



Maundy Thursday

*Sung Mass
of the Lord's Supper*

Welcome to Mass on Maundy Thursday!

Maundy Thursday (marks the end of Lent and the beginning of the sacred "Easter Triduum". These three days are the holiest days of the Christian year. The word Maundy comes from the Latin *mandatum*, meaning 'commandment', used in the entrance antiphon

*I give you a new commandment,
that you love one another just as I have loved you. (John 13.34)*

At this Mass, the Priest washes the feet of few members of the congregation to symbolise Christ's washing of his twelve Apostles. And so, this Mass stresses the importance Jesus puts on humility and service within the Church.

Also emphasised are the fundamental importance of the Eucharist and the sacrifice of Christ's Body, which we now find present in the Blessed Sacrament.

*O Bread of Heaven, beneath this veil
Thou dost my very God conceal:
My Jesus, dearest treasure, hail!* (St Alphonsus)

At the conclusion of the Mass, we are invited to continue adoring Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament at the Altar of Repose, just as the disciples were invited to watch with The Lord during his agony in the garden of Gethsemane.

After tonight, no Mass will be celebrated again in the entire Church until the Easter Vigil will announce the Resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ.

*As the bell rings we **STAND** to sing,*

**1. O thou, who at thy Eucharist didst pray
that all thy Church might be forever one;
grant us at every Eucharist to say,
with longing heart and soul, 'Thy will be done.'
O may we all one bread, one body be,
through this blest sacrament of unity.**

**2. For all thy church, O Lord, we intercede;
make thou our sad divisions soon to cease.
Draw us the nearer each to each, we plead,
by drawing all to thee, O prince of Peace:
thus may we all one bread, one body be,
through this blest sacrament of unity.**

**3. We pray thee too for wanderers from thy fold;
O bring them back, good Shepherd of the sheep,
back to the faith which saints believed of old,
back to the church which still that faith doth keep.
Soon may we all one bread, one body be,
through this Blest Sacrament of unity.**

**4. So, Lord, at length when sacraments shall cease,
may we be one with all thy Church above,
one with thy saints in one unbroken peace,
one with thy saints in one unbounded love:
more blessed still, in peace and love to be
one with the Trinity in unity.**

INTRODUCTION AND RECEPTION OF THE OILS

*We remain **STANDING** for the beginning of the service.*

‘I give you a new commandment’, says the Lord,
‘that you love one another. Just as I have loved you,
you also should love one another.’ *(Cf. John 13:34)*

In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
✠ and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

The Lord be with you.

All: and also with you.

The Priest may say a few words to introduce the celebration.

After this, we receive the three holy oils blessed yearly on by the Bishop for the sacramental life of the parish.

Brothers and sisters, on this most holy night we enter into the three days of the celebration of our Lord’s paschal victory, his death and resurrection. As we begin, therefore, we receive from our Bishop the holy oils blessed and set apart for the sacramental life of this parish.

The oil of the sick.

By the laying on of hands and anointing with this oil,
and with the prayerful support of this community,
may those who are sick
experience the healing presence of Christ.

All: Amen.

The oil of baptism or catechumens.

Anointed with this oil,
and assisted by the example of this community,
may those who are to be baptized
know that Christ calls them by name
and makes them his own
and shares with them his victory over sin and the power of evil.

All: Amen.

The oil of chrism.

Anointed with this fragrant oil,
may all who are baptized and confirmed,
all who are ordained to the service of God's people,
and this community whose house of prayer is dedicated to God's glory,
fill the world with the sweet fragrance of Christ's gospel
and be built up as living stones into a temple filled with the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

The Mass continues with the Confession. The Priest says,

Our Lord Jesus Christ says:

‘Unless I wash you, you have no part in me.’

Let us confess to almighty God our sins against his love,
and ask him to cleanse us.

Silence is kept,

Lord Jesus, you raise us to new life:

Kyrie, Kyrie eleison.

All: Kyrie, Kyrie eleison.

Lord Jesus, you forgive us our sins:

Christe, Christe eleison.

All: Christe, Christe eleison.

Lord Jesus, you feed us with your body and blood:

Kyrie, Kyrie eleison.

All: Kyrie, Kyrie eleison.

The Priest pronounces the Absolution,

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you, pardon ✠ and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

*We remain **STANDING** to sing the Gloria (The Lourdes Gloria),*

Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo.

All: Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Glory to God in the highest and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

All: Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo...

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

All: Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo...

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

All: Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo...

After this, the priest introduces the Collect,

Let us pray,

Silence is kept.

