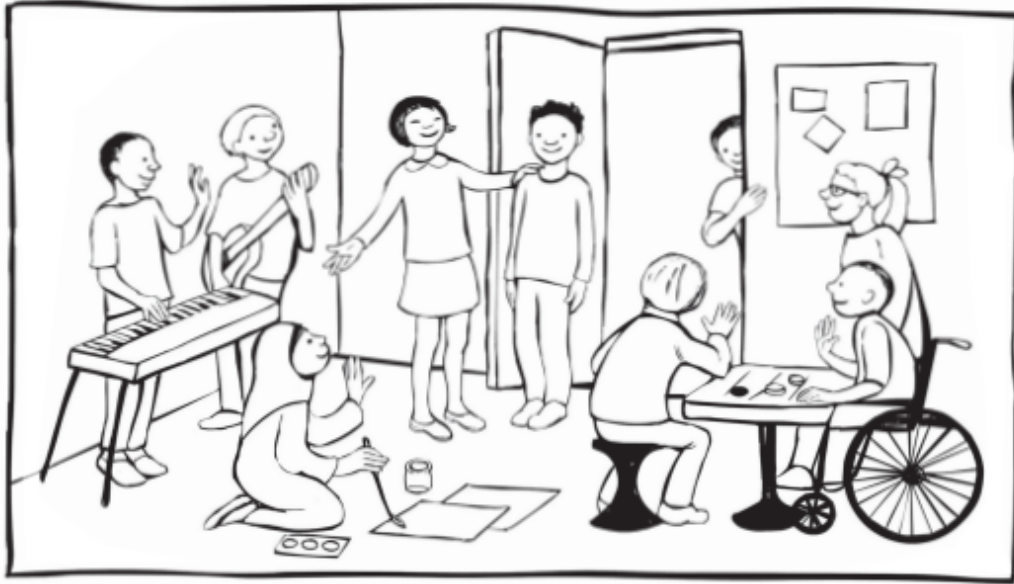


Palm Sunday (Year A)

Gospel: Matthew 21:1-11

"The crowds walking in front of Jesus and those walking behind began to shout, '.... Praise God!'"



What do you think the children in the picture are saying? Add speech bubbles to show how they are welcoming someone new.

How will you be welcoming to others this week?

Unjumble these letters to find words which remind us of the story of Jesus entering Jerusalem.

SEJUS _____

MESAJELUR _____

KODNYE _____

MEWLOCE _____

SPIREA _____

SMALP _____

CAFOD is the overseas aid agency for the Catholic Church in England and Wales. We believe in one global family working to end poverty and injustice. Find more activities at cafod.org.uk/families

Answers: Jesus, Jerusalem, Donkey, Welcome, Praise, Palms

Welcome to our Parish Newsletter for:

St. Mary's & St. Aidan's R.C Churches

Rev. Sean Hall

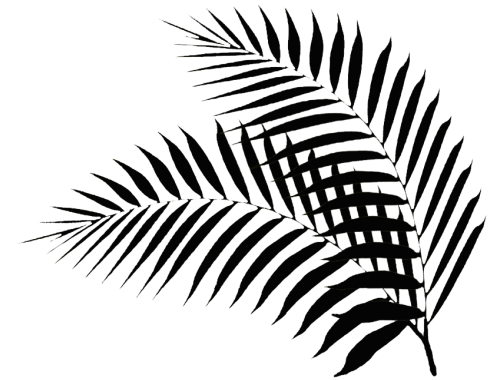
Tel. 0191 268 4222

parishsecretary@mail.com

www.stmarysforesthall.co.uk

www.staidansbenton.yolasite.com

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Sunday 2nd April 2023: Palm Sunday

After listening to today's Gospel, Jesus Enters Jerusalem (Mt 21:1-11), consider Fr Henry Wansbrough's reflection.

Today's liturgy concentrates on two very different events, the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem as Messianic King and the events of a few days later which culminated in his agonising and shameful death.

This seeming end-point was to be reversed by the explosion of new life in the Resurrection after three days, an explosion which constituted God's vindication of Jesus' loving obedience and the affirmation that it has overcome and wiped out the sin of Adam, human sin.

How much time did Jesus spend in Jerusalem?

The Gospel of John recounts four separate visits to Jerusalem, whereas Mark (and Matthew and Luke, who follow Mark's outline) compresses all Jesus' Jerusalem ministry into one visit, inaugurated by the solemn entry, as narrated in the gospel we hear today before the procession with palms.

This event is recounted by the evangelists in the light of their fuller understanding of Jesus after the Resurrection. We see the colourful, festal atmosphere of crowds going up to Jerusalem, waving palm branches as banners in their enthusiasm and singing as they march. Jesus and his disciples join in.

