**Holy Week and Easter Services**

**Sunday 25th March – Palm Sunday**

**9.30 a.m. Sung Mass with blessing of the palms**

*We gather in the Hall for the Liturgy of the Palms as we recall the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. We process into the Church and during the service we hear the Passion Reading as we enter into Holy Week.*

**Monday 26th March – Wednesday 28th March**

**7.00 p.m. Stations of the Cross and Said Mass**

*A meditation on the Stations of the Cross followed by a Said Mass as we journey through Holy Week.*

**Thursday 29th March – Maundy Thursday**

**8.00 p.m. Liturgy of Maundy Thursday, with Foot Washing and Watch to Midnight.**

*We recall the Last Supper and the washing of the disciples’ feet by Jesus. As the service ends, the Sanctuary is stripped.*

*We watch until midnight in the Sacrament Chapel as we sit in silence remembering Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane before we scatter as the disciples did.*

**Friday 30th March – Good Friday**

**2.00 p.m. The Liturgy of Good Friday**

*We gather to remember Jesus’ death on the cross. Within the service we venerate the cross. We depart in silence.*

*The service is followed by hot cross buns in the Hall.*

**Saturday 31st March – Easter Eve**

**8.00 p.m. Easter Vigil Service at St. John’s**

*We celebrate the first Mass of Easter*

**Sunday 1st April – Easter Sunday**

**9.30 a.m. Sung Mass and renewal of baptismal promises.**

*We gather to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus, and renew our baptismal promises.*

**Sunday 20th May – Pentecost Sunday**

**9.30 a.m. Sung Mass**

*We celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the Church.*

Supper” - and we recall Christ’s loving obedience through the agony of Gethsemane. Our service ends with the stripping of the Sanctuary as we recall the desolation of the Garden and we sit in the Sacrament Chapel until midnight, watching with Jesus until we scatter into the night.

**Good Friday**

We gather at the foot of the Cross as we remember Jesus’ crucifixion and ponder on his outpouring of love for each one of us. During the service there is an opportunity to venerate the Cross and we depart in silence, within which there is a sense of peace and completion.

**Easter Eve (Saturday) – *Service at St. John’s***

The Easter Vigil marks the end of the emptiness of Holy Saturday and leads into the celebration of Christ’s resurrection. The service is rich in imagery as the Easter fire is lit to light the Paschal candle that is brought into a dark Church, the readings recall the delivery of God’s people from slavery and the history of our salvation in the Scriptures is heard in the light of the Easter mystery. The first Mass of Easter follows the Vigil.

**Easter Sunday**

We gather to celebrate the resurrection of Christ and all the resources of the Church – music, bells, flowers, colours – are used. As part of the service we renew our baptismal promises and, where possible, baptise as a public declaration of our union with Christ in his death and resurrection.

**Ascension Day and Pentecost Sunday**

As the Easter season continues, two services mark pivotal points in the Christian year. Ascension Day remembers Christ ascending back to his Father 40 days after his Resurrection and Pentecost celebrates the gift of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the Church.

***Fr. Stuart***

**Holy Week and Easter at St. Barnabas**

Holy Week and Easter marks the annual memorial of the death and the resurrection of Christ.

Through the participation in the whole sequence of services, the Christian shares in Christ’s own journey, from the triumphal entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday on to the empty tomb on Easter morning.

To really experience the joy of Easter morning and the resurrection we need to experience the darkness and despair of the cross and identify with the disciples and those who stood at the foot of the cross as Jesus fulfilled his mission.

Here at St. Barnabas, and across the Team, we have a number of services, each with their own distinct theme and liturgy to enable each of us to journey with our Lord through his Passion and Resurrection – do try and make these services a priority during this Holy Week.

**Palm Sunday**

We re-enact the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem, beginning in the Hall and walking along Downham Way and into the Church, with cries of Hosanna and waving our palm crosses. During the service we hear the Passion Narrative, in which the whole story of the week is anticipated.

**Monday – Wednesday of Holy Week**

Each evening we gather to walk the Stations of the Cross as we reflect on Jesus’ journey through the streets of Jerusalem carrying his cross to Calvary. A quiet Said Mass follows the Stations.

**Maundy Thursday**

Maundy – from *mandatum,* “commandment” – A service with many rich themes as we remember the servanthood of Christ in the washing of the disciples’ feet, the institution of the Eucharist – “The Last

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