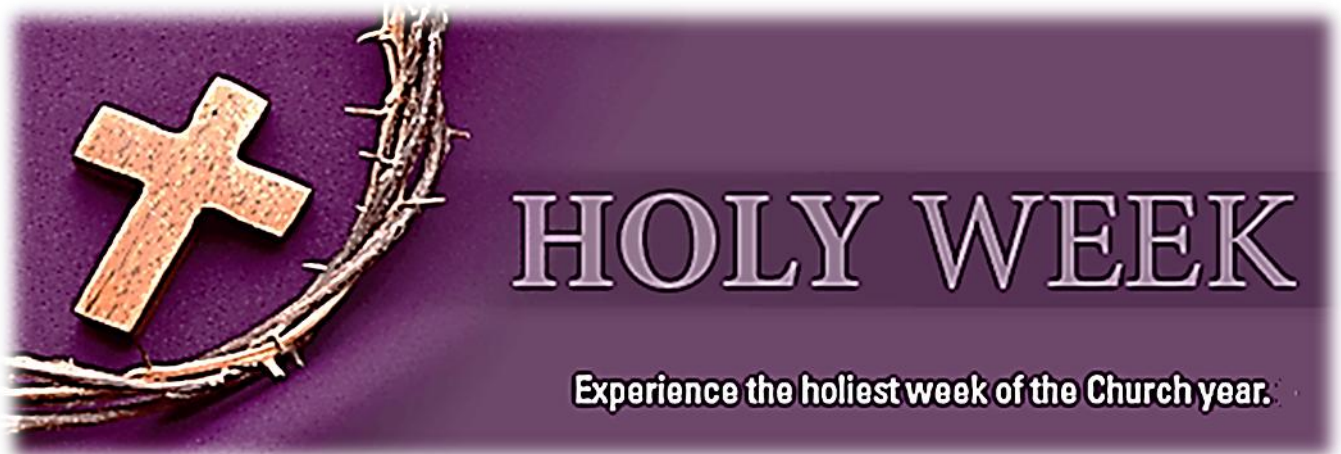




# Our Lady of Lourdes, Perth

Parish Newsletter 29<sup>th</sup> March 2026

## *Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord*



**Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,**

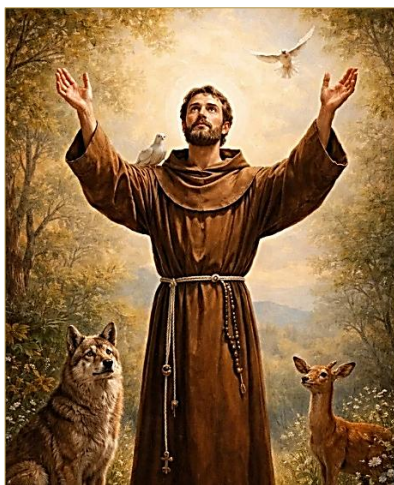
today we enter into the most sacred week of the entire Church year — **Holy Week**. Beginning with this **Palm Sunday**, we walk with Jesus on the path that leads from the joy of His entry into Jerusalem to the mystery of His Passion, Death, and Resurrection.

We begin with palms in our hands, proclaiming **“Hosanna to the Son of David!”** — yet we know how quickly the crowd’s voice will change to **“Crucify Him!”** In this liturgy, we are not only remembering these events; we are entering into them. We stand among the disciples, we follow Christ in His suffering, and we open our hearts to the saving love revealed on the Cross.

This week invites us to slow down, to pray more deeply, and to allow the mystery of Christ to touch our lives personally. In every celebration — **from the Upper Room on Holy Thursday, through Calvary on Good Friday, to the silence of Holy Saturday** — God draws close to us, revealing a love that does not turn away from suffering but transforms it into life.

Let us, then, begin this Holy Week with faith and openness of heart. May we not remain only spectators, but true participants — walking with Christ, so that we may also share in the joy of His Resurrection.

— Fr. Leszek



## JUBILEE YEAR OF SAINT FRANCIS

1226- 2026

As we enter Holy Week, the witness of **Francis of Assisi** offers us a simple yet powerful path: to walk with Christ not only in liturgy, but with the whole heart and life.

