

PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

Sunday 5th April 2020

ATHBOY PARISH

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Public Masses are currently suspended

MASS INTENTIONS this week:

Sat Vigil: Chris & Cella Nugent, Jack & Moira Miggin

Sun morning: Robert & Margaret Kane & baby Noah Andrew McCormack Blathnaid Carroll,

Mona Dineen, Billy & May Bryan.

Tues: Mary Cawley, Patrick McDonagh & sons Michael & Patrick

Sun morning: Rita Smith, Pat & Mary Smith & dec'd family.

BAPTISMS: contact the Parochial House.

REST IN PEACE

Bridie Jordan,

Clara, Co. Offaly and late of Tullaghanogue.

Holy Week: during Holy Week, the Church celebrates the mysteries of salvation accomplished by Christ in the last days of his life on earth, beginning with his messianic entrance into Jerusalem on **Palm Sunday**.

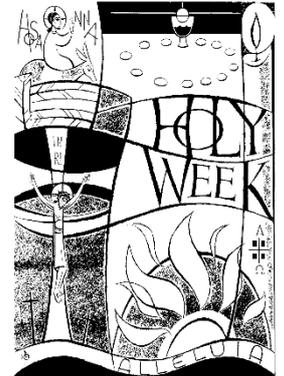
Lent lasts until **Holy Thursday**, when the Easter Triduum begins with the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper.

On **Good Friday** we recall the passion and death of Jesus on the Cross on Calvary. We pray for the Church, our world and all people. We venerate the Cross. Good Friday is a day of fast and abstinence.

On **Holy Saturday** the Church waits at the Lord's tomb, meditating on his suffering and death, awaiting his resurrection with prayer and fasting.

The fifty days of **Easter** begin with the **Easter Vigil**. The Paschal Candle is blessed and lit and the Easter Proclamation is sung as we celebrate Christ's victory over sin and death. The light of Christ pierces the darkness and gloom to tell the world "Christ is truly risen from the dead, Alleluia!"

Because of the COVID-19 restrictions, no congregation will be present at this year's ceremonies, however we hope to broadcast ceremonies using the parish Facebook page, athboyparish.ie, from Athboy Church at 7.30pm on Holy Thursday, Good Friday & Holy Saturday & 11.30am on Easter Sunday.



The Holy Week liturgy is being broadcast from the Cathedral in Mullingar on Holy Thursday and Good Friday on RTE 1 and on Holy Saturday on RTE 2.

We are endeavouring to set up a webcam system from the Parochial House Oratory to enable parishioners view the celebration of Mass each day.

The suspension of all public Masses in our diocese because of COVID-19 Coronavirus, will continue for the foreseeable future. In the current emergency situation, all are dispensed from the obligation to physically attend Sunday Mass.

Our church remains open for people to pray privately in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. When visiting the church, please comply with social distancing regulations.

Fr Pdraig is offering Mass each day for your intentions, for your deceased family members and for the safety and protection of all the families in our community. Prearranged Mass Intentions are being remembered at these Masses but families are also free to contact the Parochial House in order to re-schedule intentions when the present health emergency is over.



Thank you to parishioners who have been returning Easter Offerings, offering envelopes and donations in the box in the centre of the church in Athboy and to the Parochial House letterbox. Your kindness and generosity are greatly appreciated.

Funerals: the Government has said that immediate family members can still attend funeral services of loved ones, including those who may have died from Covid-19, as long as social distancing is applied. No more than 10 people should attend in places of worship and at the graveside.