



# ST CLEMENT'S CHURCH, EWELL

Parish Priest: Fr. Graham Bamford

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Roman Catholic Diocese of Arundel and Brighton  
Charity No. 252878

All Masses are now live streamed. Access via the Parish Website



## Holy Week

### Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2024 Psalter Week 2 Cycle B

Saturday (Vigil)	6.00 pm	Mary Northeast RIP
<b>Palm Sunday</b> <b>24 Mar 2024</b>	<b>8.30 am</b>	<b>All Parishioners</b>
	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Dec'd of the Hayes Family</b>
Wednesday	10.00 am	Kathleen Shiels RIP
<b>The Sacred Paschal Triduum</b>		
<b>Holy Thursday -</b> <b>Mass of The</b> <b>Lord's</b> <b>Supper</b>	<b>8.00 pm</b>	<b>All Parishioners</b>
<b>Good Friday</b>	<b>11.00 am</b> <b>3.00 pm</b>	<b>Way of the Cross</b> <b>Liturgy of the Passion</b>

### ANNIVERSARIES: 24<sup>TH</sup> – 30<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2024

Mary Micallef, Mary Hatch, Patricia Broughton, Catherine Nash, Alphonsus O'Driscoll.

### COFFEE AFTER 10.30AM MASS

Palm Sunday – No Coffee

## Easter Week

### Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 Psalter Week 1 Cycle B

<b>Holy Saturday</b> <b>(Easter Vigil)</b>	<b>8.00 pm</b>	All Parishioners
<b>Easter Sunday</b> <b>31 Mar 2024</b>	8.30 am 10.30 am	Andrew & Barbars Sukienik RIP Veronica Herbert RIP
Wednesday	10.00 am	Robert Murphy RIP
Friday	10.00 am 10.30 am	Special Intention <b>Exposition of Blessed</b> <b>Sacrament</b>
Saturday (Vigil)	6.00 pm	Well-being John & Ruth Farrell
<b>Sunday</b> <b>07 Apr 2024</b>	8.30 am 10.30 am	All Parishioners Christopher Keogh RIP

### ANNIVERSARIES: 31<sup>ST</sup> MARH – 6<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2024

Brian Sullivan, Lilian Paul, Veronica Herbert, Kathleen Carvey,

### COFFEE AFTER 10.30AM MASS

Easter Sunday- No Coffee

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Saturday, 10.30 am – 11.00 am or by appointment

**RECOVERY AND WELL-BEING:** Please pray for: Steve Kamm, Chris Williamson, Jocelyn Bowen, Joseph Ewing, Martina Savage, Mel Alvarez, Shona Dane, Sheila Hall, Elpedio Tavares, Nicholas Ward, Marcia Bancroft

**DEATH:** Please pray for the repose of the soul of John Stratford ("John Sings") who died recently. John often sung perfectly at special occasions and for this we are grateful. Requiem Mass and funeral Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> April at 10.00 am.

Our sympathy to Helena who cared for John in his illness. May he rest in peace.

**200 CLUB MARCH:** Marie Bliss No.14 £30 Pauline Artiss No.150 £20 Congratulations!

### UPCOMING EVENTS – DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

24 <sup>th</sup> March –	Passover Meal	13 <sup>th</sup> April –	Quiz Night
11 <sup>th</sup> May –	Skittles & bring and share evening	14 <sup>th</sup> July –	Summer Fair (please note change of date)
10 <sup>th</sup> August –	Parish Walk (Weather permitting) in Horton Country Park Bring your own picnic.	15 <sup>th</sup> September –	Thankyou and farewell B-B-Q for Fr Graham
19 <sup>th</sup> October -	Barn Dance with light refreshments		

**PASSOVER MEAL – 24<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2024 4.30 PM:** Passover commemorates the escape of the ancient Israelites from Egypt. The last meal that Jesus and his disciples shared together (the Last Supper) was their Passover meal and it was at this meal that Christ instituted the Eucharist. **URGENT** If you can supply a dessert to share, please sign the list in the narthex.

**CAFOD:** The amount raised for CAFOD is £790.07 in total (envelopes £503.08 with gift aid to be added), £204.54 (mite boxes) and coffee morning (£82.45). £20 was donated via the contactless Zettle machine. Thank you to all who have donated, especially the first communion children and families. Also, you can still donate online at [cafod.org.uk](http://cafod.org.uk).

**GIFT AID DONORS:** Thank you again for your much appreciated Parish support. With your donations we continue to reclaim back from HMRC in excess of £10,000 each year which goes a long way towards the facilities provided by St Clements Parish Community. Julian Hall ([julianhall28@gmail.com](mailto:julianhall28@gmail.com) / Mob 07801 827 805) will be available to assist anyone interested in signing up for Gift Aid and additional information is available on the website. Standing Orders are the most effective method of donation support to reduce administration costs and for increased security'.

