



Sunday 29th March 2026

Newsletter

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CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION SERVICES – MARCH/APRIL

Sunday 29 March

10.30am

5.30pm

PALM SUNDAY

**Walking procession from St Andrew's URC to
Church of the Ascension for Eucharist
Eucharist**

Monday 30 March

5pm

7.30pm

Evening Prayer

Prayer and Praise at Fr Mel's

Tuesday 31 March

5pm

Evening Prayer

Wednesday 1 April

10am

5pm

Midweek Eucharist

Evening Prayer

Thursday 2 April

7.30pm

Eucharist and Watch until 10pm

Friday 3 April

2pm

GOOD FRIDAY

Liturgy of the Cross

Saturday 4 April

7.30pm

Easter Vigil

Sunday 5 March

10am

EASTER SUNDAY

Sung Eucharist and Egg Hunt

**All are welcome to Morning Prayer at St Mary's at 8.30am
on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday this week.**

PLEASE NOTE

There will be no morning or evening prayer said in church on Monday 6 April.

**There will be the usual morning and evening prayer said on
Tuesday 7 April and Wednesday 8 April.**

Pray for our sick and those who care for them: Evelyn, Pat Hughes, Chris Hemsley, Rev'd Beryl Pritchett, John Whitby, John Timmins, Brian and Jackie Wilson, Jayne Walker, Kerry, Brian, Rogerio Ponticelli, Sandra Mee, Julia, Robert Baker and MU Members, especially the house bound.

Recently Departed:

[Baptism Preparation – Prayer for March](#)

A prayer we commit to pray for you as parents:

*Loving father, bless this family with the ability to love unconditionally even in the hardest moments.
Help them realise what Jesus gave up so that they can know love and life. Amen.*

***Please pray for the people that live in New Bradley Hall in our parish and for the people
who care for them.***

Notice from Fr Adam

The Triduum – Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and The Easter Vigil

These three days are the biggest, most dramatic in the whole of the Christian calendar. You cannot move from Palm Sunday to Easter Day without walking the great three days with Jesus. It just wouldn't make any sense. Jesus walks with us every day of our lives, one way of responding to this is to walk the journey of Holy Week with Him. Please do take a post card detailing our Holy Week services and put them in your dairy now and try to make each on a priority. Loads of work go into these services to make them as special as possible so please come and join in as we walk with Jesus through Holy Week 2026.

A note from Sian and Fr Chris

On Good Friday, we're hosting a special joint Soul Food and mainly music Easter event for children and families at **St Mary's, starting at 10:00am**. It will be a fun and welcoming morning with craft activities, refreshments, and time together to celebrate Easter. To help the event run smoothly, we're looking for a few volunteers who could lend a hand with things like setting up and running craft tables and serving tea and coffee.

If you'd be happy to help, we would love to hear from you. Thank you from Sian and Fr Chris 😊

The next Prayer and Praise at Fr Mel's is at 7.30pm on Monday 30th March

Hearts on Fire service

All are welcome to this contemporary, charismatic mass that is held on the second Sunday of the month **at St Mary's. The next service will be Sunday 12th April at 4pm.**

Come just as you are to worship.

Pause, Pray, Ponder, Praise reflective service

This reflective service is being held on the third Sunday of the month by Chris Knight **at Church of the Ascension. The next one is on Sunday 19th April at 4 pm.**

This is a service when you have time to just sit quietly with God.

Everyone is welcome.

St Mary's next Community Coffee Morning is on Thursday 23rd April 10-12.

Good news from Jean Blakemore

At long past Dudley MBC have scheduled a repair to the drainage system outside the church gate for **Sunday 12th April 2026**. No small thanks go to Sam Horton who works for the council and who has liaised with us about practicalities and actually made it happen. It has to be a Sunday as there will be less traffic, with fewer cars and buses, and the school is closed. There will be four-way temporary traffic lights and partial road closures, so a degree of disruption will occur. It will be impractical to hold our usual 10am service, not least because of noise, so please note that there will be **no service** at 10am on 12th April at the Church of the Ascension. **We are welcome to join St Mary's who have Morning Prayer at 10am on that day or to go to the Hearts on Fire Service at 4pm at St Mary's.**

One day of inconvenience will hopefully lead to years of better drainage!

Recycling old glasses – a note from Mary Green

Mary has been sorting out old pairs of glasses to take to the Lions Club in Birmingham. If anyone has any glasses they want to donate, could you bring them to church and Mary will take them into Birmingham.

Mainly Music Thank you to everyone who is supporting Mainly Music by making cakes. They are very much appreciated and enjoyed by everyone who comes along. There is a new rota for after the Easter break if anyone can fill a space it would be much appreciated.

Sunday 29th March – Palm Sunday

Collect

True and humble king, hailed by the crowd as Messiah:
grant us the faith to know you and love you,
that we may be found beside you on the way of the cross, which is the path of glory. **Amen.**

Today's Readings

Liturgy of the Palms

Matthew 21.1-11

Liturgy of the Passion

Matthew 26.14 - end of 27

Isaiah 50.4-9a

Psalms 31.9-18

Philippians 2.5 -11

Hymns

159 – All Glory Laud and honour

147 – My song is love unknown

489 – From Heaven you came helpless babe

161 – Ride on ride on in majesty

Post Communion

Lord Jesus Christ, you humbled yourself in taking the form of a servant,
and in obedience died on the cross for our salvation:
give us the mind to follow you and to proclaim you as Lord and King,
to the glory of God the Father. **Amen**

Annual Meetings

Towards the end of April and into May we will be entering our annual meeting cycle and there will be important elections taking place for a number of different committees. The dates of the meetings are:

- St Mary's Annual District Church Meeting – Wednesday 29 April at 7.30pm in church
- Church of the Ascension Annual District Church Meeting – Wednesday 6 May at 7.30pm in church
- Annual Parochial Church Meeting – Wednesday 27 May at 7.30pm at St Mary's

Each church has elections for:

- 2 Church Wardens
- 2 Deanery Synod reps
- 1 PCC member
- 3 DCC members

Please really pray to discern if God is calling you to any of these roles.

Parish Development update from Fr Adam

As you are now aware Sian will be moving on in April to a new job. Having a Children, Young People and Families Minister has been invaluable in reaching out to new families and them embarking on a journey of faith. Please pray for the ministry team as we advertise the role again and particularly pray that people will apply and that God will call someone to join us on the next stage of our parish renewal. **Amen.**

Gluten Free Wafers

Whenever the Eucharist is celebrated, gluten free wafers will be available.