

The Parish of
STONY STRATFORD
 with
CALVERTON



THE PARISH NEWSLETTER
PASSION (PALM) SUNDAY
SUNDAY 9th April AD 2017

So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!" And Jesus found a young ass and sat upon it; as it is written, "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on an ass's colt!"

(John 12:13-15)

The Palm Sunday procession is formed of Christians who, in the "fullness of faith," make their own the gesture of the Jews and endow it with its full significance. Following the Jews' example we proclaim Christ as a Victor... Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord. But by our faith we know, as they did not, all that His triumph stands for. He is the Messiah, the Son of David and the Son of God. He is the sign of contradiction, acclaimed by some and reviled by others. Sent into this world to wrest us from sin and the power of Satan, He underwent His Passion, the punishment for our sins, but issues forth triumphant from the tomb, the victor over death, making our peace with God and taking us with Him into the kingdom of His Father in heaven.



Please pray for the Sick: Fiddy Abraham, Polly Barclay, Gerry Bonner, Shirley Brown, Steve Cooper, Larry Francis, Russell Herbert, Jane Holman, Terry Mason, Sue Maton, Rosalie Osbourne, Pete, Ron Smart, Tony Oakley, Wendy

Please pray for the dead: Rory, Tony Finnegan, Bob Gray, Cecil Tee... and for those whose anniversaries of death occur during this week...**9th** Thomas Bennett, Lionel Odell, Antoni Zastawny, Edward Blow; **10th** Richard Bailey, James Hickman, Edna Rose; **11th** Jean Mitchell; **12th** Robert Read, Ron Jennison (priest), Fredrick Luck; **13th** John Eglesfield; **15th** Doreen Taylor, Charlotte Wright, Irene Hind

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

- TODAY:**
9:30am **PASSION (PALM) SUNDAY**
Joint PARISH MASS
at St Mary & St Giles
6:00pm. EVENSONG at All Saints
Pray for: Our Parish
- Monday:** **Holy 'Fig' Monday**
 9:30am 'Squeals on Wheels' in Parish Hall
 6:30pm Confessions
 7:00pm Stations of the Cross
7:30pm Mass & Homily
Pray that: We may bear true and lasting fruit
- Tuesday:** **Holy Tuesday**
10:30am Mass at All Saints + 'Elevenses'
 2:00pm Fellowship: Devotional Service
 6:30pm Confessions
 7:00pm Stations of the Cross
7:30pm Mass & Homily
Pray that: we may remain faithful to Christ
- Wednesday Holy 'Spy' Wednesday**
 11:30am Chrism Mass at Lichfield Cathedral
 6:00pm Rector in the Parish Office
 6:30pm Confessions
 7:00pm Stations of the Cross
7:30pm Mass & Homily
Pray for: The Bishop & his Priests
- THE TRIDUUM SACRUM**
- Thursday: Holy (Maundy) Thursday**
7:30pm THE MASS OF THE LAST SUPPER
& The Watch (until Midnight)
Pray that: We may keep watch with Christ
- Friday: Good Friday**
9:30am CELEBRATION OF
THE LORD'S PASSION
Confessions follow the Liturgy
 2:00pm Devotional Hour at All Saints
Pray that: We may not flee
- Saturday: Holy Saturday**
 4:00pm Confessions in St Mary & St Giles
8:00pm The Easter Vigil
& First Mass of Easter
Pray for: For Faith in times of darkness
- Next Sunday: EASTER DAY**
9:30am PARISH MASS at St Mary & St Giles
11:00Am FAMILY MASS at All Saints
Followed by an Easter Egg Hunt
Pray for: Our Parish

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Hon Asst Priest: Fr Joseph Loveday Tel: 01327 351511
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PARISH NEWS AND NOTICES

Student Cross: will as usual be staying overnight this evening in the Parish Hall. Nicola Crompton is kindly co-ordinating food for the participants and if any one could offer a desert for them she would be most grateful. She can be contacted on 07979 653515.

Lent Appeal for the 'Additional Curates Society' It would really help the Treasurer if you return your box after Easter. If you are a tax payer please do complete the Gift Aid section on the box with a note upon it of the amount of monies contained in your box. Thank you.

Sainsbury's 'Active Kids' Vouchers: If you shop regularly at Sainsbury's then please do collect the 'Active Kids' vouchers and hand them to Kieran or Lesley Salter as they will help our Church School obtain sports equipment. If the person in front of you in the queue declines them...please don't be shy in speaking up and saying that you know of a school that would appreciate them and asking if they mind letting you have them. *Thank you.*

'Cover to Cover' Bibles: These have arrived and are available for collection from the Rector. There are a couple of spare copies at £14.99 each. If those who have purchased them would show them to others and we need to order more, we can do so. The full price is ten pounds greater, so orders ought to be placed as soon as possible.

