

## ***Palm Sunday – Year A*** **29 March 2026**

***Psalm Response: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?***

<b>Sun:</b>	9.00am Mass 11.00am Mass	Fernando Family RIP John McKenna RIP
<b>Mon:</b>	12 noon Mass	Clifford Birds RIP
<b>Wed:</b>	NO MASS	
<b>Thurs:</b>	<u>Maundy Thursday</u> 6.30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper	Marek Mazu Int.
<b>Fri:</b>	<u>Good Friday</u> 3.00pm The Passion of the Lord	
<b>Sat:</b>	<u>Holy Saturday</u> 6.30pm Vigil Mass of Easter	John McGauran RIP
<u>Easter Sunday</u>		
<b>Sun:</b>	9.00am Mass 11.00am Mass	Marie Johnson RIP Foncie Ward RIP

### Money Matters:

Offertory: £654.72  
Diocesan Quota: £232.16

For those who regularly contribute to the Church via the Envelope Scheme, another option would be to set up a Monthly or Weekly Direct Debit or Standing Order. If you contribute by any of these methods and you pay Income Tax, please consider Gift Aiding your contributions to the Parish, this is worth an extra 20% to the Parish without costing you any more than your Gift to the Parish.

Lloyds Bank: sort code 30-92-59;  
Account number 01620555 – English Martyrs, Derby RCP.  
(Gift Aid forms available at the back of Church)

Payments to the parish by cheque should be made payable to:  
English Martyrs Derby RCP

Sanctuary Lamp: Tony Curtis RIP, Mavis & Gordon Hawkins RIP

**Prayers for the Sick:** Please always keep in your prayers the sick and housebound especially Simon Thompson, Christine Dreuit, Giovanni Busato, Ian Robinson, Bart Makowski, Joe Migallo, Liam Blaney, Christopher Turner, Tracey Reeve, Terry & Liz Spencer, Mick & Frances Connolly, Maria Latwiel, Anne Smith, Margaret Meagher, James Wilson, Libby Dodes, Gregory Makowski, Brian Campbell, Mary Storer and Peggy Whelan.

### **Second Collections this week:**

**2 April - Bishop's Charities**

**3 April - Holy Places**

**4/5 April - Easter Offering**

**Holy Week:** Holiest week of all, week of solemn devotion, of sharing with the Lord in all that he suffered for us.

***'Lord, grant me a trusting heart, knowing that through your Passion and Death you take our faults on yourself to free us and bring us joy.'***

The Prayer Trust

**31 March: 7.30pm Penance Service at St Mary's**

**Food Donations:** Thank you for your continued donations to the Food Appeal. These will be particularly needed over Easter and the School holidays.

**Palms:** Please bring your old palms and place them in the basket on the table at the back of Church. These will then be burned to produce the ashes for Ash Wednesday next year.

**First Holy Communion:** Application forms for FHC are available at the back of Church. Classes will begin on **Saturday, 25 April at 10.30-11.30am** in the Church and for the following Saturdays – children must be accompanied by an adult.  
FHC will take place on **24 May** at 2.00pm

**Please pray** for the repose of the soul of Terry Bullock and Nora Gannon. May they rest in peace. Please also remember their families in your prayers.  
Requiem Mass for Nora Gannon will take place on **Friday, 24 April at 11.00am**

***'As we carry palm branches in procession, may we also carry the message of Christ's love and redemption to all those we encounter'***

St Teresa of Calcutta

## **THURSDAY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER (Maundy Thursday):**

We heard what Jesus did. It is interesting. The Gospel says: "Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands"; in other words Jesus had all the power, all of it. And then he begins to perform this gesture of washing feet. It is an act that slaves did at that time, because there was no asphalt on the roads and when people arrived, their feet were dusty; when they arrived at a house for a visit or for lunch, there were slaves who washed their feet. And Jesus makes this gesture: he washes feet. He performs the act of slaves: he who was all powerful, he who was Lord, performs this act of slaves. And then he advises everyone: "You also ought to wash one another's feet". That is, serve one another, be brothers in service, not in ambition, as one who dominates others or who oppresses others, no. Be brothers in service. Do you need something, a service? I will do it for you. This is fraternity. Fraternity is humble, always: it is serving.

Pope Francis

## **FRIDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD (Good Friday):**

The liturgy applies to Jesus's descent into the night of death, the words of Psalm 23(24): "Lift up your heads, O gates; be lifted up, O ancient doors!" The gates of death are closed, no one can return from there. There is no key for those iron doors. But Christ has the key. His Cross opens wide the gates of death, the stern doors. They are barred no longer. His Cross, his radical love, is the key that opens them. The love of the One who, though God, became man in order to die – this love has the power to open those doors. This love is stronger than death.

Pope Benedict XVI

## **EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD –**

### **THE EASTER VIGIL IN THE HOLY NIGHT:**

On this holy night we celebrate the Easter Vigil, the first – indeed the "mother" – of all vigils of the liturgical year. On this night, as is sung over and over again in the Exultet, we walk once more the path of humanity from creation to the culminating event of salvation, the death and resurrection of Christ. The light of him who "has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep" makes this memorable night, which is rightly considered the "heart" of the liturgical year, "bright as the day". On this night the entire Church keeps watch and recalls, in meditation, the significant stages of God's saving intervention in the universe. There is a twofold significance to this solemn Easter Vigil, so rich with symbols accompanied by an extraordinary abundance of biblical texts. On the one hand it is the prayerful memory of the mirabilia Dei, in the re-presentation of key texts from the Sacred Scriptures, from creation to the sacrifice of Isaac, to the passage through the Red Sea, to the promise of the New Covenant. On the other hand, this evocative vigil is the trusting expectation of the complete fulfilment of the ancient promises. The memory of God's work reaches its climax in the resurrection of Christ and is projected onto the eschatological event of the Parousia. We thus catch a glimpse, on this night of Passover, of the dawning of that day that never ends, the day of the Risen Christ, which inaugurates the new life, the "new heavens and a new earth".

Pope St John Paul II