

Saint Anthony of Padua Catholic Church
Rye, East Sussex
The Arundel & Brighton Diocesan Trust (a Fairtrade Diocese)
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Staffed by The Order Friars Minor Conventual, "The Greyfriars"
since AD 1910

<p>The Parish Franciscan Friary Watchbell Street Rye, East Sussex, TN31 7HB 01797 222 173 (Friary/Parish phone) 01797 227 109 (Parish FAX) Email: catholicparish.rye@gmail.com Parish web site: https://stanthonyrye.com Diocese of Arundel & Brighton: http://www.dabnet.org/</p>	<p>The Franciscans (The Greyfriars) The Greyfriars: www.thegreyfriars.org St. Anthony of Padua, Rye: www.thegreyfriars.org/rye-east-sussex The Secular Franciscan Order in GB: http://ofsgb.org Saint Clare Fraternity, Poor Clare Convent, Hollington, meets on the 1st Sunday of the month. Pat Lee, minister e-mail: sueandpatlee7@tiscali.co.uk Rye St. Antony: https://www.ryestantony.co.uk/</p>
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Fr. Matthew Chadwick, OFM Conv., Parish Priest

14 APRIL 2019 ~ PALM SUNDAY PASSION OF THE LORD
"Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."

Times of Mass This Week

13 Apr. Saturday	For the Parishioners	6:00 PM Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
14 Apr. Sunday	+ Mary Beth Williams, sr. of a friar	8:00 AM Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
14 Apr. Sunday	Lapsed Catholics in our Parish	10:45 AM Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

15 Apr. Monday	Kennedy Wilson (USA friend)	9:00 AM Monday of Holy Week
16 Apr. Tuesday	+ Samuel Berenty (USA friend)	9:00 AM Tuesday of Holy Week
17 Apr. Wed.	+ James O'Brien (FMA)	9:00 AM Wednesday of Holy Week

THE SACRED PASCHAL TRIDUUM

17 April Wednesday	CHRISM MASS AT THE CATHEDRAL	6:00 PM
18 April MAUNDY THURSDAY	THE MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER	7:00 PM
19 April GOOD FRIDAY	Churches Together Good Friday Procession	12 NOON
	Start at St. Mary the Virgin Church	
19 April GOOD FRIDAY	THE PASSION OF THE LORD	3:00 PM
	Stations of the Cross	6:30 PM
20 April HOLY SATURDAY	EASTER VIGIL	8:00 PM
21 April EASTER SUNDAY	For the Parishioners	8:00 AM
	+ Fr. Giles Van Wormer, OFM Conv.	10.45 AM

Collections: 7 April: £395.85; [Does not include direct deposit donations]
Candles: SH: £88.02; BVM: £205.33; St. Joseph: £28.35; St. Anthony: £57.96;
Newspapers: £44.77; Maintenance: £23.84
Red Boxes (Missio): £54.11 Thank you very much!

GIFT-AID DONORS: YOUR ENVELOPES FOR THE COMING YEAR ARE IN THE BACK OF THE CHURCH.
PLEASE TAKE THEM WITH YOU TODAY!

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COMMENT: It seems to be a good week to meditate on our Lady of Sorrows. I think that it is a particularly powerful image of the Church (Mary) standing at the foot of the Cross of her Beloved Son, the Redeemer. While the Church always tries to ease pain, especially by reducing sin in the world and by providing reconciliation with God and with those who are sinned against, she is sorrowfully aware that she cannot stop all suffering. There are times when the only thing that she can do is to stand by a person's cross as they suffer from disease, advanced age, injury or confusion and pray. We stand by a "living Crucifix" as we assist at the bedside of a suffering person, knowing that their pain does not have to go to waste. In fact, this type of prayer can be the most powerful kind as was the suffering of Jesus on the Cross where He forgave our sins and gained for us eternal life. When the person himself/herself cannot offer his/her suffering to the Lord, we can do that for him/her. It is part of being the mystical Body of Christ. We do not call Mary, Our Lady of Sadness because even though she suffers sorrows, the joy based on God's Love remains in her heart and soul.

