

Palm Sunday in most Christian Churches involves the distribution of palms and a commemoration of Jesus's triumphal entry into Jerusalem amidst shouts of Hosanna.

But what is the meaning of his decision to ride into Jerusalem on the back of a donkey? It has everything to do with true victory being a victory of humility.

Palm Sunday — When a conquering hero of the ancient world rode into town in triumph, it was in a regal chariot or on the back of a stately stallion. Legions of soldiers accompanied him in the victory procession. Triumphal arches, festooned with relief sculptures, were often erected to immortalize his valiant victory.

### Palms for the King

After driving out demons, healing the sick, and raising the dead, it was time for the King of Kings to enter the Holy City. But to do so, he rode not on the back of a warhorse, but a donkey. His companions accompanied him brandishing not swords, but palm branches. The monument to his victory, erected a week later, was not an arch, but a crucifix.

His earthly beginning was frightfully humble. And his earthly end would be no different. The wood of the manger prefigured the wood of the cross.

From beginning to end, the details are humiliating. No room in the inn. Born amidst the stench of a stable. Hunted by Herod's henchmen. Growing up in a far-flung province of the Roman Empire—Galilee, the land where the country accent is so thick, you can cut it with a knife. How is it that the high priest's servant-girl knew Peter was a disciple of Jesus? His hillbilly accent gave him away (Matthew 26:73). Jesus' disciples were not cultured, learned men of ability. They were drawn from the low-life of a backwater region.

### Humility & Humiliation

When one of his closest companions offered to betray him, he did not require millions. Jesus' worth was reckoned to be no more than the Old Testament "book value" for a slave—thirty pieces of silver. When he was finally handed over to the Romans, he was not given the punishment meted out to Roman citizens. Beheading was the quick, dignified way to execute someone of any standing. Instead Jesus was given punishments reserved only for slaves and rebellious members of subjugated peoples — flagellation and crucifixion. These two penalties were not just about the pain, but about the humiliation. In first century Judea, men and women typically covered themselves from head to toe, even in the scorching heat. A crucified man was stripped naked and put on display for all to see.

But this is not primarily a story of violence and humiliation. The events of Holy Week are much more about love and humility.

### He Humbled Himself

That's why on Passion Sunday we read the powerful words of Paul's letter from the Philippians. Though the Divine Word was God, dwelling in the serene heights of heavenly glory, he freely plunged to the depths of human misery, joining himself to our frail nature, entering into our turbulent world. As if this act of humility were not enough, he further humbled himself, accepting the status of a slave. His act of stooping down to wash the feet of his disciples was a parable of his whole human existence, for this act was regarded as so undignified that not even Israelite slaves could be compelled to do it.

But that's just it. Jesus was not compelled to do it. He willingly lowered himself in his birth, in his ministry, in his death. No one took his life from him. He freely laid down his own life. Others did not have the chance to humble him; he humbled himself.

### Pride, the Original Sin

It had to be so. The Second Adam had to undo the damage caused by the first. What was the sin of our first parents? They disobeyed because they wanted to know what God knew, to be like God, to exalt themselves over. They were bitten by the Serpent, and injected with the deadly venom of Pride. The antidote, the anti-venom could only be humility. The foot-washing, donkey-riding New Adam would crush the head of the deadly serpent by means of loving, humble obedience.

The first-born of many brothers lowered himself to the dust from which the First Adam has been made—indeed humility comes from the word "humus." But God responded to his humility by exalting him far above Caesars, kings, and even Hollywood stars. And he invites us to share his glory with him. But first we must walk on his road to glory, the royal road of the cross.



## This Week at Inca



### Holy Week Services

**MAUNDY THURSDAY**, March 29 - 6:30 Join us for our potluck dinner and liturgy. **Please consider making a contribution of a bottle of wine to accompany dinner**

**GOOD FRIDAY**, March 30 -10:00am - Liturgy of the Passion.

**HOLY SATURDAY**, March 31 – 8:30pm – Contemplative Fire – a time of meditation and contemplation on the Easter Light of Christ

**EASTER SUNDAY**, April 1 - 8:30 & 10:00am - Easter Day services

We'll have special musical guests through-out our Holy week services and a sing-along presentation of the Hallelujah Chorus on Easter Sunday at 10am



### Saturday Jazz Series continues – doors open at 6:30, show starts at 7pm

**April 21st** - Elizabeth Martins Quartet-

**May 26th** The Karen Thornton Band

**June 23rd** Melissa L Band Lauren <https://www.melissalaurenmusic.ca>

Announcing the return of our bbq series featuring \$5 Hamburgers, Hot dogs, and Veggie burgers

Tickets - \$15 at the door, students - \$10.



