the governor's complete amazement, he offered no reply to any of the charges. At festival time it was the governor's practice to release a prisoner for the people, anyone they chose. Now there was at that time a notorious prisoner whose name was Barabbas. So when the crowd gathered Pilate said to them, R. "Which do you want me to release for you: Barabbas or Jesus who is called Christ?" N. For Pilate knew it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. Now as he was seated in the chair of judgement, his wife sent him a message, R. "Have nothing to do with that man; I have been upset all day by a dream I had about him." N. The chief priests and the elders, however, had persuaded the crowd to demand the release of Barabbas and the execution of Jesus. So when the governor spoke and asked them, R. "Which of the two, do you want me to release for you?" N. They said, C. "Barabbas." N. Pilate said to them, R. What am I to do with Jesus who is called Christ?" N. They all said, C. "Let him be crucified!" N. Pilate asked, R. "Why? What harm has he done?" N. But they all shouted the louder, C. "Let him be crucified!" N. Then Pilate saw that he was making no impression, that in fact a riot was imminent. So he took some water, washed his hands in front of the crowd and said, R. "I am innocent of this man's blood. It is your concern." N. And the people, to a man, should back, C. "His blood be on us and on our children!" N. Then he released Barabbas for them. He ordered Jesus to be first scourged and then handed over to be crucified. The governor's soldiers took Jesus with them into the Praetorium and collected the whole cohort round him. Then they stripped him and made him wear a scarlet cloak, and having twisted some thorns into a crown they put this on his head and placed a reed in his right hand. To make fun of him they knelt to him saying, C. "Hail, king of the Jews!" N. And they spat on him and took the reed and struck him on the head with it. And when they had finished making fun of him, they took off the cloak and dressed him in his own clothes and led him away to crucify him. On their way out, they came across a man from Cyrene, Simon by name, and enlisted him to carry his cross. When they had reached a place called Golgotha, that is, the place of the skull, they gave him wine to drink mixed with gall, which he tasted but refused to drink. When they had finished crucifying him they shared out his clothing by casting lots, and then sat down and stayed there keeping guard over him. Above his head was placed the charge against him, it read; "This is Jesus, the King of Jews." At the same time two robbers were crucified with him, one on the right and one on the left. The passers-by jeered at him; they shook their heads and said, C. "So you would destroy the Temple and rebuild it in three days? Then save yourself! If you are God's son, come down from the cross!" N. The chief priests, with the scribes and elders mocked him in the same way, saying, C. "He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and he will believe in him. He put his trust in God; now let God rescue him if he wants him. For he did say, "I am the son of God?" N. Even the robbers who were crucified with taunted him in the same way. From the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until ninth hour. And about the ninth hour, Jesus cried out in a loud voice, P. "Eli, Eli, Lama sabachthani?" N. That is, P. "My God, my God, why have you deserted me?" N. When some of those who stood there heard this, they said, C. "The man is calling upon Elijah," N. and one of them quickly ran to get a sponge which he dipped in vinegar and putting it on a reed, gave it to him to drink. The rest of them said, C. "Wait! See if Elijah will come to save him." N. But Jesus again crying out in a loud voice, yielded up his spirit. At that, the veil of the Temple was torn in two from top to bottom; the earth quaked; the rocks were split; the tombs opened and the bodies of many holy men rose from the dead, and these, after his resurrection, came out of the tombs, entered the Holy City and appeared to a number of people. Meanwhile the centurion, together with the others guarding Jesus, had seen the earthquake and all that was taking place, and they were terrified and said, C. "In truth this was the son of God." N. And many women were there, watching from a distance, the same women who had followed Jesus from Galilee and looked after him. Among them were Mary of Magdala, Mary the mother of James and Joseph the mother of Zebedee's sons. When it was evening, there came a rich man of Arimathaea, called Joseph, who had himself become a disciple of Jesus. The man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Pilate thereupon ordered it to be handed over. So Joseph took the body, wrapped it in a clean shroud and put it in his own new tomb which he had hewn out of the rock. He then rolled a large stone across the entrance of the tomb and went away. Now Mary of Magdala and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the sepulchre. Next day, that is, when Preparation Day was over, the chief priests and the Pharisees went in a body to Pilate and said to him, C. "Your Excellency, we recall that this impostor said, while he was still alive, "After three days I shall rise again." Therefore give the order to have the sepulchre kept secure until the third day, for fear his disciples come and steal him away and tell the people, "He has risen from the dead". This last piece of fraud would be worse than what went before." N. Pilate said to them, R. "You may have your guards. Go and make all secure as you know how." N. So they went and made the sepulchre secure, putting seals on the stone and mounting a guard.

