



# Catholic Parish of St Edmund, King and Martyr, Godalming

with St Joseph's, Milford



## Holy Week 2024

*No one takes my life from me, but I lay it down of my own accord*

The Benedictine monastery of San Antonio in Polesine in Ferrara, Italy, has some early fourteenth century frescoes by the school of Giotto. One of them features the unusual and striking image of Jesus climbing a ladder to ascend his cross. It seems that this depiction emerges slightly earlier in Byzantine art and some of the best examples can be found in churches in Serbia and Macedonia.<sup>i</sup>

All too often when we listen to the story of passion what stands out is the suffering of Jesus and the tragedy of the whole situation. However, the image of Jesus mounting his cross underlines the willingness with which Jesus went to the cross, and I would like to suggest that this year, as we journey through Holy Week and Easter, we allow our attention to be caught by the love of Jesus. In the words of Von Balthasar, **"From the passion and death of Jesus flows the highest revelation of divine love and the salvation of mankind."**

In the Last Supper, in love, as he is given over to be crucified, he gives to his disciples the preeminent memorial of his saving passion, death and resurrection (the Eucharist). On the Cross, in love, he embraces death itself, in order the death may be conquered. On Holy Saturday, in love, he descends into the realm of the dead to seek out all who have died and longed for his promised coming. On Easter Night, in love, he shares his new and abundant life with those who are reborn in the waters of Baptism, that they might become beloved Daughters and Sons of the Father. On Easter Day, in love, he shows himself to his disciples, risen and bearing the wounds of his saving passion, and in love breathes on them the Holy Spirit, drawing them more deeply into the mystery of the never-ending love of Father and Son.

The Solemn liturgies that we celebrate this week – in particular the Mass of the Lord's Supper, the Liturgy of the Passion and the Easter Vigil - have a particular beauty and power to reveal the depth of the divine love that Christ still works in the Paschal (Easter) Mystery. Through the working of the Holy Spirit they make that love present within us, transforming our hearts, filling us with hope and joy and driving us to reflect that love in the fabric of our lives.

<sup>i</sup> See <https://artandtheology.org/2023/03/29/the-ascent-of-the-cross/>

### Mass Responses for Palm Sunday

PSALM RESPONSE: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: 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.

HOLY HOLY: Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus Dominus Deus Sabaoth. Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua. Hosanna in excelsis. Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini. Hosanna in excelsis. (see p16 in Parish Mass books)

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

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St Edmund's Parish is part of the Arundel and Brighton Diocesan Trust, Registered Charity No.25287

## Holy Week

**Palm Sunday** Palms will be blessed at the start of Mass at 6pm and 10.30am. Blessed palms will be available at the 8.45am Mass at St John's.

**Chrism Mass** will be celebrated by Bishop Richard at Arundel Cathedral at 6pm on Wednesday evening. The Holy Oils will be blessed for the anointing of the sick and those preparing for Baptism and Sacred Chrism Oil will be consecrated for the Sacrament of Confirmation and the anointing of priests. The priests of our Diocese will renew their priestly promises – please do pray for them.

**Good Friday** is a day of Fasting and Abstinence. Continuing this through Holy Saturday is strongly encouraged, as we pray for the faithful departed and await the light of Easter.

**Stations of the Cross** Fr Jonathan will lead the Stations of the Cross at 7am at Wintershall and at 10.30am at St Edmund's (for families).

### Access to St Edmund's on Good Friday

Please note there are various roadworks in the area, and Croft Road may be affected on 29 March. Please park elsewhere and come by foot.

**Wintershall Passion of Jesus in Trafalgar Square** is on Good Friday. It's a moving portrayal of the final days of Jesus, and there are two 90-minute performances: 12 noon and 3.15 pm. No tickets are required, performances are free.

**Churches Together Good Friday Witnesses** Churches Together in Elstead are gathering on the Green in Elstead at 10am on Good Friday. In Godalming the 'Witness in the Town', led by the Trinity Trust Team, is at 11am on the High Street.

**Good Friday Collection** is for the Holy Places. It provides a vital support for the small number of remaining Christians who look after the places in which Our Lord lived, died and rose again.

**Easter Offering** The collection at Easter is for the support of our priests. (Our priests do not receive a salary: their income comes from the offering at Christmas and Easter, offerings for baptisms, weddings and funerals and offerings for Masses. These are gratefully received.) Please use the Gift Aid envelopes if you can.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation** Monday 25 at St Pius X, Merrow, 7.30-8.30pm; Saturday 30th 10.30-11.30am, OLL, Haslemere (in parish office).

