

Whitnash and Bishops Tachbrook

St. Joseph's Parish

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Newsletter

29th March 2015

Palm Sunday

No-one would doubt, these days, that we are in the age of ‘celebrity’. But what does this statement really mean? Maybe it is because modern communication and the all-embracing presence of the media are such an inescapable part of our lives that individuals can be ‘held up’ for all to see. In fact, true privacy from the ‘world out there’ is becoming increasingly more difficult. Unlike many of our modern celebrities, who happen to be in the lime light through some dubious talent or clever media manipulation, Jesus became known far and wide through His message of healing and salvation. He came to do His Father’s will. Jesus’ presence became popular by witness and word of mouth. However, the broken shallowness and fickleness of our human nature allowed those ‘followers’ of Jesus to see only what they wanted to see. They wanted a liberator and successful ‘king’ to lead them out of the slavery of Roman occupation. Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem represented the ‘high point’ of



His ‘celebrity’ in the eyes of the foolish (nearly all of the crowd in fact). From then on it was all down hill for them. The kingdom that the Son of God was to inaugurate was going to be the crowning of the Beatitudes; one of love and self-sacrifice where adulation is given by all to God alone. We will search in vain for ‘celebrity’ in the Beatitudes.

Services	This Week	Events
6.30pm <i>Vigil Mass: George Fraser RIP</i> 10.00am <i>Mass: Pauline Jenkins RIP</i> 5.00pm <i>Mass: Maria Lazzara RIP</i>	<p style="text-align: center;">Sunday 29th March Palm Sunday <i>Psalter Week 2</i></p> 	10.05am Children's Liturgy <p style="text-align: center;">Easter Fayre - in the Hall, after Mass!</p> 11.30am  6.00pm Youth Group
<i>No School Mass</i> 7.00pm <i>Novena to Our Lady</i> <i>Mass: Deacon Joe Rogan RIP</i>	<p style="text-align: center;">Monday 30th March Monday of Holy Week</p>	8-9.00pm Dancing
9.10am <i>Rosary</i> 9.30am <i>Mass: Private Intention</i> 7.00pm <i>Penitential Service</i>	<p style="text-align: center;">Tuesday 31st March Tuesday of Holy Week</p>	10.00am Tuesday Club 2-3.00pm & Marriage Preparation Course 7.30-9.00pm
11.30am <i>Chrism Mass at the Cathedral</i>	<p style="text-align: center;">Wednesday 1st April Wednesday of Holy Week</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>No Art Group (until 15th April)</i></p>
8.00pm <i>Mass of the Lord's Supper</i> 11.45pm <i>Night Prayer</i>	<p style="text-align: center;">Thursday 2nd April Maundy Thursday</p> 	Church Cleaning - Team 1 <i>No Music Group. No SCJ Meeting.</i> 7-8.00pm Weight Watchers During the Mass of the Lord's Supper:- Washing of the Feet Commissioning of new Ministers of the Eucharist Procession to the Altar of Repose, Watching until Midnight
11.30am <i>Children's 'Way of the Cross'</i> 3.00pm <i>Solemn Liturgy of the Passion</i> 4.15pm <i>Walk of Witness, Chapel Green</i> 7.00pm <i>Stations of the Cross</i> <i>There is a collection today for the Holy Places</i>	<p style="text-align: center;">Friday 3rd April Good Friday</p> 	12-1.00pm Hunger Lunch, Parish Centre 4-6.00pm Karate 4.15pm Walk of Witness from St. Margaret's to Chapel Green and raising of the Cross
8.00pm <i>Easter Vigil and the First Mass of Easter: Pauline Jenkins RIP</i> 	<p style="text-align: center;">Saturday 4th April Holy Saturday</p>	8.30am Slimming World 10.30am Slimming World During Easter Vigil: <i>Blessing of the New Fire, Paschal Candle, Baptismal Waters. Renewal of Baptismal Promises</i>
10.00am <i>Family Mass of Easter: Joyce Cowan RIP</i> 5.00pm <i>Easter Mass: People of the Parish</i>	<p style="text-align: center;">Sunday 5th April The Resurrection of the Lord Easter Sunday <i>Psalter: the Easter Octave</i></p>	Coffee and Tea after Mass Children's Liturgy Group  
Collections £401.77 Banker's Orders (weekly average) £100.46 <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Many thanks for your donations</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Last Week 22nd March</p>	Attendance: 215 