### Holy Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup>- Contemplative Fire

This Holy Saturday we gather together outside for the First Fire as the Light of the risen Christ lightens the darkness in the world. We then move into our gathering space to listen, reflect and meditate in word, song and upon the still, small voice of God. We seek to enable reflection and meditation for all, from the novice to the experienced person. Contemplative Fire is space and time to reflect, meditate, review, and recharge your emotional, spiritual and physical life.



### Fertilizer Fundraiser – returns for another year!

Maple Grove United has been holding a fertilizer fundraiser for 58 years! They have invited us to take part and earn money for the church. Please grab one of the yellow brochures with all the details - feel free to take one for a friend. Prices average at least 25% less than the big box stores. *And, these prices include the HST.*

Completed order forms, with cash or cheques payable to Maple Grove United must be received in the office by April 6 and will qualify for free delivery to your home, which will take place on April 9<sup>th</sup>. More details can be [found on their website](#)

**INCARNATION WILL RECEIVE 15% of our total sales!**



### Incarnation Choir Rehearsals Wednesdays at 7:15

If you are interested in sharing your voice, please join us at one of our Wednesday rehearsals, or speak to Charlene after a 10:00 service.



### Easter Flower Envelopes

Envelopes are available at the host desk. Please consider donating in honour of a loved one to help us purchase the Easter flowers to adorn our worship space.

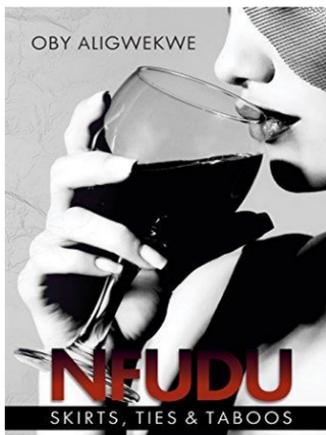
We will remember our loved ones on Easter Sunday.

**Counters: Please make sure to leave a copy on the names on Margot's desk.**



### Wing and a Prayer – April 26

We meet at 6:30pm at Monaghan's. Cost: \$25 per person including food and drink. RSVP Winkie Macdougall. Everyone is welcome!



### Book Launch! Saturday, April 21, 2018 5:00-10:00pm

Oby Aligwekwe will be launching her debut novel *Nfudu- Skirts, Ties, and Taboos* at the Harbour Banquet and Conference Centre. It will be an evening of panel discussions surrounding the main themes of the novel, great music, English and exotic foods and author reading.

Please contact Oby or Ofor for sponsorship/ advertising requests. Tickets for the event are available [online here](#), by emailing [info@nfudu.com](mailto:info@nfudu.com) or phone: 416-880-8507.

Signed copies of the Novel *Nfudu* will be available for sale during the event. A percentage of proceeds from book sales will be donated to Eclat Beginnings.



### Reflecting On Romans – bible study

The Rev. Dr. Mervyn Russell invites you to the Bible Study he will be leading on the first five chapters of Paul's Letter to the Romans. This letter expresses Paul's mature thought on the good news about what God has accomplished through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus and what new relationships with God and others this achievement makes possible. Paul's Letter to the Romans has had more impact upon the understanding and development of Christianity than any other writing besides the gospels. It is worth knowing. This bible study will be held on five Tuesday afternoons from April 17<sup>th</sup> -May 15<sup>th</sup>. The sessions will last from 1:30-3:00pm and will be held in the chapel. A signup sheet is available on the table by the clothes rack. A study guide will be available either from the office or by contacting Mervyn.

## Community News



### Halton Green Screens

Halton Green Screens shows environmental films on the second Thursday of the month film.ca on Speers Road. For more details, go to [Halton Green Screens](#)

April 12 – *The Milky Way* - More than a breastfeeding promotion film, this is a film by, for, and about women.

May 10 – *More Than Honey* - is a film on the relationship between mankind and honeybees, about nature and about our future

June 14 – Amateur Film Festival



Oakville Green  
Conservation  
Association

### Help improve our tree canopy!

Sign up for the LEAF Oakville Subsidized Backyard Tree Planting Program today and get the right tree planted in the right place in your backyard! Residents receive a site consultation in their yard with a certified arborist, a 5 to 8-foot tall native deciduous tree (or 2- to 4-foot-tall evergreen), delivery, planting service and tree care information all for the subsidized price of \$150 to \$220! A Do-It-Yourself option is also available, which includes a virtual yard consultation, the delivery of trees and shrubs to your door, short instructional videos and tree planting & care information.

