

**YOUR invitation to a
traditional Anglican
HOLY WEEK
and EASTER**



Bishop David Writes:



This leaflet is YOUR invitation to worship with the Patmos House Community during Holy Week and Easter.

We meet for church mostly at Shafston International College (see directions on the back page). We come from a range of backgrounds and age groups. We believe the Good News of Jesus, and we pray in a traditional Anglican way, with old fashioned hymns that are easy to sing! Our sermons are really “straight talking”, based on the Bible, that help us to find God’s love in the ups and downs of everyday life. We find that by coming to Mass we draw strength from God so as not to be limited to our own resources in the Monday to Saturday world.

I wonder if, like other thoughtful people, you experience a restlessness and dissatisfaction with your life? Perhaps you have tried to work out what is missing. You might even be able to look back to a time when you were very conscious of being close to God, but the cares of life and all the things that have happened to you since those days have caused you to drift away.

What better time than Holy Week to “dip your toe back in the water” and reach out to God. You will find a real welcome in our services!

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

There are many ways of looking at what happened when Jesus died on the Cross that first Good Friday. Some concentrate on the Cross as a demonstration of God’s love, others as a battle in which darkness and evil is conquered, and others, still, as the sacrifice that takes our sins away.

I find it really helpful to see the Cross as God's way of sharing with his people - and, in fact, the whole created order - in the anguish and pain we know only too well, not just “helping us through it”, but at the same time pouring his love and strength into our lives. One of my favourite writers is the Orthodox spiritual guide, Bishop Kallistos Ware. He puts it like this:

" . . . there was a Cross in the heart of God before there was one planted outside Jerusalem; and though the Cross of wood has been taken down, the cross in God's heart still remains. It is the Cross of pain and triumph - both together. And those who can believe this will find that joy is mingled with their cup of bitterness. They will share on a human level in the divine experience of victorious suffering."

The Cross is God’s way of “loving the world back to himself” - and that includes you!

HIS JOURNEY AND OURS

The traditional services of Holy Week are arranged with music, Bible readings, art, drama and traditional ceremonial so as to draw us spiritually into the suffering, dying and rising of Jesus.

We do not pass glibly to the joy of Easter Day without treading the road to Calvary with its pain and sorrow. Our journey is measured and reflective. It changes us. Holy Week is a fresh experience of God's wonderful transforming love, a deeper knowledge of sins forgiven, and a new grasp of the victory God is trying to win in our lives over sin, evil and hatred.

I know that if you make the most of Holy Week 2010, you will emerge on Easter Day a new person! And that is just as true for those who have been through 70 or 80 Holy Weeks as it is for those experiencing Holy Week for the first time. If you tread the way of the Cross and journey to the Empty Tomb in sincerity of heart and - however falteringly - reach out to God, your relationship with him will be made new.

Participating fully in these special services will help you put the world's problems and tragedies in perspective, and make a little more sense out of your own life.

Christ is risen. He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

See you in church!

PALM SUNDAY 28th March



On this day the Church celebrates the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem as King and Redeemer, greeted by the people waving branches of palm and olive. This entry into the holy city was the final and decisive step towards his death and resurrection.

The colour for the day is RED, signifying the triumphant victory of Christ in his death and resurrection.

The people are given palm branches and crosses at the very beginning. The priest and servers join them. Three important things then happen :

1. The palms and those who are to carry them are blessed.
2. The Gospel of our Lord's entry into Jerusalem is read
3. We praise Jesus as our Messiah singing "All glory, laud and honour ..." as we process into Mass.

During Mass the long passion story is read. Different voices take the parts of those involved, and the whole congregation

takes the 'crowd' parts, reminding us of our share in the sin which makes necessary the sacrifice of Jesus.

7.30 am: Mass & Blessing of Palms
(at Patmos House)

**9.30 am: BLESSING OF PALMS, &
SUNG MASS (at Shafston College)**

6.30 pm: STATIONS OF THE CROSS
(at Patmos House)

MAUNDY THURSDAY 1st April

'Maundy' comes from the Latin 'm a n d a t u m' ('c o m m a n d - m e n t') and refers to the words of Jesus to his disciples after he had washed their feet at the Last Supper, "This is my commandment : love one another, as I have loved you." (John 15:12)



We gather in the evening for the "Mass of the Lord's Supper". Special features of this service are :

1. After the sermon, the priest washes the feet of twelve men, in imitation of our Lord, and as a reminder to us all that we must love and serve one another with the love of Christ
2. After the people have received Holy Communion, the Blessed Sacrament is carried in solemn procession to the Altar of Repose, which represents the Garden of Gethsemane. This altar is decked out with flowers and candles in honour of our Lord's presence. In union with the disciples, a continuous watch of prayer is kept until midnight.
3. The altar cloths, candlesticks and crosses are removed during the recitation of Psalm 22.

