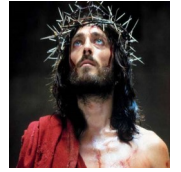


James's Street Parish

01-4531143 - Working with Francis Street and Meath Street Parishes



Palm Sunday – 24 March 2024

POPE FRANCIS ON HOLY WEEK AND EASTER



As the Church enters into the week before Jesus' Passion and death, the Lord does not ask us to contemplate him only in pictures and photographs, or in the videos that circulate on the internet. No. Instead, Jesus is present "in our many brothers and sisters who today endure sufferings like his own: they suffer from slave labour, from family tragedies, from diseases." Many people also suffer from "wars and terrorism, from interests that are armed and ready to strike. Women and men who are cheated, violated in their dignity, discarded. Jesus is in them, in each of them, and, with marred features and broken voice, he asks to be looked in the eye, to be acknowledged, to be loved."

The presence of God in each of these brothers and sisters is not some other Jesus, but is the same Jesus who entered Jerusalem amid the waving of palm branches. It is the same Jesus who was nailed to the cross and died between two

criminals. We have no other Lord but him: Jesus, the humble King of justice, mercy and peace." The celebration of Palm Sunday is "bittersweet," since there is both joy and sorrow as the Church recalls the cries acclaiming him as king during his entrance into Jerusalem, but which is accompanied by the solemn proclamation of his Passion and death. In this poignant contrast, our hearts experience in some small measure what Jesus himself must have felt in his own heart that day, as he rejoiced with his friends and wept over Jerusalem. Jesus himself sees in this joyful welcome an inexorable force willed by God.

Jesus is no misguided purveyor of illusions, no new age prophet, no imposter. Rather, he is clearly a Messiah who comes in the guise of a servant, the servant of God and of man, and goes to his passion. He is the great 'patient,' who suffers all the pain of humanity," he said, and encouraged faithful to reflect on the suffering Jesus would face in the week before his death.

As we listen to the crowd joyfully acclaim Jesus as our King, let us also reflect on the slanders and insults, the snares and betrayals, the abandonment to an unjust judgment, the blows, the lashes and the crown of thorns, and lastly, the way of the cross leading to the crucifixion.

Pointing to the passage in the Gospel of Matthew where Jesus tells his disciples that if anyone wants to follow him, "let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me," Francis says that Jesus never promised honour and success. The Gospels make this clear.

Rather, the Lord had always warned his disciples that his was a path of suffering, and that the final victory would be achieved through his Passion and death on the cross.

Basilica of St. Mary Major

Pope Francis on Wednesday issued new regulations for the administration of the papal Basilica of St. Mary Major, placing new emphasis on spiritual work and pastoral care and appointing a coadjutor archpriest of the West's oldest Marian shrine. In the March 20th papal decree, the Holy Father explained that he sought to "free" the "canons," (members of the group or "chapter" of clergy he designates to serve the basilica) "from all economic and administrative duties, so that they may dedicate themselves, fully and with renewed vigor, to the spiritual and pastoral accompaniment" of pilgrims.



Remembered this Weekend

On Sunday 24th at the 10am mass, Tony and Bernie Carroll will be remembered in prayer.



Collection for the Holy Land

The Vatican has asked that a collection be taken up to help the Catholic Communities in the Holy Land. It is supposed to be taken up on Good Friday. I am not sure that is very appropriate. We will instead, give a portion of the Easter Sunday Collections to this fund. *Fr. Martin*



Way of the Cross

Led by Archbishop Farrell will be in Dublin's Phoenix Park on Good Friday, March 29, at midday. The procession will proceed from the Wellington Monument to the Papal Cross. More info at info@clireland.com

Holy Week & Easter in our Parishes

24 March Palm Sunday

James' St. Mass 10am — Meath St Mass 11am
Francis St. Vigil (Sat 23rd 6pm), (Sun) Mass 12noon
John's Lane Vigil (Sat 23rd 6pm) (Sun) 8.30am & 11.30am

Mon 25 March
Reconciliation Service and Mass times

Reconciliation Service Francis St 3pm — Mass 10am
Mass John's Lane 11am & 1pm.
Mass James's St. 10am

Tues 26 March
Reconciliation Service and Mass times

Reconciliation Service Francis St & Meath St Parishes
7.30pm in Francis St
Mass John's Lane 11am & 1pm.
Mass 10am. In James's St. & Francis St.

Weds 27 March
Eucharistic Service and Mass Times

Eucharistic Service 10am Francis St.
Mass 10am. In James's St.
Mass John's Lane 11am & 1pm.

Morning Prayer: Thurs, Fri, Sat,

Francis St 10am

Thurs 28 March
Mass of the Lord's Supper

For James's St, Meath St, & Francis St at 7pm in Francis St
John's Lane 7.30pm

Fri 29 March
The Passion

For Meath St. & Francis St. in Meath St. at 3pm
For James's St. in James's St at 3pm

Fri 29 March
Stations of the Cross

John's Lane 11am
For James's St, Meath Street, Francis St. in Francis St. 7pm

Sat 30 March Easter Vigil

John's Lane 7pm, Francis St. 7.30pm — James's St. 9pm

31 March Easter Sunday

James' St. Mass 10am — Meath St Mass 11am
Francis St. Mass 12noon
John's Lane Mass 8.30am & 11am
