



Parish of the Holy Trinity, East Ham

St Mary Magdalene

St Bartholomew

St Edmund

29 March

Year A

Palm Sunday

THIS SUNDAY IN CHURCH

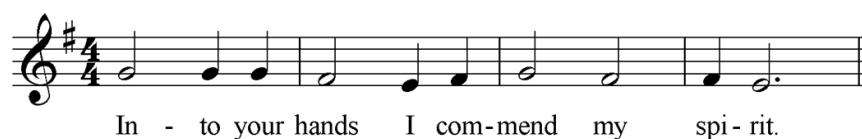
Welcome to church this Palm Sunday when we recall Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem and his Passion. We will assemble in the carpark for Blessing of Palms and Gospel of the Palms, then process round the church singing the processional hymn (14), before coming back into church for the Passion Reading and Eucharist.

Song at the Blessing of the Palms:



Hymns: 14, 394, 663, 83

Response the Psalm sung by all:



FROM THE MINISTRY TEAM

Today, Palm Sunday, we, and thousands of other churches around the world, will venture outside our building and mark the start of our most important religious festival week with a procession a bit like the one on the day that Jesus rode into Jerusalem for the last time before his crucifixion.

You may well ask what's the point of doing that? And I'm sure that a part of my answer is to say that it's good for people outside the church, those passing by on buses and who live nearby, to see us *doing* something - they may well wonder what we get up to if they don't see it !

But also, we have a procession to help us imagine the scene on that day in Jerusalem and to get a little sense of what it must have been like for Jesus and for his followers. Those who didn't know him very well were excited because they thought he'd come to overthrow the occupying forces. Those closer to him must have worried as he had increasingly talked about his death - is this the time?

Walking alongside Jesus is what we hope and try to do day by day, though I often forget it, so this re enactment reminds us of our response to God's generous love. But I'm sure you'll tell me how different it was in those days! Those people didn't have AI, or mobile phones, or washing machines that they must attend to. And that's right.

But they knew tragedy and triumph, they knew pride and pain, just as we do. And they walked with Jesus in this procession.

And, just as the procession reminds us of our calling, so it also reminds us of God's promise to us. When God became human, God, as Jesus, got right in the thick of real life and it's been the same ever since. God promised to be with us on our particular journey, wherever it takes us - even that one through the valley of the shadow of death - and sometimes we notice God and sometimes we don't.

But doing this weird thing helps us, and the world, to notice.

Ann

SERVICE TIMES THIS WEEK

See back page for Holy Week and Easter services.

IN OUR PRAYERS

In our Deanery: Plaistow St Philip & St James with St Mary

In the Diocese: Leytonstone (St Andrew): Paul Kennington (V), Jane Richards (AC). Leytonstone (St John the Baptist): Elizabeth Blackham (V), Pervaiz Khan (AC). Leytonstone (St Margaret w St Columba): Neil-Allen Walsh (V).



In the Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Vermont – The Episcopal Church

In the world: that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence

With USPG: as Christians walk the way of the Cross this Holy Week, remind us that what unites us in faith is greater than our divisions

In the Parish: Ratcliffe Road, Redclyffe Road, Rochfors Close

For activities this week :

Those who have asked our prayers:

Particular need: June Bassenger, Courtney, Ethel King, Laurine & Ancil Griffith, Bentley Mason, Andrew West

Continuing need: Lorraine Ashton, Zareen Choudary, Graham Davis, Doris Goodchild, Cassandra Gosai, Caroline Grisely, Emily Jones, Paul Gillard, Maggie Holder, Terry Hooker, Cassie Martin, Dennis Pridmore, Mary Skerritt, Eutal Spence.

Those who have died: Susan Tomlin, Miriam Lee

In the Year's Mind: Kathy Denney *May they rest in peace and rise in glory*

NOTICES

Parish office is closed from Monday 30th March to Monday 6th April inc.– open as normal on Tuesday 7th April.

On **Holy Saturday (4 April)** 10am-12noon we prepare both St Bart's and St Mary Magdalene's for Easter: please do come along and join in.

