

11th April 2020 – Holy Saturday

A Holy Saturday hello to you all.

Holy Saturday is traditionally the day when many churches get a spring clean. Everything is stripped back to the bare essentials from Maundy Thursday and so it's an ideal opportunity to have a good polish, dust and vacuum as we put things back in preparation for the Service of Light and First Mass of Easter.

The Easter Garden is prepared, the Paschal Candle made ready (see attachments for this years version). The decorations and finery are restored, Crucifixes and images uncovered, flowers are reintroduced after a long Lent without them and the Church looks beautiful, (see photos from previous years, attached).

The service of light is a wonderful celebration which incorporates the coming of Christ's risen light into our dark world. A new burns outside the Church, from which the Paschal Candle is lit. It is then borne into the church as other candles are lit from it (the light of Christ begins to spread). The Exsultet is sung by Deacon or Priest and as the Gloria is sung once more, all the lights come on and bells are rung!

We hear readings from the Old and New Testaments. We renew our Baptismal vows and are (liberally) sprinkled with Holy Water. Finally, we receive our communion and are blessed as we recall the first Easter and the Joy of the resurrection.

God has truly blessed us!

Sent by Canon Tom Page
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