



The Parish Church of Saint Thomas of Canterbury Brentwood

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PALM SUNDAY

29TH MARCH 2026



Father Mark writes... Welcome, in the name of the risen Christ to our worship today. If this is your first visit to St Thomas, please make yourself known to one of the sidespersons who welcomed you into the church or to a member of the ministry team. Please join in the text marked in bolder type and note that at the 10.00 service we sing the hymns and some parts of the service. Information about this week's services can be found below and in particular details of how to find the order of service online; there are always some hard copies printed off for those who are less comfortable using phones to access the words. Communion is distributed in both kinds and we come forward to stand around the bottom step of the dais and those administering communion will come to you. If you do not yet feel ready to receive from the chalice please just return to your seat after consuming the Host. If you do not normally receive the Blessed Sacrament you are invited to come forward for a blessing, crossing your hands across your chest as a sign. Please do bring children forward so that they too can receive a blessing. We are delighted to be joined by families with children for worship and want all parents to feel able to participate in worship but appreciate that children do need to stretch their legs on occasions! Therefore if younger ones need a break, please feel free to use the Church Centre which can be found through the double doors on the right-hand side of the church building. In the foyer, you can both see and hear the service while near the doors are a couple of boxes with activity bags and books for children to use during the service. Our Sunday school is known as the Clubhouse and they meet during the 10.00 Sung Mass most Sundays, please speak with one of the teachers to find out more. Our toilets are also located within the Church Centre as is the Hall where coffee, tea, squash and biscuits are served after the 10.00 Sung Mass. Many people receive details of our worship and the booklets via email. If you would like to be added to our distribution list, please complete a yellow family roll form and hand it in to one of the sidespersons.

SERVICE DETAILS

8.00am BLESSING OF PALMS & MASS

10.00am BLESSING OF PALMS, WITH READING OF THE PASSION GOSPEL, PROCESSION & SUNG MASS (Parish Choir)

Introductory Rite at the Chapel Ruins

Before blessing: **508 - The children of the Hebrews**
 Processional Hymns: **509 - All glory, laud and honour**
511 - Ride on, ride on in majesty

Collect:

Almighty and Everlasting God who in your tender love towards the human race sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to take upon him our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross: grant that we may follow the example of his patience and humility, and also be made partakers of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now for ever. Amen.

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: Isaiah 50: 4-9a *Paul Pullin*
 Psalm 31: 9-18 - Rees
 Second Reading: Phillipians 2: 5 -11 *John Gowlett*
 Gospel Acclamation: *David Rooke*
 Dramatic Reading of the Passion according Matthew 26: 14-27:66
 Intercessions: *Malcolm Howell*

Liturgy of the Sacrament

Offertory Hymn: **86 - My song is love unknown**
 Sanctus & Benedictus: Eucharistic acclamations - *Paul Inwood*
 Agnus Dei: St Nicholas Mass - *Michael Walsh*
 Communion Motet: Hosanna to the Son of David - *Sam Adams*
 Communion Hymn: **92 - There is a green hill**
 Closing Hymn: **391 - King of glory, King of peace**

6.00pm CHORAL EVENSONG (Becket Singers Ladies)

Responses: *Plainsong*
 Office Hymn: **85 - Jesu, meek and lowly**
 Psalm 80
 First Reading: Isaiah 5: 1-7 *Peter Furness*
 Canticles: Fauxbourdons - *Sam Adams*
 Second Reading: Matthew 21: 33-end *Peter Furness*
 Anthem: Adoremus te Christi - *Johannes Brahms*
 Hymn: **425 - O Love, how deep, how broad**
 Final Responses: *Plainsong*

Interim Director of Music: Sam Adams

HOLY WEEK

Today the 10.00am Sung Mass will begin at the Chapel Ruins in the High Street so that we can hold our Palm Sunday procession back to the church as has always been our custom.

Today we enter Holy Week, the week during which the events of our salvation are revealed as we commemorate the institution of the Eucharist, our Lord's death on the cross and his mighty resurrection. During this time crucifixes, images and statues are covered up, removing from sight the images associated with the resurrection so that they can be revealed again as this week unfolds.

There is an evening Mass with a homily on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday this week, with compline being sung by the choir on Wednesday at 21.00.

The **Sacred Paschal Triduum** is the three-day pinnacle of the Christian liturgical year (Holy Thursday evening, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday/Easter Vigil) celebrating the Paschal Mystery, the Passion, Death, Burial, and Resurrection of Jesus. This single, unified celebration commemorates Christ's victory over sin and death, closing with Choral Evensong on Easter Sunday.

