



**The Parish of**  
**OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE**  
**CHESTERFIELD and DRONFIELD**

**www.annunciationhollyfamily.org**      **annunciationchesterfield@gmail.com**  
Parish Office Hours: Mon – Fri, 9.30am – 5.00pm, 01246 232686  
2 Spencer Street Chesterfield S40 4SD

Rev Fr Adrian P I Tomlinson STL VF  
PARISH PRIEST

Rev Fr Christopher Ainslie  
ASSISTANT PRIEST

**Palm Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2023 Year A**  
**&**  
**Holy Week 2023**

**VS day**

*Today we hold in our hands palm branches.*

*In the ancient world, palm branches were the symbol of victory.*

*For the Israelites in the Old Testament, the elegance, strength, and simplicity of this tree became a symbol of the just man or woman, the one in whom God's law triumphed.*

*It also symbolized victory for the Romans. Palm trees were not native to Italy.*

*And so, when the Romans started conquering other nations in the Mediterranean, the generals brought palm trees back to Rome as souvenirs of their victories.*

*So the crowds waving palm branches as Jesus entered Jerusalem were declaring his victory.*

*Today, we echo them, we join them, and we declare and celebrate Christ's victory.*

*But what victory is it? And how did Christ win it?*

*It is the victory over original sin.*

*Original sin was mankind's disobedience to God and obedience to the devil.*

*It shattered God's plan, let loose the scourge of evil, and gave the devil a certain power over earthly society.*

*Jesus, through his passion, death, and resurrection, reversed the disobedience of original sin by obeying his Father's will in spite of all the devil's attempts to thwart him:*

*The betrayal of Judas, the abandonment of his apostles, the false accusations, the condemnation, the humiliation, the scourging and crowing with thorns, the torture of crucifixion - all of these sufferings were the devil's attempts to get Jesus to say "no" to his Father, just as he had gotten Adam and Eve to say "no".*

*But Jesus defeated the devil. He continued to love, forgive, and obey through it all. And so he, unlike Adam, unlike every other person in history, can say, "I have not rebelled"*

*His obedience establishes a beachhead in this world that is under the devil's sway: Jesus' Passion is D-Day for the devil, and liberation for us.*

*This is the victory we celebrate.*



## **OFFERTORY ENVELOPES**

Boxes of envelopes for 2023/24 are now available at the back of all Churches near the rear entrance. Please collect your own box and for Annunciation only please check that your address details are correct. If not, then please record the amended details on the sheet provided. *Please remember to put the box number as well as your name and address.* If you use the envelope scheme **then you do not commit to giving a set amount each week.** If you pay tax and have not completed a Gift Aid form then these are also available from the contacts below. It costs nothing, only one simple form needs completing which covers all future years, and the Parish gains an extra 25p for every £1 that you give under the envelope scheme or by bank standing order payments. Gift Aid monies are a very important source of funds for us providing income of £29000 in 2020/21.

### **COULD THE OWNERS OF BOXES 55 and 143 PROVIDE PETER SHARP WITH THEIR NAMES AND ADDRESSES PLEASE**

Yellow envelopes will also be available at the back of our Churches for Easter and Christmas Offerings. These can be used for BOTH Gift Aid and non Gift Aid offerings – you only need to sign your name on the envelope if you wish it to be Gift Aided.

For missing/new boxes or other queries, please contact:

Peter Sharp (01246 569417) or [pete@pasharp.co.uk](mailto:pete@pasharp.co.uk) for Annunciation  
Geraldine Coe (01246 235320) or [randgcoe@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:randgcoe@yahoo.co.uk) for Holy Family  
Patricia Shipman (07941 846035) or [tiship@hotmail.com](mailto:tiship@hotmail.com) for Holy Spirit

## **CONFIRMATION CLASSES 2023**

Confirmation classes are as follows:

4.00pm at the High School Viva Hall on Wednesdays 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> April.

Attendance is compulsory

## **RETREAT DAY FOR YOUNG WOMEN**

St Joseph's Convent 15<sup>th</sup> April 9.30am – 4pm (Lunch provided)

For more information or to book a place please contact Sr Mary:

01246 230321 or [goncag@hontmail.co.uk](mailto:goncag@hontmail.co.uk)

## **PRAYER BOARDS**

Two new prayer boards are available in the porch, one for general petitions and the other to request prayer for the recently deceased. We ask that all prayer petitions are dated and removed after one month. If after that time the same prayer is still needed please make out a new request. This is to avoid an out of date backlog and to keep the prayer requests up to date. Thank you!

## **WATCH AND PRAY**

*Watch and Pray* is a collection of prayers, hymns and readings collated by the late Fr Michael Beattie SJ for use by students of Mount St Mary's College.

The published book is now available to buy both from the college website: [www.msmcollege.com/shop](http://www.msmcollege.com/shop) or by placing an order through the Parish Office.

Copies of *Watch and Pray* are priced at £10 each

## **GOOD FRIDAY PROCESSION OF WITNESS - FRIDAY 7<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2023.**

You are invited to join with other local churches in this annual procession of witness of our Christian faith. The procession leaves the Town Hall at 11.00 a.m. and makes its way through the town It finishes in the grounds of the Crooked Spire at about noon. At each station, there will be a scripture reading, prayers and hymns.

Participants are asked to bring their own cross if they wish.

## **WE ARE THE CONDEMNING CROWD!**

The Reading of the Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ on Palm Sunday and Good Friday involves the Narrator and the parts played by Pontius Pilate and the servant girl. However, it was 'mob rule' and the cries of the people which persuaded Pontius Pilate to crucify our loving Lord. Presumably, had we been there, WE, driven by the High Priests, would have done the same. We are encouraging you, the congregations at the above services, to represent 'the crowd' during these two readings.

Please bring your Missals, copies of Magnificat, Universalis App, etc.

Join in with the crowd where indicated (from your benches) to condemn Our loving Lord and shout for his unjust and dreadful crucifixion.

The Gospel on Palm Sunday will be Cycle A: St Matthew

The Gospel on God Friday will, as always, be St John.

## **TEACHING VACANCIES AT ST MARY'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL**

St Mary's Catholic High School seeks to appoint the following:

- Teacher of French/German
- Head of Design Technology
- Head of Food Technology and Child Development

Further details and application pack available from: [rgilding@stmaryschesterfield.org.uk](mailto:rgilding@stmaryschesterfield.org.uk)

## **PARISH LUNCH GROUP**

The next Parish Lunch is on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> April at 1.00pm at the Olde House. Please note the change of time: this makes it possible for anyone wishing to attend the 12.00pm Mass to come afterwards for lunch and a warm-up at the Olde House.

For more information please contact Irene O'Donnell on 07941049158

## **DRONFIELD PIE 'N' PEAS**

On Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April the Cow Shed Café in Dronfield will be hosting a pie and pea supper at £10 per person - for more information or to book a place please contact

Pat: 07941846035 or Hazel: 01246 569417

## **HOLY WEEK COLLECTIONS**

The retiring collection at all Masses this weekend is for

### **The Easter Flowers**

A great amount of time, effort...and money go into the beautiful decorating our churches for the various seasons and solemnities, and your support is most appreciated.

For parishioners who donate by contactless, an option for 'Easter Flowers' is available on the contactless payment terminals

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There will be a retiring collection on Good Friday, following the long-standing custom for **upkeep of the Christian shrines in the Holy Land**

For parishioners who donate by contactless, an option for 'Holy Land Shrines' is available on the contactless payment terminals

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The Easter Sunday collection is a gift to the clergy