Notice of Election of Churchwardens: At the *Vestry Meetings* on Sunday 26th March the following were elected as Churchwardens for the next twelve months:

At *St Mary & St Giles:* Mr Kieran Salter & Mrs Louise Brown

At *All Saints:* Mr Jonathan Dunn & Mrs Jillian Barby.

All four are Churchwardens for the entire Parish and are Trustees of the 'St Mary & St Giles Charity' (which owns the Curate's House) and our Church School's Charitable Foundation, but have particular responsibilities for their respective churches. Please pray for our Churchwardens and for all those who assist them in our Parish Churches.

Elections at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting: The following were elected to serve on the Parochial Church Council for the coming year:

for *All Saints:* Mr Eric West & Mrs Diane West

for *St Mary & St Giles:* Mr Graham Brown, Mr Richard Martin, Mr Daniel Mullins, Mrs Lesley Salter, Mrs Hazel Wallis, Mr David Williams

The Sidesmen in both churches were all re-elected and the Churchwardens were given authority to co-opt during the year.

No one wished to be elected to the Deanery Synod.

The Accounts having been received, the meeting approved Messrs Hickson Boyce as the Independent Examiners for the PCC's Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2017.

Following the Annual Parochial Church Meeting a brief meeting of the Parochial Church Council took place to elect its officers. The following were elected:

Honorary Secretary: Mr Daniel Mullins
Honorary Treasurer: Mr David Williams
Vice Chairman: Mr Kieran Salter.

Planned Giving - Envelope Scheme: the new sets of envelopes for the next financial year are now available for collection in each of our Parish Church for those who regularly use them. If anyone not currently giving through the envelope scheme would like to do so please see David Williams, Our Treasurer for further details. Similarly, if anyone would prefer to give by Standing Order, David would be happy to talk this through with you.

The Rector, Churchwardens and PCC are very grateful to everyone who gives to the continuing mission of the Church within our parish. While the amount asked of the Parish by the Diocese continues to rise, it is good to be able to report that in 2016 we were able send £1000 more to the Diocese than we had in 2015. There are leaflets (Giving in Grace) recommended by the

Archdeacon in both of our churches to enable us all to prayerfully consider our giving to the mission of the Church *Thank you.*

An Appeal by our Young People: Following a discussion some of our young people are keen to help a Parish in Coventry Diocese raise funds to enable their participation in the Youth Pilgrimage to continue. They are keen to sell homemade Easter cards which Ray Rowson is printing for them They are also going to make and sell homemade biscuits and cakes on the same stall after the Mass on a Sunday. They write: "Last year at Walsingham Youth Pilgrimage Tile Hill's marquee blew away. Also last year at the youth pilgrimage the theme was acts of mercy. So we decided that as our act of mercy we would raise some money towards Tile Hill's new marquee. We are going to be selling Easter cards and cakes. Please bring along a little money to help with this worthwhile cause. *Jamie and Rosie*"

Tea Dance in SMSG School Hall: Sunday, 23rd April 3-5pm. Popular sequence and ballroom dancing accompanied by SMSG Church Band with an interval tea. £5 each in advance from Lesley Salter or any Band member.

Parish Weekend Pilgrimage to The Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham 2017: Thank you to all those who have booked places so far. Please could all completed booking forms along with deposits of £30 per person be given to Fr Ross as soon as possible, so that we can secure rooms. If you have not been to Walsingham before this is an ideal introduction to the wonderful ministry of the Shrine. Fr Ross or any previous pilgrims will be only to pleased to tell you more.

St Mary & St Giles School (North Site) - Mid-day Supervisor: Do you enjoy spending time with children? A permanent post is available for a Mid-day Supervisor starting 18th April 2017. We are ideally looking for a person experienced with looking after children and able to provide the highest standards of care and support for all our pupils. Monday to Friday Term-time only 12:00pm to 1:30pm, Grade A Level 1, FTE Salary £16491, Actual salary £2777.07 (includes 5.2 weeks paid holiday). We are committed to safeguarding the welfare of all our children. All applicants will be subject to a DBS (previously CRB) Check. If you are interested in this post, please contact the school office (01908 562186) for an application form.

St Mary & St Giles School (South Site) - General Handyman: A general handyman is sought for the south site of our Church School. If you are interested in learning more about this opportunity, or know of someone who might be interested, then please have a word with Kieran Salter. Thank you.

St Mary & St Giles School Cleaners: We are looking to appoint part-time cleaners to help keep our school clean and tidy. Please contact the school for further details and an application form. Part-Time Cleaners Monday to Friday in Term-time only, for 2 or 3 hours per day between the hours of 3.00 pm and 6.00 pm. Salary Grade B1 £16781 pro rota Hourly rate £8.72 Plus 5.2 weeks paid holiday. To start asap The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all our children and expects all staff to share this commitment. The successful applicant will be subject to an enhanced DBS check.

