

SUNDAY PLUS

The invisible donkey

Life's "invisible" people

By Sr Janet Fearn MDM

Have you ever been somewhere where donkeys are normally used for agriculture or for transport? They are frequently unappreciated, undervalued, over-worked and neglected. They are the invisible workers in plain sight of everyone who needs their patient strength and perseverance.

On Palm Sunday, a young donkey experienced its first rider. Was it old enough to have a grown man sitting on its back? We don't know. This is the only time that we hear

of the animal which would be subsequently remembered throughout Christian history – and yet we have no idea of its past or future story. It was – and still is – nameless.

There are "invisible" human donkeys around us all the time, nameless people on whose work we depend. Do we appreciate their contribution to our lives? A poster on the London Underground once challenged its readers to think. Quoting a migrant worker, it merely said, "Can't you see that I am more than 'just' the woman who cleans your public toilets?" She was a daughter, but perhaps also a sister, wife and mother. If she hadn't done her thankless, soul-

destroying job, she would have been sacked and a substitute quickly employed, probably someone who would be equally grateful for the pittance to be earned.

Palm Sunday reminds us to appreciate the invisible people in our lives, the workers who support us without recognition and often without our appreciation and gratitude.

On this Palm Sunday, we say thank you to and for all the invisible human donkeys who have graced our lives. May God bless them and keep them safe.

Sr Janet Fearn is a Franciscan Missionary of the Divine Motherhood.

Lord, Father of our human family, you created all human beings equal in dignity: pour forth into our hearts a fraternal spirit and inspire in us a dream of renewed encounter, dialogue, justice and peace. Move us to create healthier societies and a more dignified world, a world without hunger, poverty, violence and war.  Amen.

Fratelli Tutti, 287

Jubilee 2025: Pilgrims of Hope Work, dignity and hope

Think of the day workers, who are made to work for minimum pay, and not for eight, but for twelve or fourteen hours a day: this happens today, here. Throughout the world, and also here. I think of the domestic worker who does not receive a fair wage, who has no social

security assistance, insurance, no pension provision: this does not only happen in Asia. It happens here. Every injustice inflicted on a person who works tramples on human dignity; and also the dignity of the one who does this injustice. It lowers the level and

we end up with that tension that exists between a dictator and a slave. Instead, the vocation that God gives us is so good: to create, to re-create, to work. But this can be done when the conditions are right and the dignity of the person is respected.

Pope Francis

The Jubilee is about giving people dignity, justice and hope. What can I do to create a fairer workplace?

Hidden heroes

By Des Kelly

Jesus' entry into Jerusalem was foretold by the prophet Zechariah: "See, your king comes to you, righteous and victorious, lowly and riding on a donkey." Yet many people

had expected and hoped that Jesus would enter Jerusalem in mighty splendour. He entered on a donkey on Palm Sunday and the disciples openly acknowledged their belief in Jesus in public. When I was a child and I heard the account of Palm Sunday I would see, in my mind's eye, Jesus on the donkey, riding into Jerusalem and then I would think about the donkey who carried Mary to Bethlehem. I

would see in my mind the mark of the cross on his back and think back to my teacher telling me that this was his reward. There is no other animal in the world with the cross on his back. Today I believe we should be like the donkey humbly carrying Jesus' values to those around us.

Des Kelly, a retired headteacher, now works to develop leadership in Catholic schools and parishes.

We are impatient, anxious to see the whole picture, but God lets us see things slowly, quietly.

Pope Francis

Today: Procession: Luke 19:28-40 Mass: Isaiah 50:4-7 Philippians 2:6-11 Luke 22:14 - 23:56	Monday: Isaiah 42:1-7 John 12:1-11 Tuesday: Isaiah 49:1-6 John 13:21-33, 36-38	Wednesday: Isaiah 50:4-9a Matthew 26:14-25	Thursday: Christ Mass: Isaiah 61:1-3, 6a, 8b-9 Revelation 1:5-8 Luke 4:16-21	Evening Mass: Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 John 13:1-15	Friday: The Celebration of the Passion of the Lord: Isaiah 52:13 - 53:12 Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9 John 18:1 - 19:42	Saturday: The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night: Genesis 1:1 - 2:2 Genesis 22:1-18 Exodus 14:15 - 15:1	Isaiah 54:5-14 Isaiah 55:1-11 Baruch 3:9-15, 32 - 4:4 Ezekiel 36:16-17a, 18-28 Romans 6:3-11 Luke 24:1-12	Next Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43 Colossians 3:1-4 or 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8 John 20:1-9
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Palm Sunday 13th April 2025

The Word This Week



On Passion (Palm) Sunday the Gospel dominates the celebration, and, in a sense, its meaning is obvious. Do not allow this, however, to detract from the other readings, which give the vital context necessary for understanding the Passion as much more than a simple story. It is THE story of God achieving salvation by the supreme sacrifice of Jesus Christ. Thus the immense depth of the Isaiah reading - a personal testimony to suffering - should open our hearts to understand more of the depth of Jesus' sacrifice.

