



St Michael's Catholic Church Linlithgow NEWSLETTER

Palm Sunday

2nd April 2023

CYCLE A

Week 14

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Public Mass on Sunday is at 9:15 am and 11:00 am

LIVESTREAM: 11 am Mass on the second Sunday of each month

Please follow the link on our Parish website: www.stmichaels-rc.org.uk

Readings this Sunday

***Isaiah 50:4-7** This is one of the four "Suffering Servant Songs" of Isaiah, which describes a mysterious servant of God. We hear the fourth song on Good Friday. Jesus identified himself with this Suffering Servant*

***Psalms Response** My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?*

***Philippians 2:6-11** St Paul here quotes an ancient Christian hymn.*

***Matthew 26:14-27:66** The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ. The shorter version will be used at the 9.15 Mass. In the days and weeks ahead, there will be a lot of readings from John's Gospel, where the opponents of Jesus are described simply as "The Jews." This sounds antisemitic to our ears. But Jesus was a Jew and never stopped being Jewish. The apostles and early disciples were Jewish. The author of John's Gospel was Jewish and known to the High Priest. What was going on was a debate within Judaism between Jews who accepted Jesus and those who did not. The real enemies of Jesus were those belonging to the priestly religious establishment in Jerusalem. "The Jews" were most likely Jewish leaders opposed to Jesus.*

SERVICES IN THE COMING WEEK

Monday	Mass	10am (Mary Walker)
Tuesday	Mass	10am (Helen Brady)
Tuesday	Chrim Mass	7pm in the Cathedral
Wednesday	Mass	10am (Mary Topping)
Wednesday	Stations of the Cross	7pm (with the other churches in Linlithgow)
Thursday	Mass of the Last Supper	7pm
Good Friday	Liturgy of the Passion	3pm
Good Friday	Stations of the Cross	7pm
Holy Saturday	Morning Prayer	10am
	Blessing of Foods (<i>Swieconka</i>)	10.15am
	The Easter Vigil	8.30pm
Easter Sunday	Mass	9.15am
	Mass	11.00am

PALM SUNDAY ECUMENICAL SERVICE In St Ninian's Craigmailen at 6.30pm

FEBRUARY ACCOUNTS Offertory Income was £4,839. Expenditure was £22,589, which included £18,810 paid to the archdiocese as our annual assessments. Note that the expenses of the diocesan curia and the running of Gillis Centre are still largely paid for out of the Charlestown bequest - money left for the purpose by John Menzies of Pitfodells (1756-1843), who also founded Blairs College. The archdiocese also has to share the expense of maintaining the Scots College in Rome, the National Tribunal, the archives at Columba House, the Media Office and other agencies of the Bishops Conference and paying the salaries of those employed there.

STALL Easter Cards, Confirmation Cards and Gifts are now available. The stall will be closed on Easter Sunday.

WEDNESDAY TEAS/COFFEES back on the 12th but not the 19th.

HALL CLOSED HOLY WEEK from 2nd - 9th April.

CHURCH CLEANING Tuesday 4 April 10.30am Mrs. Ambrose, Mrs. Workman, Mrs. C. Wilson, Mrs. Sinclair.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES for the new tax year, 2023/24, are available for collection from the porch. If there have been any changes to your circumstances, eg change of address, no longer a taxpayer, please let Ann Chirnside know (07446294432). If you are a UK taxpayer and wish to make your offertory donation through the Gift Aid scheme please see Canon Paul or Ann Chirnside. For every £1 gifted 25p can be claimed from the taxman.

SCIAF BOXES SHOULD BE RETURNED NOW

EMERALD HILL: members of the parish support so many good causes that it's hard to ask you to donate to another. But donations are the only support that exists for the nearly 100 orphaned children at the Children's Home at Emerald Hill, Harare, Zimbabwe, which we have supported for ten years. Could you give £30 per year towards food, accommodation and school fees? That could be paid by

- (a) monthly standing order for £2.50, to 80-47-87 account no 10230369, in the name of Mrs N C Lonie
- (b) by bank transfer (details above)
- (c) by cheque payable to Mrs N C Lonie, or cash
- (d) I'm usually at 9.15 Mass and weather permitting will have a table outside church for the next few Sundays.

Grateful thanks to Catherine and Don McAulay for organising the Wednesday coffee mornings and to all who support them (50% goes to Emerald Hill) – Nuala Lonie

ARCHDIOCESAN STATIONS OF THE CROSS - Monday 3 April at 7:45pm on Zoom. It is a chance pray for all pro-life intentions bit.ly/stations2023

PRAYER FOR PEACE IN UKRAINE O Loving God, your Son, Jesus Christ, came into the world to do your Will and leave us His Peace. Through the intercession and example of our Blessed Mother Mary, Queen of Peace, grant us the wisdom and humility to reflect that peace to the world. Inspire our thoughts, words, and deeds to bear witness to your presence in our hearts. May your Holy Spirit fill us with every grace and blessing so that we may pursue what leads to peace for all humanity. Amen