

## Watch and Pray in Holy Week



At the heart of our community of faith is the journey to the Cross and then the empty tomb of Easter Day. Jesus invites his friends and disciples to 'watch and pray' with him as he prepares for that journey. We are encouraged to simply be with him through those days and create the time and space to be stand at the foot off the cross and gather at the tomb.

Each year **we are invited to share that journey** and reflect on what it means for us, as we share in the special service of Holy Week and Easter. Some will be aware how special and important the services are; for others it will be a new experience, and for some it will be something we need to re-engage with.

**Perhaps we could all make that extra effort and commit ourselves to walk together from the joy of the Palm Procession to the discovery of the Risen Christ on Easter Day**

We will be welcoming a **guest preacher** to help us reflect on this journey . On **Monday Tuesday and Wednesday evening at 7pm** there will be a Mass with hymns at St Mary's – at the end of which **Revd Amanda Collinson** (the Bishop's Chaplain) **will reflect with us on the people who watch and pray at the Cross.**

At **St Mary's** from Maundy Thursday to Easter Day **Fr Bob will be our preacher** and help us to reflect on the events we are sharing in and how they affect our lives today. St Faith's will have their own pattern for Maundy Thursday and Good Friday – and then we will be together to celebrate the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday together at St Mary's at 8.30pm.

Please see below for full details and consider what you might do and how you may share that journey watching and praying with Christ and help us build a community of prayer together during Holy Week this year.

## **Sunday March 24<sup>th</sup> Palm Sunday**



**9.30am** Those who can please **join us at St Faith's Church in Crasswell Street** as we walk with **Palm crosses**, streamers and a band and begin the journey to the Cross ...



**10am** We gather as a Parish at **St Mary's** to 'welcome' Jesus as the crowds welcomed him into Jerusalem. We also hear the Passion Narrative to help us recall the events that we are about to share in through the week,

**5.30pm** Young adults meet with **Fr Rajiv**

## **Monday March 25<sup>th</sup> Noon Stations of the Cross at St Mary's**

We will use the 14 images around the Church to reflect on the journey made on Good Friday from Pilate to the Cross and the tomb – and the journey we make through life with Jesus

**7pm** Mass and Reflection at **St Mary's**

## **Tuesday March 26<sup>th</sup> 10.15am Melody Tots at St Mary's**

**1.30pm** Funeral Service at **St Mary's**

**7pm** Mass and Reflection at **St Mary's**

**Wednesday March 27<sup>th</sup> Noon Mass** followed by Fellowship reflecting on how we watch and pray together

**7pm** Mass and refection at **St Mary's**

## **Maundy Thursday March 28<sup>th</sup>**



At our services we reflect on the events of the Last Supper – the washing of the disciples' feet; Jesus breaking bread and sharing the cup inviting us to do this in remembrance of him and then he asks us to 'watch and pray with him' in the Garden of Gethsemane till he is betrayed by Judas.

### **At St Faith's 6pm Eucharist of the Last Supper**

ending with a short watch and vigil of prayer

### **At St Mary's 7.30pm Eucharist of the Last Supper**



**and watch of prayer till Midnight.** Please sign list in Church if you can cover some of the watch of prayer ...be good to have 2 or 3 people for every 15 min slot

## **Good Friday March 29<sup>th</sup>**



Our churches are stripped and empty – our focus is on the Cross and all it stands for and means. We hear the reading of the events of the first Good Friday in John's Gospel; we reflect on the cross, pray at the foot of the cross and end in stillness receiving the Body of Christ

### **At St Mary's I I am Children and Young People gather** to share

in activities and art and craft to reflect on the day – ending with Hot Cross Buns



**1pm** A series of **reflections** – interspersed with silence – **on the Cross** (at 1pm, 1.15, 1.30 and 1.45pm)

**2pm** **The Liturgy of the Cross** (ends at 3pm)

## **At St Faith's 2pm The Liturgy of the Cross**

### **Holy Saturday March 30<sup>th</sup>**



If you can help prepare our churches for Easter – please contact Revd Wendy May or St Faith's– or for St Mary's come along from 9am and there will be plenty to do!

As a Parish we all gather for one of the most beautiful and special service of the year as we gather in darkness and then welcome the coming of the light of Christ as we with joy and light celebrate his new life!

### **8.30pm The Vigil of Readings and First Mass of Easter (ends about 10pm)**

## **Easter Day March 31st**

### **At St Faith's 9.30 am Mass of Easter Day**

### **At St Mary's 8am Book of Common Prayer Eucharist**

### **10am Sung Mass for Easter and Baptisms**

### **4pm Choral Evensong and Benediction**

### **Chalice**

**Today** communion with the Chalice will be administered at the Lady Chapel Altar (by the Pulpit) at the front of the Church. Communion by Intinction will continue at the centre of the Dais.

**From next Sunday** the PCC have agreed that from next week we will move to administering using the Chalice at the Dais (centre). Those who wish to receive by intinction will be able to do so by the Eagle.

### **Fr Rajiv**

will be leaving us on Sunday April 21<sup>st</sup>. There will be a service of thanksgiving and farewell at 4pm – with tea

and cake served from 3pm. If you would like to donate towards his farewell gift, then please place in a marked envelope – or if giving by BACS please put ‘Rajiv’ as the reference. His licensing at Pontypridd will be on April 28<sup>th</sup> at 11am.

**May Fayre Monday May 6<sup>th</sup>** ...so the countdown begins ... please can you take some **Raffle Tickets to sell** ...first prize is £100!

Also please fill in **the helper's slip** so we can begin to plan how we will work together to welcome 10,000 people to the Church and churchyard!

*Please note we often take photographs at our services and events that may.*

*appear on social media – please let us know if this causes you any problems.*

*If you have any suggestions as to what you would like to see included on these notices, please let us know.*

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