



Parish Newsletter Palm Sunday of The Passion of the Lord Year A

Mass Intention 28th March – 5th April 2026

Our Lady of Fatima (OLF)

St Thomas More (STM)

Saturday	9.00am 6.00pm	Samantha Lee (SI) Michael Evans (8 th Ann., RIP)		
Sunday Polish	10.30am 12.15pm	Nana, Oswald & Naana Donkor (SI) Teresa Furmanek (70th Birthday, SI) and Amelia Górczyńska (SI, for healing)	8.30am	People of the Parish
Monday	9.00am	Peter Sheils (SI) Jocelyn Lawrence (RIP)		
Tuesday	9.00am	Henry Kelly (RIP) Mavis Lawrence (RIP)		
Wednesday	9.00am 7-8 pm	Barbara & Allen Upton (RIP) Sick & their carers Adoration of The Blessed Sacrament		
Maundy Thursday	7.30pm	Priests Intention		
Good Friday	3.00pm 7.30pm	The Passion of The Lord The Stations of the cross		
Holy Saturday	8.00pm	Tom & Mary Reynolds (RIP) People of the Parish		
Easter Sunday Polish	10.30am 12.15pm	Francis Adu Donkor (Ann., RIP) Adam Grzankowski (2 nd Ann., RIP)	8.30am	Thomas Medlin (SI)

Introduction:



- (1) All four Gospels tell of the life of Christ differently. But in telling the story of the Passion, they are virtually identical.
- (2) Passion story - first item in story-telling tradition of early Church before written narrative.
- (3) Story of the Cross biggest problem for early Christians - "Jews want signs; Greeks wisdom; for Jews a hurdle, for Greeks foolishness" (1 Cor.1:22-23)
- (4) Heavy emphasis upon discipleship - privileged group; constant companions; authority to cast out demons and to preach.
- (5) Not models - many failures; jealous; did not understand; wanted to call down fire and brimstone on those who did not agree.

(6) Passion story highlights these failures - 1 betrays; 3 go to sleep; 1 denies; and all flee; only one returned to be by the cross; a stranger attended to Christ's burial; and it was the loyal band of women who remained closest and were the eventual messengers to the Apostles that Christ had risen.

Conclusion: The Passion story reveals the disciples for what they were, and it contains a powerful message on the essence of discipleship. Hopefully, the liturgical services of this coming week may help us to evaluate our discipleship - betrayal, denial, asleep or on the run?

Missionaries of Our Lady of La Salette:

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HALLS BOOKING

Our Lady of Fatima Hall olfharlow@gmail.com 07425633193
St Thomas More Hall cruzblessen@gmail.com 07399846607

PARISH LENTEN SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION – OLF CHURCH 29th March at 5.00pm

If you haven't been to Confession in a while, the Catholic Church wants to welcome you back and invites you to participate in this beautiful sacrament of healing. Take a step in faith. You'll be surprised about how free you feel after taking part in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

CHURCH CLEANING: OLF Church 31st March at 11.00am all Volunteers & Parents Communion Groups.

RCIA: The next meeting is on Tuesday 31st March at 6pm in the Presbytery.

SECOND COLLECTION this weekend and next will be for **Easter flowers & Easter eggs for children.**

Thank you for any contribution.

EASTER COLLECTION is an opportunity in every Catholic Church in United Kingdom for parishioners to make an Easter Offering to the priests. Thank you for your generosity.

Gift Aid Donations: Please return your completed forms to Hugh, Kay or to the Presbytery. Envelopes for the new financial year will be available soon.

OLF & STM Social & Fund-raising Team Please see Clara (STM) or Kay (OLF) to register your interest in joining a team for the **International 5 aside men's football tournament** on Sunday 7th June from 1.30pm to 4.30pm. After the main tournament, we will be holding a children's competition. Further details about the event will be available in the next few weeks.

HOLY WEEK

The week between Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday, Holy Week, is the most sacred time of year. During this special time, we enter into the passion of Christ — his Crucifixion, death and Resurrection — through liturgical celebration and personal conversion. While the season of Lent is a very important time in the Church, it is helpful to remember that our Lenten practices (prayer, fasting and almsgiving) are meant as preparation for the three days of the Triduum.

The three days of **the Triduum** are counted as the Hebrews counted their days, from dusk to dusk. Lent officially ends and the Triduum begins at dusk on Holy Thursday and continues through dusk on Easter Sunday. Because we cannot separate Jesus' death from his resurrection, the Church teaches that the Triduum is really one celebration that lasts for three days. We do not spend all of the three days in church, of course, but at various times during these days we are called to gather together at church to celebrate and remember the saving action of Christ.

