

The Sacred Heart & Our Lady Main Street, Aston-le-Walls, NN11 6UF

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PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

"Holy Week is a privileged time when we are called to draw near to Jesus: friendship with him is shown in times of difficulty."

(Pope Francis)

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Spiritual Communion Prayer

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love you above all things and I desire to receive you into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you.

Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

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Christ be with me, Christ within me, Christ behind me, Christ before me, Christ beside me, Christ to win me, Christ to comfort and restore me, Christ beneath me, Christ above

Christ in quiet, Christ in danger, Christ in hearts of all that love me, Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.

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Please pray for the sick:

Tess K, Tony B, Carmel R, Sarel S, Averil M, Bernard B, Paul C, Hester & Herman L, Colm E, Joy B, Kate C, Catherine R, Joan T, Alan and Jean R, Josie M, Eileen E-L, Michael B.

Please continue to pray for all suffering with COVID-19 and for the doctors.

nurses and others on the frontline!

"The Lord is my light and my help" – Psalm 26 (27):1 Holy Week and Easter at home

This week we celebrate Holy Week and how strange it feels that we are not able to gather in our churches to participate in this most sacred time of the Church's year. We are still, however, able to participate remotely through live streaming even if the services are slightly curtailed! From wherever you have been participating online with Mass and other liturgical Services these past few weeks, do please make a note of the times and availability of their liturgies through Holy Week and Easter; they may well be at a different time to that celebrated these past few years here in Aston le Walls. I will continue to privately say Mass and participate in Holy Week Services myself. Our Diocesan celebration of the Chrism Mass which would normally occur on Holy (Maundy) Thursday has been postponed to a time that allows for people and parishes to gather safely within our Cathedral.

We are also fortunate that the Diocesan Pastoral Ministry Office have collected a wide range of resources, activities, and reflections to help us through this time. Please visit: http://formationpathways.co.uk/resources-for-holy-week-at-home/. I am hopeful you might find some new traditions to enrich your faith that you'll want to carry forward even after we're all back together again. All of us are being asked to dig deeper into the reserves of our own faith as we experience these extraordinary days that we are being asked to live through.

A suggestion has been made for this Sunday – Palm Sunday. We might be able to find a palm from previous years and simply place it in our window. Or, if we have children at home, the younger ones might like to draw a palm and place that in the window. This is a simple way of marking this week out as special!

<u>Mass Intentions</u> Do please contact Fr James if you would like a Mass offered for a loved one or a particular intention – his contact details are at the top of this newsletter!

<u>Offertory Giving</u> If you usually contribute to your parish via the weekly offertory collection basket, please consider setting up a standing order instead. (Should you have already completed a Gift Aid declaration for giving via offertory envelopes, it is not necessary to complete a further one). The following options are available: an online donation or standing order via Diocesan Website or online donation or standing order via donor's own bank. Please refer to our Parish Website for full details and *thank you* for your continued care and support of the Parish.

<u>Rest in Peace</u> Let us remember and pray for all those who anniversaries occur in April, including: Dougie Hartwell, Martin Jones, Lucette Kershaw, Mildred (Meem) Marshall, Joe Mees, Tony Mitchell, Ron Sutton, Kitty Tillcock, Joan Robins, Patrick Savage, Colin Vines, Pope John Paul II, Patrick O'Sullivan, Roger Marshall and Merrilees West. May they and all the faithful departed share in the Promise of the Resurrection.

Keep safe and may God bless you and your families in this Holy Week!