

Living with God in Holy Week

Palm Sunday March 28th



This year there will be no procession, but we will gather as a Parish together to mark the start of Holy Week.

There will be a **10am Service at St Mary's** (as well as an 8am Eucharist) and we will bless palm crosses.

Let us know if you hope to be there (contact details below).

If you are unable to join us and would like a palm cross – they can be collected from St Mary's any day between 9am and Noon. Alternatively, if you would like one delivered to you please let us know.

Holy week talks



In the last mailing we announced that we are delighted that **Fr Nicholas Frayling** has offered to provide us with reflections each day (and during our celebrations of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday at St Mary's).

Many of us have valued and enjoyed Fr Nicholas' contribution to the daily reflections.

He will be with us at the **Noon Mass at St Mary's (which will also be streamed) on Monday – Weds (29th – 31st March) and will give a reflection at the end of the service.**

You are welcome to join us at the Church (please let us know in advance if you hope to be there) or you can share in the service and reflection online.

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Maundy Thursday April 1st



We will gather to recall the Last Supper and Jesus then inviting us to watch and pray with him in the Garden of Gethsemane.

There will be a service at **St Faith's and St Wilfrid's at 6pm** and at **St Mary's at 7pm**.

These will **end with a time of silent prayer** at the 'Altar of Repose'. The St Mary's service will also be online.

Good Friday April 2nd



We are inviting our **young people and their families** to join us for an **exploration of Holy Week and Easter** in craft and activities.

This will be at **I I am at St Mary's**. Families will sit in COVID secure groups around tables.

It would help us in our planning to know how many are likely to attend.



At **2pm** we will come to the foot of the cross at all **3 Churches for the liturgy of the cross** as we reflect on the events of that day and Jesus' death.

The St Mary's service will be online.

Holy Saturday



There will be a service of light and celebration of the resurrection with the **first mass of Easter at 8pm** at **St Mary's**. You are welcome to join us in the Church or online.

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Easter Day



We celebrate the new life and hope of Easter.

There will be services at **St Faith's at 9am; St Wilfrid's at 11am; and St Mary's at 8 and 10am.**

The St Mary's 10am will also be online.

Please do let us know if you are coming to services as we need to prepare and clean chairs, print service sheets, and ensure there are sufficient wafers in the Ciborium (as this has to be set up in advance, and under COVID guidance the Ciborium cannot be opened)

Likewise if you need help or advice in accessing online services do let us know.

Easter Flowers



Normally we would be inviting you to complete a form to have a Lily in Church in memory of someone or thanksgiving for something.

Due to the restrictions, we face whilst we will have some lilies we will not have as many as usual.

However, we hope to provide flowers for Easter Day and the days that follow.

If you would like to make a donation in memory of someone or thanksgiving for something to help with the cost of these flowers, then please send to me at the Vicarage (for all 3 Churches) or hand in at the Churches by Palm Sunday.

If you wish to have the name recorded in the Church then please also let me know.

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Hope into Action ...



Thank you to all who have supported the Bake Book or made donations to Hope into Action.

The exciting news is that the house is now ready for us to provide items for to turn it into a home, ready to welcome the family we will be supporting. The exact location of the house is confidential – for the sake of the tenants – but it is within the Parish.

We still need to purchase a few items – so if you have not yet done so please do make a donation to support this.

Further details are available from Revd Sam or Shelly.

Another sign of life and hope



We are delighted that Revd Sam and Lionel will be getting married in Petersfield on Tuesday April 6th.

We send them all our love and prayers – and look forward to the time we can share with them and mark the moment with a cake!

They have asked that in lieu of gifts people make a donation to the Organ Project Pipe appeal. We will be ‘naming’ a pipe after them.

We will also be providing them with their wedding cake as a gift from the Parish.

If you would like to donate to their gift (cake and pipe) then please send donations c/o The Vicarage or pay by BACS.

Coffee and Chat in the Churchyard



We are expecting the next step to be approved by the Government to be the permitting of groups of up to 6 – or 2 households – together outdoors (socially distanced).

