

ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS TETTENHALL



HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

With notes on the services and ceremonies

9 April – 16 April 2017

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil for you are with me *Psalms 23:4*

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

Through dramatic worship, rich in symbol and scripture we move step by step with our Saviour Jesus Christ, by way of betrayal, suffering and death, to risen life. The journey comes to a climax in the **Great Three Days** (the **Triduum**) from Maundy Thursday to Easter as we celebrate the foundational events of our faith. God, in Christ, enters the depths of human experience to bring healing, forgiveness and new life and in our worship we identify ourselves with Christ.



Palm Sunday (9 April)

8am Eucharist (with the blessing of Palms)

10.30am Palm Procession and Sung Eucharist

This celebration begins Holy Week and has two parts.

- **The Liturgy of the Palms** our Palm Crosses commemorate Jesus' entry into Jerusalem to suffer and die. We praise Christ with our "hosannas" like those who first welcomed him.
- **The Liturgy of the Passion** puts the events of Holy Week into context, with a dramatic reading of St Matthew's Passion and Eucharist. Shouts of "Hosanna" turn to "Crucify."

6.30pm Choral Evensong for Palm Sunday

Monday: 8.30am Morning Prayer

Tuesday: 8.30am Morning Prayer

Wednesday: 10.30am Eucharist

Maundy Thursday (13 April)

11.00am, Diocesan Chrism Eucharist at Lichfield

Cathedral. Oils are blessed for healing, baptism, and confirmation.

Clergy renew ordination vows and lay people their commitment to service.

All are invited.

7.30pm Eucharist of the Lord's Supper

The Eucharist of the Lord's Supper begins the **Triduum (3 Days)**

This has a dual focus:

Washing of feet. The Lord Jesus washed his disciples' feet and taught his disciples to do likewise.

We re-enact this loving service.

The institution of the Eucharist.

Christ interpreted his coming death using bread and wine, the gift his Body and Blood, with his disciples. It is particularly poignant to celebrate the Eucharist tonight.



Watch and Pray

After supper, in the Garden of Gethsemane Jesus asked his disciples to keep watch with him as he agonised about his coming suffering. The Blessed Sacrament is carried to the altar of repose (symbolising Christ going to the Garden) and we watch with Christ with silence, prayer and readings. *You are able to come and go as necessary (the watch will finish at with Compline (Night Prayer at 10.15pm).*

As we mark Christ's suffering and death the **church is stripped bare** of all ornamentation.

Good Friday (14 April)

In a bare unlit church, with fasting as you are able, you are invited to keep this day of Christ's suffering and death with devotion and prayer. We believe that Christ died for our good and we worship him with love.

10.30am Children's Activities and Family Service

Craft activities and a short service focussed on Jesus' crucifixion and death.

12noon Prayer and Reflection

The church will remain open for quiet prayer and reflection

2pm The Good Friday Liturgy

This service has the character of lament as we come to the moment of Christ's death on the cross. Silence is an important aspect.

There are four main parts of the service

- Dramatic reading of the Passion from St John's Gospel
- Proclamation of the cross
- Good Friday intercession
- Communion from the sacrament reserved from Maundy Thursday.

The Resurrection of the Lord



Easter Night (Sat 15 April)

8.30pm The Easter Vigil

The Passover from death to life, traditionally the night when Christians are buried with Christ in baptism and raised with him to new life.

The four part Service will last about 2 hours:

- **The Service of Light.** On Good Friday all candles are extinguished. So a new fire is kindled outside the church from which the Paschal (Easter) Candle is lit and carried into the darkened church "The Light of Christ" spreads

out to light all our candles. The Easter Proclamation (Exsultet) is sung by the light of the paschal candle.

- **The Vigil of Readings, Psalms and Prayers** The story of God's creating and saving work in history is told from the Old Testament
- **The Liturgy of Baptism** with the renewal of baptism vows
- **The First Eucharist of Easter.**

Do stay afterwards for a glass of sparkling wine (or soft drink)

Easter Sunday (Sunday 16 April)

8am Eucharist with hymns

10.30am Festival Eucharist (and Easter Egg hunt)

6.30pm Evensong