

# St Mary's Catholic Church, Monmouth

∫ St. Frances of Rome, Ross-on-Wye

Parish Priest: Fr. Nicholas James

email: [monmouth@rcadc.org](mailto:monmouth@rcadc.org)

Tel: (01600) 712029

<http://monmouthandrosscatholicchurches.uk>

## Mass Times & Intentions

PALM SUNDAY 10 <sup>th</sup> April		Vigil Mass 6.00 pm	Special intention	Monmouth
		9.15 am	People of the Parish	Monmouth
		11.00 am	Heaney family	Ross-on-Wye
Monday	11 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 am	Special intention (Tregaskis)	Monmouth
Tuesday	12 <sup>th</sup>	11.30 am	Archdiocesan Chrism Mass	St David's Cathedral
Wednesday	13 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 am	Turnbull intention	Monmouth
THE SACRED TRIDUUM				
Maundy Thursday	14 <sup>th</sup>	7.30 pm	<b>Mass of the Lord's Supper</b> Nonie & Frederick Colbert	Ross-on-Wye
Good Friday of the Passion of the Lord	15 <sup>th</sup>	12 noon	<b>Celebration of the Lord's Passion</b>	Ross-on-Wye
		3.00 pm		Monmouth
HOLY SATURDAY & EASTER SUNDAY	Easter Vigil	8.30 pm	<b>First Mass of Easter</b> Brian Cookson	Monmouth
	Sunday	9.15 am	<b>Easter Sunday</b> People of the Parish	Monmouth
	11.00 am	Special intention	Ross-on-Wye	
Contributions to the newsletter to: <a href="mailto:stmarysrc.editor@gmail.com">stmarysrc.editor@gmail.com</a> by 12 noon Thursday please				

## Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

### Constitution of the Second Vatican Council on the Church

“Behold the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah... I will put my law within them and I will write it upon their hearts: I will be their God, and they shall be my people. For they shall all know me, from the least of them even to the greatest, says the Lord.”

Christ instituted this new covenant, that is to say, the new testament, in his blood, by calling together a people made up of Jew and Gentile, making them one, not according to the flesh but the Spirit. This was to be the new People of God.

For those who believe in Christ, who are reborn not from a perishable but from an imperishable seed through the World of the living God, not from flesh but from water and the Holy Spirit, are finally established as a “chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a purchased people, who in times past were not a people, but are now the people of God.

That messianic people has Christ as its head, “who was delivered up for our sins and rose again for our justification” and now, having won a name which is above all names, reigns in glory in heaven.

The heritage of this people is the dignity and freedom of the sons of God, in whose hearts the Holy Spirit dwells as in his temple.

Its law is the new commandment to love as Christ loved us.

## GOOD FRIDAY

Today's liturgy begins with the silent entrance of the celebrant and his assistants. For a short time, they pray, prostrate on the floor – yet another memory of praying at times of special solemnity, now only practised on occasions such as ordination. The celebration has four main parts. The Liturgy of the Word puts before us in three readings and a psalm the meaning of the Cross.

The second part of the liturgy is the long series of intercessions. These are probably in the original style in which what we today know as 'the Prayer of the Faithful' was celebrated in the Roman Liturgy.

The third part of the Liturgy is the Solemn Veneration of the Cross. This may be done in several ways. Ideally, the Cross veiled in red, is carried through the congregation. At three stops or stations, part of the Cross is unveiled and the faithful are invited to venerate it. The congregation then comes in procession to venerate the wood of the Cross by kissing or touching it, making three genuflections if possible, as they come to the Cross.

The body is very important in today's liturgy. We do things today that we do not do at other times. The celebrant will lie on the ground as a sign of earnest prayer. We will come in procession to the cross; we will genuflect, bend low and kiss it. We will come in another procession to receive Holy Communion. As we pray the long Good Friday prayers, we will stand and kneel alternately using our body in our prayer. The body is the key to the story of our salvation. Crucifixion stretched human limbs to breaking point. It exposed the crucified to the heat of the sun, to insects crawling over his face, which he could not drive away because his hands were nailed to the wood. Eventually, the broken tortured body would be taken down and thrown into a common burial pit. Yet the climate of our Passion story is that this body is restored to glory, still bearing its wounds as marks of triumph.

Please remember also all those whose anniversaries occur about this time.

- Please pray for Ron Marshall who is to be baptised at the first Mass of Easter.
- Please note Seder time: 6.00 pm on Monday

**Poverty challenge: See, Judge, Act:** Following the pandemic, many households now face new hardships as prices rise. Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN), the Catholic agency addressing poverty and injustice in England and Wales, has released a free new booklet to increase awareness of Catholic Social Teaching on poverty, and to inform local responses. Please take a moment to read and encourage groups to engage with it. Download from [www.csan.org.uk](http://www.csan.org.uk)

**CAFOD:** The postponed Lent Family Fast Day collection is this weekend. Thank you so much for your support for Fast Day and the Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal. Your support means we can respond in crises such as Ukraine where our Caritas aid workers and volunteers could quickly help families fleeing conflict. It also means we're there in the long-term and can continue to respond to crises around the world, including in Afghanistan, Syria, Ethiopia and South Sudan. [cafod.org.uk/Lent](http://cafod.org.uk/Lent) or you can donate via text message: Text **LENT 5 to give £5 to 70460**.

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