For St Francis, the Passion of Christ was not a distant event to remember, but a living mystery to enter.

Standing before the Cross of San Damiano, he heard the call: **“Go and rebuild my Church.”**

**From that moment, his life became  
a response to the love revealed in Christ crucified.**



**OUR LADY OF LOURDES  
ROMAN CATHOLIC  
CHURCH**

**DIOCESE OF DUNKELD**

**Scottish Charity Number: SC001810**

**Parish Priest:** Fr. Leszek Więcaszek SAC  
42 Struan Road, Perth, PH1 2JP

**E-mail:** [ourladyoflourdes@dunkelldioocese.org.uk](mailto:ourladyoflourdes@dunkelldioocese.org.uk)

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**Parish Secretary:**

Dianne Mitchell - 01738 626979  
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Marie Stuart & Dianne Mitchell

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**Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor:**

Linda Gourlay **E-mail:** [safeguardingadvisor@dunkelldioocese.org.uk](mailto:safeguardingadvisor@dunkelldioocese.org.uk)

**Telephone:** 01382 225453 (option 5)

**Website:** [www.dunkelldioocese.co.uk/safeguarding](http://www.dunkelldioocese.co.uk/safeguarding)

**Scottish Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency**

[www.scssa.org.uk](http://www.scssa.org.uk)

**Diocesan Curial Offices:**

**Address:** 24–28 Lawside Road, Dundee, DD3 6XY

**Telephone:** 01382 225453



**Our Lady's  
RC Primary School  
and ELCC Perth**

Our Lady's Primary School is situated in close proximity to the Our Lady of Lourdes Parish church.

**Address:** Garth Avenue, Perth, PH1 2LG

**Mrs Lynne Mendes**, Headteacher  
(Child Protection Officer)

**Mrs Lisa Brown**, Depute Headteacher  
(Child Protection Officer)

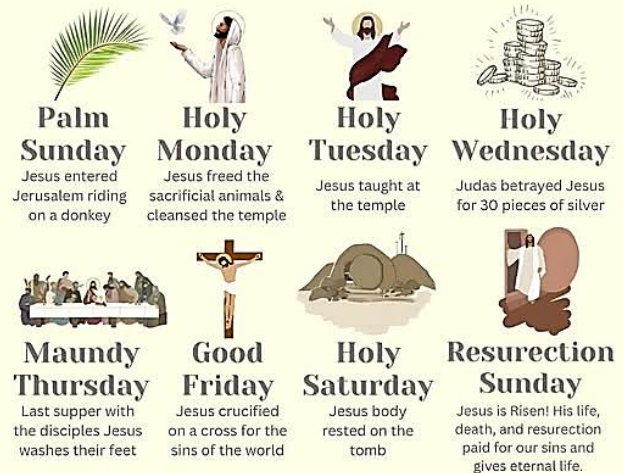
**Website:**

<http://ourladysrcprimary.schoolwebsite.scot/>

**E-mail:** [ourladys@pkc.gov.uk](mailto:ourladys@pkc.gov.uk)

**Telephone:** 01738 477570

# Holy Week



## PARISH SCHEDULE FOR HOLY WEEK

### Holy Tuesday 31st March

Holy Rosary 9.30am, Holy Mass 10.00am  
followed by coffee/tea in the hall

### Holy Wednesday 1st April

Holy Mass with blessing of the Oils in Dundee  
Cathedrale at 7.00pm

### Holy Thursday 2nd April

Office of the Readings at 10.00am  
followed by Sacrament of Reconciliation  
Mass of the Lord's Supper, including the Rite of  
the Washing of the Feet at 4.00pm

### Good Friday 3rd April

10.00am Office of Readings (with Lauds)  
Celebration of the Lord's Passion 4.00pm  
There will be collection for Holy Land.

