

## HOLY SATURDAY

The Church waits today at the Lord's tomb, meditation on his passion and death. She refrains from all ceremony until nightfall. During the Vigil Service sorrow and mourning give way to joy and celebration.

## EASTER VIGIL

**7.30pm in Caherconlish.**

The Climax of the Christian year. The Great Vigil of Easter is the most joyous and Beautiful liturgy of the Church Year. This most ancient of Holy Days is rich in symbolism, saturate with the word of God, and is, in fact, the principal celebration of the Resurrection of the Lord. It bridges the time between Lent and Easter, Passion and Resurrection, great sorrow and resounding joy. The Vigil Allows us, like Mary Magdalene, to visit the tomb only to find it empty, the Light of the world having risen from the dead.

A fire is lit and blessed, the Easter Candle is lit from this fire, it symbolizes Christ the light of the World and it dispels the darkness of the night. The Pascal Candle provides the light for the Easter proclamation which recall the grandeur of Jesus rising on this holy night in the Old Testament, foreshadowing His wonders accomplished in the New Testament. The readings from scripture tell the history of man's relationship with God.

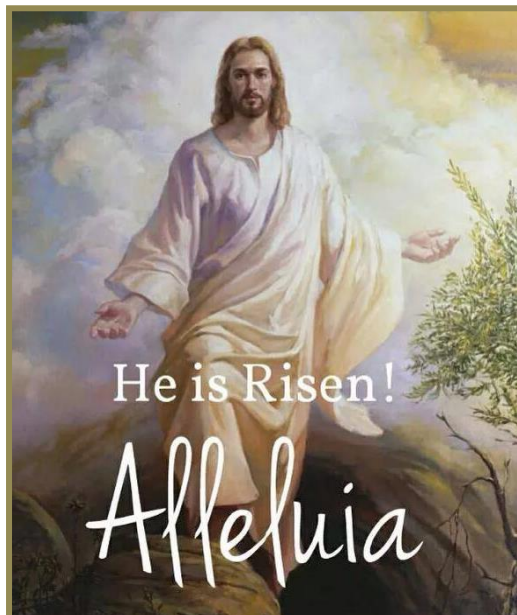
The Church is flooded with light, the tomb is empty, death is conquered! The veils of mourning are lifted, bells ring, the proclamation is proclaimed

**"Alleluia, the Lord is Risen".** The Gloria is said for the first time since the last

Sunday in Epiphany. The congregation joins together in a reaffirmation of faith; the Celebrant blesses them with water from the font as a reminder of their own baptism into Christ's Passion and Resurrection.

## EASTER SUNDAY

**THE LORD IS RISEN! ALLELUIA  
Our joy has been made  
complete. The tomb is empty.  
Christ has returned in the glory  
of the Resurrection.**



## CAHERCONLISH/CAHERLINE PARISH PALM SUNDAY/HOLY WEEK



## PALM SUNDAY MARCH 25<sup>TH</sup>

**MASSES: Saturday Vigil Mass 6.30pm in Caherconlish.  
Sunday 10am in Caherline & 11am in Caherconlish.**

Holy Week, in Irish, "Seachtain Cásca" begins today. At one end Passion Sunday and the other end the Easter Triduum of Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil.

The first Holy week, by the plan of God, was the most important week in the life of Jesus Christ.

This Holy week, likewise, should be the most important week in the entire year for each of us. It should be a week of prayer and meditation, in understanding the events of the Passion of the Lord. On this day, Palm or Passion Sunday, the Church celebrates Christ's entrance into Jerusalem to accomplish his Paschal Mystery.

Great Excitement prevailed in the city upon his arrival. Towards the end of the day He predicted his death by being "lifted up from the earth" and told the people: "Yet a little while the light among you. Walk while you have the light that darkness may not overtake you."

## HOLY WEEK

**Sacrament of Forgiveness/Confession:**

**After ceremonies on Holy Thursday and Good Friday.  
Holy Saturday 12non in Caherconlish and 1pm in Caherline.**



MONDAY, TUESDAY  
& WEDNESDAY OF  
HOLY WEEK

**Masses: Caherconlish 9.30am –Caherline 10am.**

These are the days to receive the Sacrament of Penance.

