

**Welcome to our weekly newsletter. We hope you enjoy your time at St James' and we look forward to seeing you again next week.**

Thank you for your offerings last week of £1,257. Second Collection £928. Mass attendance 603.

13th April (Saturday Vigil) Sunday 14th April	<b>Palm Sunday of The Passion of The Lord</b> 6pm <b>Maureen Clark RIP</b> (June Clark) 9.15am <b>People of the Parish</b> 11am <b>Terence Quinlan RIP</b> (E Quinlan) 4pm <b>Stations of the Cross</b>
Monday 15th April	<b>Monday of Holy Week</b> 9.30am <b>Anne Byrne RIP</b> (Jackson Family)
Tuesday 16th April	<b>Tuesday of Holy Week</b> 9.30am <b>Fr David Camilleri</b>
Wednesday 17th April <b>Please note change of time</b>	<b>Wednesday of Holy Week</b> 9am <b>Marjorie Ingledew RIP</b> (M Ingledew) 10.45am <b>Eucharist Adoration</b>
Thursday 18th April	<b>Maundy Thursday</b> 9.30am <b>NO MASS AT THIS TIME TODAY</b> 8pm <b>Kay Livingston RIP &amp; Marjorie Farrell RIP</b> (The Barrett Family)
Friday 19th April	<b>Friday of the Passion of The Lord</b> 9am <b>Walk of witness – Starts from St Francis, Willett Way</b> 11am <b>Stations of the Cross with Children</b> 3pm <b>The Solemn Liturgy of Good Friday</b> 8pm <b>Prayers around the Cross</b>
20th April (Saturday Vigil) Sunday 21st April	11.30am <b>Swieconka – Polish service</b> <b>Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord</b> 8.00pm <b>Easter Vigil Mass</b> <b>Anthony Olivelle RIP</b> (Foundation Mass) 9.15am <b>Mass for Children</b> <b>People of the Parish</b> 11am <b>Franki Durbin RIP &amp; Ryan Family</b> (L Henderson)

**Confessions** are heard on Saturday, 5.00-5.45pm, or by appointment.

**Morning Prayer** takes place Monday – Friday at 9.10am. All are welcome to attend.

### **Easter Collection**

Good Friday's collection is for Holy Places.

The collection at the Masses over the Easter weekend are your personal offerings for your Parish Priest.

**Pondering the Word** (*Lectio Divina*) - A quiet reflective look at the following Sunday's Gospel. Mondays 11am-12 noon, except for Bank Holidays, here in the Church. All are welcome.

**Rosary** – Every day after Mass there is rosary. All are welcome.

### **Fr David writes...**

We are fickle creatures. We can experience happiness to the point of being ecstatic one minute and sink to the depths of despair the next. We can sing the praises of someone now that we will despise later. There are usually reasons for the change of our emotions and attitudes. A celebration would naturally help us usually to feel happy whilst being plunged into an unexpected nightmare would push us into despair. With regards to dealing with people, it is a bit different. Sometimes we like someone for no reason at all. We intuitively feel that a person is nice even though we in reality do not know him or her that well. It could be their personality, their physical attraction – we just seem to click naturally. We get them. On the other hand we might dislike for no reason someone else. With others, sometimes we project our hopes and dreams. These are usually people with a charisma. They inspire us. They speak in a language that excites us. We get them. They nourish us by what they say and do. They seem to have some answers to our questions and needs. So we find ourselves supporting them. Sometimes to the point of making sacrifices for them. Unfortunately, we forget that they too are mortals with clay feet. So once for some reason, they disappoint us, we can turn totally against them in a minute. We feel let down by them. Our hopes and dreams are shattered. We feel deceived and betrayed. Some people feel so betrayed that they are ready to use also violence against them. They want revenge. From adulation, it turns into complete hatred and repulsion. So it is much easier to sing someone's praise when we think that person will live up to our expectations. But what happens when they do not? What happens when there is another path to follow?