### Holy Saturday 4th April - During a day

10.00am Office of Readings (with Lauds)  
Polish Traditional Blessing of the Food  
11.00am and 11.30am

Easter Vigil with the (Service of Light), Liturgy  
of the Word, Baptismal Liturgy, and Liturgy of  
the Eucharist at 6.00pm

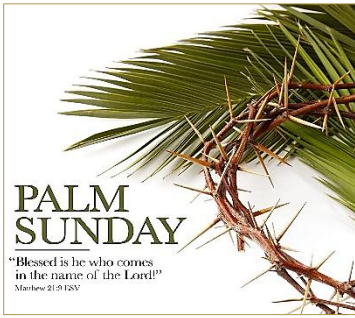
### Easter Sunday 5th April

Holy Mass at 11.00am

**SCIAF Wee Boxes – Reminder:** As Lent comes to an end, please remember to bring back your Wee Boxes to the church. Thank you for your generosity and for supporting SCIAF through your Lenten almsgiving.

### HOSPITAL VISITS BY A PRIEST

If you know someone in hospital who would like a visit from a priest for prayer, spiritual support, Holy Communion (Viaticum: communion for dying), Confession, or the Anointing of the Sick, please contact the **Priest on call, at 07842 538056 ASAP.**



## PALM SUNDAY

*(Entrance Procession with palms – only on Sunday)*

**Gospel** Matthew 21:1-11: “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”

### THE LITURGY OF THE WORD DURING HOLY MASS

**First Reading** Isaiah 50:4-7

*“I hid not my face from disgrace, and I know that I shall not be put to shame.”*

**Responsorial Psalm** Ps 22(21):8-9. 17-18a. 19-20. 23-24.

**R./ 2a** “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

**Second Reading** Philippians 2:6-11 *“He humbled himself, therefore God has highly exalted him”*

**Gospel Acclamation** Philippians 2:8-9: **Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

*Christ became for us obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore, God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name. Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.*

**THE PASSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST** Matthew 26:14-27:66

### BISHOPS TO REFLECT ON STRUCTURE OF CHURCH IN SCOTLAND

*The Bishops’ Conference of Scotland shares the following message:*

**Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,**

Following a request from the Holy See, the Bishops of Scotland have been invited to reflect on how the structures of the Church in our country can best serve her mission in the years ahead, specifically whether the present situation of eight dioceses is suitable.



#### PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH IN SCOTLAND

Heavenly Father, You have called Your Church to proclaim the Gospel and to lead all people to Your Son.

In this time of reflection and discernment, look with love upon Your Church in Scotland.

Grant wisdom to our bishops, courage to our clergy, and openness of heart to all Your faithful.

Send us the light of Your Holy Spirit, that we may seek not our own plans, but Your holy will.

Help us to grow as a Church more united, more missionary, and more faithful to Christ.

Through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, our Mother, guide us forward in hope and trust. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

We are all aware of the challenges before us — fewer clergy, changing patterns of practice, and increasing pressures on our diocesan resources, among other things. Yet our mission remains unchanged: to proclaim the Gospel and to lead our people to Christ. **Two possible pathways are being proposed for careful discernment: developing deeper cooperation and the sharing of resources across dioceses within our present structures, or the merging of some dioceses.**

In order to best inform ourselves and the Holy See, each bishop will engage with his diocese over the coming months for the first part of this process. Everyone will be given the opportunity to pray, reflect, and contribute.

Following on from the presentation of a discussion paper, responses from each diocese will contribute to the initial findings which will be given to the Holy See in the Autumn. This is not simply an administrative exercise. It is a pastoral and missionary response to our changing landscape. This process will ensure our Church in Scotland will continue to grow ever more missionary, more Christ-centred, and more collaborative in the service of God’s people.

***Entrusting this work to the guidance of the Holy Spirit and to the intercession of Our Lady, we move forward together with confidence and renewed hope.***



*A reminder that*  
**SCOTLAND**  
**CHOSE**  
**LIFE**

## SACRED PASCHAL TRIDUUM – LITURGICAL SUMMARY

The **Holy Triduum** is the summit of the Church's liturgical year. It begins with the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, reaches its climax in the Easter Vigil, and concludes with Evening Prayer on Easter Sunday. In these sacred days, the Church celebrates one single mystery: **the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ**.