Volunteers will be needed for the forthcoming Holy Week and Easter services please.

If you are willing to help please sign up on the sheets on the Welcome Desk near the doors to the Church Centre. There are many lovely opportunities to get involved including having a foot washed on Maundy Thursday!

THIS YEAR'S CHRISM MASS

Bishop Luke's Chrism Mass will be celebrated at Chelmsford Cathedral tomorrow at 12 Noon.

Please make every effort to attend to show your support and to offer your prayers as the clergy gather around their Bishop to renew their priestly vows. During this service the bishop blesses the Holy Oils for use in the coming year. At the end of the service, the Holy Oils are brought back to the parishes in the diocese for use in the coming year. Refreshments are served after the service in the Chapter House.

Father Mark



NOTICES AND INFORMATION



OUR CHURCH is open for private prayer at the following times:

Monday to Friday: 10.00am until 3.00pm
Saturday: 10.00am until 12.30pm

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Morning Prayer is at 9.00am all this week.
Evening Prayer is at 7.30pm on Monday to Wednesday and then not said on Thursday nor Friday by those attending the evening/afternoon liturgies on those two days. Back to the normal time of 5.00pm on Holy Saturday.

The church office will be closed for the next two weeks due to holidays.

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

DAY	SERVICE	TIME	INTENTIONS
Monday 30 th in Holy Week	Chrism Mass	12.00pm	Chelmsford Cathedral Luke, our Bishop
	Mass	8.00pm	
Tuesday 31 st in Holy Week	Mass Mass	9.30am 8.00pm	Our servers and lay assistants
Wednesday 1 st April in Holy Week	Mass Mass Compline	12.15pm 8.00pm 9.00pm	Our Director of Music and members of the choirs
Thursday 2 nd in Holy Week Maundy Thursday	Mass	8.00pm	Thanksgiving for the institution of the Eucharist
Friday 3 rd Good Friday	Stations of the Cross Liturgy of the Passion Maria Desolata	10.00am	Repentance
		3.00pm	
		5.00pm	
Saturday 4 th Holy Saturday	Easter Vigil	8.00pm	Holy Patience
☩ Sunday 5 th Easter Sunday	Mass Sung Mass & Renewal of Baptismal Vows Evensong & Benediction	8.00am	Our Parish
		10.00am	
		6.00pm	

DIRECTORY

VICAR

Father Mark North Tel: 07508 604115
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RETIRED CLERGY

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Michelle Jackson Tel: 07973 983831

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Sam Adams Tel: 07729 454212

PARISH OFFICE & ADMINISTRATOR

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WEEKLY BULLETIN

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BIRTHDAYS

Congratulations to John Hutchinson and Matthew Kerry whose birthdays are today and to Kelly Whiston, Samuel Northcott, Lois Rogers, Louis Stephen, Frankie Chivers, Kathryn Infanti, Leslie Dipper, Patricia Hanway, Ashley Polley, Heulwen Newman, Maxwell Fowler and Reuben Arday who will celebrate their birthdays during the coming week.



FOODBANK

SHOPPING

LIST - April 2026

Coffee (small jars)
Corned beef (tinned)
Ham small/med (tinned)
Rice bags (pouches)
Squash
Washing powders/gels
Shaving Gels
Deodorants for ladies

If you have any food donations they can be left at the back of the church. They are emptied every week and taken to the Food Bank. Thank You

ELECTORAL ROLL & PCC

Father Mark highlights that we are carrying several vacancies on the Parochial Church Council, which he is hoping can be fill at the Annual Meeting in May. Having a full team is vital as we oversee the work of this busy parish and prepare for a significant project to repair and restore the stonework that is definitely showing its age. If you are interested in getting involved, please speak to me or to one of the churchwardens. We are looking for a range of skills and experience to join the council, so all are welcome to explore this role. To vote at the annual meeting or to be elected to the PCC or Deanery synod, you must be on the electoral roll. Forms for this can be found on the welcome desk at the back of the church, and once completed, they should be handed into Paul Pullin please.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Rooted in prayer, in scripture and in the catholic tradition of the Church of England, we are called in faith by our Lord Jesus Christ to proclaim his gospel message in word and sacrament and through dignified liturgy and music. We aim to nurture and support each other in our faith and to offer pastoral help to those in need.

