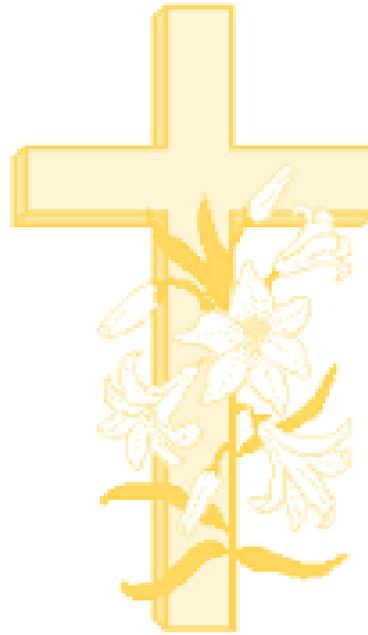

Holy Saturday (26th Mar)

At 10am we gather in Ss John & Columba's to celebrate Morning Prayer and Office of Readings.

We gather in darkness at 7pm in St Peter in chains, for the Easter Vigil, the Mother of all Masses. Because we have a lot to do in this evening, we need time to do it well. Some people may think of the Easter Vigil as just a longer Mass! This is only part of the story. There are things we do at this Mass that we do not do at any other time in the Church's year.

We light the new Paschal candle from a large fire outside to remind us that Jesus is our light in the darkness. We then process into the darkened church. We hear the great hymn of praise called the 'Exsultet' proclaimed, in which we praise Christ for saving us. We listen to more scripture readings than usual on this night, recounting the history of our salvation. We renew our Baptismal promises, and we share in the Body and Blood of our risen Lord.



Easter Sunday Masses:

9.30am in St Peter in chains

11.00am in Ss John & Columba's

Ss John & Columba's, Rosyth and St Peter in chains, Inverkeithing are parishes of the Archdiocese of St Andrews and Edinburgh, a charity registered in Scotland - No SC008540

HOLY WEEK SERVICES 2016



In
**Ss John & Columba's
Church, Rosyth
and
St Peter in chains
Church, Inverkeithing**



Wednesday of Holy Week

At 7pm in Ss John & Columba's Church, we welcome our friends from the other Christian communities in Rosyth, when we gather together to pray the various Stations of the Cross, that are recounted in Sacred Scripture.



The Easter Triduum

The term Triduum means "three days."

The 3 days are counted as the Hebrews counted their days, from sunset to sunset. Each of those days "tells" a different part of the story of Jesus' saving action. The Church celebrates one main liturgy each day. We should not think of the liturgies as three separate events, for all three form part of a single extended liturgy.

In fact, at the end of the Mass on Maundy Thursday there is no dismissal and blessing, nor is there a formal beginning or end to the Good Friday liturgy. The liturgies conclude with the solemn blessing at the end of the Easter Vigil.

Maundy Thursday (24th Mar)

At 7.30pm we celebrate Mass in St Peter in chains Church. In this evening Mass we remember in a special way, the institution of the 'Sacrament of sacraments.' The Eucharist, at the Last Supper.

After the Mass of the Lord's Supper, the Blessed Sacrament is carried in procession to the altar of repose in the oratory and reserved there. We are encouraged to stay after the Mass for a time of adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, we watch and wait with Jesus as he asked his disciples to do at Gethsemane.

An opportunity to go to confession will be given after Mass.

We end the day, and our time of adoration by celebrating Night Prayer of the Church at 11pm

Good Friday (25th Mar)

On Good Friday, the Church bids us to fast and abstain from eating meat.

We gather as a community of believers at 10am in St Peter in chains' Church to celebrate Morning Prayer and the Office of Readings taken from the official prayers of the Church.



Good Friday continued

From 2pm the sacrament of reconciliation will be available.

At 3pm (the traditional hour of Christ's death) we will again be gathered together, to celebrate the Lord's Passion, in the Church of Ss John & Columba. The altar lies bare and Fr Kevin makes the dramatic gesture of prostrating before the altar and all kneel in prayerful silence together. The act of prostration is a recognition of the magnitude of what Christ did for us on the cross. We bow and acknowledge what we are: fallen creatures whom only He can set on their feet.

We listen to John's Gospel account of the Passion. It tells us of Jesus freely submitting to all His sufferings to save us. Just as Christ died for the whole world, the Church then turns its prayerful attention to the whole world and ten solemn intercessions are made. The next part of the liturgy involves a solemn veneration of the cross. We each approach the cross and kiss it, touch it, venerating the wood on which hung our Salvation and the Saviour of the world. It is not a matter of feeling sorry for Jesus, but rather one of gratitude for His saving help.

At 7pm in St Peter's we meditate upon the Stations of the Cross and have veneration.