



**Welcome to
Saint Bernadette's Church
5th April - Palm Sunday
Holy Week (A)**

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Parish Centre rooms to hire
If you would like to book the Parish Centre hall or one of the three meeting rooms **Telephone:** 01724 862804
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The Donkey

When fishes flew and forests walked
And figs grew upon thorn,
Some moment when the moon was blood
Then surely I was born.

With monstrous head and sickening cry
And ears like errant wings
The devils walking parody
On all four-footed things.

The tattered outlaw of the earth,
Of ancient crooked will.
Starve, scourge deride me: I am dumb,
I keep my secret still.

Fools! For I also had my hour.
One far fierce hour and sweet:
There was a shout about my ears,
And palms before my feet.

G. K. Chesterton

Reflections for Palm Sunday

The accounts of the Passion given by the four evangelists are not identical. The basic outline of these dreadful events was clear enough. It is confirmed by the contemporary Jewish historian Josephus, who tells us that Jesus was crucified by Pontius Pilate at the instigation of the Jewish leaders. The task of the gospel-writers is not to relay to us raw facts, but to help us understand their significance. Each stresses an aspect. For instance, John underlines that this was the triumph of Jesus; he shows his divinity already at the arrest-scene. He himself yielded up his Spirit only when he had completed his task. Matthew's preoccupation with Judaism dictates that he shows in detail how the events accord with God's plan revealed in the scriptures. Almost every incident is told in such a way that hearers familiar with the scriptures would catch allusions to the biblical writings: nowhere is this more obvious than in the account of the death of Judas. Though Pilate the governor must bear the final responsibility, Matthew also stresses the pressure on him by the crowd manipulated by the politically adept Jewish authorities, culminating in the horrific cry, "His blood be on us and our children" – an allusion to the sufferings undergone by the next generation during the siege of Jerusalem by the Romans. The significance of the events is further underlined by the apocalyptic earthquake at Jesus' death and by the immediate release of the blessed dead, who come at last into the Holy City. **HW**



To all Parishioners

I do hope you are all keeping well and safe. Please continue to remember in your daily prayers those who are working hard to keep us safe and the country moving, including all who work in the National Health Service and social care; those who work in our supermarkets, corner shop and pharmacies, and everyone who is part of the supply chain, from farmers and fishermen to those involved in transport and production; seafarers, who are far from home and loved ones, and those in Stella Maris and other maritime welfare agencies who support them; those who keep our homes, offices and streets clean and those who take away our rubbish; tradespeople and repairers; all civil and public servants and those working for Royal Mail, the Post Office and in banks, building societies, offices, factories, filling stations and garages; the staff of our schools and all others in schools and childcare facilities who are caring for the children of key workers and vulnerable children; all who are giving of themselves, sometimes at great cost to them and their families, so that we can stay home to protect the NHS and save lives.

This is not an exhaustive list and there are many people working at home or in their usual place of work whose efforts are vital in keeping the country going – we remember, and we give thanks. We all have a part to play and everyone must be allowed to play their part, so whatever part you are playing – as a key worker, in self-isolation or somewhere in between, thank you for playing your part and let's continue to work together to defeat this virus.

Fr Liam and I continue to offer mass each day and are now uploading the masses onto YouTube; this can be accessed via the St Bernadette's website and/or St Bernadette's Facebook.

Website: www.stbernadettesashby.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/stbernadettesashby/

Likewise, throughout Holy Week we will celebrate the Holy Week Ceremonies and then upload them for you to participate in. I will post further details of these ceremonies on our respective websites over the weekend.

There are various websites one can access for Masses and Devotions and I understand that CAFOD are broadcasting a Children's Liturgy each Sunday morning at 10.00am <https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Children-s-liturgy>

For those who may need assistance in the North Lincolnshire areas there is now a service set up by North Lincolnshire Council made up of volunteers for shopping, prescription collection etc. the contact details are 01724-297000 option 0.

Please continue to keep in your prayers all the sick, vulnerable and those who are in isolation at this time; where possible do keep in touch with these members of our parishes, via the telephone or email.

Finally, please remember those who of our parishes who have recently died; Osvaldo Tirelli, Margaret Smith and Martin Wagner – may they rest in peace.

To you all, please keep safe and well.

With every blessing to you all.

Canon Geoffrey

Live Streaming of Masses and Devotions

Bishop Patrick McKinney

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCaf7upUMsn3KI8GD79FotjQ>

Saturday 4th April at 10:00 am **An Introduction to Holy Week**

St Barnabas Cathedral

http://www.stbarnabascathedral.org.uk/01_Community/livestream.html

Sunday 5th April at 10:00 am **Palm Sunday Mass** celebrated by
Bishop Patrick McKinney