Announcements

OUR SICK

David Harwar, Roy Stanford, Enda McSharry, Marie Kelly, Seren Robertson, Eileen Hiorns, Patricia Robinson, Brian McCann, Rory and Peggy O'Rourke, Edna Hales, Sue Cleary, Shelagh Price, Jenny Bamber, Sue Day, Michael Gallagher, Miceal Murphy, Eddie Hoare.

Heathcote Hospital	Margaret McLaughlin
Kenilworth Grange	Margaret Handy
The Lawns	Bert Brind, Bridget Hunt John L'Estrange
Clarence House	Winifred Galvin
Eversleigh N. H.	Mollie Benson
Clarendon Manor	Mary Jenkinson
Stratford	Monty Jenkinson
RLS Nursing Home	Bernie & Robbie Burns

Anniversaries

Violet Hawkins, Margaret Carr, Colin Bates, Kathleen Hornsby, Angela Freeman, George Fraser, Simon Hawkins, Frank Lane, Eva Ryan
Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord

Baptism

Elias O'Driscoll

Sunday April 26th at 12 Noon

Caelen Lea Connolly

Sunday 3rd May at 12 Noon

Baptism Preparation Meetings: usually take place on the last Monday of the month, at 7.45pm in the Holy Family Room.

Opportunity for Sacrament of Reconciliation

Our usual Penitential Service will take place **this Tuesday 31st March at 7.00pm, when there will be a number of priests present.**

Recently Deceased

Hugh Williams, one of our parishioners, died on Friday 20th March after prolonged illness. We offer our sympathies and condolences to his wife Anne and all his family.
May he rest in peace .

Walk of Witness

If any parishioners would like to help me with readings during the ecumenical service on the Green (Good Friday p.m. please see me. If we can share them it would be great. We need about four. Many thanks.
Many thanks Fr. Bob

Safeguarding and Documentation

We need to have our safeguarding administration and documentation up to date. It has, for some time, been required practice for volunteers to complete the relevant forms. In parishes, the areas concerned will include: CHILDREN'S LITURGY, EUCHARISTIC MINISTRY, YOUTH GROUP WORKERS, ADULT ALTAR SERVERS, SACRISTANS AND CATECHISTS. We've already received a good number of these from our teams, but we need to make sure all volunteers have completed their relevant forms. Could any volunteers (from the above areas) who have not yet been given forms please see Fr. Bob or Honor Hynes [safeguarding co-ordinator] so that we can complete the process and make sure all documentation is up to date. Form completion will be fully explained and shouldn't be time consuming. We will guide you through it. Many thanks for your patience and understanding. We do rely upon our generous teams to allow the parish to function.

Gift Aid

The new tax year starts after Easter and the envelopes for this are in the porch. Please take your named box. If you are not a tax payer, but would like a box, there will be a sheet of paper next to the blank boxes - just sign this and take one. Please consider joining the Gift Aid Scheme, if you are a tax payer. Just let Fr. Bob know if you are interested. Thank you to those who were able to register following Patrick Murphy's appeal last weekend. Gift Aid provides the Parish with substantial income, every year, at no cost to individual parishioners. Patrick (07711 346405) will answer any queries you may have.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES

Boxes for the new tax year are available for collection from the front porch.

Patrick has the forms for anyone wishing to set up a bankers order instead of using envelopes. Our thanks once again to all who join or have joined the scheme and to Patrick Murphy and Brian Malone for keeping the records.

DON'T FORGET THAT GOOD FRIDAY IS A DAY OF FASTING AND ABSTINANCE !

200 Club

Anne Buttrum will be collecting for the 200 Club at this weekend's Masses and also at the Easter Fayre in the Hall. Please do consider joining if not yet a member.

