

Maundy Thursday reminds us that our own baptism is the sacramental sign of our union with Christ, and of God's gift to us of his Holy Spirit, to make us God's children by adoption and grace, and to equip us for the share that all Christians have in Christ's own ministry.

The New Testament speaks of this gift of the Holy Spirit as an anointing (1 John 2.20-27; 2 Cor. 1.21-22). From an early date, it became customary to trace the sign of the cross in oil on the heads of candidates for baptism, and to anoint them again after baptism with the perfumed oil of chrism – a sign of incorporation into the prophetic, priestly and royal life of Jesus Christ.

At the same time, the Letter of James urges its recipients to anoint the sick with oil (James 5.15), as a sign of the healing and forgiveness that are also given through the Holy Spirit (cf Mark 6.13).

These are the biblical roots of the ancient custom of using oils in the life of the Church, particularly of catechumens (baptism), of the sick and of chrism, prepared in the Chrism Eucharist.

As the priests gathered around their bishop earlier today at the Chrism Eucharist at Southwark cathedral, they received the oils to take back to their parishes and they renewed their ordination vows in their commitment to serve Christ.

This is appropriate on this day, when we remember that Christ consecrated himself to his Father's service and expressed his obedient self-gift in the institution of the Eucharist, in the agony of Gethsemane and prayed for the unity of his disciples.

It is now a widespread Anglican practice for deacons, Readers and authorized lay ministers to be associated with the bishop and priests in the renewal of commitment to ministry.

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HOLY WEEK & EASTER SERVICES

Date and Event	Holy Innocents	St. Mark
Maundy Thursday 6th April	10am Mass	8pm Liturgy of Maundy Thursday with foot-washing
Good Friday 10.30am Walk of Witness (from Leisure Centre, Enmore & Portland Road, to, outside Costa (High Street & Oliver Grove)	1pm Meditation 2pm Liturgy of Good Friday	9.30am Stations of the Cross (then join Walk of Witness at corner of Albert & Portland Road)
Holy Saturday 8th April	10am - 12noon Church cleaning	10am - 12noon Church Cleaning
Easter Day Sunday, 9th April	5.30am Dawn Vigil and Mass 10.00am Parish Mass	8.00am BCP Mass 10.00am Parish Mass

Welcome to the United Benefice of Holy Innocents & St. Mark, South Norwood

Sharing God's grace and love in our community



6th April 2023

Vicar: The Revd. Canon Roxanne F. Eversley

Asst. Priest: Mother Susan Wheeler-Kiley

Reader: Mrs. Cicelyn Hinds

MAUNDY THURSDAY LITURGY, INCLUDING FOOT-WASHING

Exodus 12.1-14 * Psalm 116.1,10-19 * 1Cor.11.23-26 * John 13.1-17, 31-35

Access online worship via

www.youtube.com/c/StMarksSouthNorwood

This week's diary

CHURCH NOTICES

Pastoral Care: Mother Roxanne is available on Tel. 020 8916 1830 or 07723 038215 or mtrroxanne@gmail.com N/A on Mondays; Mother Susan is contactable on 07890 780572, N/A on Fridays.
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We pray: for Archbishops Justin and Stephen.
For the Bishops in this diocese - Christopher, Karowei, Rosemarie and Martin.
For the Bishops, clergy and people in our link Dioceses of Zimbabwe.
For the Bishops, priests, deacons & people of the Diocese of Salisbury, The Church of England.

For Christ Church and St John the Evangelist, Clapham Penny Rose-Casemore (V); Lucette Ognami (SPA)

For the sick – Richard, Jennifer & Reuben, Rose, Caroline, Susan, Pauline, Sigi, Marie-Gabrielle, Colin (Castle), Carmen, Rodney, Marina, Linda, Fred, Peter (McGill), Doreen (Macan), Alec, Daphne, Kieran, Neil and Deanne.
For the bereaved – the Onyiaike, Irono and Shepherd families.

For the recently departed – Fidelia Onyiaike and Eunice Shepherd.
Years Mind.

NEW DIOCESAN SECRETARY ANNOUNCED

Bishop Christopher, in consultation with the Chair of the Diocesan Board of Finance, Sir David Beamish, is delighted to announce that Nicola Thomas has been appointed as Diocesan Secretary to succeed Ruth Martin.

Nicola Thomas will take up her post on 1ST September 2023.

Bishop Christopher asks that we keep Nicola in our prayers as she prepares to take on this important role in the life of the Diocese.