

Welcome to the Catholic Parish of Christ the King, Bedford Holy Week, 2026

Saturday 28th March

10.00am - 10.45am Confession available

6.00pm Vigil Mass, Victims of abuse

Palm Sunday, 29th March

This day commemorates the only real celebration of Jesus of Nazareth and King and Messiah during his early life. Taking part in the Liturgy today is not like getting on a bus, something that we do without enthusiasm, joy, or engagement. The procession which begins today's Liturgy enables us to offer our hearts and our bodies in praise of him who loves us more than we can say, and in doing so we cross a threshold with him into the Mystery of Redeeming Love.

8.30am Holy Mass (Latin), the faithful of the parish

10.30am Holy Mass, Maggie O'Donnell, anniv.

5pm Syro-Malabar Mass

Holy Monday, 30th March

The believing Christian wants to move through the events of the Passion in a most attentive way, because these events are the cornerstone of salvation history. Today, the dramatic conflict between life and death opens up, a drama that will forever affect the destiny of every human being.

Holy Tuesday, 31st March

It is immensely important to us that Christ Jesus clearly indicated the purpose of his sacrifice was to win the salvation of all the nations and of all the individual children of God. On this day, the very purpose of our own existence is set in relief - the central focus of my life and of your life is that we be a part of what he does.

5.00pm Altar Servers' practice in church

6.30pm Holy Mass, the intentions of Bishop Bill Byrne

7pm-7.30pm Eucharistic Adoration

Holy Wednesday, 1st April

Sometimes called Spy Wednesday, this day recalls Judas' betrayal. Judas had his reasons for doing what he did, but we who try to be devoted disciples also commit sin. Because of this, in humility we remain always open to him and grateful for his extraordinary openness to us.

11am The Mass of Chrism at the Cathedral in Northampton

Maundy Thursday, 2nd April

The Sacred Triduum, the three great Liturgies of Holy Week which together form one celebration of the Redemption, begins with the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper. The Mass is a festal Mass with white vestments because it celebrates the gift of the Holy Eucharist and our incorporation into the saving Mystery of Christ's death. Then follows the hour of Watching with the Blessed Sacrament, remembering that in the Garden of Gethsemani, 2000 years ago, he accepted the burden of our sins.

7.30pm The Mass of the Lord's Supper, Pasquale Facchiano, anniv.

Followed by watching at the altar of repose till 9.30pm

Good Friday, 3rd April

This day, unlike any other, commemorates the great work that Christ Jesus undertook as Saviour and Redeemer. His death marks this day with a sense of desolation and of mourning. The mid-afternoon Liturgy is made up of three rites. First, the Scriptures and the Collects, then the worship of the Cross, accompanied by the Reproaches. Finally, the Mass of the Pre-sanctified where there is no Consecration, but rather the earliest form of administering Communion outside Mass. In the evening, the service of Tenebrae embodies the darkness, shadow, and sadness of this day, not shying away from this experience, but holding it up to the light of Christ.

10am Children's Stations of the Cross

3pm The Commemoration of the Passion

6pm The Service of Tenebrae

Holy Saturday, 4th April

This day is a day of silence and vigil. The Church recognises that God has died in the flesh, and that hell trembles in fear. Christ descended into the lower regions where the souls of the dead awaited the redemption of the world.

In the evening the Church performs the ancient, yearly mysteries that express our undying remembrance of what these days mean (Thursday, Friday, Saturday.) We have the memory of Christ's Passion in every Mass, but in the Easter Vigil we have a fuller, more symbolic and dramatic expression of the mighty works that God has undertaken for us in Christ, who restores us to true religion, in spirit and in truth.

10am - 10.30am Confession available.

7.30pm The Easter Vigil and first Mass of Easter, Nick Elia, anniv.

During these days, what comes into focus is how our spiritual lives are forged by Christ Jesus in those historical events that together comprise the Redemption. He changes us and forms us anew, and in great joy and wonder we begin to live in a new way:

He takes away our pride and creates in us a new humility, leading us to worship God as Father, and to find ourselves in His heart.

Christ Jesus, in the Paschal Mystery reveals to us the true picture of reality. Now we begin to understand the real meaning of our lives and of the world, in the call to Eternal Life.

Through the gift of the Holy Spirit, we are changed in a way that we are unable to do ourselves, and we are free to live for God and for his plan of grace for us. We are no longer merely caught up in ourselves; we now look beyond ourselves.

Moreover, Christ Jesus enables us to discover our unique and personal way of following and imitating him.

Truly he is the Son of God and has achieved a whole re-creation in his death and Resurrection, inviting us to be sons and daughters of the most high God.

Now that our Lenten observance is over, our conscious awareness of his presence in life and what he has done is a true awakening for us.

Please remember the sick of the parish in your prayers.

The Psalm Responsory for Palm Sunday:

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me.

For those seeking the Sacrament of Confirmation we invite you to a meeting in Eastertime:

For parents of young people between 13 and 17 years, we are hosting a meeting for you on Wednesday 22nd April at 7pm in the PD Room.

For those who are 18+, we are hosting a meeting for you on Thursday 23rd April at 7pm in the PD Room.

Hymns for Palm Sunday:

623 Ride on 503 verses 5 - 7 My song

503 verses 1 - 4 My song 268 Our God reigns

Missio Red Boxes. If you would like your box to be collected, would you ring John Grogan on 07773712688.

Easter Offering envelopes are available at the back of church.

Last weeks Offertory Collection:

Collection £541.30 Standing Orders £162 Total £703.30 Thank you.

Collection for altar flowers for Easter: £156.05 Thank you.

We are grateful to all who donate to the parish with a Standing Order. If you would like to donate in this way, please use these details:

Name: Christ the King Parish

Sort: 600611 Account: 46714332

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