



St Francis of Assisi Church

Windsor & Ascot Pastoral area
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Priest in Charge: Fr Phillip Harris
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Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth
Charity number 1199568

www.stfrancisascot.co.uk

Fr Phillip writes...

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

"Sometimes they strew His way,
And His sweet praises sing;
Resounding all the day
Hosannas to their King;
Then "Crucify!" is all their breath,
And for His death they thirst and cry."

Words from the Passiontide hymn, "My song is love unknown", by Samuel Crossman set to music by John Ireland. These words capture something of the intensity of the events that we celebrate today on Palm Sunday: Jesus, being welcomed into Jerusalem, and then, within a few days, being rejected, condemned to death, crucified and dying on the Cross for us.

As we enter into the final week of Lent – Holy Week – we meditate on all that Jesus has done for us as our Lord and Saviour. Yes, with those people in the Passion Reading from St Mark's Gospel today, we welcome him and rejoice at his coming, waving palms around, shouting, "Hosanna"! But we also have to join in with them later and cry "Crucify" – hard words that remind us today and on Good Friday of why Jesus came into this world: to offer himself as the one true Sacrifice for our fallen humanity.

As we journey through Holy Week, let us give thanks for the great love of the God who chose to bear our sins on the Cross and win for us the joys of Easter and the Resurrection to eternal life.

*Live stream: <https://www.youtube.com/@rp54996/streams>

MASS TIMES THIS WEEK

- ✦ Sat, 23th Mar, at 5.30 pm: VIGIL: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
- ✦ Sun, 24th Mar, at 8.30 am and 10 am: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
- ✦ Mon, 25th Mar: **NO MASS AT ST FRANCIS**
- ✦ Tue, 26th Mar, at 6.30 pm: Holy Week
- ✦ Wed, 27th Mar, at 11.30 am: Funeral Mass for Michael Blair R.I.P
- ✦ Thu, 28th Mar at 7.30 pm: Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper
- ✦ Fri, 29th Mar at 3 pm: Good Friday: Celebration of the Lord's Passion
- ✦ Sat, 30th Mar at 7 pm: Holy Saturday: Easter Vigil
- ✦ Sun, 31st March at 8.30 am & 10 am:
Easter Sunday

Remember the clocks go forward on Easter Sunday!

*2nd Collection this Friday [Good Friday]: Holy Places



WE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND:



MARIA WILLIAMS, BRIAN LYNCH, PAT SASSI, SIMON SAINT, ERNESTO AND NAPOLEON MANNOIS, JANE THOMAS, DANIEL OFFER, MARIE HALL, NINA MULLINS, GEORGIA MACKINLEY, EILEEN HOARE, SR. JOSEPHINE COLLIER, PAULINE PAINTER, GERALD GRIFFITHS & MAGORZATA CORDOBA.

IF YOU'D LIKE TO ADD A NAME TO THIS LIST, WITH CONSENT, OR IF YOU WOULD LIKE A NAME REMOVED, KINDLY EMAIL OR PHONE THE PARISH OFFICE. WHATSAPP: 07851 092431



MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

- ◇ Sat, 23rd Mar at 5.30 pm: Paul Davis
- ◇ Sun, 24th Mar at 8.30 am: People of the Parish
- ◇ Sun, 24th Mar at 10.00 am: Sally Oberstein
- ◇ Tue, 26th Mar at 6.30 pm: Alan Tomlinson Anniversary R.I.P
- ◇ Wed. 27th Mar at 11.30 am: Michael Blair R.I.P
- ◇ Sat, 30th Mar at 10 am:
- ◇ Sun, 31st Mar at 8.30 am: People of the Parish
- ◇ Sun, 31st Mar at 10 am: Private Intention

Enjoy refreshments after Saturday Vigil Mass and Sunday 10 am Mass!
The Saturday Team will take a break from 30th March until 13th April for Easter Holidays!



Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.
St Francis of Assisi



Little Franciscan Toddler Group

Toddler group will break after our session on Tuesday **26th March until April 16th**. We wish you all a lovely Easter! During term time, every **Tuesday** from **11am to 12.45pm**. All welcome!

Children's Liturgy of the Word

We'll break after **Palm Sunday until April, 21st**. We wish all our families a wonderful Easter! Enjoy your holidays! Every Sunday, during the 10am Mass (during term-time). We accept children from 3y-o to Year 3. Enrolment forms available in the Narthex.

