

Parish of Newry

Sunday 20th March 2016
Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

In the well-known hymn Rock of Ages there are lines that make a very vivid image:

*Nothing in my hand I bring,
Simply to thy cross I cling.*

It would be hard indeed to cling to the cross of Christ if we were also clinging to our own achievements and reputation and virtue. The cross begins to make sense the very moment we reach the end of our own resources. It often happens that people discover its meaning in prison or in wartime, but rather seldom when they are in the lap of luxury. During the Second World War Edith Sitwell wrote

Still falls the Rain -

Dark as the world of man, black as our loss -

Blind as the nineteen hundred and forty nails

Upon the Cross.

The cross of Christ, far from being a decoration or just an external badge of identity, is the very substance of our pain and struggle. It tells us there is hope for us even at our very worst; and equally that our best is not good enough: "Nothing in my hand I bring." It extends beyond us at both ends of the scale: it measures our life.

Or rather, Jesus – the man who bore the cross – is the measure of our life. The cross shows his range: and it goes beyond our reckoning.

St Thomas Aquinas was asked where he got his wisdom. "At the foot of the cross of Christ," he replied. There, contemplating the life and death of Jesus, he found a wisdom that went beyond human wisdom. Wisdom is described (in the Book of Wisdom, 8:1) as "reaching mightily from one end of the earth to the other."

In Jesus we see this as no abstract thing, but as a lived experience. He reaches mightily from one end of the human scale to the other, and beyond. He so identified himself with us that St Paul could say he became sin for us: "For our sake God made the sinless one into sin," (2 Cor 4:21). And at the other end of the scale: "Through him we have access to the Father" (Eph 2:18).

There is a difference between inevitable suffering and the suffering we bring on ourselves. (Still, they are equally painful.) Much of our suffering is self-inflicted. Have you heard of the monkey trap? It has a very small opening at the top. When the monkey reaches into it for a piece of fruit, he is unable to pull his hand out again because his fist clutching the fruit is too big. To be free, all he would have to do is open his fist and let go of the fruit. But that is the one thing he is unwilling to do. And so he is caught. He is caught by his own greed.... Aren't we all? Don't we make our life a monkey trap? We trap ourselves with our own greed, fear, lazy habits, addictions, anger... in a word, everything we hold onto.

Of course we are trapped in the other kind of suffering too, the inevitable suffering that is part of every human life. We have every reason to know that birth, life and death are arduous.

But whatever our suffering is, self-inflicted or otherwise, it finds its meaning in the cross of Christ. Because Christ is one with the Father he is the beginning and the end, the full range. "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End" (Rev. 21:6).

Fr Donagh O'Shea, O.P.,
www.goodnews.ie

Mass Times

The Cathedral of SS. Patrick & Colman, Hill Street

Sunday Mass Times:
Saturday Vigil : 6.00pm
Sunday : 8.30am, 10.00am,
12 noon, & 5.30pm
Weekday Mass Times :
Monday to Friday 8.30am,
Monday to Saturday
10.30am.

St. Brigid's Church, Rooney's Meadow

Saturday Vigil : 7.00pm
Sunday : 11.30am,
9.30am (po polsku)
Weekday Mass Times :
Monday, Wednesday &
Friday 7.00pm.

St. Mary's Church, Chapel Street

Saturday Vigil : 6.30pm
Sunday : 11.00am
Latin Mass : 9.00am
Weekday Mass Times :
Tuesday & Thursday
7.00pm.

St. Catherine's Church, Dominican Priory, Dominic Street

Saturday Vigil : 7.30pm
Sunday : 8.00am, 9.30am,
11.00am & 12.15pm
Weekday Mass Times :
Monday to Saturday 7.30am,
11.00am & 7.30pm

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Cathedral: Monday, Tuesday,
Wednesday, Friday & Saturday
9.00am – 11.00am.
Thursday 9.00am – 9.00pm
Sunday 1.00pm – 5.15pm.
St. Catherine's: Blessed
Sacrament Chapel each day
8.00am to 8.00pm.

CONTACT DETAILS FOR THE PARISH OFFICE

All Baptisms, Marriages and appointments may be arranged by calling the Parish Office. A Priest is available in the Parish Office from Monday to Friday 1.00pm – 2.00pm and in the evening by appointment.

