

Weekly Bulletin

St. Margaret's, St. Joseph's & St. Finnan's

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Weekly Bulletin Online: www.gaeldom.com/bulletin/

Sunday April 1st. 2007



Palm Sunday and Holy Week

Holy Week has the most sacred days in the Christian calendar. During this week, we follow Christ from Palm Sunday, through his Passion and Death, to the joy of Easter Sunday.

It is a week of many graces for all who make the effort to share in the liturgy of the Church.

The THREE days - Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil - are at the very heart of our Faith, and this is why they are celebrated with such reverence.

We should all do our best to be present at these three services. Try to bring all your family with you.

The parish needs your presence that it may express itself before God as a Eucharistic community gathered round Christ to share these sacred moments at the end of his life. Then, truly, we can celebrate with him in the joy of his Easter Sunday Resurrection.

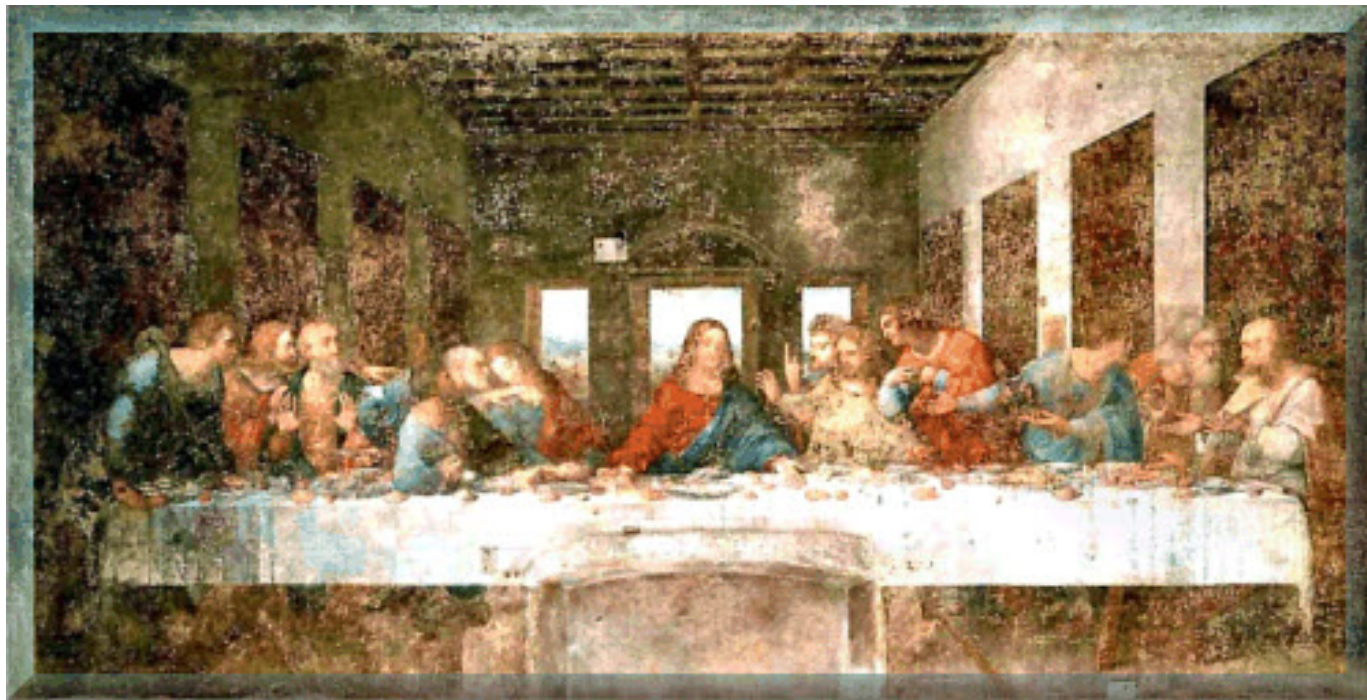
With palms in our hands, we welcome Christ into our hearts and into our parish this Palm Sunday

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Holy Thursday Mass of the Last Supper 7.30 p.m.



Leonardo da Vinci

With the deepest gratitude in our hearts, we gather on Thursday evening to thank Our Lord for his most precious gift to us of his own Body and Blood which was he instituted on this night during the celebration of the Pascal meal, the Last Supper, which was in reality the very first mass.

It was on this night that our Lord ordained the first priests to ensure that the work he started would continue until the end of time. To them he gave the power to do what he had done: to change the bread and wine into his Body and Blood. After the Resurrection, he would give them the power to forgive sins in his name, and commissions them to go out to preach the word of God, baptise and to administer the other sacraments

St. Paul talks of God investing these powers in *vessels of clay*. No one is worthy of such a dignity, yet God needs young men to offer themselves for the priesthood that his work may continue. As we adore Our Lord in this Most Blessed Sacrament at mass on Holy Thursday, and renew our faith in his presence in the Eucharist, let also pray with great sincerity and a sense of urgency for an increase in vocations to the priesthood

Altar of Repose: Rosary and night prayers 10.30 p.m.

