

This week's diary

Sunday 9th	PALM SUNDAY 8.00am Eucharist 9.15am Choir Practice 10.00am Sung Eucharist, with Spectrum on Sunday
Monday 10th	MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK 8.00pm Eucharist with Address
Tuesday 11th	TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK 8.00pm Eucharist with Address
Wednesday 12th	WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK 8.00pm Eucharist with Address
Thursday 13th	MAUNDY THURSDAY 7.00pm Choir Practice 8.00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper, followed by the watch
Friday 14th	GOOD FRIDAY 11.00am Messy Church activity morning 12.00pm Children's Good Friday Worship 1.00pm Good Friday Devotion 2.00pm The Good Friday Liturgy
Saturday 15th	HOLY SATURDAY 10.00am Morning Prayer 8.00pm The Easter Vigil
Sunday 16th	EASTER DAY 8.00am Eucharist 10.00am Blessing of the Easter garden and Sung Eucharist, with Spectrum on Sunday



THE ORBIT

WELCOME

to St. Edmund's

Sunday 9th April 2017

PALM SUNDAY

Today's Services

8.00am Eucharist

10.00am Sung Eucharist

Setting: Batten

Anthem: The people of the Hebrews – G.Palestrina

*Hymns: 509, 511, 96, 86 (omit *), R27, 425*

Postlude: Crown Imperial – W.Walton

*Please join us for refreshments
after the 10am Eucharist in the Hall*

Vicar: Father Michael Miller
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**Please take this home with you
for your reference and prayers this week**

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Notices

Matthew's account of the Passion and Death of Jesus

This year, we read from Matthew's account of the passion and death of Jesus on Palm Sunday, and his long narrative is dominated by the words of Jesus "all this has happened so that the scriptures may be fulfilled". What happens to Jesus is unjust, but the events that Matthew narrates are not driven by his enemies, but by something deeply mysterious: the fulfilment of the scriptures. Behind the betrayal, the fear, the hatred and the degradation there works the hidden purpose of God, and Matthew wants to make it clear.

After Jesus speaks of the fulfilment of scripture we see the disciples flee; fulfilling the prophecy of Zechariah 'strike the shepherd and the sheep will scatter' – a prophecy Jesus used to speak of himself earlier in the gospel. Judas throwing the coins back into the Temple when he comes to regret his act of betrayal unconsciously echoes another prophecy of Zechariah, who had also thrown down money in the Temple treasury to symbolise the broken covenant between God and Israel.

Through a series of details in the story Matthew shows how psalm 22 was fulfilled by different people: by the soldiers who mocked him and divided his clothes; by the passers by who shook their heads; by the authorities who mocked him, and by Jesus himself, who echoes the psalm in his cry from the cross.

So Matthew makes his powerful point. God is working his purpose out, hidden in the horrors of this vile event, steering it towards his goal, which is life, not death.

For your prayers this week...

The sick: Amy Austin, Julie Bent, Suzanne Cooper, Barbara Fairclough, Bernard Fairclough, Kay Fletcher, Ollie Gardiner, Betty Glass, Iris Golding, Darren Hale, Margaret Messenger, Suzanne Nicholls, Joan Rix, Ian Roberts, Ros Shirran, Charlie Shirran, Fred Webb, Allan Whalley, Julie Windsor, Rachel Windsor, Nora Wood

Anniversaries of death: Jack Ambrose, David Whitehead, Mary Herbert

Peter Reid (QSM) RIP: Peter Reid died on 3rd March aged 89. He was very active and healthy and passed peacefully in his sleep. Peter and his wife Thelma were married in St Edmunds in 1957. They moved to New Zealand but when they returned to England in 1989 to live for three years they worshipped here and got to know quite a few people. They visited again briefly in 1996/97. Our condolences to Ann Gould, Peter's daughter.

HOLY WEEK CONFESSIONS Fr Michael will be available to hear confessions on Tuesday and Wednesday at 7pm and on Good Friday at 4.15pm. If these times are not convenient please speak to him and another time can be agreed.

MAUNDY THURSDAY The Chrism Mass takes place at 10.30am on Thursday in Holy week at St Paul's Cathedral. At this service clergy and lay ministers renew their vows and the Holy Oils are blessed and distributed. This is always an impressive and moving service and all are welcome to attend. Fr Michael and Fr Tony will both be there and it would be lovely if others were to join them. If you wish to travel to St Paul's together please speak to Fr Michael.

CHURCH FLOWERS FOR EASTER If you would like to contribute to the cost of flowers for Easter, please put your donations in the box on the Font.

THE WATCH OF THE PASSION is kept in the Lady Chapel from the end of the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Maundy Thursday, all through the night to the Liturgy of Good Friday. Please help to keep the Watch unbroken - sign up on the sheet in the Foyer.

FILM EVENING On Saturday April 29th at 6.00pm we will be showing "Pay it Forward" starring Kevin Spacey, Helen Hunt and Haley Joel Osment. Tickets £12 to include Fish and Chips (non-fish options available). Tickets from Jenny Jones (020 8866 7173).

ANNUAL PLANT SALE Saturday May 20th from 10.30am. We would be grateful for any spare pots and/or perennials.

THE DEVIL'S PASSION The special £10 offer for tickets for this drama being performed at St James, Piccadilly tomorrow, Tuesday and Friday at 7pm ends today. Go to <http://www.jermynstreettheatre.co.uk/show/the-devils-passion/> and use the discount code LENT2017.

ALL SAINTS All Saints pre-school in Harrow Weald are looking for a Leader/Manager. It is a part time role – 20 hours a week. Further details from Fr Michael.