OFFICE HOURS AND CONTACT NUMBER FOR PARISH OFFICE

Opening Hours: 9.00am – 4.00pm Monday to Friday

Tel No: 028 302 62586

Email: office@newrycathedralparish.org

Website: www.newrycathedralparish.org



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THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Congregation stands

Commemoration of the Lord's Entrance into Jerusalem

Priest: Dear brothers and sisters, since the beginning of Lent until now we have prepared our hearts by penance and charitable works. Today we gather together to herald with the whole Church the beginning of the celebration of our Lord's Paschal Mystery, that is to say, of his Passion and Resurrection. For it was to accomplish this mystery that he entered his own city of Jerusalem. Therefore, with all faith and devotion, let us commemorate the Lord's entry into the city for our salvation, following in his footsteps, so that, being made by his grace partakers of the Cross, we may have a share also in his Resurrection and in his life.

The Palms are then blessed.

Priest: Let us pray.
Almighty ever-living God, sanctify + these branches with your blessing, that we, who follow Christ the King in exultation, may reach the eternal Jerusalem through him.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

GOSPEL

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Priest: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 19:28-40

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. Now when he was near Bethphage and Bethany, close by the Mount of Olives as it is called, he sent two of the disciples, telling them, 'Go off to the village opposite, and as you enter it you will find a tethered colt that no one has yet ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, "Why are you untying it?" you are to say this, "The Master needs it."' The messengers went off and found everything just as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owner said, 'Why are you untying that colt?' and they answered, 'The Master needs it.'

So they took the colt to Jesus, and throwing their garments over its back they helped Jesus on to it. As he moved off, people spread their cloaks in the road, and now, as he was approaching the downward slope of the Mount of Olives, the whole group of disciples joyfully began to praise God at the top of

their voices for all the miracles they had seen. They cried out:

'Blessings on the King who comes,
in the name of the Lord!

Peace in heaven

and glory in the highest heavens!'

Some Pharisees in the crowd said to him, 'Master, check your disciples,' but he answered, 'I tell you, if these keep silence the stones will cry out.'

The Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

PENITENTIAL ACT

Priest: Brothers and sisters, let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

Priest: Have mercy on us, O Lord.

All: For we have sinned against you.

Priest: Show us, O Lord, your mercy.

All: And grant us your salvation.

Priest: May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

All: Amen

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

THE COLLECT

Priest: Let us pray.

Pause for silent prayer

Priest: Almighty ever-living God, who as an example of humility for the human race to follow caused our Saviour to take flesh and submit to the Cross, graciously grant that we may heed his lesson of patient suffering and so merit a share in his Resurrection. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Congregation Sits

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

50:4-7

The Lord has given me a disciple's tongue.
So that I may know how to reply to the wearied

he provides me with speech.
 Each morning he wakes me to hear,
 to listen like a disciple. The Lord has opened my ear.
 For my part, I made no resistance,
 neither did I turn away.
 I offered my back to those who struck me,
 my cheeks to those who tore at my beard;
 I did not cover my face against insult and spittle.
 The Lord comes to my help,
 so that I am untouched by the insults.
 So, too, I set my face like flint;
 I know I shall not be shamed.

The word of the Lord
All: Thanks be to God

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 21:8-9. 17-20 23-24. R v.2

**(R) My God, my God,
 why have you forsaken me?**

1. All who see me deride me.
 They curl their lips, they toss their heads.
 'He trusted in the Lord, let him save him;
 let him release him if this is his friend.' (R)
2. Many dogs have surrounded me,
 a band of the wicked beset me.
 They tear holes in my hands and my feet.
 I can count every one of my bones. (R)
3. They divide my clothing among them.
 They cast lots for my robe.
 O Lord, do not leave me alone,
 my strength, make haste to help me! (R)
4. I will tell of your name to my brethren
 and praise you where they are assembled.
 'You who fear the Lord give him praise;
 all sons of Jacob, give him glory.
 Revere him, Israel's sons.' (R)

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians
 2:6-11

His state was divine, yet Christ Jesus did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are, and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

Congregation stands

ACCLAMATION

Phil 2:8-9

**All: Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!
 Christ was humbler yet,
 even to accepting death, death on a cross.
 But God raised him high and gave him the
 name which is above all names.
 Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!**

GOSPEL

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Priest: The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ
 according to Luke

22:14 – 23:56

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

N - Narrator. + - Jesus. O - Other single speaker.

C - Crowd, or more than one other speaker.

