



# St. Margaret Clitherow's Catholic Church

The Presbytery, 4 Kingswood Drive, Dulwich Wood Park, London SE19 1UR  
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**0208 670 1639**

Parish Priest: Fr Luke Marappillil

Parish Secretary: Steve Pearce (available Wednesday/Friday 1-5pm)

**Confessions:** Monday-Saturday 30 minutes before the Mass or at call.

**Baptism, Marriages & Visits:** please call.

## 24 March 2024: Palm Sunday [B]

### Mass Intentions/Service Times

Saturday	23 Mar	06.30pm:	People of the parish	<b>Blessing of the palms</b>
Sunday	24 Mar	08.30am:	Brazilian Mass	
		<b>10.00am:</b>	We join the Palm Sunday procession organised by St Stephen's Church. When the procession arrives near our church around 10.15am, we leave the procession and go for our Mass.	
		10.30am:	Paddy Joe Heston RIP	<b>Blessing of the palms</b>
Monday	25 Mar	10.00am:	<b>NO MASS</b>	<b>Holy Week</b>
		06.00pm:	Mass Charles Burfod RIP	
		<b>05.45pm:</b>	<b>Reconciliation Service/Confessions</b>	
		06.30pm:	Mass - David Millard RIP	
Tuesday	26 Mar	10.00am:		<b>Holy Week</b>
Wednesday	27 Mar	10.00am:	<b>NO MASS at St Margaret Clitherow's</b>	<b>Holy Week</b>
		<b>11.30am:</b>	<b>Chrism Mass at St George's Cathedral.</b>	
Thursday	28 Mar	07.00pm:	People of the parish	<b>Maundy Thursday</b>
Friday	29 Mar	<b>11.00am:</b>	Walk of Witness by Churches Together beginning outside Sainsbury's (Crystal Palace)	
		03.00pm:	The Passion of the Lord	<b>Good Friday</b> (fasting & abstinence)
		07.00pm:	<b>Stations of the Cross</b>	
Saturday	30 Mar	07.00pm:	Maria Rosa D'Souza RIP	<b>Holy Saturday (Easter Vigil)</b>
Sunday	31 Mar	08.30am:	Mass (Brazilian)	
		10.30am:	Neil McGuire (Get well)	<b>Easter Sunday (B)</b>
<b>Mass followed by Easter celebration in the hall. All are welcome!</b>				

<b>Last Week... Mass Attendance:</b>	<b>SMC Parish Community</b>	82	<b>Brazilian Chaplaincy</b>	284
<b>Offertory Collection:</b>		£221.83		£371.38

- Good Friday:** Collection for the Holy Places
- Collection at Easter Masses:** For the priest serving in the parish. Envelopes are available at the back of the church. Anyone wishing to donate via cheque, kindly make them payable to 'RCAS Dulwich Wood Park'.
- First Holy Communion 2024:** Parents with the candidate to contact Fr Luke as soon as possible, not later than 28<sup>th</sup> April. Kindly bring the Baptism certificate also.

### HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

**Palm Sunday:** Now Holy Week begins. On this Sunday the Church recalls the entrance of Jesus into Jerusalem to accomplish his Paschal Mystery. This entry of Jesus could be seen in two different ways. i. For those who had accompanied Jesus from Galilee, it has all the joy and expectation of a Messianic arrival, a Davidic King entering his city. ii. For the inhabitants of Jerusalem, there is the voice of opposition. It is their voices that will grow louder and louder, until they calm down crying 'Hosanna' and finally replace them with cries of 'Crucify him'! The liturgy of today solemnly recalls both sets of voices: the triumphal remembering of Jesus' entry into the Holy City and the waving of palms quickly give way to the somber reading of the Passion.

## **THE EASTER TRIDUUM**

### **Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday (Easter Vigil)**

Easter Triduum begins with Holy Thursday with the Mass of the Lord's Supper and concludes with Easter Vigil. Its high point/climax is the celebration of the Easter Vigil.

These are the holiest days of the year. During this time the church gathers to **celebrate the heart of our belief: The Resurrection of Jesus from the dead and the promise of eternal life for the faithful**. At each celebration of the Eucharist, after the institution narrative, the celebrant proclaims: 'The mystery of faith', inviting the congregation also to do the same. This is what we do in a special way these three days: Proclaiming our faith! This is what our celebration of salvation is about: Proclaiming our faith!

These three days are the climax of our yearly celebration of the paschal mystery. In short, the Sacred Paschal Triduum of the Passion and Resurrection of the Lord shines forth as the high point of the entire liturgical year. Hence, the pre-eminence that Sunday has in the week, and the Solemnity of Easter has in the liturgical year.

During these days the entire parish goes on retreat, so to say. All the parishioners are invited to spend these days in a spirit of prayer and reflection.

**Holy Thursday/Maundy Thursday:** This evening's celebration opens the Triduum with the Mass of the Lord's Supper. It commemorates the institution of the Eucharist and the priesthood, as well as Jesus' command of love and service. This is the day when Christians everywhere celebrate Jesus' giving us the Eucharist – his very Body and Blood – as our nourishment and our salvation. Even those Christian denominations who do not regularly celebrate Mass tend to do so on this day. Holy Thursday is the threshold of Good Friday.

**Good Friday:** Good Friday is the celebration of the passion, the suffering and death by crucifixion of Jesus. Because this event won salvation for sinners, the day is called "good", and the liturgy reflects on love as well as loss. For the faithful, today's commemoration drives home the full weight of our sin, even as it lifts us up by the incomparable measure of God's love. For the elect, it awakens them to the demands of discipleship, while it prepares them for the embrace of God's love in the promise of eternal life by the waters of baptism.

Today's liturgy is in three main parts: i. The liturgy of the Word, featuring the account of the Passion. ii. The veneration of the Cross. iii. Holy Communion.

**Holy Saturday:** Holy Saturday commemorates the day Jesus lay in the tomb. There is no Mass during the day. During the day we continue the paschal fast in a prayerful spirit. The climax of Triduum, the Easter Vigil, begins when darkness arrives. The Easter Vigil launches us into the Easter season.

**The Easter Vigil:** The Easter Vigil is the most important liturgy of the year. It is a celebration of our faith in the resurrection, the cornerstone of our belief. Ranking highest among the celebrations of the liturgical year, it should rank highest in the spiritual life of the faithful as well. Easter Vigil is the crossover into Easter Sunday, the moment of 'passing' from fast to feast, from death to glory.

The four parts of the Easter Vigil move us through a gradual unfolding of its mystery. i. The Solemn beginning of the Vigil with the blessing of new fire immediately shatters the gathering of darkness. ii. The liturgy of the Word opens up the path of God's plan throughout salvation history. iii. The liturgy of baptism draws the elect into the promise of eternal life and renews the baptismal promise of the faithful. iv. The liturgy of the Eucharist brings the celebration to its climax, as we experience the presence of the risen Christ in the community.

**Easter Sunday:** The resurrection of Jesus from the dead demonstrates God's ultimate power over all other forces, including death. By his resurrection, Jesus opens the door of eternity to all believers. The mystery of redemption, first intimated at the incarnation, reaches its purpose and climax in the resurrection. Belief in the resurrection is the cornerstone of Christian faith. Today concludes the celebration of the Triduum and begins the great Fifty Days. After forty days of fast, we have fifty days of feast. Easter season concludes with Pentecost, the fiftieth day of the season.