April Diary (Holy Week)

Palm Sunday 2nd April

- Vigil (Saturday) 6:30pm Mass
- Sunday Masses 9am, 11:30am, 6.30pm

NB: Masses start with Palm Procession from the Car Park (weather allowing). Please keep the Car Park free.

Monday 3rd Normal Weekday Mass at 12noon

- Tues. 4th 12noon Chrism Mass at the Cathedral (No Mass in the Parish)
- 7pm Penitential Service/Confessions (Guest Priests would be available)

Wednesday 5th Normal Weekday Mass at 12noon

Holy Thursday 6th 7pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

- There will be **Renewal of Commitment by Eucharistic** Ministers and Minsters of The Word at this Mass. All Readers and Eucharistic Ministers need to attend.
- There will be Night Watch with Jesus (the Gethsemane experience) after Mass till 10pm.
- Good Friday 7th 3:00pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion
- This begins with Stations of the Cross.
- Good Friday is a day of Fasting & Abstinence

Holy Saturday 8th 7pm Easter Vigil Mass/Reception of Converts

Mass begins with the Ceremony of the Light at the Car Park. Please keep the Car Park free)

Easter Sunday 9th 9am, 11:30am Mass of the Resurrection NB: No Evening Mass

New Readers' requested for Sunday 6.30pm Masses: If you are interested and available, please drop your name and contact details before Maundy Thursday morning with any of the priest or at the parish office.

Parish Youth outing: Our the Altar Servers have worked hard since last Easter. We want to appreciate them as usual after Easter with fun outing. Please donate towards this cause. They will be available in the porch during the Easter Weekend Masses

100 Club April draw: The next draw is on Tuesday 11th April during the Tuesday Social Club meeting. New Members Welcome!

Christian Stewardship: 26th March 2023 Envelopes: £193.00 Loose: £426.20 Contactless: £142.58 Parish Project- (Help At Home - £3,313.39 so far - We also receive £500 weekly from standing orders. Thank you for your continuous support for our parish



Spiritans



Palm Sunday of The Passion of The Lord A 2nd April 2023

We welcome all to today's mass especially visitors who are celebrating with us for the first time. Please take this bulletin home with you for further reflection on this week's celebration and to follow the activities in the Parish during the week.

REFLECTIONS ON THE GOSPEL

What are we really doing when we join the procession of Palm Sunday as part of the crowd that went up with Jesus to Jerusalem and hailed him as King of Israel? To answer this question, we must first be clear about the mission of Jesus. After Peter's confession of faith where he rightly answered that Jesus is Christ, the Messiah, Jesus set out as a pilgrim towards Jerusalem for the feast of Passover - the memorial of Israel's liberation from Egypt and the sign of its hope of definitive liberation. He was journeying towards the Temple in the Holy City, towards that place which for Israel significantly ensured God's closeness to his people. He knew that what awaited him was a new Passover and that he nimself would take the place of the sacrificial lambs by offering himself on the cross thereby opening the door to a new path of liberation, to fellowship with the living God. The ultimate goal of his pilgrimage was therefore the heights of God himself and to those heights he wanted to lift every human being. Our procession today therefore reflects something deeper; that, together with Jesus, we are setting out on pilgrimage along the high road that leads to the living God. This is the journey which Jesus invites us to make. But how can we keep pace with a journey that is clearly beyond our ability? Men and women have always been filled with a desire to attain the heights of God by their own powers. All the inventions of the human spirit are ultimately an effort to gain wings so as to rise to the heights and to become independent, completely free, as God is free. Humans have managed to accomplish so many things: we can fly, we can see, hear and speak to one another from the farthest ends of the earth. And yet the force of gravity which pulls us down is powerful; our abilities have increased not only for good but also for evil. God himself must draw us up, and this is what Christ began to do on the cross. As we read in today's second reading, he humbled himself and descended to the depths of our human existence in order to draw us up to himself, to the living God. God's humility is the extreme form of his love, and this humble love draws us upwards. Psalm 24, which the Church proposes to accompany our procession in today's liturgy pointedly asks the question 'who can climb the mountain of the Lord?' It highlights some concrete elements which are part of our upward journey and without which we cannot be lifted upwards. These include; clean hands, a pure heart, the rejection of falsehood, the quest for God's face.