- N** When the hour came Jesus took his place at table, and the apostles with him. And he said to them,
- +** I have longed to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; because, I tell you, I shall not eat it again until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.
- N** Then, taking a cup, he gave thanks and said,
- +** Take this and share it among you, because from now on, I tell you, I shall not drink wine until the kingdom of God comes,
- N** Then he took some bread, and when he had given thanks, broke it and gave it to them, saying,
- +** This is my body which will be given for you; do this as a memorial of me.
- N** He did the same with the cup after supper, and said,
- +** This cup is the new covenant in my blood which will be poured out for you. And yet, here with me on the table is the hand of the man who betrays me. The Son of Man does indeed go to his fate even as it has been decreed, but alas for that man by whom he is betrayed!
- N** And they began to ask one another which of them it could be who was to do this thing. A dispute arose also between them about which should be reckoned the greatest, but he said to them.
- +** Among pagans it is the kings who lord it over

- them, and those who have authority over them are given the title Benefactor. This must not happen with you. No; the greatest among you must behave as if he were the youngest, the leader as if he were the one who serves. For who is greater: the one at table or the one who serves? The one at table, surely? Yet here I am among you as one who serves! You are the men who have stood by me faithfully in my trials; and now I confer a kingdom on you, just as my Father conferred one on me: you will eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and you will sit on thrones to judge the twelve tribes of Israel. Simon, Simon! Satan, you must know, has got his wish to sift you all like wheat; but I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail, and once you have recovered, you in your turn must strengthen your brothers.
- N He answered,
O Lord, I would be ready to go to prison with you, and to death.
- N Jesus replied,
+ I tell you, Peter, by the time the cock crows today you will have denied three times that you know me.
- N He said to them,
+ When I sent you out without purse or haversack or sandals, were you short of anything?
- N They answered,
C No
- N He said to them,
+ But now if you have a purse, take it: if you have a haversack, do the same; if you have no sword, sell your cloak and buy one, because I tell you these words of scripture have to be fulfilled in me: He let himself be taken for a criminal. Yes, what scripture says about me is even now reaching its fulfilment.
- N They said,
C Lord, there are two swords here now.
- N He said to them,
+ That is enough!
- N He left the upper room to make his way as usual to the Mount of Olives, with the disciples following. When they reached the place he said to them,
+ Pray not to be put to the test.
- N Then he withdrew from them, about a stone's throw away, and knelt down and prayed, saying,
+ Father, if you are willing, take this cup away from me. Nevertheless, let your will be done, not mine.
- N Then an angel appeared to him coming from heaven to give him strength. In his anguish he prayed even more earnestly, and his sweat fell to the ground like great drops of blood. When he rose from prayer he went to the disciples and found them sleeping for sheer grief. He said to them,
+ Why are you asleep? Get up and pray not to be put to the test.
- N He was still speaking when a number of men appeared, and at the head of them the man called Judas, one of the Twelve, who went up to Jesus to kiss him. Jesus said,
+ Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?
- N His followers, seeing what was happening, said,
C Lord, shall we use our swords?
N And one of them struck out at the high priest's servant, and cut off his right ear. But at this Jesus spoke,
+ Leave off! That will do!
- N And touching the man's ear he healed him. Then Jesus spoke to the chief priests and captains of the Temple guard and elders who had come for him. He said,
+ Am I a brigand that you had to set out with swords and clubs? When I was among you in the Temple day after day you never moved to lay hands on me. But this is your hour; this is the reign of darkness.
- N They seized him then and led him away, and they took him to the high priest's house. Peter followed at a distance. They had lit a fire in the middle of the courtyard and Peter sat down among them, and as he was sitting there by the blaze a servant-girl saw him, peered at him and said,
O This person was with him too.
N But he denied it, saying,
O Woman, I do not know him.
N Shortly afterwards, someone else saw him and said,
O You are another of them.
N But Peter replied,
O I am not, my friend.
N About an hour later, another man insisted, saying,
O This fellow was certainly with him. Why, he is a Galilean.
N Peter said,
O My friend, I do not know what you are talking about.
N At that instant, while he was still speaking, the cock crew, and the Lord turned and looked

