

# CATHOLIC WIGHT

## THE CATHOLIC CHURCHES IN THE ST. BONIFACE DEANERY ISLE OF WIGHT



Today is the day of palms. It celebrates the beginning of Holy Week and the entrance of Jesus into Jerusalem for the Feast of the Passover, which celebrates God's freeing the chosen people from slavery in Egypt. It was the custom for pilgrims to come to Jerusalem to worship at the temple for this great feast. There was a ritual of welcome and entrance to the city for them. Palms were spread on their route into the city, and as they entered the travellers sang the familiar Hallel Psalms, songs of praise, known to every practising Jew.

In the reading of the Passion from Mark's gospel we see Jesus in deep anguish, feeling abandoned by both friends and God. At the same time, Jesus shows incredible strength, faith and obedience. Jesus was faithful to his mission as servant and Messiah, even when it cost him his life. Jesus freely embraced death, an execution so painful and shameful that the Romans would not inflict it on one of their own. From the midst of intense suffering, human mockery, and the experience of abandonment, Jesus "breathed out" his life. A Roman centurion, a Gentile, recognises the true identity of Jesus: "Truly this man was the Son of God." (Mark 15:39) Jesus, the one both hailed and derided as king of the Jews, the one crucified, is finally revealed in his deepest identity as Son of God.

During Holy Week, we prayerfully remember the events of Jesus' passion and death. The essence of discipleship is that we don't simply receive the fruit of Jesus' suffering and death; the essence of discipleship is that we align our own identity with that of Jesus, accept self-denial and self-giving, and in this way walk with him to the cross. Disciples go wherever the Master goes.

**Father Steven**

### PARISH OFFICES

**Cowes & East Cowes** The Presbytery, 22 Terminus Road, Cowes PO31 7TJ  
01983 292739 jredversharris@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

**Ryde & Bembridge** Presentation House, 55 High Street Ryde, PO33 2RE  
01983 812127 stmarysryde@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

**South Wight** 7 Atherley Road, Shanklin PO37 7AT  
01983 867610 southwight@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

**Totland/Newport** The Catholic Presbytery, 96 Pyle Street, Newport, PO30 1EU  
01983 522027 stsandstc@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

**Parishes:** • Cowes • East Cowes • Newport & Totland • Ryde & Bembridge • South Wight  
**Schools:** Holy Cross • St Francis • St Mary's • St Thomas of Canterbury • St Saviour's • Christ the King

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Registered Charity No. 1199568

**Clergy**

**Fr Jonathan Redvers Harris** - [jredversharris@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:jredversharris@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

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**Rev. Gary May** - [stsandstc@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:stsandstc@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**READINGS FOR SUNDAYS in Year B**

**Palm Sunday** – Mk 11:1-10; Is 50:4-7; Phil 2:6-11; Mk 14:1 -15:47

**Easter Sunday** – Acts 10:34,37-43; Col 3:1-4; Jn 20:1-9

**Second Sunday of Easter** - Acts 4:32-35; 1Jn 5:1-6; Jn 20:19-31

**HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTION – MARCH** Pope Francis invites us to pray **For the New Martyrs**. We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm.

**LECTIO DIVINA** Newport's group Monday 25 March Retreat at Verbum Dei from 1800 to 2000, All welcome Tuesday in Shanklin's Hall 1845

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS IN VENTNOR** on Wednesday following 1100 Mass

**EASTER TRIDUUM RETREAT AT VERBUM DEI** 28th - 31st March. If you are interested to join it or want to know more information about it, please contact us: [verbumdei.iow@gmail.com](mailto:verbumdei.iow@gmail.com)

**MAKING THIS WEEK HOLY** This coming week we are invited to make this week holy; we are called to be humble and enter into the spirit of the week which has changed the world and celebrate these great events of God's love.

**MAUNDY THURSDAY** We celebrate this Mass as the great gift of the Eucharist and the institution of the priesthood. After the Mass, the Blessed Sacrament is taken to the Altar of Repose where we are invited, if we wish, to spend some time with Christ in the Garden of Gethsemane.

