

Watch of the Passion

THE *Itinerarium Egeriae*, or the Travels of Egeria, set out for us a late fourth century account by a Spanish nun of a visit to the Holy Places in Jerusalem, telling us about all the ceremonies and liturgies that took place during Passiontide. It is from this account, we think, that throughout the Church the vivid ceremonies of Holy Week began to be celebrated. The Entry into Jerusalem. The Last Supper, with the washing of feet. The Stations of the Cross and the Veneration of the Wood of the Cross. Lighting the New Fire and the Paschal Candle. Amongst these ceremonies, one of the most beautiful and poignant – especially in East Hendred – is the Watch of the Passion. After the Maundy Thursday Liturgy, the Blessed Sacrament is processed to the Altar of Repose in St Amand's Chapel. Nothing could be more beautiful than the walk up to what, for us, is Gethsemane.

In former times, as some will remember, the Watch of the Passion would go on all night, 'Men Only' from midnight with the clergy having to plug whatever gaps there were in the nocturnal rota. After midnight, Gethsemane, the Garden of Flowers, would become Pilate's House, and the Lord, in the Tabernacle, would be surrounded no longer by flowers as the Chapel was stripped. The Blessed Sacrament would be brought back for Holy Communion in the Good Friday Liturgy, the one time when there is no Eucharist and we communicate from the Pre-sanctified.

'Could you not watch with me one hour?' says Jesus to Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, who are sleeping as he prays in Gethsemane. In response to that, we sign up to keep watch. Some outdo the disciples by putting in an hour. Others admit their frailty but put in a devout half-hour. The Watch lasts from about 9.30pm to midnight and we punctuate it with readings from the Farewell Discourses in St John's Gospel, the sayings of Jesus between the Supper and the Arrest.



St Edmund Campion Deanery, Old Berkshire-
Thames ISIS Pastoral Area
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EAST HENDRED CATHOLIC PARISH
St Mary's Church, East Hendred
St Patrick's Church, East Ilsley
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Sunday 9th April	PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD Procession of Palms: 9.30am (<i>from Champs Chapel</i>) <i>followed by Mass at St Mary's</i> Mass: 11.15am St Patrick's	Year A: Week 2 [RED] <i>Pro populo</i> <i>Pro populo</i>
Monday 10th April	<i>Of Holy Week</i> Mass: 9.15am St Mary's	[purple]
Tuesday 11th April	<i>Of Holy Week</i> <i>No Mass at St Mary's</i> Mass of Chrism: 11am Portsmouth Catholic Cathedral	
Wednesday 12th April	<i>Of Holy Week</i> Mass: 12.15pm St Mary's	[purple]
Thursday 13th April	MAUNDY THURSDAY Morning Prayer: 9am St Mary's <i>followed by</i> Confessions Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper: 8pm St Mary's <i>followed by the Watch of the Passion (until Midnight)</i>	[white]
Friday 14th April	GOOD FRIDAY Morning Prayer: 9am St Mary's <i>followed by</i> Confessions Children's workshop: Parish Rooms 10.30am Ecumenical Stations of the Cross: 12 noon (<i>from Champs Chapel</i>) Celebration of the Lord's Passion: 3pm St Mary's	[RED]
Saturday 15th April	HOLY SATURDAY Morning Prayer: 9am St Mary's <i>followed by</i> Confessions EASTER VIGIL The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night: 8pm St Mary's	[—] [GOLD]
Sunday 16th April	SOLEMNITY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD Solemn Mass: 9.30am St Mary's Mass and Holy Baptism: 11.15am St Patrick's Solemn Vespers and Benediction: 6pm St Mary's	Year A: Week 1 [GOLD] <i>Pro populo</i> <i>Pro populo</i>
	Confessions: as advertised or by appointment www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk	

HOLY PLACES

The collection for the Holy Places allows us to support the upkeep of the places in the Holy Land which feature so prominently in the events of Holy Week. Traditionally this is taken up on Good Friday after the Passion Liturgy.

MAUNDY THURSDAY

There will be a couple of lists in the porch to sign up for, one for those who can watch before the Blessed Sacrament on Maundy Thursday night and another for volunteers for the washing of the feet.