2nd—8th April 2023 Mass Times & Intentions Sat 1st Vigil 6:30pm: Ann Fitzgerald, John Fimm, Rose Kilmartin, Bill Kelly, John Jo O'Shea, Mary Clifford, Mary Brady (RIP), Sharon Gaudio (ANN) Sun 2nd Palm Sunday 9:00: Bernadette & Ignatius Chukelu, Anthony McDonagh (2nd), Inyang Nyong Inyang (ANN), Veronica Crowley (INT) 11:30am: Fr Aodh O'Haplin (1st), Agnes & Michael Heneghan (ANN), Maura O'Leary, May Fahey & family, Stella Anakor, Joe Shaugnessy (INT) 6:30pm: RCIA Group

Mon 3rd: Lawrence Chinegwundoh, Tony Ledwith (ANN), (ANN), Greta Kelly, Anne Marie & Pat Lydon (50th wed ding), Malcolm & Caiobhe Winskill, Fr Ray Armstrong (INT) Tue 4th 12noon: Chrism Mass @ Cathedral (NO MASS IN CHURCH) 7:00pm: Penitential Service Wed 5th 12:00: Gregory Chinegwundoh (ANN), Wendy Winser, Rita Rawlings, Paani Dias, Lynne & David Haslam Thu 6th Maundy Thursday 7:00pm: Mass of the Lord's Supper Fri 7th Good Friday 3:00pm: Celebration of the Lord's Passion Sat 8th 7.00pm Easter Vigil



Rebecca Campbell, Ella Humphreys, Rita Avanzi, Nancy Olaiya, Jarlet Fallon, Nora Hoare, Ann Larkin, Mary Wallace, Christopher Jerome, John Bruno, Mary Slow, Isabella King, Derek Gomes, Mary Burton, Frank Gibbons, Maria Kuozwatski, Philip Mayne, Bridget Munnelly, Brian Coleman, Shiela Farrell, Tina Okelue, Mary Theresa Madigan, Christopher Nelson, Paddy Essang, Padra Williams, Phillip Duggase, Terry Earley, Elizabeth Earley, Mary Mullarkey, Mary O'Connell, Bernadette Ikwuka, Margaret Togher, Geraldine McKeaney, Mary Dunne, Lina Piroli, Christy & Maria Christopher, Lourdes Sisneros, Angela Fairbank, Emmanuel & Magdalene Debonne, Douglas Meyers, Sylvia Traynor, Danielle, Lilian Montague Frances Quinn, Tony Colbert, Kathleen Panayiotou, Maureen Walsh, Gabby Mehmet, Freda Glackin, Maureen Currie, Joan McGonigal, Emo Paddy Essang, Madeleine Hourihan, Stella Anakor, Jacinta, Mari Therese Tourette, Mary Gallagher, Gloria Munian, Brian Robinson, Teresa O'Dea

Parish is served by the Holy Ghost Fathers (Spiritans) Congregation of the Holy Spirit Parish Priests: Fr. Moses Enchizena CSSp, Fr. Martin Goba CSSp, Fr. Oliver Ugwu CSSp , Seminarian Raphael Muendo Parish Office Team: Patricia Essien-Oku, Maureen Tayler, Mary Aherne, Joan FitzGerald Office Hours: Mon, Wed, Fri. -(9am - 3pm). Tue, Thur. - (9am-1pm) Contact: 15 St. John's Villas, Archway, London N19 3EE. Tel: 020 7272 8195, M: 07533726467 (TEXT ONLY) Email: archway@rcdow.org.uk_Web: parish.rcdow.org.uk/archway (Reg. Charity No.233699) Pastorals/Devotions: Confessions Sat 11am, 6pm, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament/Meditative Rosary: Sun. 10.30am Healing Mass/Holy Hour/Benediction: First Fridays (New time) 12noon Legion of Mary: First Wed. 6.30pm Monday Prayer Group: 1st & 3rd Mon. 6.30pm Mission Statement: To animate a loving multicultural Christian community

Who can climb the mountain of the Lord?

Gentle reminders: Please turn off your mobile phones. You have the right to remain silent ...

TODAY'S READINGS

GOSPEL (Matthew 21:1-11)

When they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saving to them, "Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find an ass tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If any one says anything to you, you shall say, "The Lord has need of them," and he will send them immediately. This took place to fulfil what was spoken by the prophet, saying "Tell the daughter of Sion, Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on an ass, and on a colt, the foal of an ass.' The disciple went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the ass and the colt, and put their garments on them, and he sat thereon. Most of the crowd spread their garments on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. And the crowds that went before him O Lord, do not leave me alone, and that followed him shouted, 'Hossana to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hossanna in the highest!' And when he entered Jerusalem all the city was stirred, saying, 'Who is this?' And the crowd said, 'This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth of Galilee.'

