



NEWSLETTER

ST STEPHEN - ST BRIDGET

COVERING THE DISTRICTS OF: WINWICK, LONGFORD, ORFORD,
HOUGHTON GREEN, CINNAMON BROW, FEARNHEAD, POULTON,
RISLEY AND BIRCHWOOD.



PARISH PRIEST: FR JOHN McLOUGHLIN
101, SANDY LANE, ORFORD, WARRINGTON WA2 9HS TEL 632849
www.st-stephens-warrington.co.uk E Mail: prshnews@outlook.com

ARCHDIOCESE OF LIVERPOOL
Liverpool Roman Catholic Archdiocesan Trust: Registered Charity No. 232709

PALM SUNDAY (B) 28 MARCH 2021

Sunday 28 March	St Stephen's St Bridget's	9.45am Mass: Seamus Tully, Rachel Manning 11.30am Mass: Ida Teasdale
---------------------------	--------------------------------------	---

- Only one entrance/exit point.
 - You need to wear a face covering.
 - Please wait to be seated.
 - Same household seating and separate seating accommodated.
 - Holy Communion distributed at the end of Mass before leaving.
- Sanitise hands with gels provided
 - Leave your name and contact number.
 - Do not move around the building once seated.

Tuesday 30 March	St Stephen's	9.00am Mass: Jim Southworth
Wednesday 31 March	St Bridget's	10.00am Mass: Fr John Laide (LISCF)

HOLY WEEK TRIDUUM

1 April

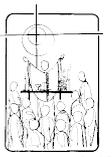
Holy Thursday: Mass of the Lord's Supper
7pm St Stephen's Church

2 April

Good Friday: Passion of the Lord Jesus
3pm St Stephen's Church

3 April

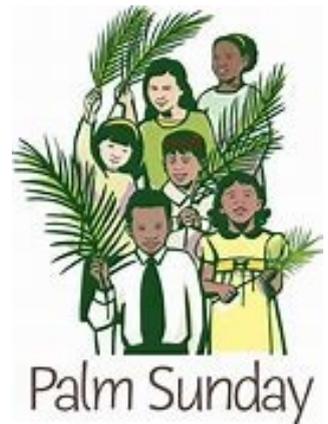
Holy Saturday: Easter Vigil
7pm St Stephen's Church



EASTER SUNDAY (B) 4 APRIL 2021

Sunday 4 April	St Stephen's St Bridget's	9.45am Mass: Ann Maria Tighe 11.30am Mass: Malcolm Fox
--------------------------	--------------------------------------	---

*It is essential you follow the restrictions listed under
last Sunday's Mass (above) at all times.*



PARISH FUNDRAISING raise money when you shop on-line

Access over 3,600 shops
www.easyfundraising.org.uk
and St Stephen's and
St Bridget's will receive
charitable donations from
the sites you shop at.

How to get started:

Log-on to
www.easyfundraising.org.uk
Then type '*Parish
Development Fund
St Stephens*'
in the search box and click.
(despite the one title the
fund is for both parishes.)

Then follow the
instructions for set up -
name/email/password
and click.

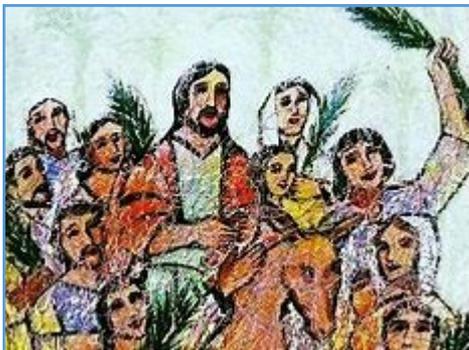
Then access your chosen
shops and the parish will
receive charitable gift
form the stores you use.

Don't forget recommend
this to others!

From Fr John's desk...

Palm Sunday (B)

*A reflection by Sr Lynne FCJ,
based at the FCJ Centre at St Hugh's, Wavertree, Liverpool.*



Today we have the wonderfully familiar Gospel passage of Jesus entering Jerusalem on a donkey. Year after year we have waved palms in procession and imagined this triumphant entry into Jerusalem. Perhaps this year, with liturgies modified by the pandemic, we can let ourselves be invited into other parts of the Gospel story too.

A couple of things strike me. Jesus and his disciples are near Bethpage and Bethany – the village where Jesus at intervals throughout the Gospels goes to meet his friends, Mary, Martha and Lazarus. He is known in these places and he has prepared. The instruction to untie the colt is a pre-prepared arrangement.

Jesus is making an active choice to enter Jerusalem in a particular way. Jesus is heading to Jerusalem, at the time of the great Jewish feast of Passover. He is greeted with shouts of 'Hosanna' and 'Blessed is the one who comes', by the people who are greeting him as a pilgrim, as a saviour and most significantly as the Messiah. Jesus' message however is a challenging one. By entering Jerusalem on a colt, he challenges what the people are expecting of the Messiah; one who will overthrow the occupying Romans. Jesus comes instead as a welcomed King who brings peace. This passage introduces us to the courageous act of Jesus. William Barclay writes 'No incident so shows the sheer courage of Jesus as this does. In the circumstances one might have expected him to enter Jerusalem secretly and to keep hidden from the authorities who were out to destroy him. Instead, he entered in such a way that the attention of every eye was focussed upon him'.

As we follow Jesus in these days, entering into his passion, we might ask ourselves why he chooses to act as he does. He certainly comes as the Messiah, but as one who saves and brings peace. He chooses to confront the rule bound authorities, but not with anger – he confronts with love and truth. Every action of Jesus in these days is an action of choosing to love and of living by the consequences of that love.

We are invited to walk with him, to enter Jerusalem with him, to confront fear, prejudice and violence and to live out the consequences of love in our own lives.

Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna!

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Archbishop McMahon will be coming to Warrington in the Autumn to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation with those young people who are currently in Year 8 at High School. An invitation will be issued to young people in Year 8 at St Gregory's Catholic High School and at Cardinal Newman High School in the next few weeks. However, if your child is in Year 8 at another High School and would like to be confirmed this year, please contact the parish office by the end of April. Thank you.

Fr John