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**LITURGY**

**First reading:** Isaiah 50:4-7

**Response to the Psalm:** My God, my God, why have you forsaken me.

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

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

**Gospel:** Mark 15:1-39

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Dear Parishioners

. We experience a royal entry, but how seriously can we take it? If the is the opening event in a popular uprising, if Jesus is asking to be seen as the Messiah who come to liberate his city through conquest, no wonder it fails so soon! There is both a contrast and a continuity between Jesus carried into Jerusalem and Jesus carrying his cross on the *Via Dolorosa*. He will reign from the cross, where his triumph over evil, sin, and death will eventually be seen for what it is in the dawn of the resurrection. It is not for nothing that the Church stretches our patience by reading two Gospels on Palm Sunday ---- the triumphal entry *and* the Passion. So we prepare ourselves to see the true glory of the suffering servant. That's the victory Christ heads towards.

Saint Mark seeks to expose what is fickle in our hero worship, our misplaced hope for an easy victory. It is too easy to hide from ourselves both the sufferings engineered by power politics and the sufferings of Christian discipleship. We gloss over evils we are ready to inflict; we flinch from evils we are unwilling to endure. The proclamation of the Gospel is not the simple, once-and-for-all delivery of a message. It is a repeated education of our fantasies, a continual training in the way of the cross. What we hear has to be made our own, so that we are freed from the belief in a military Messiah.

Although the Gospel Passion has an evil crowd, we must read the Passion story to find out that God sent his only Son to die for everyone's sins; yes, and even for the sins of the crowd that put him to death. And we will be assured of this when we come back for Easter Mass next weekend to celebrate Jesus' resurrection from the dead.

God Bless,
Fr. Benedict OSB

St Mary's Roman Catholic Church

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Registered Charity Number 1063237

This parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham and served by the Benedictine Monks of Douai Abbey

Parish Priest: Fr. Benedict Thompson O.S.B

Rev. Deacon Peter Griffiths



Palm Sunday (Year B)

Week commencing Sunday 24th March 2024

Parish Safeguarding: Mrs. Helen Woodhouse

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocese policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Helen Woodhouse. She can be contacted at: sg.stmarys.studley@rcaob.org.uk or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/ safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concern

Masses

Sat 23 rd March	5.00pm	Palm Sunday	Bernard Bird RIP
Sun 24 th March	10.30am	Palm Sunday	Kathleen O'Brien RIP
Mon 25 th March			
Tues 26 th March			
Wed 27 th March			
Thurs 28 th March	7.00pm	Maundy Thursday	Garry Fisher
Fri 29 th March	3.00pm	Good Friday	
Sat 30 th March		No Mass	Vigil at Mount Carmel (Redditch)
Sun 31 st March	10.30am	Easter Sunday	People of the Parish

Mass is celebrated privately daily except on Monday.

If you would like a mass offered for a particular intention, please email the parish or put a note through the door of the presbytery, *please do not place it in the collection bag*. Thank you.

Those Who Have Asked for Prayers:

Derek Sollis, Dolores Flynn, Fred Chadfield, Alan Clatworthy, Chanel Mullings, Clive Rickhards,, Jill Spurrell, Stan Phipps, Judith Baylis, Jackie Gannon, Mick Sollis, Tim Harrison

Those who have recently died:

Doleen Evans, Jean Monica Tucker, Fr. John Fallon, Judy Husband, Graham Janes, Elizabeth Watton, Maurice Andrews, Max Stoddart, Tony Lyons, Michael Russell, Mary Cross, Agnes McIlravey, Helen McCarthy, Patricia O'Brien, Pauline Burton, Mary Judith Smith (nee Hewitt), Wyn Varley, Raimondo Gemeli, Anthony Woodhouse, Barbara Woodhouse, Kathleen McLoughlin, Peter McGoldrick, Anthony Roache, Lionel Quigley, Keith John Francis Cotterell, Anna Rose McGoldrick, Mary Baker, Georgette Cowell, Anthony Mathew, John Knox and all those we have been asked to pray for.

INFORMATION

Sunday Coffee

Do please come and join us after Mass near the end of each month. **The next coffee morning will be on Sunday 31st March (Easter Sunday)**. Please come and enjoy a coffee, cake and a chat.

Coffee Rota

We hope to continue coffee mornings and sales once a month but need volunteers so that this can happen. **The rota sheet for 2024 is at the back of the church for you to sign if you can help.** We will also need new gift sets and other saleable items so please put aside any unwanted gifts you receive at Christmas. We are always happy to receive contemporary paperback fiction that is in good condition. We are unable to accept general bric-a-brac.

Second Collection

The weekly second collection will normally be for help towards the payment of the diocesan levy and the upkeep of the house and church buildings. Both the church and the house are Grade II listed so any work done has to be to a high standard as set by the requisite authority.

Missio

The 'Red Box' has been around for over 100 years. Whether you still have one at home, or remember having one growing up, we would love to hear from you as we plan for the future. Would you be happy to speak with us? If so, please complete a short form to show your interest and to find out more at: missio.org.uk/research or scan the QR code. If you cannot access the form online you can call 020 7821 9755. Thank you!

Please could you bring in your red boxes asap and leave them on the front bench of the church after Mass. Thank you.