How to make a palm cross

- 1 Take a palm that is about 2 feet long and 1/2" wide (if it tapers at the top, this is good). Hold the palm upright, so the tapered end points toward the ceiling.
- 2 Then bend the top end down and toward you
- 3 About a third of the way from the bend you just made, bend and crease palm diagonally
- 4 About an inch away from the stem of the cross, bend the palm back behind the stem so that it is now facing to your left. Make the bend at a good length to form the right arm of the cross.
- 5 Fold that same section at a point that equals the length on the right side, bend it on the left side and bring the end forward.
- 6 From the center of the cross, fold to the upper right so that it can wrap around where the "stem" and the right arm intersect.
- 7 Fold down and to the left behind the cross ...
- 8 and then fold it toward the right so that it is parallel and under the arms of the cross.
- 9 Bring it up behind the cross again, this time folding it up toward the northwest direction.
- 10 Tuck in the end to finish
- 11 Turn over!

www.armenianchurch.net

Mass Times 13th April 2025		
Sunday 13	Vigil 12th	4pm StM - <i>Tom Lally</i> 11am StM - <i>Parish</i>
Monday 14th	No Mass	
Tuesday 15th	No Mass	
Wednesday 16th	No Mass	
Thursday 17th	Mass	Maundy Thursday 7.pm StM Mass of the last supper
Friday 18th		Good Friday <i>10.30am Morning Prayers</i> <i>3PM</i>
Saturday 12th	Mass	Holy Saturday 7pm Easter Vigil mass
Sunday 13th	Mass	Easter Sunday 11am StM
Saturday & Sunday	Sacrament of Reconciliation	Available 30 minutes prior to the start of Mass

Easter Mass time change
Please not the change to the Easter Vigil Mass time.
Saturday 13th April Now 7pm NOT 7.30pm

Can you find all the words based on this weeks Gospel?

E	S	Y	C	S	A	O	K	S	E
C	G	E	L	E	N	C	O	L	T
L	N	K	O	H	N	E	O	E	N
O	I	N	A	C	A	C	H	V	U
A	S	O	S	N	S	P	O	I	O
K	S	D	M	A	O	I	L	L	M
S	E	O	T	R	H	A	I	L	P
L	L	N	P	B	U	V	E	A	O
I	B	K	O	R	E	T	V	G	R
V	A	E	Y	S	A	N	S	E	P

MOUNT
OLIVES
VILLAGE
DONKEY
COLT
CLOAKS
BRANCHES
HOSANNA
SON
BLESSINGS
TURMOIL
PROPHET



Holy Week Services

Maundy Thursday
Mass of the Last Supper - 7pm (Watching 8-9pm)

Good Friday
Office of Readings/Morning Prayer 10.30am
The Passion 3pm

Holy Saturday
Office of Readings/Morning Prayer 10.30am
First Mass of Easter 7pm
Please note the change to the Easter Vigil Mass time

Easter Sunday
Mass - StM - 11am

Altar Prayer Candles W/C 13th April 2024	
The Sanctuary	All Parishioners
Sacred Heart	Bereaved & Lonely
Our Lady	Carers of the Sick & Dying

Mass Offerings

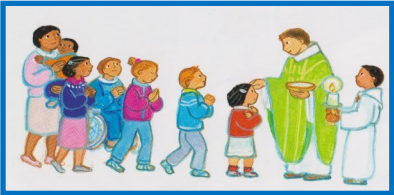
John Kelly (A) Michael Price(LD)

Patrick Delaney (A) Tom Lally (LD)

Forgotten souls

[A Prayer for Children preparing to receive their First Holy Communion.](#)

*Jesus, I know that you love me.
Prepare my heart so that I can receive you soon!*





What's coming up in your Parish

April

3rd THUR – Confirmation meeting 7.30pm Church Hall

15th TUE – 7pm Film – Shroud of Turin 2010 (1hr)

16th WED – 6.30pm Scripture course

23rd WED – 6.30pm Faith in Action

May

1st THUR – 7pm Scripture Course

7th WED – 7pm Film Night – The Scarlet & The Black (PG) 2hr 20min

21st WED - 6.30pm Faith In Action Meeting

June

4th & 5Th WED/THUR 7pm Film Night – Peter & Paul (3hrs – 1.5 each night)

12th THUR – 7pm Scripture Course

18th WED – 6.30pm Faith in Action Meeting

July

3rd THUR – 7pm Scripture Course

9th WED – 7pm Film Night – Remember the Titans (PG) 2hrs

August

7th THUR - 7pm Scripture Course

13th WED – 7pm Film Night – Seabiscuit (PG) 2hr 20min

Salford Diocese Information

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Ladyewell
Join us for a prayerful pilgrimage this summer as we visit Our Lady's shrine at Ladyewell. Situated on the doorstep of our diocese, this day pilgrimage presents a wonderful opportunity to take up the Jubilee call to pilgrimage without travelling too far away from home. The pilgrimage will take place on Saturday 28th June. For more information and to register, please visit <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/ladyewell-pilgrimage-2025>

Diocesan Youth Ministry Pilgrimages
Our diocesan youth ministry team is organising two fantastic pilgrimage opportunities, led by Bishop John, for young people in Years 7, 8, and 9. The first pilgrimage will take place on Saturday 3 May with a pilgrimage to Walsingham, in conjunction with our main diocesan pilgrimage. The second is a pilgrimage to The Holy Island of Lindisfarne, taking place between 20-22 June. Find out more and register at <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/youth/ministry/prayer-and-pilgrimage>

CAFOD's Myanmar Earthquake Appeal
CAFOD (the Catholic Agency For Overseas Development) has shared details of its Myanmar Earthquake Appeal. Funds raised for this appeal will provide much-needed water, food, solar lights, mosquito nets and water purification tablets to those devastated by this disaster. Your generosity will extend far and wide and will help the Catholic Church in Myanmar bring comfort and relief to families who are in urgent need. Visit cafod.org.uk/myanmar to find out more and donate.

Mercy in the Holy Year
The Diocese of Salford has produced a number of resources to help us learn more about the theme of mercy and reconciliation in the Jubilee Year, including an FAQ sheet on Plenary Indulgences. To find out more, please visit <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/plenary-indulgences>

