

EAST HENDRED CATHOLIC PARISH

S. MARY'S, EAST HENDRED S. PATRICK'S, EAST ILSLEY

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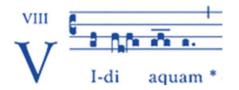
27th April – 4th May 2025

SUNDAY LOW SUNDAY (DOMINICA IN ALBIS) 27th Apr. 9.30am Parish Mass PRO POPULO 11.15am Low Mass (S. Patrick's) Liz Carpenter Low Mass 6pm S. GEORGE, PATRON OF ENGLAND (transferred) Monday 28th Apr. No public Mass S. Catherine of Siena, Virgin & Doctrix **Tuesday** 29th Apr. No public Mass Wednesday S. Pius V, Pope & Confessor 30th Apr. No public Mass **Thursday Easter Feria** 1st May No public Mass **Friday** S. Athanasius, Bishop & Doctor 2nd May No public Mass No Adoration today Saturday SS. PHILIP & JAMES, Apostles 3rd May No public Mass No Confessions or Adoration today **EASTER III** SUNDAY 4th May 9.30am Parish Mass PRO POPULO 11.15am Low Mass (S. Patrick's) Pro Pace Low Mass 6pm Priest: Fr. Matthew Topham, 01235 835038 | 07901634731

mtopham@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

~~~~~LITURGY CORNER

~An occasional item explaining details of the liturgy to the unfamiliar~



The Asperges In Paschaltide

What is it? The 'Asperges' is a ceremony which precedes the principal Mass on Sundays, in which the celebrant sprinkles – aspergere is Latin for 'to sprinkle' – holy water over the church and congregation. The Antiphon and verse for most of the year are taken from *Psalm 50*, the *Miserere*. In Eastertide, however, the antiphon changes to 'Vidi Aquam' ("I saw water") based on Ezekiel 47:1, with a verse of Psalm 117.

What for? The ceremony is a recollection of our baptisms, and a sign of the cleansing of sins by God's grace. To render both the building and the worshippers – bodies and souls – fit for divine service, in the same manner that the *confiteor* ('I confess to God...') prepares our minds and souls to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

How do I engage with this? It's customary to make the sign of the cross as the water falls on you, both as a blessing and a reminder of your baptism, in water by the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Should I sing along? Yes! It's usual to allow the celebrant to intone "Vidi aquam" until the asterisk (*), and then join in. It's a memorable tune, albeit more complicated than the Asperges, and one of the Church's treasures.

Glossary:

Aspergillum | The sprinkler. Often of metal, sometimes made like a large brush, and sometimes (as below) made of plants such as hyssop (cf. Ps. 50(51):7).

Aspersorium | The holy water bucket.

Lustral Water | Another name for Holy Water, from

lustrare, 'to purify.'

The Cope | The cloak-like garment – in Latin a *pluviale* (i.e. raincoat) or *cappa* – worn by the clergy on various occasions, as here at the *Asperges*, but also for processions, for solemn offices, baptisms, funerals, weddings, and for Benediction. For Mass, the cope is replaced by the **Chasuble** – *casula* or 'little house' – familiar to us. He also dons the **Maniple** – *mappula*, originally something rather like a napkin – which is a garment proper only to Mass, worn on the left arm.



A bishop
Asperging.
Note the
bundle of
hyssop as
aspergillum,
and the server
holding the
Aspersorium.

NOTICES

STANDING

- WELCOME to Mass, especially to those who are new or visiting. Join us for coffee after Mass in the Parish Rooms: under the bridge, first right.
- **CHILDREN'S LITURGY** returns at the 9.30 Mass on May 4th.
- FIRST HOLY COMMUNION classes return May 10th. Please pray for our candidates!
- MARY'S PRAYER GROUP meets at 5.15pm on Fridays via Zoom to pray the Rosary for the Parish. Use the link below to join: https://shorturl.at/24Ds6.
- **★ GIFT AID:** If you haven't filled out a Gift Aid form, or last filled one out before 1st Jan. 2023, please would you fill out and return one? It's a really significant part of the parish's income. Forms are available at the back of church.
- **★ GIVING TO THE PARISH** by standing order or online:

CDP East Hendred, St Mary Acc. No. 00877183 Sort Code: 30-93-04

Or via the **DONA MACHINE** by the door.

NEWS

- THIS WEEK there will be no public Masses, adoration, or confession during the week: Fr. Matthew is on annual leave. He is still available in emergencies on the usual numbers. Normal service resumes next week.
- Easter Monday. Do pray for the repose of his soul, and for a holy Pope to succeed him. Masses for his soul, and for the election of his successor, will be said in the weeks to come.
- FLOWER ARRANGERS: As we form new groups to support our faith community do consider joining the flower arrangers. You don't need to be an expert flower arranger just willing to put a few flowers in vases a few times a year. For more information,
- contact Jacqueline O'Rourke, family.orourke@btinternet.com.
- For Your Prayers: Annie Furlong, Helen Lewis, Karen Greig, Mary McNichol, Des McNichol, Madeline Brand, Mary Dorothy Ruple, Graham Titchener, Roy Kemp, Rose Millet, Liz Carpenter.
- XYEAR'S MINDS: Sarah Hatto, Cecil Ann Jones, Matthew Lineham, Pauline Ann O'Rourke, Phil Smith, Lilian Smith, Peter Frearson, James Caven, John Lineham. R·I·P·