Sympathy

We offer our sincere sympathy to Betty Porter and her family at the loss of a daughter and sister, Grace Kelly, who died at the early age of 48 last week after a short illness. The funeral will take on Monday at her home town, near Basingstoke. Grace was remembered very specially at mass, and many prayers were offered for her

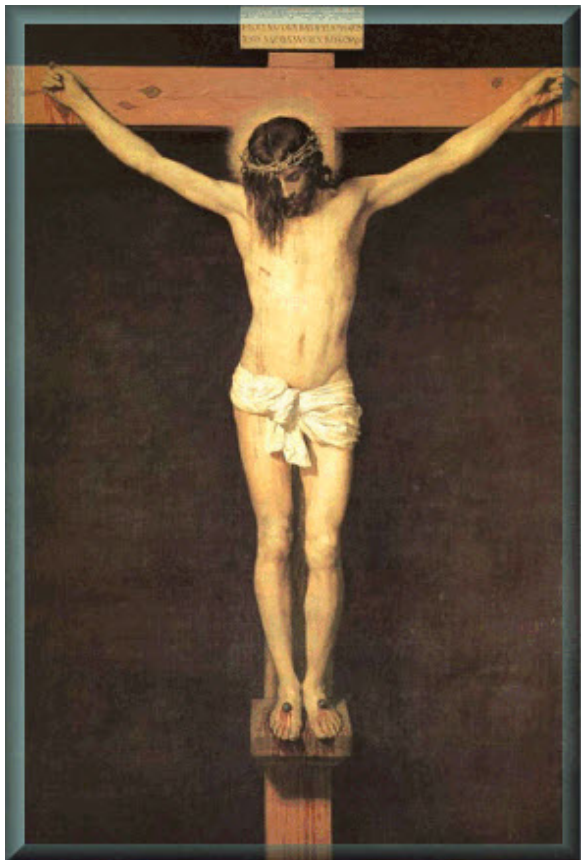
recovery, but sadly this was not to be. May these have helped to bring her peace and the assurance of God's presence with her during these last days. Mass has also been said for the repose of her soul, and also that God may comfort her husband and family in the tragic loss of such a good wife and mother.

May her soul rest in peace.

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Good Friday Solemn Commemoration of the Passion and Death of Our Lord at 3 p.m.

The liturgy recalls through the scriptures the suffering and death of Our Lord.

His life's work reaches its climax and completion:

Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.

Jesus bows his head and dies

What greater love can a man have than to lay down his life for his friends

*We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You, because by Your holy cross
You have redeemed the world*

Special Collection on Good Friday is for the African Missions:

Good Friday is also a day of fasting and abstinence

Evening Service 7.30 p.m.

**Stations of the Cross, Kissing of the Cross
and Holy Communion**

For those working on Good Friday, this evening service will allow them to honour Our Lord's death.

Holy Week Programme

Visiting Confessor for Palm Sunday (Fr Roddy Johnston)

Spean Bridge: 4.45 –5 p.m. Roy Bridge: 5.15—6 p.m.

Masses during the week

Roy Bridge: Monday and Wednesday 10 a.m.

Spean Bridge: Tuesday 10 a.m.

Holy Thursday 7.30 p.m.

Good Friday 3 p.m. Stations of the Cross 7.30 p.m.

Easter Vigil, Saturday, 8.30 p.m.

Easter Sunday

Invergarry 9 a.m. Spean Bridge 10.15 a.m. and Roy Bridge 11.30 a.m.

Anniversaries

We remember in our prayers this weekend those whose anniversaries are at this time:

Kathleen Millen, Morag Steele and Tessa Millen.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.

Welcome Home

Fr. Joe Toal has come back home to Roy Bridge for a short break before Easter. It will help him prepare for the very busy programme which is ahead of him until the end of October.

We look back on the wonderful time we spent in Salamanca this time last year. We were there for Palm Sunday and witnessed the memorable procession through the town of hundreds of children and adults, all beautifully dressed in myriads of costumes specially made for the occasion, walking to the beat of the drums and the music of the local silver band. Whatever criticism may be made of the faith in Spain, there is still at the core a commitment to God and the traditions of the Church which will never die out—and we were privileged to watch it.

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Easter Vigil *Saturday 8.30 p.m.*

The darkened church at the beginning of the Easter Vigil is symbolic of the years of darkness since the first sin of Adam and Eve. The Easter Fire is lit dispelling the darkness, and from this is lit the great Easter Candle, which represents Christ, the Light of the World. From this Easter Candle is lit our own candles, symbolising the new life of Christ passing into our soul through baptism.

CHRIST IS RISEN ... ALLELUIA

The *Exultet*, a hymn of rejoicing, is sung proclaiming the brightness and joy of this sacred night.

The readings from the Old Testament remind us of our salvation history.

The Easter water is blessed, and we are sprinkled with this water as we renew our baptismal vows, and then the Easter mass is offered.

*Lent is over now and let us rejoice
with the Risen Christ. Alleluia*

Rota for Easter Sunday April 8th

St. Joseph's (Easter Sunday)

Readers: Liz Campbell

Prayers of Intercession: Margaret Muncie

Eucharistic Ministers: Betty Porter Margaret Muncie

Cleaning:

St. Margaret's (Easter Sunday)

Readers: Margaret Sargent Nilda Hawke

Prayers of Intercession: Catriona MacDonald

Eucharistic Ministers: Ishbel Campbell, Ann MacKintosh

Cleaning: Ishbel Campbell

First Holy Communions

Six of our children, all girls, will make their First Holy Communion on the Sunday after Easter, April 15th.

Kerri MacLean, Kirsty MacDonald, Helena Rose, Grace MacIntosh, Shanon MacDonald, and Michelle Toal.

I hope to have some religious items on sale next weekend should parents wish to give the children a present to mark the occasion.

There will be a practice for the children in St. Margaret's on Thursday, April 13th at 7 p.m. for the final preparations for their great day. I ask you to remember these children and their families in your prayers.

The hall is booked to invite the children and their families for tea and cakes after the mass. I will be grateful for any help to make the day special for the children.

Catechism: We hope to start regular catechism lessons for all the children after the Easter holidays.

Confessions on Holy Saturday (Fr Tom)

Spean Bridge: 3—3.15 p.m.

Roy Bridge: 3.30—4 p.m.

**WE WISH EVERYONE
A HAPPY AND BLESSED EASTER**