

TIMES	MEMORIAL OR FEAST	INTENTIONS
SAT	5.30pm Vigil Mass: Palm Sunday	
SUN	10.30am Mass: Palm Sunday	
Holy Week	See inside for details	
SAT	8.00pm Easter Vigil	
SUN	10.30am Mass: Easter Day	



**ST. THOMAS R.C. CHURCH, KEITH**  
**DIOCESAN SHRINE OF THE BIRTHPLACE OF ST JOHN OGILVIE**



**29<sup>th</sup> March 2026**  
**Palm Sunday (A II) Psalter Week 2**

**THE ANNOUNCER!**

The liturgy today begins Holy Week, the most sacred time in the Church's life. It brings us two moments of Jesus' life that are in sharp contrast: His triumphant entry into Jerusalem and His Passion and death. We begin with joy, waving palms and proclaiming "Hosanna!", but we quickly move into the reality of suffering, betrayal, and the Cross.

In the first reading from Isaiah, he prophesied about the Suffering Servant, who remained faithful even in the face of rejection and suffering. He allowed his tormentors to beat him. Despite the injustice and humiliation, the servant didn't turn away because he trusted in God's help. This prophecy is fulfilled in Jesus, who suffered for us with unwavering obedience to the Father.

The second reading from St. Paul's Letter to the Philippians revealed the meaning of Christ's Passion. Jesus, though divine, emptied himself, taking the form of a servant. He humbled himself, becoming obedient even to death on a cross. However, this humility led to His exaltation above all.

In the Passion according to Matthew, we are immersed in the full story of Christ's suffering: betrayal by Judas, denial by Peter, abandonment by his disciples, unjust condemnation, physical torment, and finally death on the cross. Yet through it all, Jesus didn't respond with hatred or revenge, but with silence, forgiveness, and love.

The contrast in today's celebration: from cheering to jeering, from triumphal celebration to the ignominious crucifixion, is not accidental. It reflects the unpredictable and fragile nature of human hearts. The same crowd that welcomed Jesus with praise soon shouted, "Crucify him!" It is a sobering reminder of how quickly enthusiasm can fade, loyalty can be shaken, and how we, too, can be inconsistent in our faith.

Jesus does not save the world through force, but through sacrificial love. He has taught us that there is glory in humility, and life comes through self-giving love. He is consistent in loving us. Let us follow and walk with Christ in love, even when the path leads through difficulty. In Christ, the Cross has become a symbol of love that triumphs over sin and death. Let us be filled with hope because it will all end in victory, like Christ's victory of Easter.

*Fr. Kingsley*

**Last week**      Collection: £330.80    Att: 65

MINISTRIES	29/3/2026	5/4/2026
Church Cleaning	-	T & P Brennan
Counters	Smith	Reid
Welcome	Collins/James	Cruickshank/Coull
Hall keeper	R Hendry	M Collins
Sat Reader	K Schouwenaars-Harms	<b>4 required</b>
Sat EMoHC	R Hendry	R Hendry, M Collins
Sun Reader	A Mitchell, J Munro	M Le Mero, E Reid
	Passion voices E Danby	
Sun EMoHC	C Moir, M Moir	L Le Mero, I Grant
Flowers	None	E Donaldson, W Davidson
Teas	Carol & Graeme	Brenda & Mike

**Useful contacts:**

Parish Priest:	Fr Kingsley Chigbo	01542 780208
	email	cilk@rcda.scot
Assistant priest:	Fr Peter Ezekoka	01542 780208
	email	poe@rcda.scot
Permanent Deacon:	Dcn Graeme Morrison	07387008498
	email	deacon.graeme@rcda.scot
PPC Chair:	Dcn Graeme Morrison	07387008498
Parish Safeguarding Co-ord:	Elizabeth Danby	<a href="mailto:stthomasPSC@rcd-abdn.org">stthomasPSC@rcd-abdn.org</a>
Health & Safety:	Keith Gray	01542 886242
Newsletter:	Margaret Farrell	01542 882116
	or	<a href="mailto:mcfarrell@btinternet.com">mcfarrell@btinternet.com</a>
Hospital Chaplains:	Elgin	Dcn Graeme Morrison
	Aberdeen	Fr Emmet O'Dowd
		01224 482657
		or
		ARI@rcda.scot
Facebook: St Thomas' RC Church, Keith	YouTube: St Margaret's RC Church, Huntly	
Email: <a href="mailto:chapelstthomas@yahoo.co.uk">chapelstthomas@yahoo.co.uk</a>	Website: <a href="http://www.stthomaskeith.com">www.stthomaskeith.com</a>	

## Statement from the Bishops' Conference of Scotland

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Following a request from the Holy See, the Bishops of Scotland have been invited to reflect on how the structures of the Church in our country can best serve her mission in the years ahead, specifically whether the present situation of eight dioceses is suitable.

