



Mullingar Parish

Cathedral of Christ the King, St Paul's,
Walshestown, Brotenstown & Gainstown

www.mullingarparish.ie

Sunday 24th March 2024

PRIESTS OF THE PARISH

Fr. Phil Gaffney, ADM
Fr. Norman Allred, CC
Fr. Vincent Daka, CC
Fr. Andrei Stolnicu, CC
Fr. Barry White, CC

Parish Office Hours

Monday—Friday 9am-4pm

(closed Good Friday)

T: 044 9348338

E: office@mullingarparish.ie

W: www.mullingarparish.ie

Cathedral Shop Hours

Monday—Friday 9am-4pm

& Saturdays 10am-3pm.

(Closed Good Friday & Holy Saturday)

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

See notice in Newsletter

Sunday Mass Times

Cathedral: Vigil 6pm (Sat)

Cathedral 8.30am, 11am,

12.30pm

St Paul's 10.30 & 12noon

Walshestown 9am

Brotenstown 10am

Gainstown 11am

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT (Holy Week)

Cathedral: 8am-8pm

(Monday-Thursday)

Child Safeguarding Representatives Linda Duncan & Maeve Corroon *Contact Parish Office.*

Couple & Relationship Counselling In-Person and Online in Accord Mullingar Phone 044 93 48707 or email accord-mullingar@gmail.com



The Church celebrates this sixth Sunday of Lent as both Palm Sunday and Passion Sunday. This is the place in the Liturgical year when the Church stops us so that we can remember and relive the events which brought about our redemption and salvation.

What we commemorate and relive during this week is not just Jesus' dying and rising, but our own dying to sin and selfishness and rising in Jesus, which will result in our healing, reconciliation, and redemption. Attentive participation in the Holy Week liturgy will deepen our relationship with God, increase our Faith, and strengthen our lives as disciples of Jesus.

It is in Holy Week that we gratefully remember how Jesus died for the whole world. These are days given us by God so that we may express our gratitude to Christ who died for our sins, by repentance, by the renewal of our lives, and by our preparation to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord.

I encourage you all to join us in the most important week in our Church's year. Our programme begins with our Chrism Mass on Wednesday evening at 7:00pm when the Holy oils used in our parish and diocese will be blessed by Bishop Tom and the priests in our diocese renew their priestly vows.

Today's liturgy combines contrasting moments, one of glory, the other of suffering: the royal welcome of Jesus in Jerusalem, and the rigged trial, culminating in the crucifixion, death, and burial of Christ.

St. Bernard of Clairvaux (1090-1153) offered a homily about Christ's entry into Jerusalem: "How different the cries, 'Away with him, away with him, crucify him,' and then, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, hosanna, in the highest!'"

How different the cries are that now are calling him 'King of Israel' and then in a few days' time will be saying, 'We have no king but Caesar!' What a contrast between the green branches and the cross, between the flowers and the thorns! Before they were offering their own clothes for him to walk upon, and so soon afterwards they were stripping him of his, and casting lots upon them."

Palms were symbols of life among the nomadic tribes, who, when crossing the desert, rejoiced at seeing the palm tree as it indicated an oasis with life-giving water was near. Palms have long been a sign of victory, success, and glory. Victorious armies or leaders returning from the battlefield, or a long military campaign were welcomed by the populace jubilantly waving palm branches. Despite Jesus' peaceful manner, when the Jews waved the palms at Him and spread their clothing over which He rode, they were affording Him the honours of a conquering hero and simultaneously defying the Roman occupiers.

On Palm Sunday, we still go out to meet Him, carry the blessed palms, joyfully sing out our hosanna and join in His triumphant entrance into Jerusalem. But soon our joy turns to sombreness as, clutching our palm, we hear the narrative of Christ's passion. We realize, once again, that His triumph, His true victory, will come through the cross. We know, as Jesus did, how Holy Week will end. We know that joy will turn to sorrow and back to joy. We know that through the horror of His suffering, followed by the glory of His resurrection, good will trump evil and life will trump death.