**EASTER FLOWERS:** There will be a collection for flowers on the sanctuary at Easter time. Thankyou Margaret and Angelina for their flower arrangements.

**FINANCE:** Copies of the Parish accounts are shown on the noticeboard. Copies are also available. Results show us that we are nearly back to pre-COVID time – 2019. Thank you to our Treasurer, Robert Emmerson, for preparing these accounts and thank you for the financial support to your Parish Community.

**EASTER SUNDAY COLLECTION** is your personal gift to Fr Graham  
Please use the blue envelope if gift-aiding



Imagine today what it might have been like to walk like Christ into Jerusalem. Imagine what it was like to walk through all those cheers knowing that in less than a week they would become jeers, the jeers of people calling for your death. Imagine what it would be like to do it anyway – because it was the good thing to do. Or imagine how easily my “yes” to Christ in a good place can turn into a “no” in a difficult place.

Then as we stand during the long Passion reading and think to ourselves, “This is really long!” you might look to the Cross and imagine what it felt like to hang there and to thirst and to see how those you had loved had turned on you. And then remember and know that he did all this for love of you. Let your imagination take you deeper into the reality of Christ’s love for you. The reality of Christ’s love is the truth we must remember and live by; it is the stage on which we live and act out our lives as the children of God.

Fr Toby Lees OP is a Dominican friar and priest. He currently works as Priest Director of Radio Maria England.

Mass text

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

**Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, the King of Israel. Hosanna in the highest.**

*and as the procession enters the church:*

**As the Lord entered the holy city, the children of the Hebrews proclaimed the resurrection of life. Waving their branches of palm, they cried: Hosanna in the Highest.**

**When the people heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, they went out to meet him. Waving their branches of palm, they cried: Hosanna in the Highest.**

FIRST READING **Isaiah 50:4-7**

PSALM **Psalms 11**

RESPONSE **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 **Philippians 2:6-11**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**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 **Mark 14:1 – 15:47**

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

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

**Next Sunday’s Readings:**  
Acts 10:34. 37-43  
Colossians 3:1-4 or 1  
Corinthians 5:6-8  
John 20:1-9



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CHILD’S PLAY

When someone completes a seemingly difficult task with real ease, in response to the congratulations you might hear them say, “Oh, it was nothing. It was child’s play.”

But child’s play is most definitely not nothing; it is absolutely all-consuming. Try telling the child at play that tidying their room is more important!

It’s good that children are fully consumed in their play because child’s play matters and shapes the adults we will grow up to be. In *Mere Christianity*, C.S. Lewis has a wonderful little section on child’s play and how we’re all at it, adults included.

He says that child’s play begins the moment we say “Our Father”. When we pray the Our Father, we’re pretend playing as children of God.

Now obviously, in a very real way, we are children of God – that happened by baptism and can never be taken away from us. But there is a sense in which saying “Our Father” is a little like make-believe and play. If we take an honest look at what our behaviour outside of the utterance of that prayer would suggest, Lewis suggests that we might find “a bundle of self-centred fears, hopes, greeds, jealousies and self-conceit all doomed to death”.

But we shouldn’t stop playing at the Our Father, he insists, just because we’re not very good at it, because playing is the way we get better at it. In a very real sense, we have to start pretending to be sons and daughters of God in order to become them.

Sometimes in confession I tell people who are struggling with forgiveness that they need to choose to behave as if they had forgiven the person and then allow the feelings to catch up sometime down the line. Sometimes we have to act at being better to become better.

Reflecting further on child’s play, Lewis notices that much of the time children are playing, they are pretending to be grown-ups. In this play, he thinks they are developing a moral equivalent of muscle memory. In practising bravery in their battle fantasy or in practising compassion and skill in their game of doctors and nurses, they are learning the dispositions necessary to be truly brave or compassionate.

Play, then, is so very serious, as well as great fun, because the way we play affects who we become. And there’s an element of play in what we do this Palm Sunday with our processions before the Mass. Today, we do not simply hear about the procession on Palm Sunday into Jerusalem. We also enact it. We begin someplace other than our normal seat and process with our palms. In the liturgy today, we

Lenten Reflections



Fr Toby Lees OP concludes this series of reflections for Lent.



24 MARCH 2024

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

YEAR B

DIVINE OFFICE WEEK II

To underline the Christian elements of the Pantheon, Pope Boniface began a tradition that was revived in 1995 and continues to this day. It's a spectacular event commemorating Pentecost: a shower of red rose petals is released through the roof during a special Pentecost service.