But it may be only later that the significance of this event was grasped: this entry was the fulfilment of the prophecy of Zechariah about the Messiah coming into his inheritance, to complete his God-given mission and to proclaim peace to the nations.

Matthew especially, writing for a community steeped in Judaism, actually quotes the prophecy and also the psalm-verse about 'him who comes in the name of the Lord'. He stresses that Jesus is this Son of David, whose eschatological kingship is about to be established.

Next week is known as Holy Week: how and when will you take time to listen to God and grow in holiness?

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

“Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, the King of Israel. Hosanna in the highest.”

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON, MT 21:9

NEWS FROM OUR CHURCHES:

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION GROUP: (see www.stmarysforesthall.co.uk)

Tues 4th April, 10.30am at St Mary's / Thurs 13th April, 7pm at St Aidan's (also via zoom). Reflecting together on the Readings for the coming Sunday.

CONFESSION - Saturday 8th April at St Mary's

The first & third Saturday of the month at St Aidan's 11am - 11.30am

The second & fourth Saturday of the month at St Mary's 11am - 11.30am

COLLECTIONS: w/c 26th March

ST. AIDAN'S - Loose Plate: £181.00/ Envelopes: £52.00 / Hall Hire: £120.00

Candles: £35.00 / Sunday Coffee Mornings: £77.00 (SVP Ncle)

ST. MARY'S - Loose Plate: £221.40 / Envelopes: £35.00 / Donations: £280.00

FRI. COFFEE MORNING: £55.00 (CAFOD EARTHQUAKE APPEAL)

Please remember to collect your boxes of envelopes & thank you all for your continued support and generosity.

NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE

A DAY FOR CATECHISTS - Coming Soon!

Involved with Baptismal Preparation, First Holy Communions, Confirmations, Marriage Preparation, RCIA, Children's Liturgy or other faith sharing initiatives? This will be the largest gathering of Catechists the diocese has seen in recent times. Visit bit.ly/DHND0C23

**** THOSE INDICTING AN INTEREST IN THESE IMPORTANT GROUPS ON OUR PARISH CENSUS FORMS ARE ENCOURAGED TO REGISTER - THE EVENT IS FREE OF CHARGE ARE ALL ARE VERY WELCOME. ****

VACANCIES - full details via www.diocesehn.org.uk // 0191 243 3301

Administrator, Vicariate for Faith & Mission (maternity cover) – full-time.

Closing date: 18th April 2023.

Senior Administrator, Dept for Education, Diocesan Offices, Ncle – full-time.

Closing date: 18th April 2023.

Parish Secretary and Cleaner (2 roles) – St Patrick's, Durham – part-time.

Closing dates: 12 April 2023.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR HOLY WEEK 2023

Sat. 1st April (St. Mary's)	5.30pm	Norman Wise
Palm Sunday (St. Aidan's)	9.15am	People of the Parish
Palm Sunday (St. Mary's)	11.00am	C.T Varghese

Tues. 4th (St. Mary's)	10.00am	Keith Hindmarsh
Wed. 5th (St. Mary's)	7.00pm	Penitential Service
Holy Thursday (St. Aidan's)	7.00pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper
Good Friday (St. Aidan's)	10.00am	Stations of the Cross
Good Friday (St. Mary's)	3.00pm	Liturgy of the Passion

Easter Vigil (St. Mary's)	5.30pm	Michael William Hodgetts
Easter Sunday (St. Aidan's)	9.15am	People of the Parish
Easter Sunday (St. Mary's)	11.00am	People of the Parish

PREPARATION FOR NEXT WEEK: Easter Sunday - 9th April 2023

"It is the Spirit of Christ which spurs me on."

Second Reading: New Life in Christ (Colossians 3:1-4)

CHILDREN'S PRAYER:

"God of life, we celebrate the rising of your Son today and the new life that you bring into the world. We thank you for all the good things that you have given to us. Help us to share them with others. Amen. "

WE ASK THAT YOU PRAY FOR:

Those who are sick. Those who have died recently.

And all those within our parishes whose anniversary occurs at this time.

KEEP IN TOUCH

Contact us via parishsecretary@mail.com or 0191 268 4222

Access weekend mass live via our Facebook page NE12Catholic.

Newsletters & Homilies can be viewed on www.stmarysforesthall.co.uk

St. Mary's Catholic Primary School www.stmarysrcprimaryschool.co.uk
St. Stephen's Catholic Primary School www.ststephensprimaryschool.co.uk
St. Mary's Catholic Comprehensive School www.stmarysnewcastle.co.uk