

We are grateful to all those who are acting responsibly in following the guidelines that we have been given. We do not want to follow countries like Italy and Spain where death and sickness have reached catastrophic proportions. It hasn't been easy for us to maintain contact with our people in these trying times with mass being celebrated without a congregation, the cancelling of all religious ceremonies except funerals and being forbidden to visit the sick and elderly. Hopefully mass beamed into the home through the miracle of modern technology gives both the feeling of connection and belonging and an opportunity to pray in these times when prayer is more necessary than ever. As you are aware, the bills do not stop just because the income dries up, so please each week do not forget us but put away your regular envelope collection and it will prove to be a lifesaver whenever we get back to normal again. Our prayer is that we all come through these testing days unscathed and that we will have allowed this time of confinement and discomfort to readjust our priorities and concerns.

Fr. Brian, Fr Karl

Address for Mass Streaming:

<https://>

www.facebook.com/100004490054799/

Times of Masses which will be streamed from St. Mary's Church, Culdaff, Co. Donegal:

Monday 7.30pm

Tuesday. 7.30pm

Wednesday 10.00am

Easter Triduum

Holy Thursday 7.30pm;

Good Friday 3pm; Stations of the Cross 7pm;

Holy Saturday 8.00pm

Easter Sunday. 10.00am

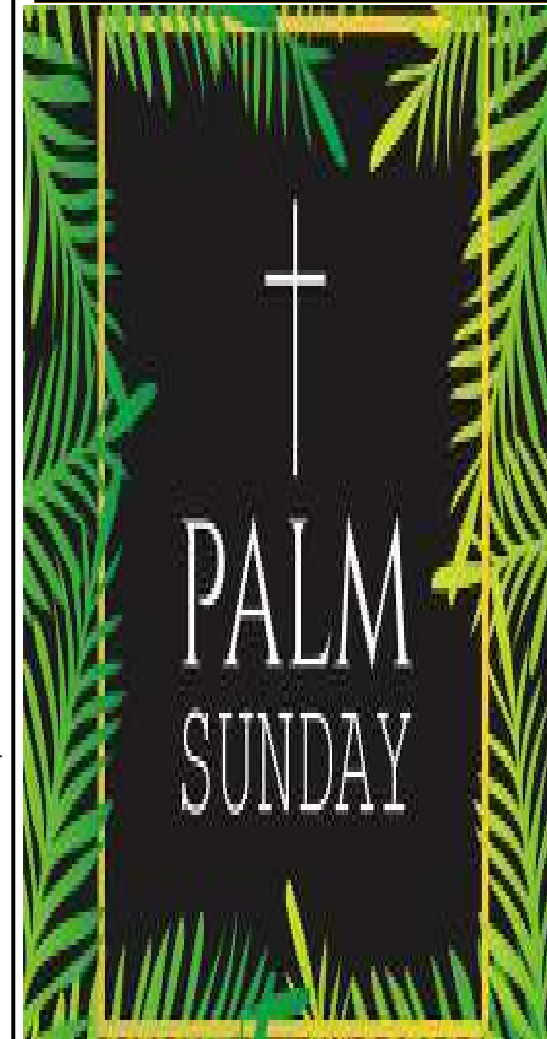
Please add me in order to be reminded automatically when the live stream is about to take place. Otherwise, just look me up at the times stated above, and you can join me in daily Mass.

Message me with Names of the Deceased whose Anniversaries occur at this time, and whom you want me to mention. I will also offer Anniversary Masses if families wish to contact me via Messenger, whether they are Anniversary Masses for parishioners' families, or for the deceased of my friends in Christ who are praying with me at each Mass.

St Mary's Church

Bocan

5th April 2020 No. 19



Responsorial Psalm

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Fr. Brian Brady, P.P., V.F 9376264

Fr. Karl Haan C.C. 9379107

www.culdaffparish.com

email: culdaffnotes@gmail.com

First Reading

Isaiah 50:4-7

The Lord's Servant will stand firm, even when persecuted.

Second Reading

Philippians 2:6-11

Christ was obedient even to death, and God has exalted him.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 26:14—27:66

Jesus is crucified, and his body is placed in the tomb.

A Coronavirus Prayer -

Jesus Christ, you travelled through towns and villages "curing every disease and illness." At your command, the sick were made well. Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of the coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love.

Heal those who are sick with the virus. May they regain their strength and health through quality medical care.

Heal us from our fear, which prevents nations from working together and neighbours from helping one another.

Heal us from our pride, which can make us claim invulnerability to a disease that knows no borders.

Jesus Christ, healer of all, stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow.

Be with those who have died from the virus. May they be at rest with you in your eternal peace.

Be with the families of those who are sick or have died. As they worry and grieve, defend them from illness and despair. May they know your peace.

Be with the doctors, nurses, researchers and all medical professionals who seek to heal and help those affected and who put themselves at risk in the process. May they know your protection and peace.

Be with the leaders of all nations. Give them the foresight to act with charity and true concern for the well-being of the people they are meant to serve. Give them the wisdom to invest in long-term solutions that will help prepare for or prevent future outbreaks. May they know your peace, as they work together to achieve it on earth.

Whether we are home or abroad, surrounded by many people suffering from this illness or only a few, Jesus Christ, stay with us as we endure and mourn, persist and prepare. In place of our anxiety, give us your peace.

Jesus Christ, heal us



COVID-19 Support Line for Older People

ALONE has launched a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to the outbreak of COVID-19 (Coronavirus). Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. The support line is open Monday to Friday, 8am-8pm, by calling 0818 222 024. Hours may be extended to meet the demand.

TROCAIRE - Trocaire are still in need of any help that you can give this year. In light of the present restrictions, any donation can be left at the Parochial House and it will be passed on to Trocaire. We know these are difficult times for everyone but if you can help it would be very welcome.

Background on the Gospel Reading

Today we begin Holy Week, the days during which we journey with Jesus on his way of the cross and anticipate his Resurrection on Easter. Today's liturgy begins with the procession with palms to remind us of Jesus' triumphant entrance into Jerusalem.

The events of Jesus' Passion are proclaimed in their entirety in today's Liturgy of the Word. Those events will be proclaimed again when we celebrate the liturgies of the Triduum—Holy Thursday's Mass of the Lord's Supper, the Good Friday of the Lord's Passion, and the Easter Vigil. In communities that celebrate the Sacraments of Initiation with catechumens, these liturgies take on special importance because they invite the catechumens and the community to enter together into the central mysteries of our faith. These days are indeed profound and holy.

In Cycle A, we read the Passion of Jesus as found in the Gospel of Matthew on Palm, or Passion, Sunday. (On Good Friday, we will read the Passion of Jesus from the Gospel of John). The story of Jesus' Passion and death in Matthew's Gospel focuses particularly on the obedience of Jesus to the will of his Father. As Jesus sends his disciples to prepare for Passover, he indicates that the events to come are the will of the Father (Matthew 26:18). In Jesus' prayer in the garden, he prays three times to the Father to take away the cup of suffering, but each time, Jesus concludes by affirming his obedience to the Father's will (Matthew 26:39-44). Even Matthew's description of Jesus' death shows Jesus' obedience to the Father.