The square in front of the Pantheon was a meeting place for Renaissance artists, which perhaps explains the decision of one of the most famous of them all, Raphael, to be buried there. He died in 1520, having left instructions that he should be interred at the exact spot where the last ray of sunlight disappears. Other notable graves inside the Pantheon include those of two Italian monarchs: Vittorio Emanuele II and Umberto I.

Most of the altars inside the Pantheon were commissioned by Pope Clement XI in the early eighteenth century; most are adorned with paintings and frescoes, including Melozzo da Forlì's *Annunciation* in the chapel of the same name. Another prominent artwork is also one of the newest: it's an icon of the Madonna created by Genevieve Garnier in 1959, recalling an earlier work commissioned by Pope Boniface for the church's consecration with Mary as Panagia Hodegetria (All Holy Directress).

The marblework on the floor and walls is exquisite; the stones used represent the power of Ancient Rome, with different colours of marble originating from different parts of the empire.

## Mass text

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

**The Lord is truly risen, alleluia.  
To him be glory and power  
for all the ages of eternity, alleluia, alleluia.**

FIRST READING **Acts 10:34. 37-43**

PSALM **Psalms 117**

RESPONSE **This day was made by the Lord;  
we rejoice and are glad.**

Or **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

1. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,  
for his love has no end.  
Let the sons of Israel say:  
"His love has no end." **R.**
2. The Lord's right hand has triumphed;  
his right hand raised me up.  
I shall not die, I shall live  
and recount his deeds. **R.**
3. The stone which the builders rejected  
has become the corner stone.  
This is the work of the Lord,  
a marvel in our eyes. **R.**

SECOND READING **Colossians 3:1-4**

Or **1 Corinthians 5:6-8**

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!  
Christ, our passover, has been sacrificed;  
let us celebrate the feast then, in the Lord.  
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL **John 20:1-9**

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON

**Christ our Passover has been sacrificed,  
alleluia;  
therefore let us keep the feast with the  
unleavened bread  
of purity and truth, alleluia, alleluia.**

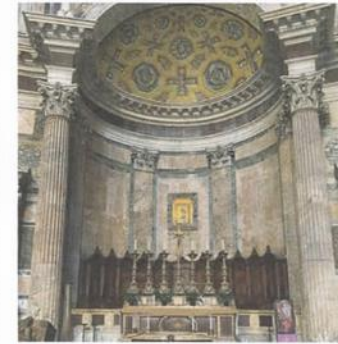
### Next Sunday's Readings:

Acts 4:32-35  
1 John 5:1-6  
John 20:19-31



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## A CHURCH FOR AN EMPIRE: THE PANTHEON



It's on almost every tourist's list of must-see monuments: but how many of the tourists who visit the Pantheon realise the place where they're standing is a functioning Catholic Church and that it's been so for 1400 years? One of the most distinctive landmarks of the Eternal City – the wow factor of the Pantheon – is its huge *cupola*. Built almost 2000 years ago, to this day, it's the world's largest unsupported concrete dome and has spawned a whole host of copies – starting with the famous *Duomo* in Florence.

There's often a queue to get into the Pantheon, but that's fine as you can take in its distinctive exterior, on which you'll make out the word "Grippa". It's a reference to the Roman statesman who commissioned the building, which was constructed on the site of an even earlier temple to "all the gods" – hence the name "Pantheon".

Once you're inside, the first thing you'll want to do is simply marvel at the interior, and especially that dome: it's awesome, particularly considering its age. It's a perfect hemisphere, 142 feet in diameter, with a hole, or *oculus*, at the apex. The *oculus* works as a huge sundial: the light moves across the interior throughout the day, and at solar noon the light is on the axis of the main door. On 21 April, the anniversary of Rome's foundation, the light creates a circular sunbeam that represents the majesty of the emperor, who would traditionally enter the building on that particular day and time. According to Roman folklore, rain never falls through the Pantheon *oculus*: but that's a myth, says its rector Mgr Daniele Micheletti. In fact the floor below the aperture is slightly concave to avoid flooding, with a series of drainage holes.

It was in the seventh century that the building was converted from a pagan temple to a Christian church. To guard against its past, Pope Boniface had twenty-eight cartloads of relics of martyrs removed from the catacombs and placed in a burial site below the main altar. The church was consecrated to the Virgin Mary and all the martyrs and named *Santa Maria ad Martyres* (St Mary and the Martyrs). Its status as a church throughout the many centuries since has helped make the Pantheon one of the best-preserved Roman buildings anywhere in the world – some of its marble was removed and taken to the British Museum, but, in general, its interior is intact.

## Churches of the Eternal City



Today we start a new series in which Joanna Moorhead takes us on a virtual tour of Rome's churches. We start with the Pantheon: built almost 2000 years ago, its concrete dome is still the largest unsupported structure of its kind in the world.

31 MARCH 2024

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE  
RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

YEAR B

DIVINE OFFICE WEEK I