

*Southeast Hampshire Pastoral Area*  
*Jesus Prince of Peace*  
*St Michael and All Angels Catholic Church, Leigh Park*

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth charity number 1199568

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Our Website: <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/parish/st-michael-and-all-angels-leigh-park/>

**Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion, 29<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

**Parish Mass Book page 176**

**Gospel for the Procession: Matthew 21:1-11**

'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!'

**Scripture Readings at Mass**

**First reading: Isaiah 50:4 – 7**

'I hid not my face from disgrace, and I know I shall not be put to shame.'

**Second reading: Philippians 2:6 – 11**

'He humbled himself, therefore God has exalted him.'

**Gospel: Matthew 26:14-27:66**

This is Matthew's version of the Passion. As in the rest of his Gospel so here Matthew presents a Christ who is merciful and forgiving even to his executioners.

**Fr. Tom writes...**

One of the great encouragements of being a churchgoing Catholic is the thought that - across all five continents - Catholics are listening to exactly the same readings and prayers, day by day, week by week. This becomes more pronounced as we approach the great festivals of the Church, but it is in fact true all the time. Even the Collects, the prayer prayed by the priest just before the readings, are the same. It is an encouragement we need, since God is never mentioned on the news, and many in the world think we're mad to be still following this dead Jewish carpenter, believing that He actually comes to us in Person at each validly consecrated Mass; that we can pray to Him in our homes and that His Holy Spirit is present whenever He is honoured as the Son of God, the Creator and Sustainer of the Universe in human form.

Central to this faith is the understanding that Jesus is not a metaphor. As we enter Holy Week, this becomes horribly and, then wonderfully, asserted. He bled for us. He suffered for us. Real, non-metaphorical suffering happened on Calvary, so that we could be free. When we accept, even with broken hearts, the reality of the pain Jesus suffered, and that saving us from our lostness and brokenness was the very reason He suffered, then we are capable of seeing something else. That Christian hope is not a metaphor either. That God's love is not a metaphor, and neither is heaven. This week is all about reality, and we thank God for revealing the truth to us in Jesus Christ, and that - 2000 years later - the stunning reality of the Gospel is still being proclaimed and believed in around the world.

**Mini-Retreat Days – We come to the final day of our retreats tomorrow, Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March. Fr Tom will talk on Saint Josephine Bakhita.** Everyone is invited to our Mini-Retreat Days, every Saturday during Lent beginning at 11am at St Michael and All Angels Church, Leigh Park. There will be a talk on a different Saint each week, followed by Adoration and Confession, with Mass at 12 noon, and the Rosary followed by a shared lunch at 1pm. (Please bring food to share.) We very much look forward to welcoming you for a time of reflection, prayer, and fellowship. **Thank you to Fr Tom and Fr James who have led the retreats these past weeks.**

## **Easter Offering**

The collection on Easter Day is for the support of parish clergy, in grateful thanks for their dedication, service and witness throughout the year.

If you would like to give a gift for our clergy's mission and ministry this Easter, please visit:

<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/leigh-park-st-michael-and-all-angels-catholic-church-easter-collection-2026>

### **Clocks go forward at 1am on Sunday 29 March!**

Just a reminder that the clocks go forward this weekend, so we'll be losing an hour as we move into longer, brighter days!

While the earlier start might feel a little tough at first, it's a sure sign that spring is on its way, bringing lighter evenings and a fresh new energy!

**Rosary Group** meet on Monday at 10am.

**Bible Timeline** The Story of Salvation, is being held on Tuesday mornings at 10.15am at St Michael's in the Committee room. Each session will have a video, discussion and question time. Please do come along. Kathy Collins will be hosting [kathyimcollins1@gmail.com](mailto:kathyimcollins1@gmail.com).

### **Excelsis Chamber Choir presents... Movie Melodies**

Music from your favourite films! Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March from 2.30pm at the Sacred Heart Church. Tickets:

£12.50 (includes high tea following the concert).