They are also the days of reflection on the events of the First Holy Week. The spirit of Holy Week can be strengthened by attending Mass on these days and listening attentively to the readings.

HOLY MONDAY

**Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 42:1-7 Gospel Reading: John 12:1-11**

As Jesus dines with his beloved friends, Mary does something which only love can do. She took the most precious thing she had and spent it all on Jesus. Her love was not calculated but extravagant.. Mary's action was motivated by one thing, and one thing only, namely, her love for Jesus and her gratitude for God's mercy. Give us, Lord, a lively faith, a firm hope, a fervent charity, a love of you.

HOLY TUESDAY

**Old Testament Readings: Isaiah 49:1-6 Gospel Reading: John 13:21-38**

Jesus' disciples were put to the test. What was different between Peter and Judas? Judas deliberately betrayed his Master while Peter, in a moment of weakness, denied him with an oath and a curse. Judas' act was cold and calculated. Peter, acted impulsively, out of weakness and cowardice. We also must examine ourselves in the light of God's truth and grace and ask him to strengthen us in faith, hope, and love that we may not fail him or forsake him when we are tempted.

HOLY WEDNESDAY

**Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 50:4-9 Gospel Reading: Matthew 26:14-25**

Why did Jesus betray his Master? Was his treachery motivated by greed, Bitter disappointment with Jesus, or hatred because of disillusionment?

It may be that Judas never intended for his Master to die. Nevertheless, his tragedy was his refusal to accept Jesus as he was.

Do you pray with confidence in the words Jesus gave us to pray.

Do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil?

HOLY THURSDAY

**Masses: Caherconlish 7.30pm – Caherline 7.30pm.**

The East Triduum begins with the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper. It is the anniversary of the Lord's Supper when Jesus ate the Passover meal with His apostles. It was then that he instituted the Eucharist, which is Sacrament, Sacrifice and Memorial. He

commanded His first priests to repeat this action as a Memorial to Him. It was also then that he washed their feet and gave us an example and command of love. (John 13:34) Unselfish love is the command of this day. **"Christ gave us a new commandment: love one another" (John 13:34)**. After Communion the Altar is stripped in silence and the crucifix covered or removed from the sanctuary. The Blessed Sacrament is taken in silence to the Altar of Repose. Mass will not be offered again until the Easter Vigil Service. We depart in silence from the Church strengthened in our belief that **"when we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus until you come in glory"**.

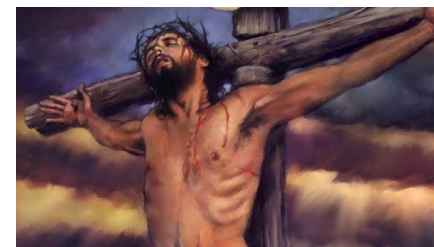
GOOD FRIDAY

**The Lord's Passion: Caherconlish 3pm – Caherline 3pm**

**Stations of the Cross: Caherconlish 7.30pm –Caherline 7.30pm.**

Today the Church celebrates the Passion and Death of her Lord. The celebrant wears red Mass vestments to honour Christ whose blood saves us. A prayer recalling our salvation begins the ceremony. The first reading from Hebrews recalls that Jesus submitted humbly and became for all a source of eternal salvation. The Passion according to John is proclaimed. We pray for all humanity in the General intercessions.

The Celebrant then unveils the Cross three times. **"Behold the wood of the Cross on which hung the salvation of the world"**, each time we kneel and respond. "Come let us adore". The cross is venerated; we genuflect before it and kiss it as a sign of sorrow and gratitude. The cross is then placed at the



Altar of Sacrifice. We are then invited to receive the Body of Christ, at the end of the ceremony we depart the church in silence. **The Evening Stations of the Cross** gives those working an opportunity to gather around the cross for quiet prayer and reflection.