- straight at Peter, and Peter remembered what the Lord had said to him, 'Before the cock crows today, you will have disowned me three times'. And he went outside and wept bitterly. Meanwhile the men who guarded Jesus were mocking and beating him. They blindfolded him and questioned him, saying,
- C Play the prophet. Who hit you then?
- N And they continued heaping insults on him. When day broke these was a meeting of the elders of the people, attended by the chief priests and scribes. He was brought before their council, and they said to him,
- C If you are the Christ, tell us.
- N He replied,
- + If I tell you, you will not believe me, and if I question you, you will not answer. But from now on, the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the Power of God.
- N Then they all said,
- C So you are the Son of God then?
- N He answered,
- + It is you who say I am.
- N They said,
- C What need of witnesses have we now? We have heard it for ourselves from his own lips.
- N The whole assembly then rose, and they brought him before Pilate. They began their accusation by saying,
- C We found this man inciting our people to revolt, opposing payment of tribute to Caesar, and claiming to be Christ, a king.
- N Pilate put to him this question,
- O Are you the king of the Jews?
- N He replied,
- + It is you who say it.
- N Pilate then said to the chief priests and the crowd,
- O I find no case against this man.
- N But they persisted,
- C He is inflaming the people with his teaching all over Judaea; it has come all the way from Galilee, where he started, down to here.
- N When Pilate heard this, he asked if the man were a Galilean; and finding that he came under Herod's jurisdiction he passed him over to Herod who was also in Jerusalem at that time. Herod was delighted to see Jesus; he had heard about him and had been wanting for a long time to set eyes on him; moreover, he was hoping to see some miracle worked by him. So he questioned him at some length; but without getting any reply. Meanwhile the chief priests and the scribes were there,
- violently pressing their accusations. Then Herod, together with his guards, treated him with contempt and made fun of him; he put a rich cloak on him and sent him back to Pilate. And though Herod and Pilate had been enemies before, they were reconciled that same day. Pilate then summoned the chief priests and the leading men and the people. He said,
- O You brought this man before me as a political agitator. Now I have gone into the matter myself in your presence and found no case against him. Nor has Herod either, since he has sent him back to us. As you can see, the man has done nothing that deserves death, so I shall have him flogged and then let him go.
- N But as one man they howled,
- C Away with him! Give us Barabbas!
- N This man had been thrown into prison for causing a riot in the city and for murder. Pilate was anxious to set Jesus free and addressed them again, but they shouted back.
- C Crucify him! Crucify him!
- N And for the third time he spoke to them,
- O Why? What harm has this man done? I have found no case against him that deserves death, so I shall have him punished and let him go.
- N But they kept on shouting at the top of their voices, demanding that he should be crucified, and their shouts were growing louder. Pilate then gave his verdict: their demand was to be granted. He released the man they asked for, who had been imprisoned for rioting and murder, and handed Jesus over to them to deal with as they pleased. As they were leading him away they seized on a man, Simon from Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, and made him shoulder the cross and carry it behind Jesus. Large numbers of people followed him, and of women too who mourned and lamented for him. But Jesus turned to them and said,
- + Daughters of Jerusalem do not weep for me; weep rather for yourselves and for your children. For the days will surely come when people will say, 'Happy are those who are barren, the wombs that have never borne, the breasts that have never suckled!' Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us!'; to the hills, 'Cover us!' For if men use the green wood like this, what will happen when it is dry?
- N Now with him they were also leading out two other criminals to be executed.

When they reached the place called The Skull, they crucified him there and the criminals also, one on the right, the other on the left. Jesus said,

+ **Father, forgive them; they do not know what they are doing.**

N Then they cast lots to share out his clothing. The people stayed there watching him. As for the leaders, they jeered at him, saying,

C He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One.

N The soldiers mocked him too, and when they approached to offer him vinegar they said,

C If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.

N Above him there was an inscription: 'This is the King of the Jews.' One of the criminals hanging there abused him, saying,

O Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us as well.

N But the other spoke up and rebuked him,

O Have you no fear of God at all? You got the same sentence as he did, but in our case we deserved it: we are paying for what we did. But this man has done nothing wrong.

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

N He replied,

+ **Indeed, I promise you, today you will be with me in paradise.**

N It was now about the sixth hour and, with the sun eclipsed, a darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour. The veil of the Temple was torn right down the middle; and when Jesus had cried out in a loud voice, he said,

+ **Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.**

N With these words he breathed his last.

All kneel and pause a moment.

N When the centurion saw what had taken place, he gave praise to God and said,

O This was a great and good man.

N And when all the people who had gathered for the spectacle saw what had happened, they went home beating their breasts.

All his friends stood at a distance; so also did the women who had accompanied him from Galilee, and they saw all this happen.

Then a member of the council arrived, an upright and virtuous man named Joseph. He had not consented to what the others had planned and carried out. He came from Arimathaea, a Jewish town, and he lived in the hope of seeing the kingdom of God. This man

went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. He then took it down, wrapped it in a shroud and put him in a tomb which was hewn in stone in which no one had yet been laid. It was Preparation Day and the sabbath was imminent. Meanwhile the women who had come from Galilee with Jesus were following behind. They took note of the tomb and of the position of the body. Then they returned and prepared spices and ointments. And on the sabbath day they rested, as the law required.

Congregation sits

HOMILY

Congregation stands

THE CREED

**All: I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.**

**I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the
Father; through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,**

(bow your head up to the words 'and became man')

**and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the
Virgin Mary, and became man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius
Pilate, he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the
giver of life, who proceeds from the Father
and the Son, who with the Father and the
Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken
through the prophets.**

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Congregation sits

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory Procession

The gifts of bread and wine which will become the Lord's body and blood are brought to the altar.

The celebrant raises the host on the paten saying:

Priest: Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the bread we offer you: fruit of the earth and work of human hands, it will become for us the bread of life.