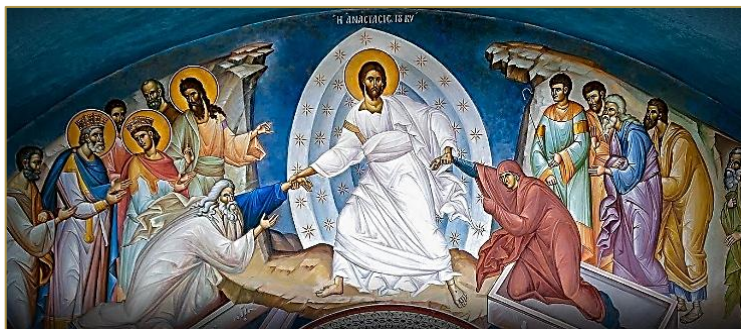
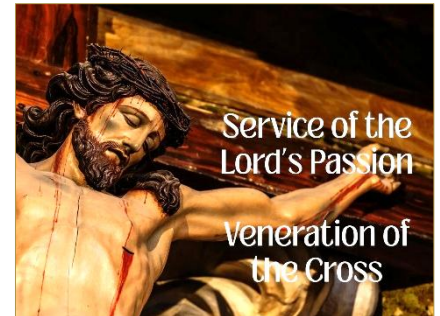


### HOLY THURSDAY – MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Triduum opens with the evening Mass, commemorating the **institution of the Eucharist and the priesthood**. The **Washing of the Feet (Mandatum)** expresses Christ's commandment of love and humble service. At the end of the liturgy, the Blessed Sacrament is carried in procession to the altar of repose, inviting the faithful to watch and pray with the Lord.

### GOOD FRIDAY – CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S PASSION

On this day, the Church does not celebrate the Eucharist. Instead, we gather for the solemn liturgy of the **Passion of the Lord**. The celebration includes the **Liturgy of the Word**, the **Solemn Intercessions**, the **Adoration of the Holy Cross**, and **Holy Communion** from the consecrated hosts of the previous day. It is a day of fasting, silence, and profound contemplation of Christ's sacrifice.



### HOLY SATURDAY – DAY OF SILENCE AND WAITING

The Church remains in quiet prayer at the Lord's tomb. There is no Mass during the day. The altar stands bare, and the faithful are invited to meditate on the mystery of Christ's descent into death, holding fast to hope in His promise.

### THE EASTER VIGIL – THE NIGHT OF NIGHTS

The Easter Vigil is the **high point of the entire liturgical year**, celebrating Christ's victory over sin and death. It unfolds in four parts: the **Service of Light (Lucernarium)**, the **Liturgy of the Word**, the **Baptismal Liturgy**, and the **Liturgy of the Eucharist**. From darkness to light, from silence to the joyful proclamation of *Alleluia*, the Church rejoices in the Resurrection of the Lord.

### EASTER SUNDAY – THE DAY OF RESURRECTION

The Triduum culminates in the celebration of Easter Sunday. Christ is risen! The Church proclaims the victory of life over death and invites all the faithful to live as witnesses of the Resurrection. **In these sacred days, we do not simply recall past events — we enter into the living mystery of our salvation.**

### PRAYER FOR THE DIVINE MERCY NOVENA

*(from Good Friday to the Second Sunday of Easter)*



Merciful Jesus, source of all love and compassion, we come before You at the beginning of this holy Novena, trusting in Your infinite mercy.

You revealed to the world, through Saint Faustina Kowalska, that Your Heart is open

to every sinner and that no soul is too lost to be embraced by Your love.

Pour out Your mercy upon us and upon the whole world. Cleanse our hearts from sin, heal our wounds, strengthen our faith, and renew in us the desire to follow You. In these days of prayer, teach us to trust more deeply, to forgive more generously, and to love more faithfully.

We entrust to You our families, our parish, and all those in need of Your grace. Remember especially those who are far from You, those who suffer, and those who have lost hope. Jesus, we trust in You. Jesus, we trust in You. Jesus, we trust in You. **Amen.**