Sign up at <https://www.yourleaf.org/> to have your tree planted this spring - this program is first-come, first-served! For more information, call 1-888-453-6504 or email [info@oakvillegreen.org](mailto:info@oakvillegreen.org).



### Tour of the Holy Land!

Fr. Robert Holmes of the Basilean Centre for Peace and Justice is organizing a Holy Land tour of Israel /Palestine from Sept 25<sup>th</sup> -Oct 9. The tour will include 5 days in Jerusalem, 4 days in Bethlehem, a visit to Hebron and some concluding days in Galilee. At each stop participants will not only visit and learn about the religious sites, but will also meet people and groups who are working to bring peace with justice to this special but conflicted land.

The total price, including airfare for a non stop flight from Windsor to Jerusalem is \$3,900. Fuller details can be found at [rholmes@basilean.org](mailto:rholmes@basilean.org).



Anglican Church of Canada

### Anglican Church of Canada

Read updates, news and commentary from around the Church.

[Click here to read](#)



### Canadian Open is looking for Volunteers

Like golf? Like people? Just like being outdoors? Have some fun and support your community by volunteering at this year's Canadian Open July 23-29. To see more details and what kind of opportunities are available please visit <http://rbccanadianopen.com/volunteer/>. Students who volunteer can get community service hours for their work.

## This & That



### Looking to Volunteer?

We have lots of way you can get involved. Positions include: altar prep, greeters, readers, hosts and coffee preparation. **Youth** can gain some volunteer high school hours. Training will be provided. Contact Julia Lockhart if you are interested in helping out. Don't forget to mark changes to the schedule on the master copy in the office.



### Milk Bag Collection

We're still collecting Milk bags for the kids at Ellengale Public School



### Our recycling efforts! New procedures

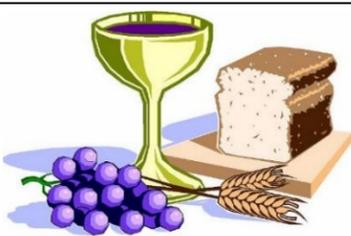
Thank you to all our hard-working volunteers who prepare the coffee and help with the set-up and clean-up of our premises. The daycare has been testing a new green bin routine with much success. We have almost completely eliminated critter attacks!

- Start a new **SMALL** green bin for each service or event. Before leaving, tie off the bag and move the **SMALL** green bin waste to the shed and deposit into the **LARGE** green bin. This will eliminate any critter attacks. No green bins are to be left in the kitchen or out the back door after each event. If you don't know where the key to the shed is located, please ask a Warden or office staff.
- Green bin liners are located in one of the 3 stacked multi-coloured baskets in the kitchen on the counter by the small sink
- All recycling must be emptied after each coffee hour or event. The large blue recycling bins are located at the back door. Please dump all recycling into the larger bins before leaving the church.



**Changes to Order of Service or Bulletin News** - Any changes need to be sent to the office by Tuesday, noon. [office@incarnationchurch.ca](mailto:office@incarnationchurch.ca)

**Nametags** let people know who you are and make it helpful for people to put names to faces, especially for newcomers



### Receiving Communion

All people at Incarnation are invited to receive the bread and wine at communion. The bread is received from the priest who stands between the servers who offer wine from the common cup; choose whatever side is free. You may choose to receive from an individual wine cups available to the left of the altar. Take one, consume the wine and replace the empty cup in the same spot. We hope this provides an inclusive approach to communion where all are welcome.

## VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

	March 25	April 1
<b>Bread Making</b>	B. Gowing	A. Moniuk
<b>Altar Prep</b>	W. Macdougall	Smith/Bird
<b>Coffee 1</b>	Hutchinson/Henley	B. Saunders
<b>Coffee 2</b>	L. Hickey	Chambers
<b>Host 1</b>	D. Bold	J. Smith
<b>Host 2</b>	S. Williams	P. Moffat
<b>Reader 1</b>	V. Moniuk	B. Abrams
<b>Reader 2</b>	L. Hickey	TBD
<b>Gospel</b>	J. Smith	P. Mitton
<b>Prayers</b>	J. Grieve	D. Wieler
<b>Server 1</b>	D. Bold	A. MacNaughton
<b>Server 2</b>	L. Hickey	D. Bold
<b>Wine Cups</b>	B. Abrams	C. Boulert
<b>WSRF</b>	J. Stevens	M. Morrison
<b>Counting</b>	P. Moffat	J. Lockhart

Please Note: Thanks to all of you who update the master copy in the office – very helpful for me!

[DOWNLOAD THE MAR/APR SCHEDULE HERE](#)