Conductor: Robert Lewis,  
Baritone: Freddie Simpson,  
Piano: Clive Osgood

Tickets available from Yami after Mass or you can use this QR code



### **Prayer Ministry**

At Sacred Heart – Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March, after 5.30pm Mass - An opportunity to receive individual prayer for anything in your life that is causing you anguish, pain or concern. God works in mysterious ways, but in the history of the Church has often used the prayers of others to provide courage, consolation and even miraculous help in difficult or challenging situations. There will be music playing and pairs of people dotted around the sides of the church offering discreet and caring prayer for anyone brave enough to ask. Many of us have been helped by this kind of prayer ministry and would urge you not to let pride or fear stop you if you are interested. May the Lord be particularly with the volunteers as we start this ministry.

### **Easter Egg Appeal**

Can you help us give an Easter Egg and chocolate to seafarers this Easter? Please leave them in the Working Sacristy or drop them off the parish office.

### **Second Collection on Good Friday for Holy Places**

Every year on Good Friday, a collection is taken up in Catholic Churches around the world to support the work of the Franciscans of the Custody of the Holy Land who have the unique responsibility of maintaining the Holy Places and preserving the Christian presence in the Holy Land. Please be generous in supporting this important service to the universal Church. The offerings collected by the parishes across the world are sent by the Commissars of the Holy Land to the Custody of the Holy Land.

### **Easter raffle at St Michael's**

Tickets are on sale this weekend for our traditional Easter raffle. We would be grateful if you are able to donate prizes.

### **Catholic Grandparents Association and the Elderly**

You are right the date of the next meeting is indeed the 9<sup>th</sup> April. If you would please put it in the newsletter

### **A Palm Sunday Prayer**



*Lord God, I give you thanks, for you are good, and your mercy is endless. Here I stand, at the start of this Holy Week, in which your Church remembers Jesus' passion and death, and I am distracted by many things. Turn my eyes now to the One who comes in your name, the one who opens the gates of righteousness, the one who answers when we call. I bless you, Lord, for shining your light upon me, and for sending your son to us, in human frailty, to walk the road we walk. Open my eyes that I may see him coming, and may praise him with a pure heart, and may walk in the way of his suffering, and share also in his Resurrection. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen.*