The Gospel of the Lord

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Six days before the solemn Passover, when the Lord came into the city of Jerusalem, the children ran to meet him; in their hands they carried palm branches and with a loud voice cried out: "Hosanna in the highest! Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy! O gates, lift high your heads; grow higher, ancient doors. Let him enter, the king of glory! Who is this king of glory? He, the Lord of hosts, he is the king of glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy!"

OPENING PRAYER

Almighty, ever-living God, who as an example of humility for the human race to follow, caused our Saviour to take flesh and submit to the Cross, graciously grant that we may heed his lesson of patient suffering and so merit a share in his Resurrection. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

FIRST READING Isaiah 50:4-7

The Lord has given me a disciple's tongue. So that I may know how to reply to the wearied he provides me with speech. Each morning he wakes me to hear, to listen like a disciple. The Lord has opened my ear. For my part, I made no resistance. neither did I turn away. I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle. The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults. So, too, I set my face like flint: I know I shall not be shamed.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 21) My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? R. All who see me deride me. They curl their lips, they toss their heads. "He trusted in the Lord, let him save him; R. Let him release him if this is his friend." Many dogs have surrounded me, a band of the wicked beset me. They tear holes in my hands and my feet I can count every one of my bones. R. They divide my clothing among them. They cast lots for my robe. R. my strength, make haste to help me! I will tell of your name to my brethren and praise you where they are assembled. "You who fear the Lord give him praise; all sons of Jacob give him glory. Revere him, Israel's sons." R.

SECOND READING Philippians 2:6-11

His state was divine, yet Christ Jesus did not cling to his equality with God, but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are; and being as all men are, he was humbler vet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory! Christ was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all names.

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

The passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (26:14-27:66)

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Through the Passion of your Only Begotten Son, O Lord, may our reconciliation with you be near at hand, so that, though, we do not merit it by our own deeds, yet by this sacrifice made once for all, we may feel already the effects of your mercy. Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Father, if this chalice cannot pass without my drinking it, your will be done.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Nourished with these sacred gifts, we humbly beseech you, O Lord, that, just as through the death of your Son you have brought us to hope for what we believe, so by his Resurrection you may lead us to where you call. Through Christ our Lord.

