

NEWS

PALM SUNDAY

5 April 2009

Next Sunday
EASTER DAY
RCL p376
 Isaiah 25.6-9
 Acts 10.34-43
 Mark 16.1-8



Next Sunday
HYMNS

The day of resurrection	474
Love's redeeming work is done	324
Lord enthroned in heavenly splen-	309
This joyful Easter-tide	509
Jesus Christ is risen today	267

Even the stones will cry out

Palm Sunday began an intensely dramatic and significant week in the life of Jesus, marking the climax of his work and ministry. The entry of Jesus into Jerusalem was a staged event designed to gain maximum effect. The gospel writers make no secret of this. The clue to the pre-planning lies in the words spoken to the owner of the "beast of burden". The phrase "The Lord has need of it" was a password to a prearranged agreement.

This journey into the city is seen by the early church as a fulfilment of the prophecy of Zechariah, where the Messiah will ride into Jerusalem on a young colt.

Christ's rule is not to be heralded like that of a mighty, conquering, war-like leader. The kingdom He represents is "not of this world".

This symbolism left a strong impression on the mind of the crowd. The Pharisees present at the scene pleaded with Jesus to tell the crowds to be quiet, but in reply Jesus says "even the stones will cry out"; what he has done speaks louder than words.

The use of symbolism in order to get over a religious message was something that former generations of religious leaders had done. The prophet Jeremiah publicly wore an ox yoke to convey to the people of Israel that they must submit to Babylon. We saw a good example of a religious leader per-

forming an "acted oracle" recently when Archbishop Sentamu, on a television programme, removed his clerical collar, cut it up and declared that he would not wear another until he saw justice in Zimbabwe.

The famous saying of former prime minister Harold Wilson that "a week is a long time in politics" could certainly apply to the last week of Jesus in the religious climate of Jerusalem. Palm Sunday is only a prelude to what happens in the rest of the week. His trial, betrayal, his last Passover meal with the disciples, crucifixion and death, followed by the experience of resurrection, are all important parts of the Christian understanding of salvation history.

Please pray for...

6 April Halcyon WHILBY and family

7 April Lorna WHILBY and family

8 April Karyn WHITE, Jeff Quilley and Clementine

9 April Enid WILLIAMS and family

10 April Gwen WILLOCK and family

11 April Alison WRIGHT, Eckart MARCHAND and Harriet

IAIN MACKECHNIE-JARVIS and family whose father died last week



Notices

A NEW STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN was launched on Sunday 29 March. To cover our running costs for the next 3 years we need each household regularly attending church to give around £20 a week. As a Christian community we support each other by giving as much as we can, recognising that we do not have equal wealth to share. Please think carefully about what you can commit to. For planned giving to be effective, people need to be able to commit realistically, as far as anyone is able to predict their circumstances in these uncertain times.



FAITH QUESTIONS a chance to explore questions about faith, religion and spirituality in a series of conversations in the crypt café beginning on Wednesday 29 April at 7.45pm. This is for anyone who's interested: for people who come to church as well as for people who don't. We need help to provide refreshments or crèche facilities. If you'd like to come along, help or find out more, please contact Daniel.

OPEN DOOR RETREAT
Wednesdays @ 7pm in the Crypt
22 April ~ 24 June
led by Romee Day & Lorraine Sanie

Pick up a leaflet at the back of church to find out more

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

April 6-8 Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday in Holy Week 8pm

Stations of the Cross and Eucharist
April 9 Maundy Thursday 8pm
Eucharist of the Last Supper with Footwashing followed by Watch of Prayer until midnight

April 10 Good Friday 10am
Good Friday Liturgy with Veneration of the Cross

April 11 Holy Saturday 10am
Making the Easter Garden Please bring flowers and plants to decorate church

April 12 Easter Day 10am
Easter Ceremonies and Eucharist followed by Easter Egg Hunt

Please take leaflets to give to friends and family

People of God

Newly elected PCC members at the AGM last Sunday are: BOACHIE DANKWAH, SHARON JOHN, MIKE LAZAR, IAIN MACKECHNIE-JARVIS, PAULINE MATHESON, JILL MORLAND

Thanks to our Passion Narrative Readers: BOACHIE DANKWAH, MICHAEL DAVIES, PETER DAY, VIVETTE FERGUSON, KATHERINE GERRANS, OLIVE HOME, SHIRLEY

ODEJIMI, GERMAINE ST CLAIR

NORAH JACOBS and MARY JACOBS attended a family confirmation last Sunday

VIVETTE FERGUSON has been away for a weekend with the Pastoral Assistants course

KATE GREEN enjoyed an exhibition at the Millinery Works on

Southgate Road about her furniture-making ancestors on Tuesday

IRENE ODDONKER has been missing church because of her new job as a home carer

We say goodbye to London Catholic Worker ZELDA JEFFERS at a party in the Crypt on Wednesday from 7.30pm



Find out more

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For More Information about baptisms, weddings, courses, concerts, volunteering, regular services, prayer requests, please see the church porch or www.stpeterdebeauvoir.org