All: Blessed be God for ever.

The celebrant pours wine and a little water into the chalice, saying quietly:

Priest: By the mystery of this water and wine may we come to share in the divinity of Christ who humbled himself to share in our humanity.

The celebrant then raises the chalice above the altar and says:

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the wine we offer you: fruit of the vine and work of human hands, it will become our spiritual drink.

All: Blessed be God for ever.

Bowing, the celebrant says quietly:

Priest: With humble spirit and contrite heart may we be accepted by you, O Lord, and may our sacrifice in your sight this day be pleasing to you, Lord God.

Then the celebrant washes his hands, saying quietly:

Wash me, O Lord, from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.

Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

All: May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Priest: Through the Passion of your Only Begotten Son, O Lord, may our reconciliation with you be near at hand, so that, though we do not merit it by our own deeds, yet by this sacrifice made once for all, we may feel already the effects of your mercy. Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

Congregation stands

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER III

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right and just.

PREFACE (Passion of the Lord)

Priest: It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Christ our Lord.

For, though innocent, he suffered willingly for sinners and accepted unjust condemnation to save the guilty. His Death has washed away our sins, and his Resurrection has purchased our justification.

And so, with all the Angels, we praise you, as in joyful celebration we acclaim:

ACCLAMATION

All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Congregation kneels

Priest: You are indeed Holy, O Lord, and all you have created

rightly gives you praise, for through your Son our Lord Jesus Christ, by the power and working of the Holy spirit, you give life to all things and make them holy, and you never cease to gather a people to yourself, so that from the rising of the sun to its setting a pure sacrifice may be offered to your name.

Therefore, O Lord, we humbly implore you: by the same Spirit graciously make holy these gifts we have brought to you for consecration, that they may become the Body and + Blood of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ, at whose command we celebrate these mysteries.

For on the night he was betrayed he himself took bread, and, giving you thanks, he said the blessing, broke the bread and gave it to his disciples, saying:

TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND EAT OF IT,
FOR THIS IS MY BODY
WHICH WILL BE GIVEN UP FOR YOU.

In a similar way, when supper was ended, he took the chalice and, giving you thanks, he said the blessing, and gave the chalice to his disciples, saying:

TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND DRINK FROM IT,
FOR THIS IS THE CHALICE OF MY BLOOD,
THE BLOOD OF THE NEW AND ETERNAL
COVENANT, WHICH WILL BE Poured OUT
FOR YOU AND FOR MANY FOR THE
FORGIVENESS OF SINS.

DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME.

Priest: The mystery of faith.

All: **My Lord and my God.**

Priest: Therefore, O Lord, as we celebrate the memorial of the saving Passion of your Son, his wondrous Resurrection and Ascension into heaven, and as we look forward to his second coming, we offer you in thanksgiving this holy and living sacrifice.

Look, we pray, upon the oblation of your Church and, recognising the sacrificial Victim by whose death you willed to reconcile us to yourself, grant that we, who are nourished by the Body and Blood of your Son and filled with his Holy Spirit, may become one body, one spirit in Christ.

May he make of us an eternal offering to you, so that we may obtain an inheritance with your elect, especially with the most Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, with blessed Joseph, her spouse, with your blessed Apostles and glorious Martyrs with Saint Patrick and with all the Saints, on whose constant intercession in your presence we rely for unfailing help.

May this Sacrifice of our reconciliation, we pray, O Lord, advance the peace and salvation of all the world. Be pleased to confirm in faith and charity your pilgrim Church on earth, with your servant Francis our Pope and N our Bishop, the Order of Bishops, all the clergy, and the entire people you have gained for your own.

Listen graciously to the prayers of this family, whom you have summoned before you: in your compassion, O merciful Father, gather to yourself all your children scattered throughout the world. To our departed brothers and sisters and to all who were pleasing to you at their passing from this life, give kind admittance to your kingdom. There we hope to enjoy forever the fullness of your glory through Christ our Lord, through whom you bestow on the world all that is good.

Priest: Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour is yours, for ever and ever.

All: **Amen.**

Congregation stands

THE COMMUNION RITE

Priest: At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

All: **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

Priest: Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

All: **For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.**

Priest: Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles: Peace I leave you, my peace I give you, look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will. Who live and reign for ever and ever.

All: **Amen.**

Priest: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: **And with your spirit.**

The celebrant may add these or similar words.

Priest: Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

All make a sign of peace, according to local custom.

Priest: May this mingling of the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ bring eternal life to us who receive it.

All: **Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.**
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

Congregation kneels

The celebrant says quietly:

May the receiving of your Body and Blood, Lord Jesus Christ, not bring me to judgment and condemnation, but through your loving mercy be for me protection in mind and body and a healing remedy.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Priest: Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

All: **Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter**

under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

Priest: May the Body of Christ keep me safe for eternal life.