Next Week—5th April 2015

8.00pm Vigil	Eucharistic Ministers: Josephine Whittington, Stephen McFaddon	Readers: Jan, June, Mary, Carol. Mass: Paddy
10.00am	Tony Harris , Myrna Harwar, Pauline Mills	Salvatore Monastero
5.00pm	Shelagh Price, Mary Hendry	Anne Bergonzi

29th Mar 11.30am Easter Fayre, Hall
31st Mar 7.00pm Penitential Service
1st April 11.30am Chrism Mass, Cathedral

EASTER LITURGIES

Time is pressing and we are already approaching our Holy Week liturgy and the Paschal Triduum. This period is the source and summit of the Eucharist we celebrate every week and we are invited to become a part of it in the fullest sense.

There are leaflets available at the back of church with the times of services for Holy Week and the Triduum - do take one home so that you are aware of everything that is happening.

There are also **lists** available, so that you may volunteer to take part in these special liturgies, e.g. as a Reader or a participant in the Washing of the Feet on Holy Thursday. Please fill the empty spaces!



Altar Servers add enormously to the dignity and solemnity of these important occasions and are a great help to the smooth running of the liturgies. Perhaps parents could encourage our servers, who have a lot of demands on their time, to make a particular commitment to the Easter Triduum, and it would be wonderful to see all our older servers supporting them.



The Easter services are full of extra liturgical symbolism, eg the new fire at the Vigil, and we need **behind the scenes help** to make sure everything goes according to plan. Please volunteer if you can.



Last but not least: our church is always kept beautifully clean and we have a talented team of flower arrangers who ensure that it is fittingly decorated, so it would be a good idea if a small group could offer to **clean the brassware**. How about just after the 9.30am Mass this Tuesday 31st? Join me. There's a list for anyone who is willing to do this.



Please do offer to take a part, especially during the Triduum - The Mass of the Lord's Supper through to Easter Sunday. You will be much appreciated and will help everyone enjoy a wonderful tribute to the Lord.

- ♦ For those who volunteer for the Washing of the Feet—just one foot will be washed.
- ♦ Holy Saturday's Vigil will begin outside with the lighting of the Paschal Fire
- ♦ **Please could altar servers attending any of the Easter Services (especially the Triduum) arrive 30 minutes before the start to go through the details. Thank you!**

Parish Centre



Weekly Events (during normal time)

Monday: Dancing
Tuesday: Tuesday Club
Wednesday: Art /Choir
Thursday: Music Group / Weightwatchers
Friday: Karate
Saturday: Slimming World
Sunday: Youth Club

Stations of the Cross



Our last Stations of the Cross will be at 7.00pm Good Friday, 3rd April.

Flowers for Easter

We would be grateful for any contributions towards the flowers for Easter so that the church can be decorated beautifully to celebrate Easter. Please put offerings into the flower box on the left of the main door. *Thank you!*

Eucharistic Ministers and Readers

Maundy Thursday is the usual day for commissioning new Special Ministers of the Eucharist in addition to the existing ones. These ministers enhance our liturgies and help uphold the dignity and respect for the Blessed Sacrament. Please consider offering your services. Ministers also have the opportunity to take Communion to the sick and the housebound, if they are able to do so. New readers are urgently needed as well for the weekend Masses. Please speak to Fr. Bob if you feel able to help and *please let him know if you intend not to renew your commitment to Eucharistic Ministry at this time..*

Hunger Lunch

Our Hunger Lunch will be at noon on Good Friday in the Hall - Soup and a roll; £1.50 for Adults; £1 for each child. Organised by the Justice and Peace Group. Everyone welcome!



Good Friday's Walk of Witness

This will commence from St. Margaret's at 4.15pm which usually gives the more energetic time to join in after Solemn Liturgy at 3.00pm. There will be a raising of the Cross service at 4.30pm at Chapel Green and the Plough and Harrow have once again arranged to provide tea and hot cross buns for us all (at a cost of £1 per person)

Easter Offering

The collection taken at Easter is one of just two occasions in the Church's year when it is stipulated that it should be for the benefit of the clergy.