

THE SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE EASTER

PALM SUNDAY

March 25, 2018

Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer:

✠ Psalms 23 & 24 | Exodus 11 | St. Matthew 26

9:00 a.m. – The Holy Eucharist with the Blessing of Palms

The Blessing of the Palms

Priest: Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord!

People: **O King of Israel: Hosanna in the Highest!**

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: **And with thy spirit.**

Priest: As we stand let us pray.

Priest:

O God, whose Son for our salvation came down from heaven, and, when the hour of His Passion was at hand, willed to enter into Jerusalem riding upon an ass, and to be hailed as King by the multitude: Increase the faith of those who trust in Thee, and mercifully hear the prayers of thy supplicants. Let thy manifold mercies come upon us; and vouchsafe to bless these branches

and crosses of palms, that all who carry them may be filled with Thy benediction; and grant that as the Hebrew children met the same Thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ, with branches of palms in their hands, crying Hosanna in the Highest, so we also, carrying these emblems, may with good works go forth to meet Christ and attain to everlasting peace and joy; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Bless and sanctify these branches and crosses of palm, O Lord, that we who bear them in Thy Name may ever hail Jesus as our Lord and King, through the same Thy Son Jesus Christ, to whom with Thee and the Holy Ghost be all honour and glory, world without end. **Amen.**

During the distribution of palm crosses, the Congregation will say:

Psalm 118:19-29: *page 484*

The Holy Gospel: St. Matthew 21:1-13

The Holy Eucharist

The Collect: *page 150*

The Old Testament Reading: Zechariah 9:9-12

Psalm 22:1-11: *page 354*

The Epistle: *page 150*

Gradual Psalm 22:12-21: *page 355*

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew
(please see the insert)

The Creed: *page 71*

The Homily

The Consecration: *page 82*

Post-Communion Prayer: *page 85*

Please join us in the Parish Hall following the 10:30 Celebration for Coffee and Conversation.



SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

MARCH 26: MONDAY IN HOLY WEEK

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer
6:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer
7:00 p.m. – Holy Eucharist with the Reading of the Passion
8:30 p.m. – Compline (in the Chapel)

MARCH 27: TUESDAY IN HOLY WEEK

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer
6:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer
7:00 p.m. – Holy Eucharist with the Reading of the Passion
8:30 p.m. – Compline (in the Chapel)

MARCH 28: WEDNESDAY IN HOLY WEEK

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer
6:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer
7:00 p.m. – Holy Eucharist with the Reading of the Passion
8:30 p.m. – Compline (in the Chapel)

MARCH 29: MAUNDY THURSDAY

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer
4:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer
7:00 p.m. – Holy Eucharist with the Stripping of the Altar
8:30 p.m. – Compline (in the Chapel)

MARCH 30: GOOD FRIDAY

10:00 a.m. – Solemn Liturgy of the Crucifixion
6:30 p.m. – Vespers
7:00 p.m. – Stations of the Cross

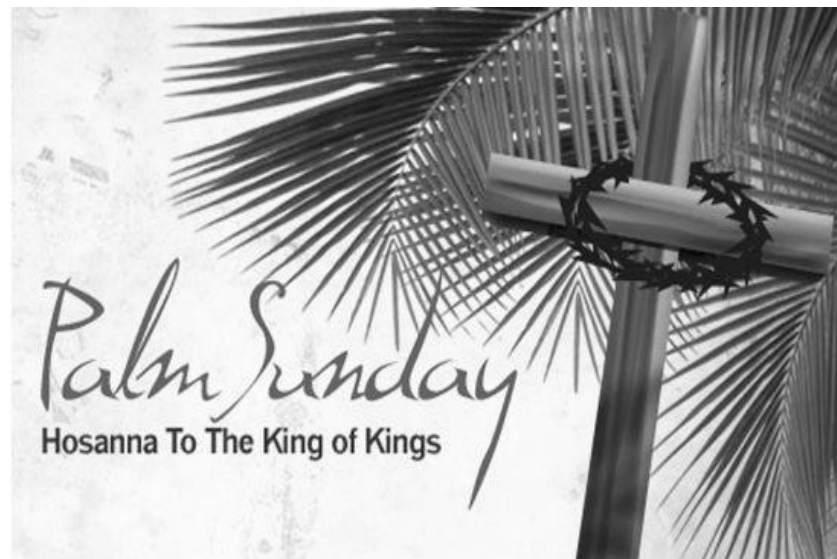
MARCH 31: HOLY SATURDAY

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer
4:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer
8:00 p.m. – Easter Vigil and the Lighting of the New Fire

APRIL 1: DAY OF THE RESURRECTION: EASTER DAY

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer
9:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist of the Resurrection
10:30 a.m. – Holy Eucharist of the Resurrection

The Anglican Church of Canada
The Diocese of Fredericton
THE PARISH OF ST. MARY, YORK



We are at the threshold of our celebration of the paschal mystery of the cross and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. As we enter these days of awe and ponder the mighty sign of love poured out for the world, we are open, as Caiaphas could never be, to the possibility that this story of tragedy and triumph will open our eyes, purify our motives and ambitions, redirect our hungers back to their source in God himself so that the cross may shape our practice of truth, integrity and Christian discipleship. In St. John, the finished work of the cross on the sixth day echoes the finished work of creation in Genesis when 'God saw all that he had made, and behold it was very good'. But now a greater work is here, for in Jesus' cross and crown is love's new creation, the dawning of a new day for us and for our world: sins forgiven, hope restored, our life given back to us once more.

