

PARISH OF ST JAMES & ST BONIFACE
with St John's Catholic Primary and Pre-School
A Catholic Community in the Heart of Mid Devon

NEWSLETTER

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD
Sunday 28 March 2021



HOLY WEEK & EASTER

Parish Clergy:

Canon Kristian Paver - Parish Priest
Rev Michael Tosh – Deacon
Rev Peter Found - Deacon

Parish Secretary: Rosie Croker

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Parish Office

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**Mon-Wed 10.00am-
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www.stjameschurchtiverton.org.uk

Twitter: @StJamesRCTiv

Facebook: Parish of St James and
St Boniface, Mid-Devon

St James' Church

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St Boniface's Church

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St John's Catholic School

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Coming to Church – “Hands/Face/Space”

When coming to church for services, please observe the social distancing rules, wear a face covering (unless you are exempt) and sanitise your hands frequently. Please also maintain an appropriate distance from others at all times, both inside the church and outside in the carpark.

If you would like to come to **Mass at the weekends**, please contact the Parish Office to book a place, either by telephone on weekdays between 10.00am-1.00pm, or by email. There is no need to book a place at a weekday Mass but, on arrival at church, please give your details to one of the stewards.

Holy Week 2021

The celebration of this year’s Holy Week and Sacred Triduum Services will be somewhat different from previous years. The main differences will be:

On **Palm Sunday**, the Commemoration of the Lord’s Entrance into Jerusalem will take place inside the church. Palms will be given out by the stewards wearing gloves as you arrive at church and these will be blessed in the usual way, but without the sprinkling of Holy Water. The shorter form of the Passion from the Gospel of St Mark will be read by the deacon alone without other voices.

At the **Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper** on Maundy Thursday evening, the Washing of the Feet after the Gospel will not take place and there will be no procession to the Altar of Repose; the Reserved Sacrament will be returned to the Tabernacle. Due to Covid restrictions there cannot be any local Watching before the Altar of Repose, so the Bishop has assigned the Cathedral as a focus for Watching in the Diocese. This “virtual” Watching will be live-streamed on the Plymouth Cathedral YouTube Channel for the whole evening until 12 midnight.

At the **Celebration of the Lord’s Passion** on Good Friday, the Passion according to the Gospel of St John will be read by the deacon alone without other voices. A special intention “For the afflicted in time of pandemic” will be inserted into the Universal Prayer. The responses for the Unveiling of the Cross will be said, and only the priest will venerate the Cross personally, after which the Cross will be elevated and everyone present invited to adore in a short period of silent prayer, whilst either genuflecting or bowing in their places.

At the start of the **Easter Vigil** there will not be a fire, and the Paschal Candle will be enthroned in the church and lit before the people gather for the Vigil. After the Greeting by the priest, the deacon will sing the Exsultet – The Easter Proclamation. After the Liturgy of the Word, the baptismal water in the font will be blessed and all present invited to renew their baptismal promises.

Święconka – the Blessing of the Easter Baskets

The Blessing of the Easter Baskets on Holy Saturday is one of the most enduring and beloved Polish Easter traditions. The baskets, containing a sampling of Easter foods, are traditionally lined with a white linen or lace napkin and decorated with sprigs of boxwood (*bukszpan*), the typical Easter evergreen. The foods in the baskets have a symbolic meaning: eggs symbolise life and the Resurrection; bread represents Jesus, the Bread of Life; salt represents purification; horseradish is symbolic of the bitter sacrifice of Christ; meat is symbolic of great joy and abundance. The blessed food is used for the Easter Breakfast on Easter Sunday morning.

The Blessing of the Easter Baskets will take place this Holy Saturday from 11.00am-12.30pm in both St James and St Boniface. Families are asked to remain outside in the church carpark. The stewards, having taken "Track and Trace" details, will then invite a group of families to enter the church, carefully observing the hands/face/space rule, where the baskets of food will be blessed. Once these families have left the church, another group will be invited to come in. Please be patient. We want to ensure that everyone is kept as safe as possible.

CAFOD Lent Challenge - Walk for Water

Our parish team of dedicated walkers is continuing the CAFOD "Walk for Water" challenge and has almost clocked up an impressive 3.5 million steps. Amazingly, given the difficult financial times we are living through, we have already reached our goal of raising £1,000! With one more week of the challenge to go, it will be exciting to see how much we will have raised as our contribution to help provide access to clean water for our sisters and brothers in Afar, Ethiopia, who are still deprived of this fundamental human right.

If you have yet to contribute, please visit the [Just Giving page](#) set up for our Parish Team and give what you can.

In its fourth Lent Newsletter, our Parish CAFOD Group takes the opportunity to give us some more detailed information concerning the challenging circumstances of life, arising largely from internal armed conflict and famine, which the people of Ethiopia are facing at this time. It is to help them that the CAFOD "Walk for Water" campaign is taking place this Lent.

Sacrament of Confirmation

Bishop Mark will be coming to our parish on Sunday 11 July to confer the Sacrament of Confirmation. If there is any adult parishioner who did not receive the Sacrament when they were younger, perhaps now is the time to complete your Christian initiation and be confirmed! Even if you are unsure whether you want to do this, do please have a word with Canon Kristian.

"A Precious Place of God's Grace" – The Next Step

In January Bishop Mark issued *A Precious Place of God's Grace* to help us reflect on the changes that will need to happen in the pastoral structures of our diocese over the next five years. When circumstances permit, there will be opportunities for us to do this together as a parish community.

In the meantime, the Bishop has invited the internationally renowned speaker, Michael Dopp, to present two online formation sessions on Saturday 1 May, 11.00am – 12noon and 1.00pm – 2.00pm, for our clergy and laypeople together, on the missionary themes in the document, to help us explore how to carry out this mission concretely. Register to take part via the following [link](#).

Holy Week Services and Events

Saturday 27 March – Lent Weekday

- Sacrament of Penance 10.00am-12noon
- Holy Mass at 6.00pm (Vigil Mass)

Sunday 28 March – Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

- Holy Mass at 10.00am *Pro populo*
- Holy Mass at 11.30am (St Boniface)

Tuesday 30 March – Tuesday of Holy Week

- Holy Mass at 10.00am
- Requiem Mass for Caryl Rothwell RIP at 3.00pm in St George's Anglican Church, Morebath, followed by burial in the churchyard

Wednesday 31 March – Wednesday of Holy Week

- Holy Mass at 9.00am *David Palmer RIP*

The Sacred Paschal Triduum

Thursday 1 April – Maundy Thursday

- Coffee Morning on Zoom at 11.00am
- Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7.00pm

Friday 2 April – Good Friday (Day of Fasting and Abstinence)

- Celebration of the Lord's Passion at 12noon (St Boniface)
- Celebration of the Lord's Passion at 3.00pm
- Stations of the Cross at 7.00pm

Saturday 3 April – Holy Saturday

- Święconka (Blessing of the Easter Baskets) from 11am-12.30pm at both St James and St Boniface
- The Easter Vigil at 9.00pm

Sunday 4 April – Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

- Holy Mass at 10.00am
- Holy Mass at 11.30am (St Boniface)