The palms we take home and put in a special place serve to remind us that Palm Sunday is not lost to the ages but that by Christ's victory we, too, can achieve everlasting life. "For us too, they [palms] must be symbols of triumph, indicative of the victory to be won in our battle against the evil in ourselves and against the evil which roams about us. As we receive the blessed palm, let us renew our pledge to conquer with Jesus, but let us not forget that it was on the cross that He conquered" ("Divine Intimacy,")

Like the donkey, we are called upon to carry Christ to a world that does not know Him. Hence, let us become transparent Christians during this Holy Week, enabling others to see in us Jesus' universal love, unconditional forgiveness, and sacrificial service.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE—27-31 MARCH

Wednesday

7pm.....Chrism Mass.....Cathedral

Holy Thursday

9.30am.....Morning Prayer.....Cathedral

3pm-6pm..... Confessions.....Cathedral

7.30 pm.....Mass of the Lord's Supper....Cathedral

Good Friday

9.30am.....Morning Prayer.....Cathedral

12pm.....Way of the Cross along Canal....St. Paul's

3pm.....Passion of the Lord.....St. Paul's

3pm.....Stations of the Cross.....Cathedral

4pm-6pm.....Confessions.....Cathedral

7.30pm.....Passion of the Lord.....Cathedral

Holy Saturday

9.30am.....Morning Prayer.....Cathedral

11am-1pm..Confessions..... Cathedral

2pm-5pm.....Confessions.....Cathedral

9pm.....Easter Vigil.....Cathedral

Easter Sunday Masses

Cathedral.....8.30am...11am...12.30pm

St. Paul's.....10.30am...12pm

Walshestown.....9am

Brotenstown.....10am

Gainstown.....11am



Please note the following daily Mass time changes

Wednesday 27th March 7.45 am Mass only in the Cathedral (no 10am) and no 9.15am in St Paul's.

Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday, no morning Masses in the Cathedral or St Paul's.

The Parish Office and Shop will be closed on Good Friday and Holy Saturday.

Collections

A special collection will be taken up on Good Friday for the Holy Places.

Easter Sunday is an offering day for the support of the Bishop and priests of the parish. *Thank you*

This Palm Sunday we enter into the journey of Jesus who gives us His Body and Blood, who carries His cross, who lies in the cavern of the dead and who opens the doors of death for us. As the Lord goes on His saving way, He calls young men to the Sacred Priesthood to hold up His Body, to be bearers of His Precious Blood, to show the world His saving Cross. to tell all of His promise of life over death. Become His Priest and open the way to God for others.

Join us at the Chrism Mass in the Cathedral on Wednesday 27th March at 7pm. Come and see the majesty of the Priesthood of Jesus Christ. Also join in the Vocations Night Prayer in your Parish Church on Holy Thursday Night. The evening of the Last Supper is the birth of the Priesthood. Come pray and let your vocation grow too.

Since last Sunday, 5th Sunday of Lent, we have entered into Passiontide. During this time, statues and crosses are covered in purple cloth to remind us of Jesus entering into his hour of suffering and death. On Palm or Passion Sunday, we begin Holy Week, and during the Easter Triduum (meaning three days), **there is no Eucharistic adoration** after Holy Thursday until Easter Sunday. Also, during Good Friday and Holy Saturday, **no candles are lit at the shrines** in the churches. These customs help us to walk in the footsteps of Jesus, who walks through the "valley of darkness", before entering the light of Easter Sunday, having risen from the tomb.

Cathedral Clean up for Holy Week

Volunteers needed for Monday (25th March). If available to help please meet in the Cathedral at 7.30pm. We appreciate your help.



If you would like to donate flowers to the Cathedral for Easter, please leave into the parish office before Tuesday.

Mass Intentions for this week are on the church noticeboards

Rest in Peace

May McCarthy, Marlinstown
Vincent Newman, Grand Parade
Eoghan Doherty, Bishopsgate Street
Aedine Collins, Lynn
Mary Jane Bennett, Woodlands Avenue,
Hayley Merton, Raithin
Mary Eivers, Edgeworthstown
Carmel Wadham nee McCauley, late of Patrick Street who died in Ashford, Kent.