

# ST. JOSEPH'S HIGHGATE

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#### PARISH BULLETIN

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Dear beloved St. Joseph's family, As we gather in the serene embrace of St. Joseph's Church this Easter Triduum, let us open our hearts to the profound symbolism of the cloaks spread upon the road in Luke 19:28-40. In those ancient days, cloaks were not mere garments; they were symbols of personal identity, protection, and status. To lay them down before Jesus was an act of reverence, signifying the surrender of one's own honour and security to welcome the true King. This sacred gesture invites us to reflect on our own lives: what are we willing to lay down in devotion and trust? As we journey through the holy days ahead, let us draw inspiration from this act of humble homage, allowing it to deepen our understanding of love and sacrifice. Welcome to this transformative season, where together we will walk the path of renewal and grace, enveloped in the warmth of faith and community.

### Holy Tuesday, 15th April 2025, 7pm - Lenten Penitential Service

## What is the Easter Triduum? Why is it so important to participate?

As Lent gracefully concludes on Holy Thursday evening, the Church ushers in the profound Sacred Paschal Triduum, a celebration spanning from the Lord's Supper to Easter Sunday. These three days are the heart of our faith, uniting us in deep reflection on the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection. The Triduum is a powerful tapestry, too rich for a single day, inviting us not to reenact history, but to embrace

the risen Christ. In remembering His sacrifice, we encounter anew the saving grace of these sacred events, binding us in faith and renewal.

#### Holy Thursday - 17th April 8pm - Mass of the Lord's supper

On Holy Thursday we celebrate the Mass of the Lord's Supper. We recall Christ's washing of the apostles' feet in the institution of the Priesthood, and the institution of the Eucharist as we remember Jesus eating the Passover meal with His disciples. The Mass ends with a procession of the Blessed Sacrament out of the Church to a place of repose, where we are encouraged to stay and pray with Him for an hour. We remember Jesus' words to His disciples "Can you not pray with Me for an hour?" The Altar in the Church is stripped, and crosses remain covered with a purple veil signifying the coming Passion on Good Friday.

#### Good Friday - 18th April 10:30am - Children's service, 12pm - Stations of the Cross 3pm - The Liturgy of the Passion 7pm - The Seven Last Words

This is the one day out of the entire year that the Catholic Church does not celebrate Mass. Instead, there is a Good Friday service, that typically consists of the Liturgy of the Word, veneration of the Cross, and Communion (the Communion hosts received at this service were consecrated on Holy Thursday Mass).

This is a solemn day on which Catholics are obliged to fast. From noon until 3pm, we are called to meditate on the passion and death of Jesus Christ. We are encouraged to refrain from listening to TV, radio, and excessive talking.

#### Holy Saturday - 19th April 9pm - The Great Easter Vigil

This is the holiest of all nights in our Church year. This liturgy beautifully expresses our passage from death to life, darkness to light, suffering to glory. It is on this night that we discover our identity as God's people, led by the light of Christ, baptized into his death and resurrection, and sharing with one another in Eucharist his presence and future glory. On this night we celebrate the totality of our faith.

The Vigil is composed of four parts: the Solemn Beginning of the Vigil or Lucernarium, the Liturgy of the Word, the Baptismal Liturgy, and the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

There is not a more glorious celebration on this earth than the Easter Vigil.

#### Easter Sunday – 20th April 8am, 10am, 12pm

Witness Mary leaving the tomb, her hands full of light. Together, let us be "Eastered," celebrating the resurrection with hearts glowing with joy and light.

Join us this Holy Week as we walk through these sacred days, finding our own gardens of peace and resurrection. May we emerge renewed and filled with the hope of Easter.

With blessings, Fr. George, CP

### **Washing of the Feet**

With hearts full of gratitude, we are blessed to introduce the devoted parishioners who will humbly participate in the Liturgy of the Washing

of the Feet this Holy Thursday at 8pm. This sacred rite, commemorating the Institution of the Priesthood by our Lord, is a profound testament to the spirit of servitude and love that defines our faith community. As these individuals step forward in symbolic service, may their actions inspire us all to embody Christ's example of humility and grace. We thank them deeply for their willingness to enrich our Holy Week observances.

Angela Milne, Grace Chioma, Victor Imoh, Maria Angelica, Aneeka Gupta, Jacquiline Tester, Diana Aro, Chima Mark, Melissa, Callister, Kamilla, and Viviane

#### **Lent Groups**

We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to George Farelly for his exceptional leadership of our Lent Groups this year. His commitment and generosity in devising a wonderful program have been truly inspiring. By conducting the sessions three times a week, George has provided an enriching experience that has deepened our collective faith journey. We also extend our thanks to all the participants for their faithfulness and support throughout this season. Your presence and engagement have been invaluable.

We are profoundly grateful for your generous contributions to last weekend's collection, totalling an impressive £1,443. Your kindness and support empower us to serve and nurture God's Kingdom. Together, we make a significant impact on our community and beyond. May God's blessings shower upon you and your loved ones. Thank you sincerely for your support.

