HOLY WEEK

PASSION (PALM) SUNDAY

Today we read the story of Jesus' passion and death. Jesus only a few days earlier was greeted by adoring crowds who hailed him as their king. Yet now that same crowd was calling for his blood. Jesus was tortured and humiliated by the pride and self-will of the people. He accepted this fate so as to overcome human destructiveness. His humble attentiveness to God allows God's power to be active and effective. At Mass today we will recall this saving act of Jesus for us and we pray that we will take to heart this saving event.

EASTER TRIDUUM

The celebration of the Easter Triduum of the Passion and Resurrection of Christ is the focal point and the climax of the whole Church year. It begins with the Mass of the Lord's Supper and continues on Good Friday with the celebration of the Lord's Passion and reaches its climax on Saturday night with the celebration of the Easter Vigil.

HOLY THURSDAY – *MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER 7.00p.m.*

On the night before he died Jesus celebrated the Passover Meal with his friends. This meal of thanksgiving celebrated by the Jews even to this day remembers and re-lives their great escape from the slavery of Egypt to the Promised Land.

This evening we remember the farewell gift of the Eucharist that Jesus gave to his Church, so that he could be with us for all time in the wine and in the bread that is blessed and broken and shared in his memory.

We remember also in this evening's celebration of the Lord's Supper the **new commandment of love** Jesus gave to his Church and which is expressed in loving service of others. This is symbolised during the Mass this evening when the Celebrant **washes the feet** of six people from the parish.

Jesus summed up the whole meaning and message of his ministry, in this beautiful symbolic gesture of washing the feet of his disciples. He said:

> *"You call me master and Lord and rightly I am.*
> *If I, then, the Lord and Master have washed your feet,*
> *You should wash each other's feet.*
> *I have given you an example so that you may copy*
> *What I have done for you."*

QUIET TIME FOR PRAYER: Church will be open until 10.00p.m.

TRÓCAIRE BOXES

The fruits of our Lenten Family fast which will be shared with the hungry of will be taken up tonight. Please change small coins into notes.

GOOD FRIDAY- CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S PASSION. 3.00PM

This celebration consists of three parts:

1. The Liturgy of the Word, including the Solemn enactment of the Passion, and the ten Solemn Prayers of Intercession.
2. The Veneration of the Cross.
3. The Service of Holy Communion.

On this day we recall that Jesus died for all people of all time. The Cross is the symbol of hope, victory and resurrection for us all well as a sign of pain, suffering and death. We share in the suffering of the crucified Christ, we also share in the new life of the Risen Lord.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS. This year we are holding the **Stations of the Cross** outdoor , starting in the church and finishing at the calvary scene in the cemetery; starting at **7.00p.m**. The route is as follows, up **Main St**., turning left into **Lamagh/ Cluain Daire**, across the railway bridge, stopping for each station along the way.

HOLY SATURDAY – THE EASTER VIGIL   9.00p.m.

The night is "one of Vigil for the Lord." The most important of all vigils, Church keeps vigil, waiting for the Resurrection of the Lord.

Tonight's ceremony is divided into four parts.

The Service of Light

The Liturgy of the Word - The Liturgy of Baptism- The Liturgy of the Eucharist

The Service of Light begins with the Blessing of the Easter Fire and the lighting of the Easter Candle. The Easter Candle is the symbol of the Risen Christ who is the light of the world and will be lit for all Baptisms during the coming year. The lighted Pascal Candle is carried in darkness through the Church. The chant **Lumen Christi** (Christ our Light) is sung. The darkened Church will suddenly give way to the light. Christ is risen. Please bring a candle.

EASTER SUNDAY – DAWN MASS (6.00am) in the cemetery and 10.30 am. in the church.