**GOOD FRIDAY** is a day of fasting and abstinence. Abstinence is to be observed by all over the age of 14. The law of fast binds those between the ages of 18 and 59. Check Mass Times page for the Celebration the Solemn Liturgy of the Passion of the Lord, the opportunity to venerate the wood of the cross in Ryde, and plenty of options for the Stations of the Cross around the island.

**HOLY SATURDAY** The Vigil Mass is the most important Mass in the church's year. It is a wonderful celebration, full of simple Easter joy

**GOOD FRIDAY WALKS OF WITNESS**

**NEWPORT** Starts at 1230 outside the Congregational Church, first stop the garden of St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic church for readings and prayer.

**WEST WIGHT:** Starts at the Memorial Hall at 1000, proceeds along the Avenue with pauses for reflection, concludes with a short service on the Library Green. Refreshments at Freshwater Methodist Church. Wet weather venue – Freshwater Methodist Church.

**EAST COWES:** Starts at 1100 from Albert Cottage, York Avenue.

**EASTER SUNDAY SON-RISE SERVICE** Sunday 31st March, 0630 on the shore at Freshwater Bay. Although the actual sunrise is not visible from the bay, the change from darkness to daylight is striking. This service will not take place if the weather is too inclement. Please note that the clocks spring forward on Easter Morning.

**VOCATIONS** “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.” Docility in prayer is essential to vocation discernment. Are you open to a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life? Talk to your priest or contact Cn. John Cooke vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or call 01329 318 869

**GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION FOR CHRISTIANS IN THE HOLY LAND** The Pontifical Good Friday Collection supports the Christian community in the Middle East. This last year has been particularly challenging for this small community which seeks 'to be the salt, light and leaven of the Gospel' in the region, often living in difficult circumstances. Here is the link to the Give As You Live page: <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/good-friday-collection-for-christians-in-the-holy-land>

**EASTER OFFERINGS** The Easter Sunday Collection traditionally supports our priests directly in grateful thanks for all their dedication, service, and witness throughout the year. If you would like to give a gift to support Fr Nishan, Fr Stephen and Fr Steven in their mission and ministry this Easter, please visit <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/catholic-wight-easter-collection> (for Fr Jonathan, the collection in the old way, please!)

**DIARY DATE** Please keep Sunday 19 May clear in your diary for the Island celebration of Pentecost (details to follow).

**YOUTH CLUB** Next gathering Friday 5 April at 1730 in the McAuley centre in Newport.

**NEW GROUP UNDER 13 (years old)** starting Saturday 13 April at 1500 in the McAuley centre in Newport

**ST PATRICK'S EVENING** Thank you to everyone who made our St Patrick's evening such a success. So many people worked tirelessly (too many to mention) to make it a very happy occasion with lots of different music, a hat competition and a bar. I have been told the food was delicious. £800 was made for our Youth Club to continue in their happiness on a Friday Evening. Next year St Patrick's night already booked in Saturday 15 March 2025. Barbara Conway

**KEEP IN TOUCH** To receive the Island newsletter by email please send a blank email to [iowadmin@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:iowadmin@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) putting 'email newsletter' in the subject line.

**PLEASE PRAY** for everyone who is sick, for the protection of the elderly and the vulnerable, for all who are suffering anxiety and worry, for the NHS medical staff and all who care for the sick. Please pray for the sick and homebound of our parish communities. For those who have died and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time. Please remember to pray for the Holy Souls in Purgatory. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

**ST MARY'S COMMUNITY GROUP & SVP TEA PARTY** on Monday 8 April, 1400-1600, St Therese Hall, Presentation House, High Street, Ryde. Come for tea and a chat. Car parking available at the back of the church. If any homebound parishioner needs transport, contact the Parish Office 01983 812127

### **SAFEGUARDING MINISTERS**

Dee Becker 01983 812127 [safeguarding.ryd@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding.ryd@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)  
Vince Grant 07958 491023 [safeguarding.totnew@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding.totnew@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)  
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Peter Ricks 01983 292782 [safeguarding.cow@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding.cow@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