Gospel Matthew 26:14-27:66

N = narrator, R = second reader, P = priest, C = congregation/crowd) N. One of the Twelve; the man called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, R. "What are you prepared to give me if I hand him over to you?" N. They paid him thirty silver pieces and from the moment he looked for an opportunity to betray him. Now on the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus to say, C. "Where do you want us to make the preparation for you to eat the Passover?" N. He replied, P. "Go to so and so in the city and say to him, "The Master says; My time is near. It is at your house that I am keeping Passover with my disciples." N. The disciples did what Jesus told them and prepared the Passover. When the evening came he was at table with the twelve disciples. And while they were eating he said; P. "I tell you solemnly, one of you is about to betray me." N. They were greatly distressed and started asking him in turn, R. "Not I, Lord, surely?" N. He answered, P. "Someone who has dipped his hand into the dish with me will betray me. The Son of Man is going to his fate, as the scripture say he will, but alas for that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! Better for that man if he had never been born!" N. Judas, who was to betray him, asked in his turn, R. "Not I, Rabbi surely?" N. Jesus answered. P. "They are your own words." N. Now as they were eating, Jesus took some bread, and when he had said the blessing he broke it and gave it to the disciples and said, P. "Take it and eat; this is my body." N. Then he took a cup, and when he had returned thanks he gave it to them saying, P. "Drink all of you from this, for this is my blood, the blood of the covenant, which is to be poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. From now on, I tell you, I shall not drink wine until the day I drink the new wine with you in the kingdom of my Father." N. After psalms had been sung they left for the Mount of Olives. Then Jesus said to them, P. "You will all lose faith in me this night, for the scripture says: I shall strike the shepherd and the sheep of the flock will be scattered. But after my resurrection I shall go before you to Galilee." N. At this, Peter said, R. "Though all lose faith in you, I will never lose faith." N. Jesus answered him, P. "I tell you solemnly, this very night, before the cock crows, you will have disowned me three times." N. Peter said to him, R. "Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you." N. And all the disciples said the same. N. Then Jesus came with them to a small estate, called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, P. "Stay here while I go over there to pray." N. He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee with him. And sadness came over him, and great distress. Then he said to them, P. "My soul is sorrowful to the point of death; Wait here and keep awake with me." N. And going on a little further he fell on his face and prayed, P. "My Father, if it is possible let this cup pass me by. Nevertheless, let it be as you, not I, would have it." N. He came back to the disciples and found them sleeping and he said to Peter, P. "So you had not the strength to keep awake with me one hour? You should be awake, and praying not to be put to the test. The Spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak." N. Again, a second time, he went away and prayed: P. "My Father, if this cup cannot pass by without my drinking it, your will be done!" N. And he came again back and found them sleeping, their eyes were so heavy. Leaving them there, he went away again and praved for the third time, and said to them. P. "You can sleep on now and take your rest. Now the hour has come when the Son of Man is to be betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up! Let us go! My betrayer is already close at hand." N. He was still speaking when Judas, one of the Twelve appeared, and with him a large number of men armed with swords and clubs sent by the chief priests and elders of the people. Now the traitor had arranged a sign with them. He had said, R. "The one I kiss, he is the man. Take him in charge," N. So he went straight up to Jesus and said, R. "Greetings, Rabbi," N. and kissed him. Jesus said to him, P. "My friend, do what you are here for." N. Then they came forward, seized Jesus and took him in charge. At that, one of the followers of Jesus grasped his sword and drew it; he struck out at the high priest's servant, and cut off his ear. Jesus then said, P. "Put your sword back, for all who draw the sword will die by the sword. Or do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father who would promptly send more than twelve legions of angels to my defence? But then, how would the scriptures be fulfilled that say this is the way it must be?" N. It was at this time that Jesus said to the crowds, P. "Am I a brigand that you had to set out to capture me with swords and clubs? I sat teaching in the Temple day after day and you never laid hands on me." N. Now all this happened to fulfil the prophecies in scripture. Then all the disciples deserted him and ran away. The men who had arrested Jesus led him off to Caiaphas, the high priest, where the scribes and the elders were assembled. Peter followed him at a distance, and when he reached the high priest's palace, he went in and sat down with the attendants to see what the end would be. The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for evidence against Jesus, however false, on which they might pass the death sentence. But they could not find any, though several lying witnesses came forward. Eventually two stepped forward and made a statement, C. "This man said, "I have power to destroy the Temple of God and in three days build it up." N. The high priests then stood up and said to him, R. "Have you no answer to that? What is this evidence these men are bringing against you?" N. But Jesus was silent. And the high priest said to him, R. "I put you on oath by the living God to tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God." N. Jesus answered, P. "The words are your own, Moreover, I tell you that from this time onward you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power and coming on the clouds of heaven." N. At this, the high priest tore his clothes and said, R. "He has blasphemed. What need of witnesses have we now? There! You have just heard the blasphemy. What is your opinion?" N. They answered, C. "He deserves to die." N. Then they spat in his face and hit him with their fists; others said as they struck him, C. "Play the prophet, Christ! Who hit you then?" N. Meanwhile Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard and a servant-girl came up to him and said, R. "You too were with Jesus the Galilean." N. But he denied it in front of them all saying, R. "I do not know what you are talking about." N. When he went out to the gateway another servant-girl saw him and said to the people there, R. "This man was with Jesus the Nazarene." N. And again, with an oath, he denied it, R. "I do not know the man." N. A little later the bystanders came up and said to Peter, C. "You are one of them for sure! Why, your accent gives you away." N. Then he started calling down curses on himself and swearing, R. "I do not know the man." N. At that moment the cock crew and Peter remembered what Jesus had said, "Before the cock crows you will have disowned me three times." And he went outside and wept bitterly. When morning came, all the chief priests and elders of the people met in council to bring about the death of Jesus. They had him bound, and led him away to hand him over to Pilate, the governor. When he found that Jesus had been condemned, Judas his betrayer was filled with remorse and took thirty pieces of silver back to the chief priests and elders saying, R. "I have sinned. I have betrayed innocent blood." N. They replied, C. "What is that to us? That is your concern." N. And flinging down the silver pieces in the sanctuary he made off, and went and hanged himself. The chief priests packed up the silver pieces and said, C. "It is against the Law to put this into the treasury; it is blood money." N. So they discussed the matter and bought the potter's field with it as a graveyard for foreigners, and that is why the field is called the Field of Blood today. The words of the prophet Jeremiah were then fulfilled: And they took the thirty silver pieces, the sum at which the precious One was priced by children of Israel, and they gave them for the potter's field, just as the Lord directed me. Jesus then was brought before the governor, and the governor put to him this question, R. "Are you the king of the Jews?" N. Jesus replied, P. "It is you who say it." N. But when he was accused by the chief priests and the elders

he refused to answer at all. Pilate then said to him, R. "Do you not hear how many charges they have brought against you?" N. But to