@gmail.com.

Northern Saints Visiting Lindisfarne, Seahouses and Durham

The Catholic Pic are organising the above visit. Monday, 18 September to Thursday, 21 September 2017 led by Father Ron Johnson. £295 pp. Call 0151 733 5492 for further information.

St Mark's Club

Manager: Mrs Emma Harvey, Telephone 0151 486 4908. Please note that the Club has a large function room available to hire for all family occasions for £55.00 plus returnable security fee. We do not make a charge for Funeral Receptions.

Parish Finance

Gift Aid and Envelopes	£ 494.66
Other Envelopes	£ 125.50
Loose GASDS	£ 467.99
Total Offertory	£1,088.15
Standing Orders	£ 236.23
Bonus Ball 30	£ 77.00

Second Collection

There is no second collection this weekend. The second collection next weekend is for Holy Places.

Good Friday Collection

The Good Friday collection enables the Catholic communities of the Holy Land along with religious communities and organisations of all kinds, to help, in their turn, the poor and suffering of every ethnicity and every faith, without distinction.

*** School's Prayer ***

St John Vianney, give us strength so we'll do our best. Help us, guide us and look after us in work, fun and rest. Make us patient, kind and loving and always willing to try. And let us see for ourselves that we are unique in God's love.

*** Parish Prayers ***

“Almighty and merciful God, you made St John Vianney glorious by his pastoral zeal and constant prayer and penance. Through his intercession may your holy spirit lead us and guide us as we endeavour to follow Your Son Jesus, wherever He leads. Bless our young people. Bless our sick and housebound. Bless our family and friends. Bless those most in need at this time. Unite us all in your love. May St John Vianney help us to hear the voice of Your Son Jesus when he says: “Be calm, do not be afraid, it is I”. St John Vianney, pray for us”.

We are asked to pray for all those who have died in our parish together with those in the wider community, we also remember to pray for their families.

Important Notice Regarding Mass Intentions

Mass intentions submitted to the office will be celebrated at the nearest available date. **Please complete the small brown envelopes which can be found at the back of church.** Of late, more and more people have been wanting to know exactly what day their intention would be remembered which has led to masses being booked-in sometimes several months ahead. We currently have a large number of mass intentions outstanding. Intentions can be submitted to the office, even with the request for a specific date but without the definitive expectation that this will occur but with the knowledge that it will be celebrated as close to or as near as possible the date. In order for us to provide for unexpected life changing moments that need our prayer, events such as funerals, operations and special intentions take priority.

Volunteer Pastoral Assistants

Funeral Lay Ministers

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Baptism Coordinator

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With You Always Coordinator

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School's Information

St Andrew's: Tel 0151 288 8940
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St Mark's: Tel 0151 288 8910
Headteacher: Mr Richard Coakley
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Holy Family: Tel 0151 282 8971
Headteacher: Mrs Gillian Holland
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St Edmund Arrowsmith:
Tel 0151 477 8770
Headteacher: vacant RIP

St Julie's: Tel 0151 428 6421
Headteacher: Mr Tim Alderman

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Bellerive FCJ: Tel 0151 727 2064
Headteacher: Sr Brigid Halligan



Holy Week



**Palm Sunday Passion of the Lord
9 April 2017**

Date – 2017	Holy Family Church	St. Mark's Church
Saturday, 8 April Lenten Weekday	5.15 pm – Mass (People of the Parish)	
Sunday, 9 April Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord	11.00 am – Mass (Mary Burns)	9.15 am – Mass (Rosie McLoughline)
Monday, 10 April Monday of Holy Week		10.00 am – Service of the Word
Tuesday, 11 April Tuesday of Holy Week	10.00 am – Mass (Paul Whitehead)	
Wednesday, 12 April Wednesday of Holy Week	7.30 pm – Mass of Chrism Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King	
The Easter Triduum		
Thursday, 13 April Thursday of Holy Week	7.30 pm - Mass of the Lord's Supper with Watching at the Altar of Repose until Night Prayer at 10.00 pm at Holy Family	
Friday, 14 April Friday of the Passion of the Lord	12 noon – Churches Together in Hunts Cross & Halewood Joint Act of Worship, Hunts Cross Community Garden	
	7.30 pm Youth Reflection Watching by the Tomb, Holy Family Meeting Room	3.00 pm Passion of the Lord 3.00 pm Children's Liturgy & Service, St Mark's Club
Saturday, 15 April Holy Saturday	8.30 pm – Easter Vigil	
Sunday, 16 April Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord	11.00 am – Mass (Tony Doherty)	9.15 am – Mass (Catherine Mackrell)