HOLY WEEK REHEARSALS

Servers rehearse at 11.30am on Maundy Thursday (13th April) and Holy Saturday (15th April). Hot cross buns and drinks afterwards.

GOOD FRIDAY WORKSHOP

We are inviting all children to St Mary's Parish Rooms for a morning of activities, from 10.30am to 12.30pm. Hot cross buns will be served!

EASTER OFFERING

The Easter offering is traditionally for the personal use of the clergy, forming part of their income. Envelopes are available at the back of the church.

DAY OF REFLECTION

Fr Phil Carroll is organising a day of reflection on **Saturday 27th May** for Eucharistic ministers which is open to the pastoral area for those interested. The venue will be at Stonehill House OX14 4AA (off Drayton Road) from 10am till 4pm. For those who might be interested please confirm your attendance by email to pcarroll@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

MUMS ON THE RUN

The next meeting is on **Monday 24th April at 8.00pm** in the Holy Family Room. If you are a mum raising children, who would like a bit of time to chat and reflect with other mothers, please come along to these meetings. Contact Gillian Groeger for more information gilliangroeger@hotmail.com

PARISH GIFT AID ENVELOPES

Please collect your new envelopes from the back of the church.

FUTURE COLLECTIONS

Clergy Training Fund: 4 May
World Communications: 28 May

NEWSLETTER Holiday Newsletters have to be printed in advance so the information on this week's may not be fully up to date.



BAPTISM AND WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

We remember in our prayers those whose anniversaries fall at this time.

THE SICK AND THOSE IN NEED

We remember in our prayers *Kathleen Doyle, Sr Catherine, Diana Tuson, Mary Wallace, Des McNichol, Brenda Paddon, Alfie Bartlam, Jenny Ayres and Jadyga Adasko*. Names remain for four weeks. Please request further inclusion.

THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

We remember in our prayers those who have died recently and those with anniversaries at this time: *Jack Linton, Winifred Mary Sykes, Frances Castle, Michael Watts, John Stibbs and Frank Morgan*.

HOLY FATHER'S MONTHLY INTENTION - YOUNG PEOPLE. That young people may respond generously to their vocations and seriously consider offering themselves to God in the priesthood or consecrated life.

DEPUTY HEAD VACANCY - ST EDMUND'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL, ABINGDON

Our governors wish to appoint a committed, practising Catholic to join the established leadership team in our warm and welcoming school from September 2017, following the retirement of our current Deputy Head. Further details are available on the school website or contact Mrs Berny Pratt, School Business Manager, for an application pack (01235 521558 or bpra2676@st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk). Closing date for applications is **27th April 2017**.

YOUTH GROUP - ANNUAL SPONSORED WALK FOR CAFOD

St Mary's Youth Group will next meet on **28th April**, 7-9 pm at the Parish Rooms. We will be taking part in our annual sponsored walk and are trying to raise money for CAFOD. We will be walking 5 km along the Ridgeway. If you are willing to make a donation, no matter how big or small, then that would be great. Please support us through our JustGiving website: www.justgiving.com/fundraising/StMarysYouthGroupWalk

ADVANCE NOTICE

The Carmelite day pilgrimage to Walsingham is on **24th June 2017**. Pick-ups: 06:30am at Redbridge park and ride; 07:00am at Peartree park and ride. Firm commitment and payment by 1 June. Cost depends on numbers- £27 up to £40 per person. All welcome! Contact Ar-melle Belcher via English Martyrs, Didcot Parish Office for more details on 01235 812338

'UNLOCKING THE MYSTERY OF THE BIBLE' ... IN A DAY!

You will see the DVDs followed by short discussions to confirm key points and to discover the salvation narrative story that runs through the Bible. We hope participants will take this course back to parishes across the diocese. We have four DVD courses available on loan from the Formation for Mission group. **Saturday 6th May**, 9am-5pm at St Peter's Church, Winchester, SO23 8BW. Cost £10 includes Bible Timeline chart, light lunch and refreshments. If interested please contact Liza Nahajzki at parishstudies@gmail.com

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