

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION

Here at St Michael's
MONDAY, 25TH MARCH, 7PM



GOOD FRIDAY WALK OF WITNESS 29TH MARCH

Please come and join with Christians from all the local churches.
The Walk begins at 10 am from Christ the King, Sedgewell Road.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES

FOR DATES AND TIMES PLEASE SEE THE CARDS AT THE BACK OF CHURCH

LENTEN APPEAL

Embrace Gaza

You can still give using the Dona machine at the back of Church. There are also envelopes available at the back of Church which include gift aid
- All donations can be returned any time during Lent

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY APPEAL You can still give online at www.cafod.org.uk or use the Dona machine at the back of Church. There are also envelopes available at the back of Church which include gift aid
- All donations can be returned any time during Lent

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday April 20th

The 50th Anniversary of Father Michael's Ordination
Join us for a Parish Celebration with Cream Tea and Mass

BOOK AND PLANT SALE IN MAY

We are holding a book and plant sale at the beginning of May. Please consider donating any books (please only good as new ones) or plants. All proceeds will be given to the charities the Parish supports.
For more info contact Krissie in the office.

ECUMENICAL SAFARI SUPPER SATURDAY, 6TH JULY

This is a free event and a sign up sheet will be put up nearer the time.

Thought for the week

Palm Sunday

24th March, 2024

Today is Palm Sunday marking the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem and the beginning of Holy Week. The crowd thought liberation from the Roman occupation had come and Israel would regain its former glory. No wonder they laid down their coats, waved their palms and sang for joy. However, Jesus was riding a donkey not a warhorse, signifying that he was coming in peace and humility. Most people were disappointed and lost faith. By the end of the week the only support Jesus had was from a few women standing at a distance from the cross. After all his teaching and signs how could everyone, including the twelve, get it so wrong and allow the greatest act of love to slip by unrecognised at the time?

How often do we get things wrong? Making false assumptions and hasty judgements and end up disappointing ourselves and letting down or hurting others? During this Holy Week, we are once again invited to immerse ourselves in God's great act of love and not allow it to slip by unnoticed. No matter how sinful or unworthy we feel or how messy or complicated we think our lives are, God will be calling out to us this week through the words and actions of his Son. We need to be prepared to make the time to listen with open hearts and minds.

Will I be moved to experience his love and mercy in the sacrament of reconciliation, perhaps for the first time in many years?

On Maundy Thursday, how will I respond to the Son of God humbling himself to wash my feet and then commanding me to do the same to others?

Will I gain a deeper appreciation of the Eucharist as God's gift to me?

On Good Friday, will I stand in solidarity with the crucified Jesus, and persecuted Christians throughout the world, and be strengthened to witness to my faith despite ridicule and insults?

Together, let us take every opportunity this Holy Week to immerse ourselves in God's love and mercy and not let the moment pass us by.

Deacon Brian



**We ask you please, to pray for the following people
who continue to ask for your prayers;**

Please pray for Rosie Heap who is having palliative care, for a peaceful death.

Please pray for Sarah Britton .

Please pray for Mary Edwards who has had hip surgery, after a fall at home, and is now recovering in The RBH.

Please pray for Carl Stitt the Uncle of Krissie as his operation was not successful and will have to be repeated.

Thank you for your continued prayers for Robert Brooks who is now back at home and continues to improve.

Rosemary continues to need our prayers having undergone major surgery, as the recovery will be long and slow.

Please pray for Kim, Paul and Joe Bunton (Joe has severe learning difficulties).
Please pray that they get the help they need.

Please continue to pray for Father Paul Rowan. Both cancer surgery and corneal graft are at last showing positive outcomes.

Please pray for Peter Halter's sister Jean who has macular degeneration and for her great grandson Rogan who continues to need our prayers following his bone marrow transplant,

Please Pray for Jim Hardiman.

Please Pray for Maria McNamara's niece who is undergoing chemotherapy.
Her name is Alison Flynn née McNamara.

Please pray for Reuben Muston aged 17 (Theresa and Mike Muston's grandson) who had Aplastic Anaemia. He still needs our prayers that he will continue to improve.

Please pray for Savanna Clark (aged 2 with eye trouble).

Please pray for Shirley Trollop.

Please pray for Isobel Messenger (Vera Bird's great granddaughter) she has now had her operation to improve her hearing.

Please pray for Simon Keen who is recovering from an operation.

Please pray for Mary Hagger.

Please pray for Vivien Kear (Krissie's friend) who has cancer.

Vera Bird has asked for our prayers for her Great, Great Grandson Harry.

Prayers please for Antonita's nephew Peppin who has long covid.



**Please also remember in your prayers those whose
anniversaries occur at this time including;**

Hermien Noothout, James Roughneen, Peter Warren,
Tony Dover, Audrey Gallagher, John William Harman,
Fr Andrew Creighton, Christine Ryman (nee Lester),
Nan and Larry Maxwell and Family, Ted Cotter,
Catherine Van Well, Sarah Bardon, Mary Gardner.