

St. Michael's Bulletin

Sonning Common, Peppard, Checkendon, Stoke Row, Emmer Green & Caversham Park
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PALM SUNDAY April 1st, 2007

Saturday Vigil 5.30 pm Holy Souls

9.00 am Our Parish Family 1030 am Cotter & O'Shea families

Monday 7.00 pm Mass of Reconciliation. Tuesday 9.00 am Eucharistic Service

Wednesday 9.00 am Morning prayer & Mass for Jim Roginski

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MAUNDY THURSDAY. 8.00 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper, followed by Watching until 1000 pm

GOOD FRIDAY. 1200 noon Stations of the Cross. 3.00 pm The Solemn Liturgy

HOLY SATURDAY. 9.00 pm Vigil of Easter. The climax of Lent. Christ is Risen.

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FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS.

Loving Father, send Your healing Spirit on all who are sick; Frank Sweeney, Catherine Viner, Bill Norman, Gerry Buck, Alan Tillotson, Mary Burke, Jacque Bussell, Eric Brent, Eugenie Micotti, Joan Selwood, Pat Linthwaite and John Leach

Bring them Your healing and peace.

FOR THE DECEASED MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH FAMILY

We pray for Christine Ryman and Norbert Jarusek who died recently. For all killed in wars, disasters and accidents throughout the world. For victims of terrorism and oppression; for those who die of starvation or neglect: and for Flora Bradley, Jim Roginski, Elenor Fox, Harry Selway, Lilian Muston, Josephine Legge, Lilian Everett and Ina Dias whose anniversaries fall at this time. **May they rest in Your Love and Peace.**

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THIS IS HOLY WEEK, THE MOST SOLEMN WEEK IN THE CHURCH'S YEAR.

We now begin our commemoration of the last days of Jesus' earthly life. **Today, Palm Sunday,** is a triumph. Jesus is received into the holy city of Jerusalem and welcomed by all the cheering crowds. But by Friday they have become the jeering crowds who now bay for His blood. But why? What has He done?

On Monday evening we shall celebrate our Mass of Reconciliation at 7.00 pm. This is an important event for us as we begin this final week. A well-considered and sincere confession and a plea for forgiveness is essential as we approach the memorial of our redemption through Jesus death and resurrection.

MAUNDY THURSDAY is a rich day. We place on the altar the Holy Oils which the Archbishop has consecrated at the Cathedral: oils which will be used in Baptism, Confirmation and Anointing of the Sick in our parish in the coming year. We then continue with our celebration of the Last Supper, recalling the meal Jesus shared with His closest followers when He revealed to them that whenever they celebrated this meal in future it would be His life they were sharing. After Mass is over, we pray in contemplative silence before the Altar of Repose in humble thanksgiving for being privileged to share in God's life in Holy Communion. On this day all the priests of the diocese renew their commitment to serve their people faithfully.

GOOD FRIDAY has a sombre tone. We reflect on Jesus death. We begin with a Walk of Witness in the village at 1000 am, gathering together at Christ the King before walking through the village with stops at various spots to pray and sing a hymn. At 1200 noon there will be Stations of the Cross, when we journey with Jesus and recall the way in which He was so cruelly treated, yet all He ever did was for the benefit of others. The Cross is the symbol of God's love.

The Solemn Liturgy at 3.00 pm draws us into the great mystery of Jesus death. The service has four parts; we share in the reading of the Passion; we pray for the Church and the World; we Venerate the Cross; and then we share in Holy Communion.

THE EASTER VIGIL at 9.00pm on Saturday is the climax of Lent. We listen to the story of our changing relationship with God. We begin with a service of fire and light when we proclaim Christ as our Light. We then listen to the Biblical story of our redemption, renew our Baptismal promises and then celebrate the First mass of Easter. During this ceremony we will welcome a new member into full communion with us.

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NEW ENVELOPES take effect this week-end. Please ensure you have the correctly numbered box

CHOIR PRACTISE. To prepare ourselves for the coming liturgical ceremonies there will be a practise in Church on Monday morning at 9.30am. Anyone interested in singing is welcome to come and join us

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Let us make the most of this week, Fr Chris