For further queries, email **Sue Roche** on: sue.roche1@btinternet.com

Rosary said every Saturday at 9.30 am, before Mass, at the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima.



ACCOMODATION PLEA

There's one of our new parishioners who is a new nurse based at Heatherwood Hospital. The Hospital gave all new international nurses accommodation for 2 months, where they're staying and going through a rigorous period of studies and training. Unfortunately, the hospital accommodation ends on 14th of March. This young lady is asking any of us here at St Francis of Assisi if anyone has a spare room available to rent to her so she can stay for 2 or 3 months until she finds a 2 bedroom flat for her family to join her. If you can, kindly contact the Parish Office and I will put you in contact with this young nurse. Many thanks.

[Samia Passos, Parish Secretary]

Save the Date Youth Event Sat, 27th April

St Edward's Church, Windsor

Event for young people aged 13-30, led by the One Hope Project.

It will be a day of worship & workshops and fun finding your faith.

It starts at 11.30am until 5pm. Check out the One Hope Project!

EASTER IMPORTANT DATES 2024

Palm Sunday Masses

- * Sat, 23rd March at 5.30 pm
- * Sun, 24th March at 8.30 AM & 10 AM

Pascal Triduum

- * Thu, 28th March at 7.30 pm: The Solemn Evening Mass of the Last Supper
- * Fri, 29th March at 3 pm: The Celebration of the Passion of the Lord
- * Sat, 30th March at 7 pm: Easter Vigil
- * Sun, 31st March at 8.30 AM & 10 AM: Easter Sunday



VOLUNTEER READERS FOR EASTER

Dear Parishioners, thank you to all of you who are volunteering to read during the Easter Masses. There are a few blank spaces left if you'd like to sign in the Porch. We appreciate your help! God bless!



EASTER PROGRAM WE HIGHLY RECOMMEND

This Palm Sunday, **Wintershall** and **The Chosen** will be on **BBC One Songs of Praise** at 1:15pm. You can also catch up on the episode on **BBC iPlayer**.

The Wintershall theatre group is currently rehearsing for the 'Passion of Jesus' which you can come and see this **Good Friday 29th March in Trafalgar Square London at 12 midday and 3:15 pm**. You can also watch the performance live via The Wintershall Facebook page. Here is the link to the Wintershall website: <https://www.wintershall.org.uk/passion-jesus>



Our parishioner, Stephanie Pena, will be playing Mary Magdalene. Please do keep them all at Wintershall in your prayers this Good Friday.

Here is the link to Holy Week episode for Songs of Praise information : <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m001xpnv>

GIFT AID/PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

Numbered envelopes for the **2024/25** tax year are available for collection from the church porch at masses in April. If you normally donate by weekly envelope, please take the box marked with your name. If you have any queries, or wish to join the Gift Aid scheme, please contact Chris Sowinski on giftaid.asc@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

DIOCESE OF PORTSMOUTH JOB VACANCY: PARISH ADMINISTRATOR IN SOUTHAMPTON CITY CENTRE CATHOLIC PARISH OF ST JOSEPH AND ST EDMUND

Hours of work: Part time 20-25 hours a week

Salary: £12 per hour

Role: The role will support a busy parish office, helping with secretarial services for the clergy, supporting day-to-day administration of the parish, hall bookings, sacramental registrations & record keeping, alongside phone and email correspondence.

We're looking for: Someone sympathetic to the teachings of the Catholic Church, with office experience, confident in the use of Microsoft Office 365, self-motivated, diplomatic, friendly, approachable, good timekeeping and telephone manner.

Closing date for applications: Monday 18th March 2024 at 9am

Interviews to be held: Wednesday 20th March 2024

For more info & to apply, contact recruitment@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Please pray for the rest and peace of the soul of Michael Blair RIP who has died recently.

✠ Funeral Mass on Wednesday 27th March at 11.30am ✠

(There will NOT be 10 am Mass on 27th March)



**ST FRANCIS
FATIMA DEVOTIONS
KSC HOME PRAYER GROUP
Monday - Friday at 1.30pm
30 Minutes of praying the Rosary
As requested by Our Lady
ZOOM ID & PASSWORD BELOW
MON 25th Mar—29th March
ZOOM ID : 750 6851 3915
PASSWORD : rosary**



**Sponsored by the KNIGHTS of ST COLUMBA - Province 41 WESTMINSTER
London North - Hanwell - Edmonton - Palmers Green - Sudbury - Harrow - St Albans - Northfields - Uxbridge - Willesden Green - Mill Hill
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