The Church this week on Palm Sunday attempts to capture and express this fickleness in today's liturgy when we enter with the palm branches singing songs of praise only to cry out in unison moments later during the gospel – "Crucify him! Crucify him!" What are the reasons for this change of attitude? The crowds on Palm Sunday were full of hope and expectations that this young Rabbi who was entering into Jerusalem for the Passover, was bringing the much needed political change in the region. They were hailing him as the Messiah. They projected on him their dreams for a new liberated Land. They saw in him their own liberation. I can't even begin to imagine what Jesus was feeling on that day riding on a foal. He knew why they were hailing him as the Messiah. He understood on that day that they did not get who he was and the reasons of his mission on earth. They were just looking at him through their own temporal self-centred needs. Jesus was more interested in another kind of "Kingdom". Intuitively he must have felt that the end was getting closer for him. Jesus had been experiencing moments where he found himself having to confront the leaders of the people. He knew that he had made a lot of enemies in the ranks within the Jewish Community. He had to confront their hypocrisy and stand for what he believed in. He was too much of a free spirit to be controlled and tamed by them. He found it difficult to conform and they knew this. The only way forward for them was to get him out of the way. He had pushed a lot of the wrong buttons in them and unleashed hatred against him. The only way they could get hold of him was to turn the people against him. The people would turn against him if they realised he was not going to give them what they thought that he had promised them.

Crowds can be so dangerous and frightening. With a crowd mentality we lose our own sense of thought and reason. To be able to think for yourself, you need to get out of the way of an angry crowd. This Rabbi, Jesus, the anointed one needed to be exterminated. He was becoming a nuisance to the establishment. He needed to be silenced. The establishment had the power to do so. Is it a familiar story? It happens all the time. Once you try to shake a bit the status quo, people start to feel uneasy. You only need one person in the crowd to articulate the fears of the group or community, and the crowd

mentality takes over. Very easy to ostracise someone who is different from the group. Making them feel rejected. Evil can work wonders because of fear. We are entering into a week full of drama and pathos. Every single human emotion is going to be triggered in us. The liturgies of Holy Week and then the Triduum encapsulates the intensity of the human reality – that there are times where Love is found wanting. And evil triumphs. But the story continues..... Have a very blessed Holy Week! Let us keep in our prayers and thoughts those people and carers who are going through their own Passion at the moment in mind, spirit and body.

**“Drop-In” Evening Surgeries** – The next drop in surgery with Fr David will be on **Tuesday 30th April between 5pm-7pm**. No appointment needed.

#### **Altar Servers Easter Triduum Rehearsals**

Just a reminder to the rehearsal days we have scheduled in for the next few weeks.

**Wednesday 17th April from 5pm -6.30pm**. This will cover Easter Vigil.

**Friday 19th April at 1pm,**

Good Friday training and

**Saturday 20th April at 12.15pm** for Easter Vigil training.

Please do try to attend.

#### **Lenten Programme**

##### **Readers, Welcomers and Eucharistic Ministers**

These vital ministries are especially important during this season. If you are able to minister during the Holy Week Masses and special services, please sign your names on the sheets in the porch.

##### **Sunday 14th April - Palm Sunday**

Stations of the Cross

Re-enacted by the Confirmandi at 4pm.

##### **Tuesday 16th April**

Film - Mary Magdalene at 8pm in the Community Centre.

#### **Easter Triduum**

##### **Thursday 18th April – Maundy Thursday**

- Mass at 8pm followed by Silent Adoration until 10pm

##### **Friday 19th April – Good Friday**

- Stations of the Cross with Children at 11am
  
- Walk of Witness – Starts from St Francis, Willett Way at 9am.
  
- **Good Friday service at 3pm**
- **Prayers around the Cross** (Taize Prayer) at 7.30pm for 8pm start.