Priest: May the Blood of Christ keep me safe for eternal life.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Mt 26:42

All: **Father, if this chalice cannot pass without my drinking it, your will be done.**

Purifying the chalice the celebrant says quietly:

What has passed our lips as food, O Lord, may we possess in purity of heart, that what has been given to us in time may be our healing for eternity.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Congregation kneels

Priest: Let us pray.

Nourished with these sacred gifts, we humbly beseech you, O Lord, that, just as through the death of your Son you have brought us to hope for what we believe, so by his Resurrection you may lead us to where you call. Through Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen**

THE CONCLUDING RITES

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: **And with your spirit.**

PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

Priest: Look, we pray, O Lord, on this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ did not hesitate to be delivered into the hands of the wicked and submit to the agony of the Cross. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

All: **Amen**

Priest: May the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, + and the Holy Spirit come down on you and remain with you for ever.

All: **Amen**

Then the celebrant, with hands joined and facing the people, says:

Priest: Go forth, the Mass is ended.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Message from the Administrator

We begin Holy Week on Sunday 20th March with Palm Sunday. It is a very important week in the life of the Church and in the life of our Parish, known as **THE GREAT WEEK**. One way we could celebrate this, in a very meaningful way, is by attending the Mass of the **Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday** evening at 7.30pm in the Cathedral. **The Commemoration of the Lord's Passion** on Good Friday evening at 7.30pm and the **Easter Vigil of the Resurrection of the Lord at 9.00pm** on Holy Saturday evening. I appeal to all parishioners to attend these wonderful ceremonies in gratitude for all the graces we have received and also to pray for blessings for our parish.

I encourage parishioners involved in the various parish ministries to come along to the Easter Ceremonies. It was rewarding for everyone to see increased numbers at the ceremonies in 2015. The Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday evening speaks to us very clearly of service. Christ is the supreme example of service and from his example at the Last Supper; we are reminded of our call as baptised to be of service to each other. Make every effort to attend so that we will have a full worshipping community at 7.30pm on Holy Thursday, 7.30pm on Good Friday and 9.00pm on Holy Saturday.

Canon Francis Brown

PALM SUNDAY

Solemn Procession and Blessing of Palm will take place before all Masses in the Parish for Palm Sunday.

EASTER TRIDUUM HOLY THURSDAY

Chrism Mass in the Cathedral at 10.30am
St. Colman's College Choir will sing.

Evening Mass of the Lords Supper
Cathedral: 7.30pm

Please note for Holy Thursday, Parish Clergy will celebrate together in the Cathedral only.

St. Catherine's: Children's Mass 5.30pm & 7.30pm quiet prayer at the Garden of Gethsemane after 7.30pm Mass

(The Liturgy will be led by the Children at 5.30pm).

9.30pm – The Giordani Quartet will perform Haydn's 'Seven last words of Christ from the Cross' in the Cathedral.

A Hour of Adoration at the Altar of Repose will be led by members of the Bethany House Prayer Group in the Cathedral 11.00pm-12midnight

GOOD FRIDAY (A Day of Fast and Abstinence)

Taizé Prayer around the Cross at 9.00pm in St. Catherine's.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Children's Stations of the Cross 12 noon St. Catherine's
Stations of the Cross in the Cathedral led by the youth at 1.00pm
Cathedral, St. Brigid's & St. Catherine's 3.00pm

Please note: There will be a Church Door collection for the Holy Land after the Stations of the Cross in all churches.

EVENING COMMEMORATION OF THE LORD'S PASSION Cathedral – 7.30pm

St. Catherine's – **7.30pm** St. Colman's College at 7.30pm for Polish Community

HOLY SATURDAY

Easter Vigil of the Resurrection of the Lord
Cathedral, St. Brigid's & St. Catherine's – **9.00pm**

Newry Parish Family Ramble – Sunday 24th April 2016 at 1pm

A 5km walk starting from the Parish Office, Hill St around the city, linking all our Churches and back to the Parish Centre, The Mall for light refreshments. This walk is planned by our Parish Youth Leaders as a Fund raising event to support the many parish activities and programmes that they offer our young people. Come along and join the adventure, it is not a rae, it is for everyone, the young, parents, older parents, grandparents too, it is for everybody. You can register on the morning of the walk from 11am until 12.45pm or by collecting a form from the Parish Office, cost only £5 per person, family rates will apply. More information on registration forms and on website.

