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And also to free every one of us from the power of darkness, of pride, of resistance to being loved by God. And this, only God's love can do this. By his wounds we have been healed (cf. 1 Pt 2:24), the apostle Peter says, by his death we have been reborn, all of us. And thanks to him, abandoned on the cross, no one will ever again be alone in the darkness of death. Never, he is always beside us: we need only open our heart and let ourselves be looked upon by him.

A PALM SUNDAY REFLECTION

“Let us not grow tired of doing good . . . Take time to love the poor and the needy, those abandoned and rejected, those discriminated against the marginalised”

An excerpt from the Message of His Holiness Pope Francis for Lent 2022

*Two years ago, in the Palm Sunday Homily of His Holiness Pope Francis for Lent 2020, he evoked the desolation of Jesus by quoting his words: Eli, Eli, lama sabachtani? My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? (Matthew 27:46). So it is beyond difficult to grasp that this Palm Sunday two years later so many around the world still suffer in the tragic human fallout of the Covid pandemic, in the failed crops, floods, and punishing droughts of climate change, in the assault on the innocent in Ukraine. Yet in his Message for Lent 2022, this year, we find the hope that lies in action—the hope there in the perseverance of love. He writes, “each year we are reminded that goodness, together with love, justice and solidarity, are not achieved once and for all, they have to be realised each day.” That just as in 2020, you - all of us, together - are what he called “the real heroes who come to light in these days . . . Those who are giving themselves in order to serve others. . . who say yes to love without ifs and buts. As Jesus did for us.” **For families caught in terrible crises far from the media spotlight, in filling and returning your Trócaire Boxes for Easter week, you are an agent of God's love: and in giving to protect Trócaire's work for families in very twenty countries worldwide, you are ensuring that the light of hope will never die.***

Good Friday is the day of penance, fasting and prayer. Through the texts of the Sacred Scripture and the liturgical prayers, we will be as though gathered on Calvary to commemorate the redemptive Passion and Death of Jesus Christ. In the intensity of the rite of the Liturgical Action, the Crucifix will be presented to us to adore. Adoring the Cross, we will relive the journey of the innocent Lamb sacrificed for our salvation. We will carry in our minds and hearts the sufferings of the sick, the poor, the rejected of this world; we will remember the “sacrificed lambs”, the innocent victims of wars, dictatorships, everyday violence, abortions... Before the image of the crucified God, we will bring, in prayer, the many, the too many who are crucified in our time, who can receive comfort and meaning in their suffering only from him. And nowadays there are many: do not forget the crucified of our time, who are the image of Jesus Crucified, and Jesus is in them.

Ever since Jesus took upon himself the wounds of humanity and death itself, God's love has irrigated these deserts of ours, he has enlightened our darkness. Because the world is in darkness. Let us make a list of all the wars that are being fought in this moment; of all the children who die of hunger; of children who have no education; of entire populations destroyed by wars, by terrorism. Of the many, many people who, just to feel a bit better, need drugs, the drug industry that kills... It is a calamity, it is a desert! There are small “islands” of the people of God, both Christian and of all other faiths, that hold in their heart the desire to be better. But let us tell the truth: in this Calvary of death, it is Jesus who suffers in his disciples. During his ministry, the Son of God disseminated life by the handful, healing, forgiving, reviving... Now, in the hour of his supreme Sacrifice on the cross, he brings to fulfilment the task entrusted to him by the Father: he enters into the abyss of suffering, he enters into these calamities of this world, to redeem and transform.

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Monday, 11th April. Monday in Holy Week
7.30am: Sarah McGuinness (A)
10.00am: Patrick and Nan Kelly (A)
1.05pm: Lindsey (Intention)

Tuesday, 12th April. Tuesday in Holy Week
7.30am: No Intention
10.00am: Eileen Coakley (Intention)
1.05pm: No Intention

Wednesday, 13th April. Wednesday in Holy Week
7.30am: No Intention
10.00am: Leo and Mary Farrell (A)
1.05pm: James Clarke and DFM (A)

Thursday 14th April. Holy Thursday
7.30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

Friday, 15th April. Good Friday
3pm: Celebration of the Lord's Passion
7.30pm: Stations of the Cross
9pm: Táize Prayer around the Cross

Saturday, 16th April. Easter Saturday
10.00pm: Easter Vigil

Sunday, 17th April. Easter Sunday
6.00am: Dawn Mass, Famine burial grounds, St. Joseph's
8.00am: No Mass
10.00am: Patrick & Sabina Doris & P.J. Doris & Margaret Ward (A)
11.30am: *Shared:* Rose Foudy (Month's Mind).
Peter Connolly and DFM.
Josie and Tom Kelly (A).
1pm: Anna Marie Flynn (A)
6pm: Jimmy Rogers (A)

OFFERTORY COLLECTION: We thank each one of you most sincerely for your continued generous contributions to our weekly collections. The amount received in the Offertory Collection for last weekend was €3,935.00.

EASTER DUES COLLECTION for the support of the Priests of the parish are due at this time. Please use the Dues envelopes in your box or put your contribution in an ordinary envelope with your name and address and return it to the Cathedral.

USHERS/COLLECTORS MEETING will take place in the Octagonal Room on Monday evening at 7.30pm.

REST IN PEACE: Your prayers are requested for the happy repose of the soul of Michael Tighe, Annaly Park whose funeral took place during the week. May his soul and the souls of all the faithfully departed rest in peace.

THE NOVENA OF DIVINE MERCY commences on Good Friday immediately after the 3o'clock ceremony in the Cathedral. It takes place each day at this time. Divine Mercy Sunday is Sunday 24th April, the Novena will conclude at the 1pm Mass.

TRÓCAIRE: We encourage families to return their Trócaire box next weekend.

Easter Ceremonies

Wednesday 13th April at 7.30pm, Penitential Service.

Holy Thursday 14th April 11.30am, **Mass of Chrism and blessing of Oils**, in Cathedral of Saints Patrick and Felim, Cavan.

7.30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper, followed by Exposition and Night Prayer

Good Friday, 15th April

- Celebration of the Lord's Passion at 3pm
- Stations of the Cross at 7.30pm
- Táize Prayer around the Cross at 9pm

Holy Saturday, 16th April

- Confessions 10am to 12noon and 2pm to 4pm
- Blessing of Food (Polish Tradition) at 1pm.
- Easter Vigil at 10pm

Easter Sunday, 17th April

- Dawn Mass at 6.00am Famine burial plot (behind St. Joseph's).
- **No 8am Mass.**
- Mass at 10am, 11.30am, 1pm and 6pm.