

HOLY WEEK

The central reality of our faith as Christians is that Christ has risen from the dead and that he lives among us. Holy Week is the celebration of Christ's journey into this new life, a journey that we are also invited to travel, knowing that he has gone before us and that he travels with us.

A difficult time

Holy Week is a difficult time for us. It is difficult because of the number of points of celebration. It is difficult because of the seriousness of the themes of betrayal and death. And it is difficult because people are becoming more and more busy in their ordinary lives and so don't have the time to enter into this occasion seriously.

It is important to make this week a special time of prayer and reflection. We do this at a community level by gathering in big numbers five times in the week. But we need to do it at a family level as well, and at a personal level also. This is the week when Lenten penance should be exercised in a special way by taking this time to journey with Jesus and so catch his Spirit.

Fr. Johnny Doherty, C.Ss.R.

Stages of the Journey

1. **Palm Sunday:** From being celebrated to being forgotten.
2. **Holy Thursday:** From giving himself to his disciples in the Eucharist to being denied by them.
3. **Good Friday:** From surrendering himself to God's will to feeling abandoned even by God in death.
4. **Holy Saturday:** From complete emptiness in death to new life.
5. **Easter Sunday:** From the tomb to the ends of the earth.

During this Holy Week we journey through all these stages with Jesus so that he may bring us to new life and hope.

Holy Week

HOLY WEEK TIMETABLE

Palm Sunday **Blessing of Palms**
Bellaghy Parish Penitential Service **6.00pm**

Monday 30th March **No Morning Mass**

Tuesday 31st March
Morning Mass **9.00am**
Lavey Parish Penitential Service **7.30pm**

Wednesday 1st April
Morning Mass **9.00am**
Greenlough Parish Penitential Service **7.30pm**



Holy Thursday

HOLY THURSDAY

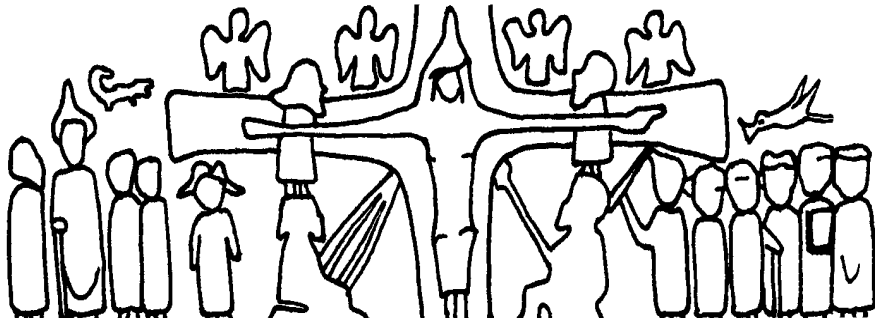
Chrism Mass, St. Eugene's Cathedral **10.00am**

Mass of the Lord's Supper **7.30pm**
Offertory will include bread and wine, the Holy Oils, and Trócaire contributions.

Adoration at the Altar of Repose until 11.00pm.

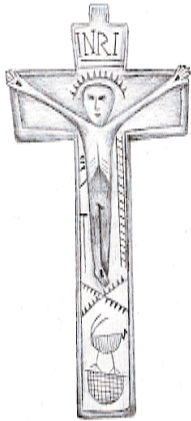
Prayer Service **10.30pm**

Good Friday



Good Friday

Good Friday is a day of Fast and Abstinence.



Morning Prayer in the Church	10.00am
Stations of the Cross	3.00pm
Celebration of the Lord's Passion	7.30pm

GOOD FRIDAY

A Thought

*Jesus said: 'It is accomplished';
and bowing his head he gave up the spirit.*



Question

How do you feel when you think of the crucifixion of Jesus?

Alleluia! Alleluia!

HOLY SATURDAY

Today Fr. Crilly will lead a series of reflective outdoor readings of Scripture in preparation for the Easter Vigil. These will take place in five different locations, gathering the whole parish into the salvation of Christ.

Reflective reading for the Vigil:	10.00am
<i>Part One, at Old Church, Greenlough</i>	
Reflective reading for the Vigil:	11.30am
<i>Part Two, the River Bann (Molloy's Ford)</i>	
Reflective reading for the Vigil:	1.30pm
<i>Part Three, Maigney Moss</i>	
Reflective reading for the Vigil:	3.00pm
<i>Part Four, the Square at Beechland Drive</i>	
Reflective reading for the Vigil:	4.30pm
<i>Part Five, at Fr. Hegarty's Grave, followed by a cup of tea at the Parochial House.</i>	



EASTER VIGIL	9.00pm
EASTER SUNDAY	
Mass of Easter	9.00am
Mass of Easter	11.00am