**The Solemnity of the Annunciation** this year is transferred to 8 April, after Easter Week.

**Children's Liturgy** This Sunday is the last session before Easter; next on Sunday 21 April.

## What is your view on the future of our Churches?

The period of consultation continues until Easter Monday to allow time for further reflection after the meeting. Responses can be made using the purple questionnaires or online at <https://forms.office.com/e/cf4CCFVcz2>.

If you wish to amend a previous submission please email saying as much as you can about how you responded first time and what you wish to change and this will be taken into account. <https://www.stedsgod.com/news/our-churches>

**Prayer for our parish** Please do continue to pray for our parish and diocese:

*Lord, the Word who is Life.  
May all the people of our Diocese  
grow in openness to the power of the Holy Spirit,  
so that through a growth in understanding and  
courage, and truly open to your call,  
we may bear powerful witness to all around us,  
for you are Lord for ever and ever. Amen.*

There is also a group who are praying the Angelus daily at noon and 6pm for the parish.

**CAFOD Big Lent Walk** Our parish team has cumulatively walked 7,796km and raised £1,265. Thank you all! Please sponsor the team if you can so that we reach our target of £2,000 by Easter: <https://parishes.walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/st-edmund-godalming>

**Baptism preparation** The next sessions are in late April/early May. Please get in touch if you would like to arrange baptism for your child.

**Bumps & Babes** The last session is on Monday and the group restarts on Monday 15th April.

**Churches Together in Godalming** Fr Jonathan would like to hear from anyone interested in supporting the work of Churches Together. Please chat to him or Angela Gilmour to find out more.

**Parenting young people and mental health** The Green Hub Project for Teens is a local community project supporting teenagers and their families/carers facing mental health challenges. Their Parent Support Group meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month, 7pm-8.30pm. More info: <https://greenhub.org.uk/parent-hub/>

**Please consider writing to your MP and signing the Petition** to reduce the abortion time limit from 24 to 22 weeks; babies born prematurely at 22 weeks are thriving and there is a contradiction in our abortion law. <https://righttolife.org.uk/littlefighters> Also consider the impact of the Johnson amendments <https://righttolife.org.uk/johnsonabortionamendment>

**Salesian Zambia Porridge Appeal** Thank you from the charity for your generous response. £492 was collected, which means they can feed 49 children with a bowl of porridge for the whole year, which is amazing!

**Gift Aid and contactless devices** If you pay tax you are able to join our parish Gift Aid scheme and we can claim 25p from HMRC for every £1 you donate, which makes a big difference to our parish finances. Please note that even if you have already signed up for GA with the parish, a separate GA declaration is needed for donations via our contactless devices. It's quick and easy to do on the machine itself, and you only need to sign up once (and not for subsequent donations). For more info please contact Eileen: [ga.godalming@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:ga.godalming@abdiocese.org.uk)

**The Promise of the Father – New Life in the Holy Spirit** A new course at St Joan's in Farnham, on Wednesday evenings 10th April-29th May, to prepare us for a new life in the Holy Spirit this Pentecost. The course is uniquely designed for our diocese in support of the 'Word Who is Life' Pastoral Plan, and it will benefit anyone seeking to discover more about the Holy Spirit and how He helps us to live the Christian life. More info: [www.stjoanofarcfarnham.co.uk](http://www.stjoanofarcfarnham.co.uk) or email: [alastaireblem@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:alastaireblem@yahoo.co.uk)

**Forgiveness** Revd Tim Carter will lead a session on 27 April 10am-12.30pm at Godalming Baptist Church on this: what it is, what damage we can do to ourselves, the hurt and pain it causes us. Info: Sally: G 428646 / [pollard3@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:pollard3@hotmail.co.uk)

**Back copies of Magnificat & Bible Alive** The Catholic charity 'Crown of Thorns' <https://www.crownofthorns.org.uk/> can take your back copies and redistribute to good homes. Please enclose a donation to cover costs of onward shipping. Send to: Crown of Thorns, c/o D.K. Glovesheets, 25 High Street, Dormansland, Lingfield, Surrey RH7 6PU.

**Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat** The Godalming Theatre Group are staging this production at the Baptist Church 9-14th April. Tickets from: <https://www.gtguk.com/>

**Buy Fairtrade Easter Eggs** and ensure cocoa farmers are paid a fair wage. There are fairtrade options around, e.g. the Tony Chocolonely brand.

**Don't forget** the clocks go forward next weekend!

**February Offertory Collection** The parish gratefully received a total of £7,400 from offertory and standing orders; and a further £858 for charities (£350 for Lourdes; £508 for CAFOD). Thank you for your generous support.

**Parish Finance** Thank you to those who support the parish by their regular giving. Donations to the parish by bank transfer can be made to 'RCD AB Godalming', sort code 40-05-20, account number 41077481.

