

# PALM SUNDAY



## As we gather on Palm Sunday,

we stand at the threshold of the most sacred week of the Church's year.

Today, we remember Jesus entering Jerusalem with humility and peace, welcomed by crowds who waved palm branches and cried out in praise. Yet, the same voices would soon fall silent as of Holy Week unfolds.

**Holy Week invites us to** walk more closely with Christ. It is not simply a remembrance of past events, but a living participation in the mystery of our salvation. In the days ahead, we are called to accompany Jesus from the joy of today, through the sorrow of the Passion, to the glory of the Resurrection.

**This year, let us enter this Holy Week** with faith-filled and open hearts.

Perhaps we might set aside extra moments for silence, read the Passion story, or reach out in kindness to someone in need. In doing so, we walk the path with Christ, trusting that beyond the Cross lies the promise of Resurrection.



## On Holy Saturday morning you are invited to bring a flower / flowers in remembrance of your loved ones

On Saturday morning, in union with the mourning of Mary as she stood by the foot of the cross of her son Jesus, you might like to bring a flower or plant to leave in the church in remembrance of your loved ones. Prayer cards will also be available at the front to assist you join in prayer with Mary, as we await in hope once again to witness and celebrate our Saviour's Resurrection.



**Holy Thursday** commemorates the Last Supper, focusing on the institution of the Eucharist and the priesthood, and the mandate of loving service.

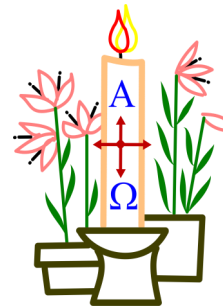
This day serves as a powerful reminder that Christian greatness is measured by service and not by power.

**Good Friday invites us** to stand at the foot of the Cross, contemplating the depth of God's love poured out for us. We focus on redemption, the pardon of sin and the promise of hope, - all of which signify the completion of Our Saviour's work.



## HOLY WEEK AND EASTER 2026

<b>Wednesday 1st</b>	9.30am	Mass – Thomastown
	7.30pm	Mass of The Chrism – St Mary's Cathedral
<b>Holy Thursday 2nd</b>	7.30pm	The Rower - Mass of the Lord's Supper
<b>Good Friday 3rd</b>	12.00pm	The Rower - Stations & Veneration of The Cross, and Holy Communion
	3.00pm	Inistioge - The Passion of The Lord
	7.30pm	Clodiagh - Stations & Veneration of The Cross, and Holy Communion
<b>Holy Saturday 4th</b>	7.30pm	Inistioge - The Easter Vigil Ceremony
<b>Easter Sunday 5th</b>	9.30am	Clodiagh - Easter Mass of Resurrection
	11.00am	Inistioge - Easter Mass of Resurrection
	12.30pm	Rower - Easter Mass of Resurrection



**The Easter Vigil (Holy Saturday night) and Easter Sunday** are the pinnacle of the Christian liturgical year, celebrating Jesus' resurrection.

Marked by fire, light, and initiation rites, our Easter Vigil Ceremonies celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ, focusing on themes of gratitude, new life, hope, and victory over darkness. We thank God for salvation, seek strength to live in the light of Resurrection, and share love with others.

## A Palm Sunday Prayer

*Dear Jesus, even though you have defeated death and the power of sin, we, and our war-torn world, still experience pain and suffering. As we wave these branches, we declare you are our King, and we are your people. We remember all you have done for of us, and look forward to all that you will do. We eagerly await your next triumphal return, when you will make all things right. But until then, may your peace rule in our hearts in in our world. Amen.*