We are all aware of the challenges before us — fewer clergy, changing patterns of practice, and increasing pressures on our diocesan resources, among other things. Yet our mission remains unchanged: to proclaim the Gospel and to lead our people to Christ.

Two possible pathways are being proposed for careful discernment: developing deeper cooperation and the sharing of resources across dioceses within our present structures, or the merging of some dioceses.

In order to best inform ourselves and the Holy See, each bishop will engage with his diocese over the coming months for the first part of this process. Everyone will be given the opportunity to pray, reflect, and contribute.

Following-on from the presentation of a discussion paper, responses from each diocese will contribute to the initial findings which will be given to the Holy See in the Autumn.

This is not simply an administrative exercise. It is a pastoral and missionary response to our changing landscape. This process will ensure our Church in Scotland will continue to grow ever more missionary, more Christ-centred, and more collaborative in the service of God's people.

Entrusting this work to the guidance of the Holy Spirit and to the intercession of Our Lady, we move forward together with confidence and renewed hope.

**Welcome:** to all our visitors, feel free to look around our beautiful church, particularly the St John Ogilvie Chapel & Exhibition.

**Holy Week Services:** Thursday Mass of the Last Supper 8pm; Friday Celebration of the Passion 6pm; Saturday Easter Vigil 8pm. Other devotions as detailed on the poster and in Diary Dates.

**Holy Week Ecumenical Services** will be in St Thomas's on Monday 30th, Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March and Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April at 7.30pm

**SCIAF WEE Boxes** WEE BOX, BIG CHANGE With your support, a fairer and more peaceful world is possible. In this final week of Lent, please continue to pray for SCIAF's work — and keep using your WEE BOX to make BIG CHANGE. As we prepare for Easter, SCIAF has created prayers and reflections to support your Lenten journey. Please visit [sciaf.org.uk/weebox](http://sciaf.org.uk/weebox) to download your prayer resources today. You can also donate at [sciaf.org.uk/donate](http://sciaf.org.uk/donate), by calling



0141 354 5555 or by using this QR code which will link it to our parish donations. Thank you.

**Second collections this week:** Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April Holy Places of Jerusalem

**Lenten Retreat:** thanks to all involved in this. It is always good to have a quiet time to stop and pray before Easter.

**Prayer Group:** Monday evenings, 7pm in the hall. Next meeting 6<sup>th</sup> April. Contact: Elizabeth Danby

**Tea & coffee** in the hall, after Sunday Mass. All welcome.

**Pope's Prayer Intention: March: For disarmament and peace:** Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.

**Safeguarding:** The Parish Safeguarding Coordinator is Elizabeth Danby, and she can be contacted as shown overleaf. The diocesan Safeguarding page can be found at [Safeguarding – Roman Catholic Diocese of Aberdeen \(rcda.scot\)](http://Safeguarding – Roman Catholic Diocese of Aberdeen (rcda.scot)) and the text of **In God's Image (V2)** is accessed through the Bishops Conference website.

Diary Dates	
Ecumenical Services in Holy week	M–W 30 <sup>th</sup> Mar–1 <sup>st</sup> Apr 7.30pm Friday in North Kirk 7.30pm
Morning Prayer & Office of Readings	Good Friday & Holy Saturday 10.00am
Stations of the Cross	Good Friday 2.15 pm
Fabric & Finance Committee	Thurs 7 <sup>th</sup> May 7pm
PPC	Wed 13 <sup>th</sup> May 7pm



**St Thomas' Church** is open each day from **10am to 3pm** for private prayer. Please note, the church may not be open on weekdays in the event of severe weather.

**A parish of the R.C. Diocese of Aberdeen Charitable Trust**  
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