Michael Sadgrove

Priest and Rector

The Revd. Canon Kevin M. Stockall, B.A. (Hons), M.Div.

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From the Rector _____

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem, there was no room at the inn. When Jesus died just outside the walls of Jerusalem, there would have been no room at any of the city's inns. It was, as we know, the time of the Passover, and during the preceding week Jewish pilgrims would have made their way to Jerusalem from all over Israel and beyond. In fact, they still do.

We all know that a crowd can be a fickle thing. One minute they're on your side, but at a moment's notice, they can turn against you. People find safety in numbers. They can hide in a crowd. They can behave in ways they would never would when the spotlight is on them.

Our Palm Sunday readings are a fickle set; because they are, at heart, a tale of two crowds. The first crowd is exuberant. At the gates of the city they welcome Jesus - their prophet, their warrior, and their hero. Their cloaks laid down on the ground are like a first century version of the red carpet treatment. In adoration they wave palm branches, signs of welcome and homage, gestures afforded only to a king.

But then there is the second crowd. Assembled in a governor's courtyard, they see things differently. Instead of a king, they now see a criminal. Instead of a leader, they now see a traitor. Instead of shouts of "Hosanna," they now shout for a cross.

Palm Sunday is a tale of two crowds. And we are left to wonder how a people who praise one day can condemn only a few days later.

Palm Sunday and Holy Week bid us to leave behind our preoccupations with the affairs of the world, not to hanker after power or influence – not even power and influence for God himself – but instead to devote ourselves to following the tragic, powerless victim as he treads the path of the Cross, and then to discover, on the other side of his death, his risen power, tragedy defeated and victory achieved.

And that means that you and I must not be part of the rent-a-mob, waving our palms and hoping to hail a political messiah, an economic genius, a military hero. No, we must weave our palms into crosses. And when the crowds on Good Friday pack things up and make their slow journey home, lamenting at the great disappointment this expected deliverer had turned out to be, at the failure he'd proved to be, they must find us there, too. Each one of us, kneeling at the foot of the Cross.

What we will see is very different than what they hoped to see; for, if we have the eyes, we will see the self-offering love of God; the God who rejects hatred and revenge; who knows only mercy and faithfulness; and whose only desire is to be with us in all of life. For the tree of defeat will become the tree of glory; where life is lost, there life will be restored.

For who of us would abandon the king who refuses to abandon us?

Parish Notices and Updates _____

FLOWERS AT EASTER: Those who wish to place memorial flowers may do so by including a donation through the collection plate. Please ensure that your donation includes the names in whose memory the flowers are being placed. In order to ensure that the list is complete for next Sunday we'll need to know the names by today.

AS WE DO EACH YEAR, WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN US IN THE PARISH HALL on *Maundy Thursday, March 29th*, starting at 5:30 p.m. for a bowl of soup in advance of our evening Celebration. Our meal will focus on foods of the Middle East. Volunteers will be preparing a simple meal that we can share in commemoration of the meal that Jesus shared with His disciples on the evening before His arrest.

A SIGNUP SHEET HAS BEEN PLACED ON THE EASEL in the narthex for those who would like to take a shift during our Watch between the end of our Maundy Thursday service and the beginning of the Solemn Liturgy on Good Friday. The Watch will be kept in the Chapel from 9:00 to 11:00 p.m. on Maundy Thursday and again from 7:00 to 9:00 a.m. on Good Friday. In addition to that, members of the Parish are invited to keep the Watch prayerfully at home anytime from 9:00 p.m. to 9:00 a.m. Feel free to sign up if you wish to share in this quiet prayerful ministry.

ST. MARY'S WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY is cancelled this coming Friday, Good Friday, and will resume on April 6th.

EACH FRIDAY THROUGHOUT THE SEASON OF LENT, at 7:00 p.m., we pray the *Stations of the Cross*, a quiet reflective service in which we journey through Christ's steps on the road to the Cross. This brief service is an excellent and hopeful mediation on what Christ was accomplishing on our behalf by His sacrificial death and glorious resurrection;

MEMBERS OF ST. MARY'S ALTAR GUILD are asked to gather on Saturday, March 31st, at 9:30 to do our annual cleaning of the Church before Easter.

NEWS! NEWS! Everyone is warmly invited to join us for our 4th annual **Congregational Roast Pork Dinner** on **Saturday, April 7th**. Beverages will be available at 5:30 p.m. and Dinner will be served at 6:00. We hope that as many of you as possible will be able to share in this opportunity to gather as the Family of God around the table for fellowship and mutual support; and we very warmly encourage you to invite your family and friends. A basket will be available to those who would like to make a very small freewill offering to help cover the costs, but this is **NOT** a fundraising project, so there is no cost to attend! But, to help organisers to prepare for the meal, a signup sheet has been placed on the table in the narthex. Please let us know either there or by email to the Rector by Tuesday, April 3rd, if you plan to attend. *We hope to see everyone there!*