#### Some sources of practical support

**Bereavement support** The parish team can be contacted via: [bereavementatsteds@gmail.com](mailto:bereavementatsteds@gmail.com)

**SVP** members offer regular visits, friendship and practical support to those in need. 07379 108009.

**Godalming Foodbanks** Please contact the SVP or Fr Jonathan if you need a referral for St Marks Foodbank or Godalming Community Food Store.

**Good Neighbour schemes** with volunteer drivers to help with transport to appointments, shopping, befriending etc: **Farncombe & Binscombe:** 07531 888398; **Godalming:** 07943 274461; **Witley & Milford:** 07871 570160; **Elstead:** 01252 702702.

**Mental Health support** Local mental health crisis helpline is 0800 915 4644, open 24/7 for support for adults and CYP. If you're worried about yourself/young person, there's face-to-face support and assessment at Guildford Safe Haven.

**Pope Francis' prayer intention for April** is for the role of women. Let us pray that the dignity and worth of women be recognized in every culture, and for an end to the discrimination women face in various parts of the world.

**Please remember to pray** for our diocese and parish and our clergy; for women; for peace.

**The sick and those who care for them** Nicole Gebhardt, Kate Hall, Ana Carvalho, Yvonne Cova, Penny Blackett, David Coombs, Liliane Hills, John McCarthy, Malcolm Baldwin, Alfonso Mora, Margaret Punter, Freda Apark, Philip Doyle, Alex Jolliffe, Pam & John Lennox, Nigel Ambrose, Tony McDonald, Sylvia Reilly, Valentina Masella, Danny O'Sullivan, Catherine Goodridge, Alan Berry, Nicolle Ernoult, Nuala Gallagher, George Gelder, Audrey Hockey, Cliff Hutchinson, Ann Lloyd, Betty Matthews, Jean Rejniak, Maria Rogers, Margaret Silvester, Anne Stephens, Anita van Rheen and Josie Whittle; those in our hospitals and care homes; and those who carry their illnesses privately.

**The faithful departed** in particular for Mary (Rita) Lane, John Donnelly, Simon McCann and Canon Michael Spelman who died recently, and for Fr Edmund Daly, Maria Brindle, Edward McMullen, Jeremy Holmes, Bernard O'Hagan, On Lai, Josef Pawlyszyn, Stan Selley, John Meagher, Reginald Wall, Fr Richard Frost, Mary Christmas, Joan Stone and Betsy Bawdely-Smith whose anniversaries occur at this time.

## Schedule of Liturgies Holy Week 2024

<b>Saturday 23rd March</b>	<b>10.00-11.00am Adoration and Sacrament of Reconciliation (St Joseph's)</b>  <b>6pm Vigil Mass with Solemn Entrance (St Edmund's)</b> <i>– People of the Parish</i>
<b>Sunday 24th March</b>  PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD	<b>8.45am Mass (St John's) – John Donnelly RIP</b>  <b>10.30am Mass with Procession (St Joseph's) - Gerry Newell RIP</b>
<b>Monday 25th March</b>  MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK	<b>7.30am Mass (St Edmund's)</b>
<b>Tuesday 26th March</b>  TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK	<b>9.30am Mass (St Edmund's)</b>
<b>Wednesday 27th March</b>  WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK	<b>9.30am Mass (St Edmund's)</b>

## Sacred Easter Triduum

<b>Thursday 28th March</b>  THURSDAY OF HOLY WEEK	<b>8.00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper (St Joseph's)</b> <i>– For Vocations to Priesthood</i>  <i>Followed by Watching at the Altar of Repose until 10.30pm Night Prayer</i>
<b>Friday 29th March</b>  GOOD FRIDAY	7.00am Stations of the Cross (Wintershall)  10.30am Children's Stations of the Cross (St Edmund's)  <b>3.00pm Solemn Liturgy of the Lord's Passion (St Joseph's)</b>
<b>Saturday 30th March</b>  HOLY SATURDAY	8.30am & 9.00am Świąconka (St Joseph's)  9.30am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (St Edmund's)
<b>Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March</b>  EASTER NIGHT	<b>8pm Easter Vigil Mass (St Joseph's) – People of the Parish</b>
<b>Sunday 31st March</b>  EASTER SUNDAY	6.45am Dawn Service (not Mass) (Minster Field)  <b>8.45am Mass (St John's)</b>  <b>10.30am Mass (St Joseph's) – Frank &amp; Matthew Brown RIP</b>

**St Edmund's Church is open each day, usually from 10am to 5pm**

[www.stedsgod.com](http://www.stedsgod.com)