



Holy Week



St Philip's
Come & See

13th April - 20th April 2025

The Days between Palm Sunday and Easter Day are important days of devotion. At St Philip's there will be number of services that you might like to engage with. This pamphlet explains a little about what to expect at each service so you can make an informed decision about how you might like to participate.

Holy Week – like Lent – is not about ‘doing’; rather it is a time for us to ‘be’. To dwell in the moments of Christ Passion (the final parts of Jesus earthly journey); and take time to pray and meditate on how this influences how we live as the people God created us to be.

Palm Sunday – 13th April

8am Blessing of Palms and Eucharist

10am Palm Procession and Eucharist

Palm Sunday will keep the pattern of our normal Sunday Services with 2 key differences. The blessing of palms and sharing in the story of Palm Sunday when we shout ‘Hosanna’. Later in the service we hear the full story of Jesus last days; and like the crowd we are invited to call out ‘Crucify Him!’ This confronting part of the Liturgy gives us a starting point for the events that are to take place in the coming days.

Wednesday 16th April

7pm Service of Tenebrae

Tenebrae is a traditional service during Holy Week. The name Tenebrae is the Latin word for "shadows." One of the most conspicuous features of the service is the gradual extinguishing of candles until only a single candle, (Christ) remains.

This is a reflective meditation with readings, prayers and music as we prepare of the triduum. (around 70mins)

The Triduum

Taken from a Latin root that mean "three days," it is a period of time that traces the final days of Jesus' life, his death, and his resurrection, starting on Maundy Thursday and continuing to the Easter Feast.

Maundy Thursday 17th April

7pm Eucharist of the Last Supper with Hand Washing

(around 80 mins)

This Service is a service of joy, and includes the words of the Gloria for the first time since the start of Lent. We then participate in the story of the final moments of Jesus time with the Disciples before he is arrested.

Members of the congregation will be invited to have their hands washed. (Traditionally we would wash feet, but in our current context handwashing is powerful and more inclusive – allowing more to participate).

We then hear the words of the Last Supper and share in this sacred meal.

At the end of communion, the church moves into semi darkness and we strip (clear) the sanctuary of the church – slowly and quietly. We then sing together as we move to the altar of repose – a garden set up in the church – where we can prayer and keep vigil as the disciples did.

The Church will remain open till 10pm if you wish to keep Vigil.

Good Friday 18th April

The Church will be open for quiet mediation from 10am until the 3pm service. You may like to sit before the Altar of repose, or anywhere else in the church.

*During the day, there will be several different services and devotions offered. You are welcome to come for the day, or to come and go as you like. The most important service is **The Liturgy** at 3pm; but you can equally participate in any of the other services in a way that helps your devotion and prayer.*

10am – Morning Prayer

Short service of psalms, readings and prayers focused on the theme of the day (around 20mins)

11am – Music and poetry

An hour of music played by pianist Colin Forbes interspersed with poetry. A time to reflect through art on the power of Good Friday.

This will be a great space to come and reflect in a creative way.

Performance by Colin will include compositions by Mozart; Chopin and Janáček

12noon – 3pm Meditation on Last words of Christ

This is a time of quiet meditation. There will be short readings which include the different recorded last words of Christ, and some music.

There will also be times of silence just to sit and be.

(Feel free to come and go during this time as suits you. You are also welcome to do the same throughout the day.)

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact
The Rector - The Rev'd Christine Cargill
rector@stphilipsoconnor.org.au ph: 0478 619 911

Good Friday 18th April continued...

3pm The Liturgy

This tradition service takes place in much silence. It is slow and ponderous as we sit at the foot of the cross, it lasts about 80 minutes. It includes a procession of the cross, as well as the reading of Christ's passion from John's Gospel which is very confronting. We also receive the remaining sacrament from Maundy Thursday.

*At the end of **The Liturgy**, we will close the church, and you are welcome to join us for **Hot Cross Buns in the Lamerton Centre** at the conclusion of the service.*

Easter Sunday 20th April

The Feast of the Resurrection.

We begin before first light in the courtyard where we stand around a fire and welcome the light of Christ.

6.30am Vigil Sung Eucharist

After the lighting of the new Easter Candle, we enter the church in darkness where we hear Sung the Great Easter Hymn – the Exultat. We then hear readings which tell the story of God's promise from Creation through to prophecies of Isaiah. We then make noise; the light is turned on and we sing the Gloria! We hear the story of Jesus Resurrection, renew our baptismal vows and share in communion together.

This service will be followed by Breakfast around 8am

9.30am Festal Eucharist followed by Easter Egg hunt

We are reminded of what took place at our dawn service and then share in the Easter celebration together.

Please do come and celebrate with us and we come and see the wonder and joy of Christ in our midst this Easter.