



St Thomas Aquinas and St Stephen Harding Catholic Church

Diocese of Shrewsbury Shropshire Deanery

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Newsletter 28 March – 5 April 2026
Palm Sunday of the Passion of Our Lord
Sundays Year A Weekdays Year 2

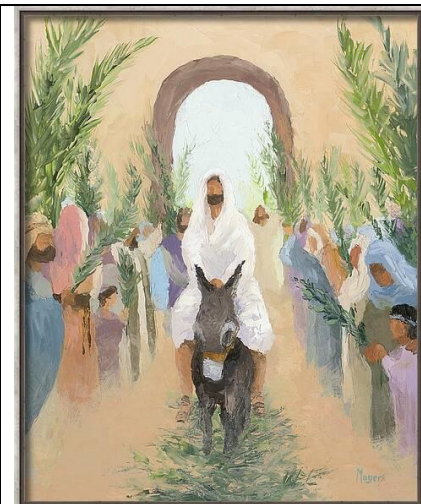
	Market Drayton	Intention	Newport
Saturday 28 March	Mass 9:30am	Priest's Intentions	Vigil Mass 5:30pm
Sunday 29 March Palm Sunday of the Passion	Mass 11:00am	Rosealeen O'Hanlon RIP	Mass 9:15am
Monday 30 March <i>Monday of Holy Week</i>			
Tuesday 31 March <i>Tuesday of Holy Week</i>	Zoom Evening Prayer 7:00pm		Mass 10:00am Stations of the † 7:00pm
Wednesday 1 April <i>Wednesday of Holy Week</i>	Mass 10:00am Stations of the †	Winifred Katherine Carter RIP	<i>No Mass</i>
Thursday 2 April HOLY THURSDAY	Mass of the Lord's Supper 5:00pm	Priest's Intentions	Mass of the Lord's Supper 8:00pm & Watching
Friday 3 April <i>GOOD FRIDAY</i>	Good Friday Liturgy 12:00 noon		Good Friday Liturgy 3:00pm
Saturday 4 April HOLY SATURDAY			Easter Vigil 8:00pm
Sunday 5 April EASTER DAY	Mass of Easter Day 11:00am	Elizabeth Heseltine RIP	Mass 9:15am

Clocks forward overnight Saturday into Sunday 28/29 March



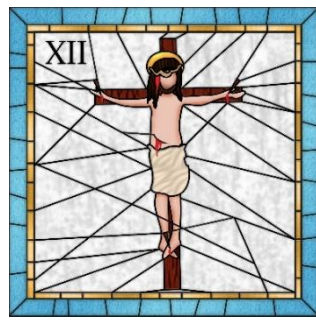
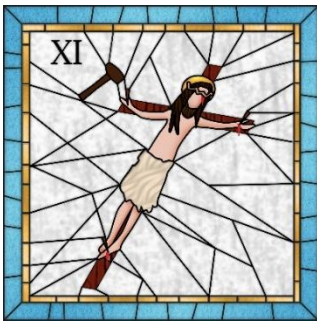
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Confessions after Saturday Mass on 28 March
 30 minutes before Mass on Wednesday 1 April also

Maundy Thursday from 4:00pm at Mkt Drayton and from 7:00pm at Newport
Good Friday from 11:00am at Mkt Drayton and from 2:15pm at Newport



← Palm Sunday
 Maundy Thursday
 Good Friday →





Attention all Gift Aid Donors The tax year 2025/26 will be coming to an end on 5th April and the Parish will undertake the process of claiming back the Gift Aid refunds on donations made in the tax year. If your circumstances have changed and you no longer pay income tax (or if for any other reason you do not wish to remain in the Gift Aid Scheme) please let Helen McSherry know by email by 5 April, otherwise it will be assumed you have paid sufficient income tax for the Parish to reclaim Gift Aid on donations made in 2025/26. Please also let us know if you have changed your address. Thank you. **Offertory Envelopes 2026-27** The boxes of envelopes for next financial year (2026-27) are available to collect and commence Sunday 12 April. **Can we please ask any Parishioners who kindly leave cash donations on a Sunday, to give careful consideration to donating via an Offertory Envelope or Standing Order and, if eligible, gift aiding it.** The process is very simple: you can either set up the Standing Order yourself through on-line banking or complete a form and hand it to your bank. Both forms are available on the Church website/from the Church Porch. Please contact Helen McSherry at ssthomasandstephen@gmail.com if you need forms sent to you or for further information on Offertory Envelopes. We would very much appreciate your support with this. Thank you.



Peace According to global conflict data from the UN, **there are over 50 active armed conflicts taking place across the world**, the highest number recorded since WWII. Tens of thousands of people are killed each year, as a direct result of warfare, and millions more are displaced, forced to flee their homes in search of safety. We pray for all victims in our world troubled by violence, hatred and unrest in the Middle East and Iran, and for the success of the initiatives in Israel and Gaza, and for the peoples of Ukraine, Russia, Syria, Iran, Sudan, South Sudan, Nigeria, Uganda, Yemen, Iraq, Myanmar, and all those in countries affected by conflict; pray for an end to all war, and for peace to reign in our troubled world.



The Pope's Prayer intention for March: For Disarmament and Peace – Let us pray that nations move to effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.



The month of **March** is dedicated to **St Joseph**.

Please keep the following parishioners in your prayers: Glynis Kirton, Clarice Clack, Freya Jackson, Fr Anthony Wild, John O'Rourke, David Smith, Niall Gallivan, Doreen Dodd, Faye Hargreaves, Mary Goodwin, Julian & Dawn Huxley, Shane McGroggan, and all the sick and housebound of the parish.



During Holy Week we follow Christ from his triumphant entrance into Jerusalem to the foot of the Cross as sorrowful bystanders to his Passion, before rolling back the stone of the empty tomb, and the joy of the Resurrection.

Easter Offering Some years in the past, the Easter Collection was given to the priest. Now, however, these offerings will go to the parish. Therefore, if you wish to give a gift to Fr Lee, please give this to him directly and not through the usual Offertory collection.

Offertory	22.03.2026	Loose Plate £85.09	Envelopes £81.00	St Orders £175.85	Total £341.94	Thank you
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Please note: Refreshments after Mass in April will be on the 2nd Sunday of the month, 12 April
Please take this newsletter home to share with others.