**Holy Week and Easter Services**

*The following services are planned as part of Holy Week and Easter*

**Sunday 24th March – Palm Sunday**

**9.30 a.m. Sung Mass with Blessing of the Palms**

*We recall the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem and during the service we hear the Passion Reading as we enter into Holy Week.*

**Monday 25th March – Wednesday 27th 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 28th March – Maundy Thursday**

**8.00 p.m. Liturgy of Maundy Thursday 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 29th 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.*

**Sunday 31st March – 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.*

**Thursday 9th May – Ascension Day**

**Deanery Service at St. Mildred’s, Lee. Details to follow.**

*We gather to remember the ascension of our Lord back to his Father.*

**Sunday 19th May – Pentecost Sunday**

**9.30 a.m. Sung Mass**

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

**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

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 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 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.

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**Palm Sunday**

We remember the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. 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.

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Due to the current restrictions, some of the services will vary from their usual format.

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