# LITURGICAL WEEK

DATE	TIME	LITURGICAL CELEBRATION	VENUE	MASS INTENTION
<b>Saturday 28 March</b> Feria [5th Week of Lent] <b>Vigil PALM SUNDAY</b> <b>of the Passion</b> <b>of the Lord</b>	11.30am 12noon 5pm 5-6pm 5.30-6pm 6.15pm	Adoration & Confession Mass Stations of the Cross Adoration Confession Mass	St Michael St Michael Sacred Heart Sacred Heart Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	Rev Jonathan Jeffrey INT     Ronald William Precious, RIP
<b>Sunday 29 March</b> <b>PALM SUNDAY</b> <b>of the Passion</b> <b>of the Lord</b>	9am 9.30am  11am  4pm 5.30pm	Mass Mass ( <i>Procession begins @ 9am at Leigh Park Library</i> ) Mass  Mass Mass	St Edmund St Michael  Sacred Heart  QA Hospital Chapel Sacred Heart	Evelyn Poole, RIP Doreen Davey RIP  Richard Shongue & Rose Chelangat Rotich  People of the Parish
<b>Monday 30 March</b> Of HOLY WEEK	7am 7.30am 12.15am 12.30pm	Mass Holy Hour Funeral Mass Mass	Sacred Heart Sacred Heart St Edmund QA Hospital Chapel	Anne-Marie Hartridge, RIP (FM)  Joyce Barnett, RIP
<b>Tuesday 31 March</b> OF HOLY WEEK	7.30am 11am 6.15-6.45pm 7pm	Holy Hour Chrism Mass Confession Mass of Holy Week	Sacred Heart The Cathedral St Edmund St Edmund	Arlene Lodrick & Emmy Willis RIP. Deceased members of D'esperance & Adams families
<b>Wednesday 1 April</b> OF HOLY WEEK	7.30am 10.15am  11.30am 12noon 6.15-6.45pm 7pm 7.45pm	Holy Hour Mass of Holy Week followed by Adoration Adoration Mass of Holy Week Confession Mass of Holy Week Tenebrae	Sacred Heart St Michael St Michael Sacred Heart Sacred Heart Sacred Heart Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	Richard Mitchell RIP   Maurice & Catherine Cremin, RIP  Holy Souls
<b>THE EASTER TRIDUUM</b>				
<b>Thursday 2 April</b> MAUNDY THURSDAY	10am-12noon 7.30pm  7.30pm	Confession <b>Liturgy of the Lord's Supper</b> <i>(Watching at the Altar of Repose until 10pm. Night Prayer @ 9.45)</i> <b>Mass of the Lord's Supper</b> <i>(&amp; Adoration at the Altar of Repose)</i>	Sacred Heart <b>Sacred Heart</b>  <b>St Michael</b>	
<b>Friday 3 April</b> GOOD FRIDAY	10am  3pm 3pm 3pm	Children's Stations of the Cross <b>Liturgy of the Lord's Passion</b> <b>Liturgy of the Lord's Passion</b> <b>Liturgy of the Lord's Passion</b>	Sacred Heart  <b>St Edmund</b> <b>Sacred Heart</b> <b>St Michael</b>	
<b>Saturday 4 April</b> HOLY SATURDAY	8pm 8.30pm	<b>The Easter Vigil Mass</b> <b>The Easter Vigil Mass</b>	<b>Sacred Heart</b> <b>St Michael</b>	
<b>Sunday 5 April</b> <b>EASTER SUNDAY OF</b> <b>THE RESURRECTION OF</b> <b>THE LORD</b>	8am 9.30am 9.30am 11am 4pm	Dawn Mass Day Mass Day Mass Day Mass Mass	Sacred Heart St Edmund St Michael Sacred Heart QA Hospital Chapel	Pat Charlton, RIP In memory of Ewa Matias Richard Falzon Brian Cable, RIP
<b>Monday 6 April</b> MONDAY WITHIN OCTAVE OF EASTER	11.30am 12noon	Adoration Mass	Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	Maria Morton, Intention
<b>Tuesday 7 April</b> TUESDAY WITHIN OCTAVE OF EASTER	6pm 6.30pm	Adoration Mass	St Edmund St Edmund	Mary & Bill Robinson
<b>Wednesday 8 April</b> WEDNESDAY WITHIN OCTAVE OF EASTER	10.15am	Mass Followed by Adoration	St Michael St Michael	Susan Shaw RIP
<b>Thursday 9 April</b> THURSDAY WITHIN OCTAVE OF EASTER	9.30am 10am	Adoration Mass	St Edmund St Edmund	Muriel Violet Coyle, RIP
<b>Friday 10 April</b> FRIDAY WITHIN OCTAVE OF EASTER	11.30am 12noon	Adoration Mass	Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	Robin's Recovery
<b>Saturday 11 April</b> SATURDAY WITHIN OCTAVE OF EASTER <b>Vigil SECOND SUNDAY</b> <b>OF EASTER</b>	11.30am 12noon 5-6pm 6.15pm	Confession Mass Holy Hour & Confession Mass	St Michael St Michael Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	Our Parish  People of the Parish
<b>Sunday 12 April</b> <b>SECOND SUNDAY</b> <b>OF EASTER</b>	9am  9.30am 11am 4pm 5.30pm	Mass  Mass Mass Mass Mass	St Edmund  St Michael Sacred Heart QA Hospital Chapel Sacred Heart	Mrs Shanti Thillagadevi Sittampalam, RIP Canon Gerard Flynn RIP Ian Cuthbert, RIP  Hubert Whitfield, RIP