John Paul II Award Recipients

The following students from Newry Parish received the Award on Wednesday 9th March 2016

Chloe Boyle Emma Campbell Thomas Carlin Jordan Connolly Niamh Cranney Paul Cunningham Rachel Curtis Ryan Dineen Clíodhna Doherty Megan Gawley Jamie Gribben Caoilfhionn Hardy Catherine Kane Shannon Kelly Laura Kerrin Stephen Love Cathal Mathers Meabh Monaghan William Oliver Aoibhin Rice Niamh Rocks Aoife Saul Christoph Sheridan Aoife Turner

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HOLY WEEK CONFESSIONS

Tuesday 22nd March

Cathedral: 12 noon – 1.00pm

St. Catherine's: After the 11.00am Mass

Wednesday 23rd March

Cathedral: 12 noon – 1.00pm

St. Catherine's: After 11.00am Mass
8.00pm Reconciliation Service
With Individual Confession

Good Friday 25th March

St. Catherine's: After 3pm Stations of the Cross

Saturday 26th March

Cathedral: 11.00am – 1.00pm

St. Catherine's: 11.00am–12.30pm & 3.00pm - 4.30pm

Trócaire Boxes

As we approach the final week of Lent you are reminded that your Trócaire Collection box should be returned to the Parish either by putting it in the collection baskets at Masses or by leaving it in the Sacristy or Parish Office. Please do not leave your Trócaire box in the churches.

Easter Holy Water

During the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday Masses the blessing of Holy Water takes place. A limited supply of bottles of water will be blessed and distributed. To ensure that everyone has access to a supply of Easter Holy Water you are advised to bring your own bottle of water which will also be blessed during each Mass.

The Apostolate of Eucharistic Adoration Pilgrimage to Knock, Sunday 24th April 2016

The launch of a National Crusade of Prayer for Vocations will take place at the 3.00pm Mass. Bus leaves Newry Gateway at 7.30am Deposit £10 secures a place. Breakfast & Evening Meal €25.

To book please contact: Fr. Tony, Parish Office, Newry.

Newry Parish Paschal Meal Come and join in celebrating our Parish Paschal (Passover) Meal **When:** Wednesday **23 March 2016** at 7.30pm

Where: Newry Parish Conference & Banqueting Centre.

Tickets are available from Parish Office, Newry Conference & Banqueting Centre & VERITAS

In preparation for the Feast of Mercy on Sunday 3rd April 2016 a 9 day Novena in Honour of Jesus the Divine Mercy will be celebrated in the Cathedral commencing **Good Friday**.

1st Day of Novena (Good Friday) at 2.50pm before Stations of the Cross.

2nd Day (Holy Saturday, 26th March) – 8.45pm before Easter Vigil

3rd Day (Easter Sunday, 27th March) – after 10.00am Mass

4th - 9th Day (Mon, 28th March – Sat 2nd April) – after 10.30am Mass

9th Day (Saturday 2nd April) at 8.45pm before the Easter Vigil

Knights of Columbanus CK10 Newry

Knights of Columbanus CK10 Newry are holding their Annual Coffee Morning on **Saturday 9th April 2016** in Newry Conference & Banqueting Centre, The Mall, Newry, from 10.00am – 2.00pm. All donations will be used for the purchase of IPADS or Wi-Fi Kindle for the sick & infirm at home so they can link to Newry Cathedral, St. Brigid's, St. Catherine's, St. Mary's (on completion of renovations) for daily Mass. Please support this event.

Recently Deceased

Jim Magee, Windsor Avenue

NEWRY PARISH ANNIVERSARIES FOR OUR DECEASED RELATIVES

Cathedral Anniversaries

Saturday 19 March	10.30am 6.00pm	Hugh Devine, Downshire Road Kieran Torley, Sligo, formerly Church Street (M.M) Teddy & Tony McAllister, Hennessy Park Grace & Keith Holman, Adelaide, Australia Jack & Kathleen Bailey, Shandon Park Desmond Maguire, Yew Tree Park Michael Rice, Glenn & Charles Rice, Belfast Michael & Leontia O’Gorman, Cowan Street Michael & Margaret Hollywood, The Manse Phil & Pat Craven, Mount Pleasant, Dessie & Dolly Cavanagh, Daisy Hill Gardens, Thomas, Francie, Mary & Anne Maguire, Dromalane & John Mitchell Street Mary Catherine & Edward Lyons, Corcreechy & deceased family members Deceased members of the Fearon Family, Cronin Park Thomas & Elizabeth Quinn, Omagh Mary Donnelly, Priory Crescent, Kevin Donnelly, College Gardens, Dan & Lil Donnelly, Sinclair Street & Peter & Mary McCann, John Mitchel Street.
Sunday 20 March	10.00am 12 noon	Bridie & Jacqueline Fitzpatrick, O’Neill Avenue Mary Patricia McCoy, Balmoral Avenue Margaret & James Robinson, Linenhall Square
Monday 21 March	8.30am 10.30am	Margaret & Paddy O’Neill, Killeavy Road Margaret White, Belfast Patrick, Margaret, Patsy & John Magill & Margaret Jones, Cowan St
Tuesday 22 March	10.30am 7.30pm	Thomas & Gertrude Armstrong, Belfast Leontia & Michael O’Gorman, Cowan Street Paddy & Eileen Rafferty, Monaghan Row Patrick & Catherine White, O’Neill Avenue & Patrick White, Ashgrove Road
Wednesday 23 March	8.30am 10.30am	Rev. Thomas Gallery Most Rev. Dr. Eugene O’Doherty Noel Hadden, Plunkett Street Harry McAteer, Greenfield Park
Sunday 27 March	10.00am 12 noon	Canon Pat McAnuff John DeClan Bennett, Barley Lane Nicholas & Kathleen Shevlin & Deceased family members Sean Burke, Sandy Hill Pat Burke, Springhill Drive William Sheehan, Ashgrove Road Bernadette Mulligan, O’Neill Avenue

