

2nd APRIL 2023
PALM SUNDAY

“Hosanna to the Son of David!
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the Highest..”
Matthew 21:9

**WEEKLY
INFORMATION
& UPDATES**

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

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Tel: (023) 8055 5470

Website: www.immaculateconception.church

Email: office@immaculateconception.church

Facebook: Immaculate Conception Church, Portswood
Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth, (Reg Charity No: 1199568)

Parish Priest: Fr Anthony Chiatu

Parish Deacon: Dcn Gerard Dailly

Hospital Chaplaincy: (023 8120 8517)

University Chaplain: Sr Emelliana Silva (07426 000213)

Safeguarding Officer: Pat Saunders

Parish Secretary: Rachel Brady (023 8055 5470)

Confessions: After 10 am Mass on Saturdays

Hall Bookings: contact the parish secretary

ALL MASSES ADVERTISED BELOW ARE AVAILABLE TO JOIN LIVE, ONLINE AT
www.churchservices.tv/portswoodchur

Date	Solemnities & Feast days	Times & Liturgies		Mass Intentions
Sun 02 Apr	PALM SUNDAY of the Passion of the Lord	8.30 am 10.30 am	Mass Mass	Claire Starley RIP Arthur Maxfield RIP & deceased members of Maxfield, Deadman & Gould families
Mon 03 Apr	of HOLY WEEK	-	No Mass	
Tues 04 Apr	of HOLY WEEK	10.00 am	Eucharistic Service	
Wed 05 Apr	of HOLY WEEK	10.00 am	Mass	-
THE EASTER TRIDUUM				
Thur 06 Apr	MAUNDY THURSDAY	7.30 pm	Mass of the Lord's supper	-
Fri 07 Apr	GOOD FRIDAY	9.30 am 12 noon 3.00 pm	Children's Way of the Cross Stations of the Cross Celebration of the Lord's Passion	-
Sat 08 Apr	HOLY SATURDAY	3.00 pm 8.00 pm	Blessing of Easter Baskets Easter Vigil	-
Sun 09 Apr	EASTER SUNDAY of the Resurrection of the Lord	8.30 am 10.30 am	Mass Mass	- Sabina Ayoka – special intention



READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY

Procession Gospel: Matthew 21:1-11

1st Reading: Isaiah 50:4-7

Psalms: 21:8-9,17-20,23-24

2nd Reading: Phillipians 2:6-11

Gospel: Matthew 26:14-27:66

CHILDRENS' WAY OF THE CROSS

Good Friday', 9.30 am

With children taking the parts of the
different characters: Jesus, Pilate,
Apostles, Veronica, Simon etc...with
readings, prayers and songs.

**All children, parents, and others are
welcome as we follow Jesus on his Way.**

Please see Sue Deadman for further details.



TEA AND COFFEE AFTER MASSES

Please join us in the hall on **Sundays after the 10.30 am
Mass** for tea and coffee. **And also after Mass on
TUESDAYS** –A friendly welcome awaits you.

SECOND COLLECTIONS:-

TODAY SUNDAY 2nd April – No second collection

NEXT SUNDAY 9th April 2023 – No second collection

GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION – Holy Land

EASTER VIGIL & EASTER SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

The collections at the Easter Masses are all donated to the
parish priest. Parish priests rely on these offerings to
support them personally throughout the year. This is an
important part of their income. Apart from your
donations, they depend on a limited stipend from the
Diocese. So please do be generous in return for the
dedicated service which Fr Anthony gives to the Church.

**Any donations can be made in cash or by cheque via the
collection baskets in the church or using our card
payment machine in the church porch.**

The Parish Bank Account details are:

Name: CDP, Immaculate Conception Church,
Sort Code: 30-93-04, Account No: 00887995

For those who would like to make a donation but are
away/unable to attend these Masses over Easter,
envelopes and the means to pay by card will be
available until the following Sunday 16th April.

