

### **Holy Monday – 30<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

At the end of this week, the Church once again takes up the *'song of the servant'*, singing the sacred liturgy of our redemption. We continue the Messiah's mission to *'establish justice in the earth'* and be a *'light to the nations'*. Through the *'works of mercy'* every Christian brings the good news to the poor, opens the eyes of the blind and set captives free. This is the mission of the *'Confirmati'*, sealed with the Holy Chrism and the Gifts of the Holy Spirit during the Easter Vigil. Many people live a superficial life, filled with short-lived enthusiasm. Please God, our evangelism has been so authentic that those Received into Full Communion find a lasting joy in their incorporation in the body of Christ, evangelising others as the Lord's servants.

### **Holy Tuesday – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026:**

It is sad that Judas will not be part of the Apostolic Church despite his initial inclusion in the College of Apostles. Despite following Jesus for three years, seeing his miracles and hearing his teachings, when the moment of truth comes, he proves he has not really listened to the Word of God. As Christians, we enjoy friendship and access to Jesus in the Church's liturgy and sacraments, so it is sad when a Christian rejects Christ's teaching found in His Church or teaches others to ignore them. This Week, we express our loyalty to Christ by accompanying Him on his way of the cross. This is what we have been preparing for the whole of Lent, so if we are not going to come to the Sacred Paschal Triduum, then what has been the point of our Lenten Pences, other than to prepare us for the celebration of the mysteries of our redemption!?

### **Holy Wednesday – 1<sup>st</sup> April 2026:**

*'Spy Wednesday'* is the day Judas decides to hand over the King of Glory. Judas had received the gospel but rather than accepting his commission to *'hand it on'*, *'hands over'* the divine teacher for just 30 pieces of silver, the price an owner is compensated for the loss of a slave; that's how much Jesus is valued! Judas had allowed the *'prince of this world'* (the devil) to enter his heart and corrupt him. After his betrayal, the money becomes a heavy burden; he tries to return it, but it is too late, the deed is done.

### **Holy or Maundy Thursday – 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2026 – the Chrism Mass:**

Although anticipated last night, Bishop Bradley from Southwark blessed the Oils to be used for the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, Ordination and for the Sick.

### **Holy or Maundy Thursday – 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2026 – Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper:**

At 8pm, the Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper will be celebrated, where we commemorate and participate again in the Last Supper. We will be in the Upper Room with Jesus as he institutes the Priesthood and the Eucharist and issues his Mandatum, the command to fraternal charity, expressed in the washing of the feet. Then we will see the stripping of the altar and keep watch at the Altar of the Repose contemplating his agony in the garden, his arrest and the loss of his divine dignity, which he willingly gives up in obedience to His Father’s Will to usher in the salvation of the world.

### **Good Friday – 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2026 – Commemoration of the Lord’s Passion:**

At 12.30pm, Christians from across Farnham and its neighbourhoods will gather at Gostrey Medows to give witness to our town, showing them, this day is ‘good’ because Goodness Himself gave his life for the salvation of the world! Later at 3pm, the hour of Jesus Death, we gather in St Joan’s to commemorate the Lord’s Passion, hearing the solemn proclamation of the His Death, to adore and venerate the reality of the Lord’s cross with a genuflection (or solemn bow) and if appropriate with a kiss, showing we are ready to embrace our own cross and follow the Lord to Calvary and pass-over with Him into the Garden of the Resurrection. Today, is a day of fasting and abstinence.

### **Holy Saturday – 4<sup>th</sup> April 2026 (daytime):**

Despite what you may hear on TV, today is ‘*Holy Saturday*’ not Easter Saturday (that is next week). This is tomb day, a day for quiet reflection, waiting with Our Lady full of hope of the Resurrection. At 9.30am in St Joan’s Church, Fr. Simon will bless the Easter Baskets of those waiting to celebrate the First Festal Meal of Easter, and afterwards at 10am, there will be a final chance for Confession before Easter.

### **Holy Saturday – 4<sup>th</sup> April (after dark):**

The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night is the highlight and pinnacle of our Liturgical Life. At 8pm it should be dark enough for us to celebrate the Resurrection within the Holy Night. We will gather outside the Church to bless the Easter Fire and Easter Candle, the light of Christ dispelling the darkness of our lives, bringing the new light of the resurrection into our hearts. We will then settle down for a Vigil of Readings, reminding ourselves of the History of our Salvation, before joyfully singing our Alleluia! We will also welcome into Full Communion new members into the Catholic Church.