St. Mary’s Anniversaries

Saturday 19 March	6.30pm	Bernadette & Frank Keenan, Darragh Pk Winifred Reilly & deceased family members, Glen Hill
Sunday 20 March	11.00am	Pat & Mary Ann Murtagh, Derrylecka
Sunday 27 March	11.00am	Edward Lavelle, Rostrevor Dan & May McCann, O’Neill Avenue, George & Bridget McGivern, High Street & May O’Hanlon, Chapel Street Teresa Bannon, Barley Lane Jean O’Flaherty, O’Neill Avenue

St. Brigid’s Anniversaries

Saturday 19 March	7.00pm	Sean McEvoy, Killeavy Rd (M.M) May Maguire, Priory Crescent Liam, William & Mary Boyle, Slievegullion Road Noreen Byrne Parkhead Crescent
Sunday 20 March	11.30am	Kevin Hughes, Clanrye Avenue
Monday 21 March	7.00pm	Alice Spencer, North Street James Magee, Derrybeg Drive Maureen & Francis McDonald, Third Avenue, Derrybeg & deceased members of the Fearon Family, Davis Street Philomena & Pat Keenan, Mourneview, The Commons
Wednesday 23 March	7.00pm	James Ruddy, Damolly Gerry Clarke, Mourneview Park.
Sunday 27 March	11.30am	Arthur & Kathleen McGuigan, Castle Street Sean Donohoe, Derrybeg Cottages Sally & John Pearce, Second Avenue, Derrybeg & deceased members of the Pearce & Bagnall Families, Newry & Glenn Frances Magee, Slievegullion Road.

St. Catherine’s Anniversaries

Saturday 19 March	7.30pm	Michael & Nellie Clarke Mary Alice & Dermot McKeivitt Rosetta Hollywood
Sunday 20 March	9.30am 11.00am	Ciaran Magill Eileen McKay (M.M) Rose Brady Patrick & Clare Hughes Esther Finnegan & Family Patrick McConville Benefactors of Church & Priory
Monday 21 March	12 noon 7.30am 11.00am	Shanley Family Eithne & Desmond Shannon Gene Crawford James Pat John McAnulty Mary O’Sullivan
Tuesday 22 March	11.00am 7.30pm	Austin Fitzpatrick Eddie Ruddy & deceased family members Mary Ellen Monaghan Winnie Harper Sheila Gallagher Jan Canavan Doreen Forsyth May & Dessie McAviney
Wednesday 23 March	11.00am 7.30pm	Con & May McBarron Henry, Elizabeth & deceased family members Oliver Tremer Mary Mason Dessie Quinn Seamus Maguire Liam Hollywood
Sunday 27 March	8.00am 9.30am 11.00am 12.15pm	Dessie McCabe Joseph Duggan Thomas, Mary, Noel & Ciaran McNally Veronica McKeivitt Magdalene & Michael Matthews Rose & Patrick Morgan William McClorey Alice Grant Pauline & Frank McConville Eugene Markey & deceased Family members. Sarah Heaney Michael McElherron Hugh, Elizabeth Mullan & deceased members of Mullan & Bradley Families Mary & James White

OFFERTORY COLLECTION Sunday 13 March

Parish Collection	£ 4142.75
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Recently Baptised

We welcome into our community:
Aria Jane McFee, 26 Station Close
Amelia Bella Hughes, 5 Oakvale Avenue
Féilim Noel Kerr, 29 Blackthorn Grange
Noah Kenny Kearns 93 Mourneview Park
Charlie Brendan Preece, 20b Cleary Crescent



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