

Lent, Holy Week and Easter.

It looks like our period of Lenten fast is going to last longer than other years, maybe not our fast from food as much as our fast from other things we have gotten used to talking for granted. However, Easter will be celebrated as planned albeit in a toned down way due to necessary restrictions. So everyone is encouraged to follow the Holy Week ceremonies in whatever way they can. There are always some who for one reason or another cannot join in. We remember them as we celebrate and thank God for giving us a saviour. We try to understand how Christ accepted his suffering as the means to our salvation, and how, if we can accept our own suffering, they can be a source of life for us all as well.

Holy Week starts with the remembrance of Christ's entry into Jerusalem as one who is to fulfil God's promise as Redeemer. He does triumph in an unexpected way. I will try to find an imaginative way to present the Passion Narrative displaying the love with which he done so.

Three long days we celebrate as one big celebration, Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday, celebrating various aspects of his triumph on the three days. On Holy Thursday we sit down with Jesus at the Last Supper as he gives us the means by which we can remember him and draw strength to love and serve everyone. On Friday we celebrate that love by listening again to the story of the Passion. Saturday morning we acknowledge our pain at the loss of someone we loved and admired. At the Easter vigil we revisit God's plan from the time of creation which now comes to completion at the Resurrection. This is the culmination of our Lenten retreat and we are now prepared to renew our baptismal promises and thank God as one body.

Holy Week Arrangements: (On Web only)

Palm Sunday Masses: Saturday 6.30pm, Sunday 10.30pm.

Monday to Saturday: Holy Rosary 10am.

Monday to Thursday: Masses at 7pm

Holy Thursday: Holy Hour 8pm

Good Friday: Children's Stations of the Cross 12 noon, Solemn ceremonies 3pm, Adult Stations 7pm

Holy Saturday: Vigil Mass at 9pm.

Easter Sunday: Mass at 1030am.