

# SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER'S PARISH

Palm Sunday  
April 9<sup>th</sup> 2017



## DOMINICA IN PALMIS

Today is Palm Sunday (*Dominica in Palmis*) and the beginning of Holy Week. This Sunday is synonymous with the blessing and carrying in procession of palm branches in imitation of those carried by the Hebrew people who welcomed Christ into Jerusalem.

In the ancient world palm branches were a sign of peace and victory; they were carried by Romans and Greeks in their great state processions and often used as adornments.

In the Holy Land, as in most parts of the near East, the type of palm tree that grows is called in Latin *Phoenix Dactylifera*, better known to us today as the Date Palm from which succulent dates are harvested. These trees apparently grow to heights of eighty feet, although forty feet is more common, and dates can be harvested from them six years after they have been planted; they continue to produce fruit for around one hundred years. Its trunk is straight, tall and unbroken, terminating in a crown of fronds.



As its Latin name indicates, palms were associated with the mythical bird, the Phoenix, because it was thought that the bird would land on the fronds of this majestic tree, then combust in flames, and from the ashes of the old bird a new bird would rise through a kind of regeneration. For obvious reasons the early Christians came to associate the *Phoenix Dactylifera* with Christ, who rose from death to new life. *Dactylifera* simply means 'date bearing'.

Many places are mentioned in the Bible as having connection with palm trees: Jericho, for example, was known as the "city of palm trees"; Bethany, where Martha, Mary and Lazarus lived, means the "house of dates"; the place-name Phoenicia, mentioned in the Acts of the Apostles, is in all probability derived from the Greek word for palm. In the Book of Psalms, Psalm 92, the familiar comparison is made: "The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree." In the Book of Revelation, the saints are described in heaven as: "clothed with white robes and with palms in their hands." Palms became symbol of martyrdom in the early Church.

Blessed palms are sacramentals. According to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, sacramentals are: "sacred signs which bear a resemblance to the sacraments. They signify effects, particularly of a spiritual nature, which are obtained through the intercession of the Church." Other sacramentals include relics, holy oils, holy water, a rosary etc. They should therefore be treated with respect and given a place of honour in our homes. It is usually recommended that blessed sacramentals be burned rather than simply thrown away. **Father McGachey**

# SOLEMN STATIONS OF THE CROSS AND BENEDICTION TONIGHT AT 6PM

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**SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR DIOCESAN NEEDS** - will be taken up today.

**SCIAF LENTEN ALMS BOXES** - Please return these by the end of the week, either to the porch or the sacristy.

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**WE CONTINUE ON WEDNESDAY  
OUR NOVENA TO OUR LADY UNTIER OF KNOTS - WEEK 6  
with Rosary and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament  
at 7pm in the Parish Church**

**“In this unfailing novena Our Lady comes to untie the knots of our life.” *Pope Francis***

At 8pm on Wednesday, after the conclusion of the Novena, two priests will be available to hear confessions. Please use this opportunity to prepare spiritually for Easter.

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**THANK YOU** - To the parishioners who donated the four handsome olive trees that decorate the area for the blessing of palms. These will be placed at the Holy House of Nazareth in the sunken area of the Grotto.

**EASTER COLLECTION** - You should find with your bulletin this weekend an Easter Collection envelope. Easter and Christmas are the only times in the year when I ask you to be especially generous to the parish - other parishes are burdened with a second collection every week. Please support this annual collection for the benefit of your parish to allow us to keep up the high standard of liturgy and church maintenance. Thank you.

**SICK VISITATION** - **Father McGachey** hopes to visit the sick on Tuesday and Wednesday of this week between 10.45am and 12.15pm

**EASTER REMEMBRANCES, MONTHS MINDS, AND ANNIVERSARIES** - For inclusion in the Bulletin for Easter Sunday should reach the Chapel House by Thursday at 6pm.

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**MASS OF THE LORD’S SUPPER** - All the Parish Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are invited to renew their commitment to this ministry on Holy Thursday night.