**CAKE SALE THIS SUNDAY
CANCELLED**

Holy Week Made Present Today

The very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and strewed them on the road. The crowds preceding him and those following kept crying out and saying: "Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; hosanna in the highest." [Matthew 21:8-9](#)

Holy Week begins. What an important week that we begin to commemorate today. The Scripture passage above comes from the Gospel that is read at the beginning of Mass to commemorate Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem for the fulfillment of the Passover. That year, Jesus was to become the new Passover Lamb Whose blood was shed for us all and Whose flesh we now eat. Today's Liturgy of the Word concludes with Matthew's version of Jesus' betrayal, arrest and death on the Cross. Since we are blessed to read this narrative in full detail today, it is helpful to call to mind the Church's understanding of the Word of God.

"When the Sacred Scriptures are read in the Church, God himself speaks to his people, and Christ, present in his word, proclaims the Gospel" (*General Instruction of the Roman Missal #29*). This is an important lesson to learn, especially today as we read the heart of the Gospel in detail. Though Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem, His last supper, arrest, mock trial, suffering and death on the Cross happened 2,000 years ago, those historical events are made present to us today in a unique and real way. By participating in the proclamation of this Gospel at Mass today, we are mystically united to this saving action of our Lord. And though our minds might wander at times, God is truly present to us if we listen and see.

As you begin this Holy Week, try to walk through it with Jesus every step of the way. As you go about your days this week, fulfilling your normal duties in life, remind yourself of the spiritual truth that because the full Gospel of Jesus' passion and death were proclaimed to you today, He is manifestly present to you in a special way. On Holy Thursday, we will ponder the Gift of the Most Holy Eucharist. On Good Friday, we will hear Jesus' passion proclaimed from the Gospel of John. Thus, this week begins with the proclamation of the Passion and ends with the Passion as a way of drawing us more deeply into the mystery of Christ's saving Sacrifice.

At the heart of the story of the Passion of Jesus is the manifestation of a love like no other. The love we witness this week is a love that is so pure, so selfless, so sacrificial and so transforming that it is beyond comprehension. The love that we witness is one in which God permits Himself to enter the deepest humiliation ever seen. He does this so that He can meet us in our lowliness, sin, and fallenness, and raise us up to the highest heights imaginable.

As we enter this Holy Week, know that it is more than a week of reflection. It's a week of participation in the mystery of God's pure and perfect love for you. As you reflect upon this love, allow it to confront you. Keep it on your mind and heart throughout the week. Allow that love, offered some 2,000 years ago, to become truly present to you so that you will be more present to our Lord and His love for you.

A reflection for Palm Sunday, Year A
My Catholic Life, www.mycatholic.life.com

CHRISM MASS

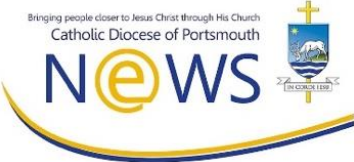
St John's Catholic Cathedral, Portsmouth

Tuesday 4th April, 11 am.

A special liturgy in Holy week during which the oils are blessed for use in the sacraments during the year and brought back to each parish.

It is one of the main diocesan events held in the Cathedral each year and all are invited to attend this great celebration.

Bringing people closer to Jesus Christ through His Church
Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth



**THIS WEEK'S
PORTSMOUTH DIOCESE
E NEWS**

Activities, events, news
and job vacancies from around the Diocese, locally and
further afield.

<https://mailchi.mp/portsmouthdiocese/issue402?e=34c55ac6ce>

THANK YOU!

BIG CLEAN - To those who gave up some time last Saturday afternoon to help with cleaning and some basic maintenance checking, around the premises before our Easter Celebrations. This is such an important area of support to the parish. It is essential that our environment is kept clean and safe for the benefit of all who come here.

SOUP LUNCHESES

To all those who have made our Soup Lunches during Lent such a success – those who made soups and gave their time to prepare and serve them in the kitchen, as well as to all who attended to help support several different charities throughout Lent. These were really well attended and created a great sense of community. Well over £600 was raised for the 5 different charities we supported.

The above information is all relevant to this coming week. All other longer term notices are in our new monthly Bulletin which will be available in the porch on the first Sunday of each month and throughout the month. Please take a copy, or if you receive the newsletter on line, perhaps print off a copy to keep handy at home.

PARISH OFFICE OPEN NEXT WEEK

Tuesday – Friday, 9.30 am – 2.00 pm