Holy Saturday Our Lady of Fatima Church - Blessing of Food (Święcenie pokarmów) 11.00 am and 2.00 pm

Pray for the sick: Josie Cronin, Keith Harris, Pam Barnard, Ivan Pirnak, J.C. Nkosa, Teresa Lamb, Noreen Wright, Grace Fisher, Kathleen Evans, Fr Bernard Grogan, Angela Walsh, Jeremy Collins, Peter Kelly, Mary Kelly, Pam Matthews, Władysław Borecki, Ewa Samborska, Peter Ryan, Adele Ryan, Nial Briody, Maria Lunnon, Fabian Andrade, Eileen Rowan, John Brickley, Helen Doherty, Philip Ketedzi, Caroline Berry, Anna Sweeney, Stanislaw Kostecki, Carmel Delaney, Donnah Dris, Conrado Shea, Ryan Tomlin, Mat Quinlan, Krystyna, Josie Cronin, Mary Quinlan, Anna Borsuk, Ruby Antony, Eileen Jolly, Anna Slota, Monica, John O'Donnell and their children, Neil, Anna Gawlik, Eileen, Kathleen Kidney, Andrew Sinclair, Pauline, Alica and Rodney Bill, Valda, sick parishioners from Ashlyn, Alexandra and Abbot Care Home.

Please pray for the repose of the souls: Maria Kunicka, Margaret Sackett, Frederick Pipkin, Gwendoline Middlecoat, Mgr David Manson, Ks. Józef Mituś, Fr Władysław Wichniarz MS, Joseph Dawood Thomas, Patricia Delahunt, Mary Patterson, May Aitken, Thomas Mulligan, Romualda Ratajczyk, Bp Thomas McMahon, Frank Taliana, Maria Cooper, Alice (Dow) Inch, Nick Cronin, Tony Poole, Mathew Joseph, Helen Noyo Owie, Br Wojciech Durlak MS, Fr Augustyn Hamielec MS, Giona Nkunim Botchway-Adjei, Christopher Keenan, Denis Grogan, Kathleen Thompson, Fr Andrzej Kuder MS, Hayley Wright, Mary Sage, Patricia Carter, Radosław Iwańczyk, Billy Lomasney, Kenneth Samuels, Terry Farrington, Kevin McGrath, Julie Bush, Janina Zdrojewska, Zbigniew Piątek, Józef Chapski, Peter Mwangi Gekonyo, Joby Joy, PJ Thomas, Eveline Falzon, Dolores Lawless, John Cywinski, Maria Cristina Galagala, Thomas Nelson, Paul Gaize, Bridget Minihane, Barbara Vernem and all those whose anniversaries occur this month.

Our sympathy and prayers to Lilianna Huggins on the death of her father and Marion Rolland on the death of her mother Jenny DeSousa. May their souls rest in peace.

Holy Week



SAINT THOMAS MORE RC CHURCH
HODINGS ROAD, HARLOW, CM20 1TN

Palm Sunday - 29.03.2026

8.30 am Mass

Easter Sunday - 05.04.2026

8.30 am Mass

Holy Week



OUR LADY OF FATIMA RC CHURCH
HOWARD WAY, HARLOW, CM20 2NS

Palm Sunday

6.00 pm Saturday Evening Mass

10.30 am Sunday Mass

12.15 am Polish Mass

5.00 pm Reconciliation Service

The Sacred Triduum

Maundy Thursday - 02.04.2026

7.30 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday - 03.04.2026

3.00 pm The Passion of Our Lord

7.30 pm Stations of the Cross

Easter Vigil - 04.04.2026

11.00 am and 2.00 pm Blessing of Food

8.00 pm 1st Mass of the Resurrection

Easter Sunday - 05.04.2026

10.30 am Mass

12.15 pm Polish Mass



Holy week

Holy Week is the most important week in Catholicism. This week of great reverence and reflection spans the final eight days of Jesus' life—from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday. It is astounding how much wisdom, insight and inspiration are available to us during this one week. Here is just a sample of what happens during Holy Week:

Palm Sunday, Jesus triumphantly enters Jerusalem

Monday of Holy Week, Jesus clears out the temple with a whip

Tuesday of Holy Week, Jesus is anointed with oil at Bethany and preaches on the Mount of Olives

Wednesday, Jesus is betrayed by Judas

THE EASTER TRIDUUM

The term Triduum means “three days.” The three days are counted as the Hebrews counted their days, from dusk to dusk. Therefore, the three days of the Easter Triduum are from dusk on Holy Thursday to dusk on Good Friday (day one), dusk on Good Friday to dusk on Holy Saturday (day two) and dusk on Holy Saturday to dusk on Easter Sunday (day three). Each of those days tells a different part of the story of Jesus' saving action. On

Holy Thursday we remember the Last Supper. Jesus with the words: "this is my Body", "this is my Blood" institutes the sacrament of the Eucharist. Then He tells us “Do this in memory of me.” That is why Jesus institutes the sacrament of Priesthood. His love was expressed at the Last Supper, when Jesus washed the feet of the apostles.

On **Good Friday** we remember the passion and death of Jesus. At the heart of the liturgy of Good Friday is the adoration of the cross. Veneration of the cross is a special profession of our faith. There is no Mass on this day. The tabernacle is open. Christ is not in it.

We remember the resurrection of Christ either at the **Easter Vigil** on Saturday night, when new members are baptised and welcomed into our Catholic community or on Easter Sunday morning. Many signs lead us to the encounter with the Risen Christ in the Saturday liturgy. Three signs draw our attention. They are light, water and word.

We look at the Easter Triduum as one single celebration that lasts for three days. We cannot separate the death of Jesus from his resurrection. We do not spend all the three days in church, but at various times during those days, we are called to church to gather and remember together. When we are not in church, we are asked to keep the spirit of those days even in our homes, if possible. Those days are not days of “business as usual.”