Our parish choir will be supplemented by a number of choral scholars during the Triduum. The music promises to be very special for this highpoint of the Church’s year.

I would like to have all our altar servers at the Mass of the Lord’s Supper. There are some extra duties for the more senior servers on Good Friday and Holy Saturday night. A rota can be obtained from the sacristy.

I hope too that you will come to pray for me on Holy Thursday - the day that marks the institution of the Priesthood. Priests pray for their parishioners 365 days of the year, we ask you to come pray for us tonight.

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SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER'S PARISH - CARFIN  
and  
THE SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES

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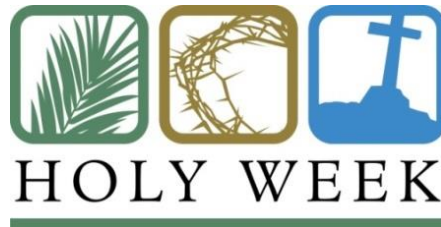


# HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**D**uring Holy Week the Church celebrates the mysteries of salvation accomplished by Christ in the last days of his life on earth, beginning with his entrance into Jerusalem.

**T**he greatest mysteries of the Redemption are celebrated yearly by the Church beginning with the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday until Vespers of Easter Sunday. This time is called "the tridium of the crucified, buried and risen"; it is also called the "Easter Tridium" because during it is celebrated the Paschal mystery, that is, the passing of the Lord from this world to his Father.

**P**lease find time this week to come to Church and take part in the beautiful ceremonies which set us apart as Roman Catholics, believers in the Son of God.



## **PALM SUNDAY**

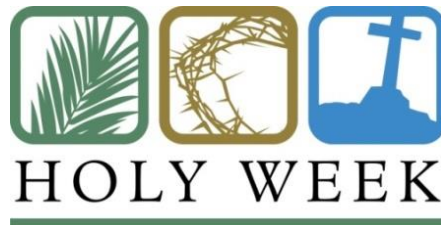
*The commemoration of Our Lord's Triumphal entry into Jerusalem  
Palms will be blessed and carried in procession at all Masses today*

Holy Mass 5pm (Vigil), 9am and 11am

All the Chapels and Shrines in the Grotto, open from 11am until 5pm

Solemn Stations of the Cross 6pm

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## **MONDAY, TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY**

The Church opens at 8.30am

Stations of Cross 9.35am

Holy Mass 10am

All the Chapels and Shrines in the Grotto, open from 10.30am until 3.30pm

Confessions 10.45am-11.00am

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 10.45am until 3.30pm in the Parish Church

Stations of the Cross 12.35pm

Holy Mass 1pm

Confessions 1.45pm-2.30pm

Stations of the Cross with Holy Communion on Monday at 7pm

Novena to Our Lady Untier of Knots on Wednesday 7pm

**Confessions with several priests available on Wednesday from 8pm**



## EASTER TRIDUUM

### HOLY THURSDAY EVENING

*The commemoration of the Last Supper and of Christ's commandment to love*

The Mass of the Lord's Supper with the *Mandatum* (washing of feet)  
and Procession to the Altar of Repose in the Glass Chapel 7pm

'Could you not watch one hour with me?' - An opportunity for private prayer  
at the Altar of Repose

'At Gethsemane' - Night Prayer of the Church with readings and hymns  
at the Altar of Repose 11pm

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## EASTER TRIDUUM

### GOOD FRIDAY

*The celebration of Our Lord's Passion and Death*

The Church will open at 9am

All the Chapels and Shrines in the Grotto, open from 10am until 5pm

Sung Office of Readings and Morning Prayer of the Church 10am

Confessions 10.30am-11.30am

Stations of the Cross  
with Veneration of the Cross and Collection for the Holy Places 12noon

The Solemn Celebration of Our Lord's Passion and Death, with veneration of the Cross,  
collection for the Holy Places and Holy Communion 3pm