## THE SEVEN LAST WORDS

Join us on Good Friday at 7 PM for an evening of reflection and unity as we gather at the foot of the cross to honour Christ's ultimate sacrifice. Delve into the sacred teachings of The Seven Last Words of Jesus, words spoken with profound love and grace that continue to inspire and transform across generations. Our cherished parishioners— Amanda, Antonia, Jill, Natalie, Abbi, Gerald, and Neville—will lead an evening of soulful meditation and faith-sharing. The event will be enriched by the uplifting music of Theresa and Ian. Together, let us embrace the sanctity of this moment, inviting His sacred words to guide us towards renewal and hope. We warmly invite all to join in this journey of faith and reflection



#### **Nurturing a Community of Love and Service**

Dear Beloved St. Joseph's Family,

In the spirit of unity and love, we are called to share our unique gifts and talents, touching lives and uplifting spirits. As Scripture beautifully reminds us, "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." (1 Peter 4:10)

Volunteering within our church is a wonderful way to not only enrich our community but to also experience the joy of giving. Our church is blessed with many devoted volunteers who generously offer their time and talents to a wide range of activities, making a profound impact.

We warmly invite you to explore our Parish Groups & Activities. If you find an area that resonates with you, we encourage you to reach out to the Parish Office for more details on how you can get involved. Currently, we're seeking enthusiastic volunteers to join our various ministries at St. Joseph's, including:

 Parish Council • Counting • Social Media Management • Welcome Ministry Coordinator • Catechists • Youth Ministers • Event Managers (for events like the Christmas Bazaar and Bring and Share Lunch)

Your participation will be a blessing to our parish family. If your heart is moved to serve, please do not hesitate to contact the Parish Office. Your involvement will be cherished and greatly appreciated. Thank you for considering this beautiful journey of service and fellowship with us.

Blessings and heartfelt gratitude.

#### Mass intentions from 12th April 2025 (Holy Week)

"I would be disobeying the LORD if I stopped praying for you!"  $\it 1 \, som. \, 12:23$ 

Sat, 12 April 2025	07.00 pm	Susie Dunne	Lately Dead
Sun, 13 April 2025	08.00 am	Passionist Mass Guild	Intentions
	10.00 am	John Cheruyiot	Lately Dead
	12 noon	Missa PP	Intentions
	07.00 pm	Anthony & Frank Lennon	Lately Dead
Mon, 14 April 2025	09.30 am	Maggie Keaney	Sick
	06.30 pm	Joe, Edna, Decon, Souls in Purgatory	Intentions
Tues, 15 April 2025	09.30 am	Philip Cumiskey	Sick
	06.30 pm	John O'Shea, Kate Cumiskey & family	Sick
Wed, 16 April 2025	09.30 am	Lizzie	Intentions
	06.30 pm	Finlay Cumiskey	Birthday
Thur, 17 April 2025			
	08.00 pm	Missa PP	Intentions
Fri, 18 April 2025	03:00pm		
Sat, 19 April 2025	09.00 pm	Missa PP	Intentions

Mass Intentions get fully booked for several weeks ahead. If you would like a Mass said on a particular date or anniversary it is advisable to request it in good time.





PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION Procession: Lk 19: 28-40. Mass: Is 50: 4-7, Ps 22: 8-9. 17-18. 19-20. 23-24, Phil 2:6-11, Lk 22: 14 - 23: 56. **Mon:** Is 42: 1-7/ Ps 27: 1. 2. 3. 13-14/ Jn 12: 1-11, **Tue:** Is 49: 1-6/ Ps 71: 1-2. 3-4a. 5ab-6ab. 15 and 17/ Jn 13: 21-33. 36-38, **Wed:** Is 50: 4-9a/ Ps 69: 8-10. 21-22. 31 and 33-34/ Mt 26: 14-25, **Holy Thursday.** At evening, begin Easter Triduum of the Lord's Passion, Death and Resurrection. Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper: Ex 12: 1-8. 11-14/ Ps 116: 12-13. 15-16b. 17-18/ 1 Cor 11: 23-26/ Jn 13: 1-15. **Good Friday.** Day of fast (ages 18-59) and abstinence from meat (age 14 and up). **Mass is not celebrated today.** Celebration of the Lord's Passion: Is 52: 13 - -53: 12/ Ps 31: 2. 6, 12-13, 15-16. 17. 25/ Heb 4: 14-16; 5: 7-9/ Jn 18: 1 - - 19: 42. **Holy Saturday** Readings for the Easter Vigil, which is an Easter Sunday Mass: Gn 1: 1 - - 2: 2 or 1: 1. 26-31a/ Ps 104: 1-2. 5-6. 10. 12. 13-14. 24. 35 or Ps 33: 4-5. 6-7. 12-13, 20-22/ Gn 22: 1-18 or 22: 1-2. 9a. 10-13. 15-18/ Ps 16: 5.8. 9-10. 11/ Ex 14: 15 - - 15: 1/ Ex 15: 1-2. 3-4. 5-6. 17-18/ 185 54: 5-14/ Ps 30: 2. 4. 5-6. 11-12. 13/ Is 55: 1-31/ Is 15: 2-3. 4. 5-6/ Bar 3: 9-15. 32 - -4: 4/ Ps19: 8. 9. 10. 11/ Ez 26: 16-17a. 18-28/ Ps 42: 3. 5; 43: 3. 4 or Is 12: 2-3. 4bcd. 5-6 or Ps 51:12-13. 14-15. 18-19/ Rom 6: 3-11/ Ps 118: 1-2. 16-17. 22-23/ Lk 24: 1-12. **EASTER SUNDAY.** The Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Acts 10: 34a. 37-43/ Ps 118: 1-2. 16-17. 22-23/ Col 3: 1-4 or 1 Cor 5: 6b-8/ Sequence Victimae Passhall Laudes/ Jn 20: 1-9or Mk 16: 1-7 or, at an afternoon or evening Mass, Lk 24: 13-35. Easter Triduum ends after Evening Prayer.