The title, "**Our Lady of Sorrows**", given to our Blessed Mother focuses on her intense suffering and grief during the passion and death of our Lord. Traditionally, this suffering was not limited to the passion and death event; rather, it comprised "the seven dolours" or "seven sorrows" of Mary, which were foretold by the Priest Simeon who proclaimed to Mary, "This Child [Jesus] is destined to be the downfall and the rise of many in Israel, a sign that will be opposed— and you yourself shall be pierced with a sword— so that the thoughts of many hearts may be laid bare" (Luke 2:34-35). These seven sorrows of our Blessed Mother included the prophecy of Simeon, the flight of the Holy Family into Egypt; the loss and finding of the child Jesus in the Temple; Mary's meeting of Jesus on His way to Calvary; Mary's standing at the foot of the cross when our Lord was crucified; her holding of Jesus when He was taken down from the cross; and then our Lord's burial. In all, the prophesy of Simeon that a sword would pierce our Blessed Mother's heart was fulfilled in these events. For this reason, Mary is sometimes depicted with her heart exposed and with seven swords piercing it. More importantly, each new suffering was received with the courage, love, and trust that echoed her fiat, "let it be done unto me according to Thy word," first uttered at the Annunciation.

This Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows grew in popularity in the twelfth century, although under various titles. Granted, some writings would place its roots in the eleventh century, especially among the Benedictine monks. By the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, the feast and devotion were widespread throughout the Church.

Interestingly, in 1482, the feast was officially placed in the Roman Missal under the title of "Our Lady of Compassion," highlighting the great love our Blessed Mother displayed in suffering with her Son. The word *compassion* derives from the Latin roots *cum* and *patior* which means "to suffer with." Our Blessed Mother's sorrow exceeded anyone else's since she was the Mother of Jesus, Who was not only her Son but also her Lord and Savior; she truly suffered with her Son. In 1727, Pope Benedict XIII placed the Feast of Our Lady of Compassion in the Roman Calendar on Friday before Palm Sunday. This feast was suppressed with the revision of the calendar published in the *Roman Missal* of 1969.

In 1668 the feast in honor of the Seven Dolours was set for the Sunday after September 14, the Feast of the Holy Cross. The feast was inserted into the Roman calendar in 1814, and Pope Pius X fixed the permanent date of September 15 for the Feast of the Seven Sorrows of the Blessed Virgin Mary (now simply called the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows). The key image here is our Blessed Mother standing faithfully at the foot of the cross with her dying Son: The Gospel of St. John recorded, "Seeing His mother there with the disciple whom He loved, Jesus said to His mother, 'Woman, there is your son.' In turn He said to the disciple, 'There is your mother.'" (John 19:26-27). The Second Vatican Council in its *Dogmatic Constitution on the Church* wrote, "...She stood in keeping with the divine plan, suffering grievously with her only-begotten Son. There she united herself, with a maternal heart, to His sacrifice, and lovingly consented to the immolation of this Victim which she herself had brought forth" (#58).

St. Bernard (d. 1153) wrote, "Truly, O Blessed Mother, a sword has pierced your heart.... He died in body through a love greater than anyone had known. She died in spirit through a love unlike any other since His" (*De duodecim praerogativis BVM*).

Focusing on the compassion of our Blessed Mother, our Holy Father, Pope John Paul II, reminded the faithful, "Mary Most Holy goes on being the loving consoler of those touched by the many physical and moral sorrows which afflict and torment humanity. She knows our sorrows and our pains, because she too suffered, from Bethlehem to Calvary. 'And thy soul too a sword shall pierce.' Mary is our Spiritual Mother, and the mother always understands her children and consoles them in their troubles. Then, she has that specific mission to love us, received from Jesus on the Cross, to love us only and always, so as to save us! Mary consoles us above all by pointing out the Crucified One and Paradise to us!" (1980).

Therefore, as we honor our Blessed Mother, our Lady of Sorrows, we honor her as the faithful disciple and exemplar of faith. Let us pray as we do in the opening prayer of the Mass for this feast day: "Father, as your Son was raised on the cross, His Mother Mary stood by Him, sharing His sufferings. May your Church be united with Christ in His suffering and death and so come to share in His rising to new life." Looking to the example of Mary, may we too unite our sufferings to our Lord, facing them with courage, love, and trust.

<http://catholicstraightanswers.com/why-do-we-call-mary-our-lady-of-sorrows/>

Our Lady of Sorrows, pray for us and those who suffer!