Solemn Stations of the Cross  
with Veneration of the Cross and Collection for the Holy Places 7pm



## E A S T E R T R I D U U M

### HOLY SATURDAY MORNING

*The Church keeps vigil at her Lord's tomb*

The Church will open at 9am

All the Chapels and Shrines in the Grotto, open from 10am until 5pm

Sung Office of Readings and Morning Prayer of the Church 10am

Confessions 10.30am-11.30am

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## E A S T E R T R I D U U M

### HOLY SATURDAY EVENING

Solemn Easter Vigil with the Liturgy of Light, Word, Baptism and Eucharist 7pm

Easter Water will be distributed at the end of Mass tonight

Please join us for a festal buffet in the Xavier Centre after the Vigil

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## E A S T E R T R I D U U M

### EASTER SUNDAY

The Church will open at 8am today

Solemn Mass of Easter Sunday with the Renewal of Baptismal Promises  
and Sprinkling with Easter Water 9am and 11am.

Easter Water will be available after Mass today

All the Chapels and Shrines in the Grotto, open from 11am until 5pm

**THE CHAPELS AND SHRINES IN GROTTO** - Are now open on a daily basis.

**HOLY WEEK AND EASTER WITH POPE FRANCIS IN ROME** - If you have access to EWTN tv on sky 589 or [www.ewtn.com](http://www.ewtn.com) or [www.vatican.va/tv](http://www.vatican.va/tv) you will be able to follow the great ceremonies of Holy Week. They take place at the following times: Palm Sunday 8.30am. Holy Thursday Chrism Mass 8.30am. Good Friday Celebration of the Lord's Passion 4pm. Stations of the Cross from the Colosseum 8.15pm. Easter Vigil 7.30pm. Easter Sunday 9.15am followed by the 'Urbi et Orbi' Blessing (To the City and the World) at 11am.

#### **READERS FOR THE EASTER TRIDUUM**

**Holy Thursday** - 1<sup>st</sup> K. Muir 2<sup>nd</sup> A. Rooney

**Good Friday** - 1<sup>st</sup> J. Campbell 2<sup>nd</sup> J.P. Cairns Passion G.McGlone

**Easter Vigil** - 1<sup>st</sup> T. Hughes 2<sup>nd</sup> P. Burns 3<sup>rd</sup> A. Rooney 4<sup>th</sup> K. Muir (please collect copies of these readings from the sacristy after Mass today)

**Easter Sunday** - 9am E. Buchanan 11am W.Collum

#### **EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION FOR EASTER**

**Easter Vigil 7pm** - W. Higgins, B. Keenan, C. McCormack, K. McNally

**Easter Sunday 9am** - F. Stewart, L. Wright

**Easter Sunday 11am** - AM. Hart, S.Hassan, M.Hassan, M.McCabe, G.McGlynn, B.Moore

#### **SERVERS FOR EASTER TRIDUUM**

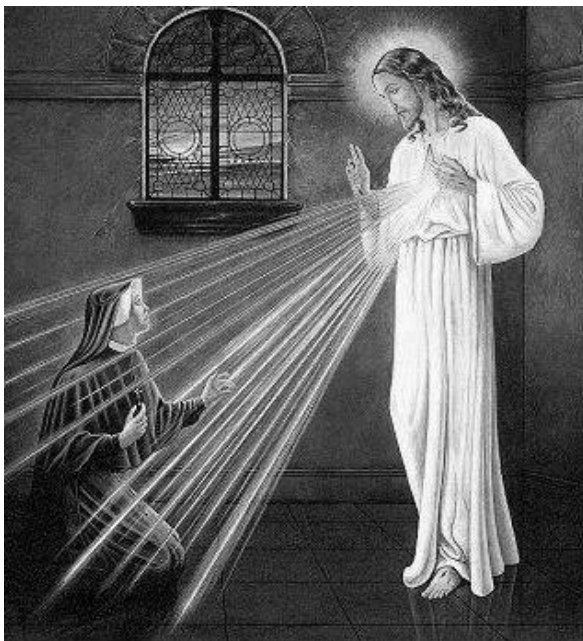
**Holy Thursday 7pm** - I would like all our altar servers to attend this Mass. Please be here for 6.40pm