7.30 pm: MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER
(at Patmos House)

GOOD FRIDAY 2nd April

On this day, the church is bare of all adornment. The service has three parts :

- 1. The Word and the Prayers:** The priest and servers enter and prostrate themselves before the altar. Everyone spends a little time in silent prayer. Then follow the 'collect' of the day and the readings, including the long Passion from St.



John's Gospel. This part of the service concludes with intercessory prayer offered for the whole Church, and for all people throughout the world.

2. The Veneration of the Cross: The symbol of our Crucified Saviour is brought in from the back of the church and unveiled in three stages. It is then placed in full view of all. We all line up to make an act of reverence to our Lord. Many people prayerfully kiss the feet of the crucifix, or the wood of the cross.

3. Holy Communion: The Blessed Sacrament is brought from the Altar of Repose to be consumed in Holy Communion. This corresponds to our Lord's leaving the Garden to be consumed in death for our salvation. The sacramental Presence of Jesus is absent from the church until the Easter Vigil. The tabernacle is empty! We experience something of the great void felt by the apostles after Jesus died.

9.30 am: LITURGY OF THE LORD'S PASSION (at Shafston College)

HOLY SATURDAY 3rd April

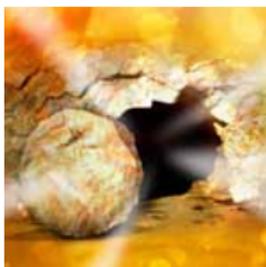
Through the use of many ancient ceremonies and symbols, the Easter Vigil takes us to the heart of what we call 'The Paschal Mystery' - the saving death and resurrection of Jesus. This service, "The Mass of the Resurrection" has four parts:



1. The Service of Light: The church is in darkness. A fire is lit near the main door. The flames symbolise the power of the Holy Spirit to bring new life. The priest blesses the fire and lights the big 'Pascal Candle' from it. This Pascal Candle represents the Lord risen from the dead. Once the Candle is alight, it is carried through the church and raised three times, while 'Christ our Light/THANKS BE TO GOD' is sung. The light of Christ is given to all present as they light their candles from the Pascal Candle. The ancient 'Easter Proclamation' is sung.

2. The Word of God: A number of Scripture readings occur, telling of the great things God did to deliver his people, culminating in the resurrection of Jesus. The sermon, as usual, follows the Gospel.

3. The Liturgy of Baptism: We process to the font as the Litany of the Saints is sung. Water is blessed, and there are usually baptisms. Then the whole congregation renew their own baptismal promises and are sprinkled



with the baptismal water. This part of the service concludes with the intercessions.

4. The Eucharist: Mass continues as usual, and we make our Easter Communion. Christ is Risen . . . and Eastertide has begun . . . ALLELUIA!

The Paschal Candle, a sign of the Lord's resurrection, remains in the sanctuary until the end of eastertide - i.e. Pentecost Sunday. Then it is placed by the font so as to emphasise the important connection between the Lord's resurrection and the Sacrament of Baptism in which we are born again into his new life. It is also placed by the coffin at funerals as a sign that Jesus shares his victory over death with all his people.

7.30 pm: THE EASTER VIGIL MASS
(at Patmos House)

EASTER SUNDAY 4th April

7.30 am: Mass & Renewal of Baptismal Promises
(at Patmos House)

9.30 am: SUNG MASS & RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL PROMISES
(at Shafston College)

6.30 pm: Evensong and Benediction
(at Patmos House)

Patmos House Community, Brisbane



Parish Priest: Bishop David Chislett SSC
Ph: (07) 3391 1602 Mobile: 0402 099 175
PO Box 7157 East Brisbane, Qld 4169
Email: bpdavid@eis.net.au

Blog:

<http://bishopdavidsblog.blogspot.com>

Asst Priests: Fr Tony Iball Ph: (07) 3841 2352
Fr Stephen Hill Ph: (07) 3890 4723
Fr Neville Rohrlach Ph: (0402 009 707)

HOW TO FIND US . . .

SHAFSTON INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE:

On the 2nd floor of the building called "University Mansions", corner of Shafston Avenue and Castlebar Street, Kangaroo Point (near the Story Bridge). Go into the foyer and take the lift.

PATMOS HOUSE:

Cnr of Heath and Heidelberg Streets, East Brisbane. (Bus 235 from Adelaide Street stops at the door; and Mowbray Park Wharf is a short walk away.)