##### **Saturday 20th April**

- **Swieconka** – Polish Service. Blessing of the Easter Baskets at 11.30am

- **Easter Vigil Mass at 8pm**

### **Sunday 21st April – Easter Sunday**

- **Easter Sunday Mass for Children at 9.15am**
  
- **Easter Sunday Mass at 11am**

### **Piano**

We are in urgent need for a new pianist. If you can help us, we would be very appreciative. Please contact the parish office for more information.

### **Evangelisation Pillar**

**Eucharist Adoration – Be Still in the Presence of the Lord.** Your time set aside in your hectic life – wasting time in silence with God. Takes place for an hour **each Wednesday** shortly after the Morning Mass and the Wednesday Café starting at 10.45am and finishing with Benediction at 11.45am and on the first Friday of the month from 7.30pm till 9.00pm. **The next will be this Friday 3rd May. All are welcome for all or part of this time of Adoration ending with Benediction.**

### **Mass in celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage**

July 13th at St George's Cathedral.

If you are celebrating your 1st/10th/25th/40th/50th/60th + wedding anniversary this year, please apply as soon possible. Get in touch with us at [mfise@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:mfise@rcaos.org.uk) so you can receive an invitation from the Archbishop. Please let us have the location of your parish in the title of your email.

### **Justice & Peace**

#### **Global Healing event Tuesday 30 April**

All parishioners and friends are invited to watch a film in the Community Centre about the Care for Our Common Home. The film was produced at the request of the Bishops of England and Wales. It reflects the principles of Laudato Si' and suggests how we can respond to the ecological challenges of our world, both personally and as a community of faith. The evening will start at 7.30pm, with a bring and share supper, a fun quiz, and then the film which is in three parts. There will be a short discussion after each part, and we will finish at 9.30pm. We hope that people of all ages will come, and the young are especially welcome as their views are particularly important. As for food, if you can bring something to share such as lasagne, chilli, a cultural dish, shepherd's pie, salad – but not everyone needs to – especially if you come straight from work!

#### **Anti-Human Trafficking appeal**

Fr Mark Odion, of the Santa Marta Group in our diocese, visited St James' last month and spoke to us about the distressing subject of Human Trafficking, or Modern Slavery. The project to support victims needs funds, and the parish responded to Fr Mark's appeal by donating over £350. Thank you for your generosity. Please help the effort further by supporting the CWL plant sale next month.

### **Social Pillar**

#### **Children's Easter Egg Hunt**

##### **Easter Sunday, 21st April**

We would like to invite the children of the Parish to an Easter egg hunt taking place **after the 9.15am Mass on Easter Sunday**. Children will be provided with a basket to collect the eggs and the cost will be £3 per child payable on the day. Let's hope the April showers stay away. If they do, the hunt will take place in the Parish garden. If not, it will be in the Community Centre.

##### **Dad and Me**

The next Dad and Me will be on Saturday 20th April, 10am to 11.30am

### **Youth Group**

The next youth group will be on Saturday 27th April, 12pm to 2.30pm

### **CWL Plant Sale**

The CWL will be holding a plant sale after the Masses on the 1st and 2nd June.

The sale proceeds will be donated to the Anti Human Trafficking Project.

We would be grateful for donations of plants (indoor/outdoor/cuttings/seedlings etc.) for sale.

Please contact Christine or Deirdre via the Parish Office if you are able to assist by donating plants or by helping on the day.

### **Parent and Toddler Group**

The St James' parent and toddler group has reopened on Friday afternoons between 1.30pm-3.00pm. £2.50 per family.

There will be no meeting on the 12th April. The next meeting will be on 26th April.

## **Liturgy Pillar**

### **Children's Mass Easter Sunday**

The 9:15 Mass on Easter Sunday is a Children's Mass and we would like to invite Children (old enough to read and sing the hymns) to sing with the Adult Choir on that day.

We will sing hymns familiar to the children. Here is the hymn list: <http://bit.do/easterhymns> . This includes youtube links so you can hear how the hymns sound.