**Good Friday 3pm** - L. Meldrum, C. Doran (Rehearsal Friday 2pm)

**Holy Saturday 7pm** - tbc (Rehearsal Saturday 12noon)

**Easter Sunday 9am** - As per normal Sunday rota

**11am** - As per normal Sunday rota



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## **SUNDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> APRIL 2017**

### **DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**

**Confessions from 1pm**

**Holy Hour with Benediction**

**1.30pm-2.30pm**

**The Chaplet of Divine Mercy 3pm**

**Followed by Holy Mass**

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## CONTACT US

**CLERGY** Rev. Dr. Francis G. McGachey, Parish Priest  
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Rev. Mr Jim Aitken, Permanent Deacon  
vicechancellor@rcdom.org.uk

**ADDRESS** Saint Francis Xavier's Church, Taylor Ave, Carfin ML1 5AJ

**TELEPHONE** 01698 263308

**WEBSITE** www.carfingrotto.org

**CHILD PROTECTION CO-ORDINATORS** Elizabeth McMahon & Geraldine Battersby

**SCOTTISH CHARITIES NUMBER** SC 011041

## THE SACRAMENTS

**THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM** - Baptisms are celebrated most Sundays of the year, except during Lent and on Easter Sunday, at 12.30pm.

**THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE** - At least six months' notice must be given of intention to marry.

Please telephone or email Father McGachey to make an appointment, or speak to Father McGachey or Deacon Jim after Mass at the weekend.

## REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

**SICK** — Mary Hart, Aqueel Naseem, Susan Inayat, John Brady, Teresa Cochrane, Ellen Knowles, Michael Miller, Elenor Giuberelli, Margaret Curran, Michael Gaynor, John McKeown, Peter McKenna, Nancy Buggie (Cullen), Ella Kearney, James Hughes, Tom Ahearn, Francey Connelly, Daniel Hughes, Jennifer Cunnington.

**RECENTLY DEAD** - Willie Lowe, Sally Jamieson, Bill Crocket, Amelia McCaskie, Kath Hamilton, Tommy O'Leary, Jane Ryan, Thomas Connelly, Elizabeth Shannon, Colin Henderson, Mary Greenhorn, Fred Craig, Joseph Reilly, Ellen Biggins, James Carroll, James Burns, Catherine Kelly, Derek Edgar, Jacquie Fannon, Margaret Toolan, Ann Marie Tiger, Ethel Begly, James Carroll, Amy (Euphemia) Meechan, Sophia Donnelly.

**MONTHS MIND, ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES** - James and Elizabeth Hattie, Eileen Carroll, Gerry Delaney, Elizabeth McCluskey, James McKenna, Catherine and Peter McKenna, Bernard and Elizabeth Cullen, Margaret Leonard, Alex Holmes, Brigid Duffy, Kathleen Ann Crawford, Rosaleen Mulvey, Mary Mulvey, Thomas Mulvey, Thomas Mulvey jnr., Francis Houlihan, John and Nancy (Cullen) MacKinnon, John Keeney, Alice and Ann Kelman, Michael McCluskey, Charles Kenny, Bridget Kenny, Bobby Tiffney, Charlie and Grace Tiffney, Gerald and Susan Condon, Peter, Michael and Gerald Condon, Ann and Robert Tiffney, Condon Family, Tiffney Family, Joseph Crossan, John Keeney.

*Please remember that the deadline for inclusion in the Bulletin is Thursday evening. Any intimations that arrive after then will be included in the following week's Bulletin.*

**Weekly Offerings For Last Sunday - £1753**  
Thank you for your continued support of our Parish



