



THE PARISH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

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Holy Week 2021

Due to the Covid-19 situation the celebrations of Holy Week will be different from previous years. This is to ensure that government and diocesan guidelines are complied with, and so that those who attend will hopefully feel comfortable and safe.

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday (27th/28th March). There is no need to reserve seats for these Masses which will be at their usual times. All three Masses will begin inside the church with the Solemn Entrance with the blessing of palms (there will be no procession before the 10:00am Mass). The palms cannot be distributed before Mass, but those attending will be able to receive a blessed palm as they leave the church after Mass. During the Mass the shorter version of the Passion from Saint Mark's Gospel will be proclaimed by the deacon or priest.

Our plan for the celebrations of the Sacred Triduum is:

Thursday 1 st April	7:30pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper
Friday 2 nd April	3:00pm	Solemn Liturgy of the Passion of the Lord.
Saturday 3 rd April	9:00pm	Easter Vigil
Sunday 4 th April	8:30am	Easter Sunday Mass (at Our Lady and Saint Thérèse, Painswick)
	10:00am	Easter Sunday Mass

The Covid-19 guidance will involve some changes to the services. These include:

- There will be no singing during the liturgies, although some pre-recorded and organ music may be used.
- There will be no washing of feet, altar of repose or watching until midnight on Holy Thursday.
- There will be no individual physical veneration of the Cross by the congregation on Good Friday.
- The Easter Vigil will begin inside the church and there will be only four scripture readings before the Gospel.
- Other changes to the liturgies, including the instructions for receiving Holy Communion, will be included in the orders of service.

(Version 1.0)

Those not attending the parish celebrations are encouraged to live-stream the celebrations from Clifton Cathedral. The live-stream, along with details of the times, will be available on the diocesan (www.cliftondiocese.com) and cathedral (www.cliftoncathedral.org) websites. The Chrism Mass at 11:00am on Wednesday 31st March will also be available from those websites.

In order to ensure social-distancing there are restrictions on the number who can attend each Mass or liturgy. Therefore it is possible to request a seat in advance.

Requests for seats need to be made by Tuesday 30th March, and can be made using the slip below (or providing the same information):

- Via email: stroud.immaculateconception@cliftondiocese.com.
- By posting through the parish office or presbytery letter box. Please ensure that the details are clearly written and that the envelope is marked 'Holy Week Seating Request'.
- With the designated steward at each weekend Mass.
- In person at the parish office. Please telephone in advance on 01453 762442 to see if available.

If your request cannot be accommodated you will be contacted.

Please contact the parish if you no longer wish the seats requested.

Please arrive for the Mass or liturgy between 45 minutes and ten minutes before it is due to begin, and you will then be shown to your allocated seats. Seats not occupied ten minutes before the Mass or liturgy may be given to other people.

The normal Covid-19 guidance within the church will apply (details are available from the churches or on request).

Please remember that:

- Social distancing, according to government guidelines, must be maintained both inside and outside of the church. This includes instructions regarding household/support bubble mixing.
- The obligation for Catholics to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation has been suspended.
- All days during the Easter Octave (4th – 11th April) may be celebrated as solemnities, while the Easter Season lasts until Pentecost (23rd May).

Holy Week 2021 Seat Reservation

Lead Person's Name:				
Lead Person's Contact Details: (email and/or telephone number)				
Number of seats requested for each celebration: (maximum of eight and all from the same household or support bubble)				
Holy Thursday	Good Friday	Easter Vigil	Easter Sunday (Painswick)	Easter Sunday (Stroud)
1 st April 7:30pm	2 nd April 3:00pm	3 rd April 9:00pm	4 th April 8:30am	4 th April 10:00am