### **CONFESSION TIMES**

Sandown: Thursday 1000-1030 Shanklin: Friday 1100-1130 Ventnor: Wednesday 1000-1030  
Newport: during Eucharistic Adoration Sunday 0900-0930 & 1615-1645 Totland: Thursday 1000-1030  
Ryde: Saturday 1730-1800 Cowes: during Eucharistic Adoration. Quarr Abbey: Saturdays 1000  
Any by request

**KEY TO CHURCHES ACROSS THE ISLAND FOR MASS TIMES**

**P:** Perpetual **F:** Foundation

<b>OLR</b>	St Mary's, Ryde PO33 2RE	<b>OLW</b>	Our Lady & St Wilfrid, Ventnor PO38 1NL
<b>SDE</b>	St David's, East Cowes PO32 6DP	<b>SMB</b>	St Michael's, Bembridge PO35 5RA
<b>SHS</b>	Sacred Heart, Shanklin PO37 7AT	<b>SPS</b>	St Patrick's, Sandown PO36 8NE
<b>SST</b>	St Saviour's, Totland PO39 0HE	<b>STC</b>	St Thomas of Canterbury, Cowes PO31 7TJ
<b>STN</b>	St Thomas of Canterbury, Newport PO30 1UH		

(\*) Eucharistic Adoration starting one hour before Mass and opportunity for Confessions followed by Holy Rosary at SHS, SPS & OLW

**Saturday 23 March Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord Year B**

1700 OLW All Parishioners Living and Dead  
1800 OLR Ivy & Arthur Richardson RIP

**Sunday 24 March Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord Year B**

0900 SMB James Friel RIP  
0900 SPS Phil Alchin RIP  
0900 STC Pro Populo  
0945 STN  
1100 OLR People of the Parish  
1100 SDE  
1100 SHS Patricia Wellock RIP  
1200 SST People of the Parish  
1700 STN  
1730 STC (Ordinariate)

**Monday 25 March of the Holy Week**

0930 SST  
1000 STC Janet Watson RIP  
1200 OLR Pamela Fraser Cox GE  
1200 STN

**Tuesday 26 March of the Holy Week**

1000 SMB Mary Stafford (P)  
1200 STC No Mass today  
1800 SHS Therese Duffin-Kidd RIP  
1830 STN Private intention

**Wednesday 27 March of the Holy Week [Spy Wednesday]**

0930 SST  
0945(\*) SDE (followed by Stations)  
1100(\*) OLW Gloria Minghella RIP  
1200 OLR Countess of Clare (P)  
1200 STN  
1800(\*) STC (Adoration 1730)

**The Easter Triduum**

**Thursday 28 March Mass of the Lord's Supper**

0945 SDE (Holy Cross School Mass)  
1700 SST  
1900 STC  
1900 SPS For all Priests  
2000 OLR Ana Dobeson GE  
2000 STN

**Friday 29 March Good Friday**

1000 SMB Stations of the Cross  
1000 STN Stations of the Cross  
1130 SST Stations of the Cross  
1200 SST Passion of the Lord  
1400 SDE Passion of the Lord  
1500 STN Passion of the Lord  
1500 OLR Passion of the Lord  
1500 SHS Passion of the Lord  
1630 STC Passion of the Lord  
1800 OLR Stations of the Cross

**Saturday 30 March Easter Vigil**

1900 STC  
2000 OLR People of the Parish  
2000 OLW John Bush  
2100 STN

**Sunday 31 March Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord**

0900 SMB St Boniface Deanery  
0900 SPS All Parishioners Living and Dead  
0900 STC  
0945 STN Tiziana Rinaldi  
1100 OLR Priest's intention  
1100 SDE  
1100 SHS Charles and Annie McGinn RIP  
1200 SST Christine Shears RIP  
1700 STN No Mass today  
1730 STC (Ordinariate)