Youth event: Easter Encounter is a relaxed afternoon and evening together during the Easter holidays with games, food, worship, and prayer as we celebrate the hope of Easter. *Tuesday 7th April, 2pm–8pm, St Luke's Church, Ruscoe Road, Canning Town, London E16 1JB.* The afternoon will begin with welcome and team games before heading out for team challenges. We will then share food together

before gathering for a youth service with worship, a short talk, and time for prayer. Young people can sign up using the link below:

<https://stlukescanningtown.churchsuite.com/events/qp7zswiw>

This year the Bishop of Chelmsford's Lent Appeal is raising funds for Anglican Development Services of Mt Kenya East (ADSMKE) to support their work in response to climate change and in environmental conservation across our five linked partner dioceses in Kenya. Donations will be open until 1st July 2026. See *posters and fliers in church* to find out more and support, scan QR code or see www.chelmsford.anglican.org/about-us/our-faith-in-action/the-bishop-of-chelmsfords-lent-appeal-2026/



Mthr Katherine is conducting a short Easter service with hymns and readings at **Manor Farm Care Home** on **Wednesday 1st April at 2pm**. It would be lovely if people could join her to help sing and read some of the Bible passages. Please let Mthr Katherine know if you are able to help.

Bishop Guli (Bishop of Chelmsford) will join us at a Joint Parish Eucharist (10am) at St Mary Magdalene's on **Sunday 26 April**. Please pray for our candidates for Baptism, Confirmation and Reception into the Communion of the Church of England.

Christian Aid Concert on **16th May at 3-5.30 pm** at St Barts. Calling all performers for this annual concert. If you're interested in performing, please contact either Alison alisonmclucas@gmail.com or Philip philj.ktm@gmail.com by 2nd May 2026.

St Bart's Intercessory Prayer will follow the service TODAY.

Is your child in Year 3 or above and would like to join the parish choir?

Mthr Katherine is forming a junior choir. Rehearsals will be held every Wednesday afternoon during term time from 4.30pm to 5.45pm in St Mary Magdalene's church hall. This will eventually lead to the choristers joining the adult choir to lead Sunday worship. Please contact Mthr Katherine to register your interest and a pack of information will be available soon katherine.ward@easthamparish.org.uk.

ECO CHURCH

This week's challenge from Carbon Fast? Unplugging from Energy Waste! WHY? In the UK, home energy accounts for one-fifth of our national carbon footprint - and much of it is entirely avoidable. Every time we overcharge our phones, keep devices on standby overnight and leave lights on in empty rooms, we are consuming energy. 28th March marked Earth Hour, when people all over the world turned off the power for one hour. Think what you could do if you switched off the tv at night instead of using standby, or deleted old emails and photos to reduce cloud storage, which uses a great deal of energy.

P.S. Have you booked for the **Family Nature Club**?

MEETINGS

Wed 22 April – Standing Committee at St Bart's at 3pm

Tue 28 April – Joint DCC's/PCC meeting at St Bart's at 7pm



CONTACTS:

Parish of the Holy Trinity, East Ham

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Team Rector:

Rev. Paul Gurnham

Email: paul.gurnham@easthamparish.org.uk

Associate Clergy:

Rt Revd. Saulo Barros

Rev. John King

Rev. Katherine Ward - katherine.ward@easthamparish.org.uk

Honorary Associate Clergy:

Rev. Canon Ann Easter

Rev. Sandra Eldridge

HOLY WEEK & EASTER

Monday of Holy Week (30 March)

12.15pm Eucharist at St Edmund's

Tuesday of Holy Week (31 March)

6.30pm Eucharist at St Bart's

Followed by fellowship supper

No Eucharist at St Edmund's

Wednesday of Holy Week (1 April)

6.30pm Eucharist at St Mary's

Maundy Thursday (2 April)

8pm EUCHARIST OF THE LAST SUPPER, with watch until 10pm at St Mary's

9.45pm Night Prayer and stripping of the altar at St Bart's

9.45pm Night Prayer and stripping of the altar at St Edmund's

No Eucharist at St Bart's

Good Friday (3 April)

10am Children & Families' Service at St Mary's

10am Stations of the Cross at St Edmund's

11am St Bart's - walk with the cross to The Market Place, Myrtle Road, for Ecumenical Act of Witness

12.30pm Stations of the Cross at St Bart's

2pm SOLEMN LITURGY OF THE LORD'S PASSION at St Mary's

Holy Saturday (4 April)

8pm EASTER VIGIL at St Mary's

Easter Day (5 April)

8am Eucharist at St Mary's

10am Festal Eucharist at all our churches: St Mary's, St Bart's, St Edmund's

You can also view this newsletter and recent newsletters on our website. Go to easthamparish.org.uk and click the button marked 'Newsletter'. All the website addresses in the online version are hyperlinked so you can simply click on them to view the linked websites.

Contributions to the newsletter are welcome. Please send to the Parish Office by noon Wednesday for inclusion.