So from Easter we will be re-introducing **Coffee and Chat in St Mary's Churchyard each Tuesday and Friday at 11 am.**

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This will mean you could stay on at the end for the Noon service if you wish.

You can join a group of 6 people and enjoy a coffee outside the Vestry Hall.

We are grateful to Rosie for the support she will give to make this possible,

As I have done with every newsletter, I also need to thank all who have generously continued to make donations or sustain their regular giving to our 3 churches. Your generosity and support have been overwhelming – and has enabled us to sustain much of our life together. If you would like to make a donation or review your regular giving then please either drop into St Mary's Church (which will continue to be open every day from 9am – Noon for private prayer) or send to the Vicarage, Fratton Road, PO1 5PA. Alternatively contact me for how to make donation via BACS or regular Standing orders.



With best wishes

Father Bob

Revd Canon Bob White

Vicar of St Mary's , Portsea and Area Dean of Portsmouth

St Mary's Vicarage

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Portsmouth

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Lent and Easter in Lockdown 3 Streamed Services

- Sunday Eucharist 10am from St Mary's
- Said Eucharist Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at Noon
- Saturday at noon is Saturday Stillness with music, a reading and prayers by the clergy and a reflection by Fr Bruce.

You can pick up live streams on our portseaparish.co.uk/live-services, our [Youtube Channel](#), or if you have a facebook account on the St Mary's Facebook page at facebook.com/PortseaParish. There is a Daily Reflection available at portseaparish.co.uk/daily-reflections each day.

The service sheet for **mid-week Eucharists during Lent** is [available here](#).

The service sheet for **Sunday Eucharists during Lent** is [available here](#).

The service sheet for **Palm Sunday** 28th March is [available here](#).

The service sheet for **Maundy Thursday** 1st April is [available here](#).

Worship in Church

- Sunday 8am Book of Common Prayer Communion St Mary's Church
- Sunday 9am Eucharist at St Faith's Church
- Sunday 10am Eucharist at St Mary's Church
- Sunday 4pm Eucharist at St Wilfrid's Church
- Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at Noon said Eucharist at St Mary's Church

St Mary's is open every day from 9am – Noon for private prayer.

As we are still in Lockdown, no mingling is permitted until the rule of 6 is allowed possibly on March 29th. **We will be asking everyone to simply enter the Church and sit down without pausing for conversations. At the end of the service the Priest will indicate how to leave in a staggered way so we can keep the exit routes clear and enable all present to simply and quietly walk out and make their way home.** If you are able to join us please do help us and everyone to maintain and respect each other's space and follow any guidance given.

As before **if you wish to be at a service it will help us to know in advance** please contact myself (vicar@portseaparish.co.uk), or Revd Sam (assocvicar@portseaparish.co.uk) or Revd Sue (sue.whitelock@portseaparish.co.uk).

For special services see the [Events List](#).

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Venues

St Mary's Church, Fratton Road, Portsmouth PO1 5PA. Tel: 023 9281 4444

Free parking in church grounds. Rail: Fratton station (0.6 miles). Bus 14, 18, 21 (3, 7, 23 stop nearby).

Wheelchair access to church.

St Faith's Church, Crasswell Street, Portsmouth, PO1 1HT. Tel: 023 9282 7322

Parking: 1 hr free parking 9am-6pm in Crasswell Street and surrounding controlled streets, unlimited thereafter. Pay and display in Arundel Street 8am to 6pm, free thereafter. Rail: Portsmouth & Southsea (0.2 miles). Buses: 13, 14, 21 alight Canberra Ho on Arundel Street. City centre buses nearby. Wheelchair access to the church.

St Wilfrid's Church, George St, Portsmouth PO1 5RT. Tel: 023 9282 2687.

Parking: unrestricted parking in surrounding streets. Rail: Fratton (1 mile). Bus: 14 alight Langley Rd stop on New Road. Wheelchair access to the church.