If you would like further information please contact: [youthchoir.stjames@gmail.com](mailto:youthchoir.stjames@gmail.com).

We are looking forward to hearing your voices for this celebration !

### **Children's Mass**

We seek children to read at the monthly children's mass (9:15 am). If you are interested in proclaiming the Word of God and are either in Y4 to Y10, please contact Cheryl via email

[cheryl.dsouza@stjamespettswood.org](mailto:cheryl.dsouza@stjamespettswood.org). Necessary training will be provided.

### **Children's Liturgy**

There will be a Children's Liturgy session this Sunday. Both younger and older groups will be in the Hall together. They will listen to the story and act it out and do a craft activity.

**Good Friday** - 11 am Stations of the Cross in church for school aged children.

There WILL NOT be a Children's Liturgy session on **Easter Sunday**.

## **Pastoral Pillar**

### **St James The Great 'Memory Café'**

Here at St James' we run a Dementia Café on the first two Tuesdays of each month from 2pm to 3.30pm in the Community Centre. If you would like to know more, please contact the Parish Office: 01689 827100. **We look forward to welcoming you.**

### **Helplines and Counselling Services.**

A list of helplines and counselling services is available on our website, and in the church porch, for anyone who might need this.

### **Message from Bethany**

Thank you very much for your kind donations and support on April 6<sup>th</sup> for those who came to my Beetle Drive. We had 34 budding Beetle Builders taking part, and fun was had by all ages. Overall the evening made a profit of £272.35 towards my World Challenge Expedition to Costa Rica in Summer 2019. You may remember that I am travelling to Costa Rica with a team of girls from Bullers Wood School where

we will be carrying out a Humanitarian & Conservation Aid Project. I needed to raise approximately £5,000 before Summer 2019 to pay for my trip, flights, inoculations and kit. This event has helped me reach the £4,500 mark. Not much further to go! Thank you again for supporting me in my World Challenge Expedition.  
Bethany Towell

## Polite Reminders

### Parking

- The Parish disabled parking spaces are for Blue Badge holders only.
- Please be aware of our neighbours in the surrounding roads, please do not block driveways, pavements or double-park your car especially on the "one way" part of Lakeswood Road by the lower car park entrance.

### In Church

Please refrain from eating and drinking while you are in church.

### Seeing a Chaplain if You Are Admitted to Hospital

- **Protecting personal information** (data protection) is really important when you become an inpatient in hospital.
- **So please specifically ask hospital staff to pass on your details** to the hospital's Roman Catholic chaplain as soon as you are admitted if you would like a Chaplain to visit you.
- **Fr David would always be very happy** to visit you too, so please ask a relative or friend to let him know about your admission. You, or they, can email Fr David on: [father.david@stjamespettswood.org](mailto:father.david@stjamespettswood.org), or phone the parish office on 01689 827100.

## Rotas for weekend of 27th April: *Thank you for helping*

Weekend 27th April			
Cleaning the Church	P Driscoll. J Rogerson, M Mitrovic, (Tuesday team – 30th April)		
Wednesday Coffee 1st May	M Mulvey, M Howell		
28th April 2019			
Mass	Saturday 6pm (Vigil)	Sunday 9.15am	Sunday 11am
Welcomers	M Sands J Callinan	L Thomas M Howell	M Cooper K Edwards
Readers	J Johnson A Crosland	P Lowe J Ryle	Z Bajorek R Del Guercio
Ministers of Holy Communion	J Bajorek H Rothon M Cahill C Cahill C Wakefield	W David T Forde M Howell S Cotta A Ward	R Del Guercio Z Bajorek A Bunnage P Murray V Terry
Bar			A Barradell M Horner
Coffee		L Lynch	M Harrington

		S Barradell	K Walsh
<b>Altar Servers</b>			
<b>Tellers</b>	P Cosgrave, N Longhurst		