



Sunday, 5th April 2020

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion (Year A)

Please consider printing this page and give it to those who don't have internet access.

Daily Mass: Mass is celebrated every day for your intentions.

Palm Crosses: You are welcome to collect a palm cross at the door of St Teresa's Church, please take one to a neighbour or a friend.

Trócaire Boxes: If you wish, you can leave your Trócaire Box at the parochial house. (online donations can be made at www.trocaire.org)

Holy Thursday Chrism Mass will be available on the St Peter's Cathedral Webcam at 11am on Holy Thursday, see <https://www.churchservices.tv/stpeterscathedral>

Good Friday: 10 April 2020 is Good Friday it is a day of Fast and Abstinence.

Some Good News from St Teresa's GAC: Mr Liam McGoldrick, Chairman of the Club, contacted the parish offering help to those who are living alone or isolated at this time. GAA Volunteers are ready to do some practical work for those in need, or who find it difficult to leave their homes. If you need some essential groceries, or a prescription collected, club members are willing to help you. Please call the parish phone number 028 9061 2855 or email stteresas@downandconnor.org

Holy Week: To help you celebrate Holy Week in your home check the diocesan website at www.downandconnor.org There is also some information for children that might be useful while they are away from school.

Baptism and Weddings: Please note that Baptisms and Wedding Ceremonies are postponed. If you have to arrange a funeral, please contact your Funeral Undertaker and arrangements for interments will be made.

Readings: Readings for Mass can be found at <http://www.irishbishops.ie>

Magnificat Booklet for daily Mass Readings and reflections is available free online check <https://us.magnificat.net/free>

Rest In Peace

Recently Deceased: Brian Dillon

Anniversaries: Sadie & Joe Hughes, Patrick Montgomery,
Patsy Crilly.

Easter Ceremonies

Televised Easter Ceremonies by RTE 1:

- **Mass of the Lord's Supper**, Holy Thursday, 9 April 2020 at 4:40pm
- **Solemn Liturgy**, Good Friday, 10 April 2020 at 3pm

(RTE1 is on Freeview Channel 52, Virgin Media Channel 875, Sky Channel 161)

Online Ceremonies

The St Michael the Archangel Parish Webcam can be accessed at <https://www.stmichaelsbelfast.co.uk>

- **Holy Thursday** Mass of the Lord's Supper 7pm
- **Good Friday** Commemoration of Our Lord's Passion 3pm
Stations of the Cross 7pm
- **Holy Saturday** Vigil 5pm
- **Easter Sunday** Mass 11am

All are welcome to join the Holy Week Services via the webcam.

Reflection for Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

Then he released Barabbas for them. He ordered Jesus to be first scourged and then handed over to be crucified.

People are uncomfortable with the cross of Christ. We don't like the notion that Jesus died on an instrument of torture, a cruel act of murder. Even though violence is a reality of life, we like to think that it has got 'nothing to do with me'. If we are violent we like to think that there is good reason for our actions believing them to be a last resort, or 'I was left without any choice'. The essential truth we are asked to think and pray over this coming week is that Jesus unmask, even reveals humanity to us. The action of Holy Week shows both our weakness and our greatness as human beings. It teaches us that no matter how hard we try to conceal who we are by turning to addictions, medications, buying, selling, eating or drinking, the Cross of Christ directs us to who and what we are before God. The suffering of Jesus points to what is uncomfortable about being human, how we are capable of great weakness. Yet it also points to great strength in the ability we have to show love, to be kind and generous. The follower of Jesus is always and everywhere called to take up the cross and go after him. In our Christian lives we must do what is necessary, then do what's possible and then the impossible will happen.

Let us pray also for all those who suffer the consequences of the current pandemic, that God the Father may grant health to the sick, strength to those who care for them, comfort to families and salvation to all the victims who have died.

Almighty ever-living God, only support of our human weakness, look with compassion upon the sorrowful condition of your children who suffer because of this pandemic; relieve the pain of the sick, give strength to those who care for them, welcome into your peace those who have died and, throughout this time of tribulation, grant that we may all find comfort in your merciful love. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.