O God, who have called us to participate
in this most sacred Supper, in which your Only Begotten Son,
when about to hand himself over to death,
entrusted to the Church a sacrifice new for all eternity,
the banquet of his love, grant, we pray,
that we may draw from so great a mystery,
the fullness of charity and of life.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

After this, we SIT for the readings.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

A reading from the book of Exodus,

(12:1-8; 11-14)

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: 'This month is to be the first of all the others for you, the first month of your year. Speak to the whole community of Israel and say, "On the tenth day of this month each man must take an animal from the flock, one for each family: one animal for each household. If the household is too small to eat the animal, a man must join with his neighbour, the nearest to his house, as the number of persons requires. You must take into account what each can eat in deciding the number for the animal. It must be an animal without blemish, a male one year old; you may take it from either sheep or goats. You must keep it till the fourteenth day of the month when the whole assembly of the community of Israel shall slaughter it between the two evenings.

Some of the blood must then be taken and put on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses where it is eaten. That night, the flesh is to be eaten, roasted over the fire; it must be eaten with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. You shall eat it like this: with a girdle round your waist, sandals on your feet, a staff in your hand. You shall eat it hastily: it is a Passover in honour of the Lord. That night, I will go through the land of Egypt and strike down all the first-born in the land of Egypt, man and beast alike, and I shall deal out punishment to all the gods of Egypt, I am the Lord! The blood shall serve to mark the houses that you live in. When I see the blood I will pass over you and you shall escape the destroying plague when I strike the land of Egypt. This day is to be a day of remembrance for you, and you must celebrate it as a feast in the Lord's honour. For all generations you are to declare it a day of festival, for ever."

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

(Psalm 115:12-13;15-18)

The blessing-cup that we bless
is a communion with the blood of Christ.

**All: The blessing-cup that we bless
is a communion with the blood of Christ.**

How can I repay the Lord
for his goodness to me?
The cup of salvation I will raise;
I will call on the Lord's name.

**All: The blessing-cup that we bless
is a communion with the blood of Christ.**

O precious in the eyes of the Lord
is the death of his faithful.
Your servant, Lord, your servant am I;
you have loosened my bonds.

**All: The blessing-cup that we bless
is a communion with the blood of Christ.**

A thanksgiving sacrifice I make;
I will call on the Lord's name.
My vows to the Lord I will fulfil
before all his people.

**All: The blessing-cup that we bless
is a communion with the blood of Christ.**

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians,

(11:23-26)

Brothers and Sisters,

This is what I received from the Lord, and in turn passed on to you: that on the same night that he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took some bread, and thanked God for it and broke it, and he said, 'This is my body, which is for you; do this as a memorial of me.' In the same way he took the cup after supper, and said, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Whenever you drink it, do this as a memorial of me.' Until the Lord comes, therefore, every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you are proclaiming his death.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

*After this, we **STAND** to sing,*

**1. This is my body, broken for you,
bringing you wholeness, making you free,
take it and eat it, and when you do,
do it in love for me.**

**2. This is my blood poured out for you,
bringing forgiveness, making you free.
Take it and drink it, and when you do,
do it in love for me.**

**3. Back to my Father soon shall I go.
Do not forget me; then you will see
I am still with you, and you will know
you're very close to me.**

**4. Filled with my Spirit, how you will grow!
You are my branches; I am the tree.
If you are faithful, others will know
you are alive in me.**

**5. Love one another – I have loved you,
and I have shown you how to be free;
serve one another, and when you do,
do it in love for me.**

*We remain **STANDING** and we face the book of the Gospels.*

The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Hear the gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John.

(13:1-15)

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

It was before the festival of the Passover, and Jesus knew that the hour had come for him to pass from this world to the Father. He had always loved those who were his in the world, but now he showed how perfect his love was.

They were at supper, and the devil had already put it into the mind of Judas Iscariot son of Simon, to betray him. Jesus knew that the Father had put everything into his hands, and that he had come from God and was returning to God, and he got up from table, removed his outer garment and, taking a towel, wrapped it round his waist; he then poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel he was wearing. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, 'Lord, are you going to wash my feet?' Jesus answered, 'At the moment you do not know what I am doing, but later you will understand.' 'Never!' said Peter 'You shall never wash my feet.' Jesus replied, 'If I do not wash you, you can have nothing in common with me.'

'Then, Lord,' said Simon Peter 'not only my feet, but my hands and my head as well!' Jesus said, 'No one who has taken a bath needs washing, he is clean all over. You too are clean, though not all of you are.' He knew who was going to betray him, that was why he said, 'though not all of you are.'

When he had washed their feet and put on his clothes again he went back to the table. 'Do you understand' he said 'what I have done to you? You call me Master and Lord, and rightly; so I am. If I, then, the Lord and Master, have washed your feet, you should wash each other's feet. I have given you an example so that you may copy what I have done to you.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

We SIT for the Homily (or address) from the priest.

*After the homily, silence is kept for a few moments.
The Washing of Feet follows.*

THE WASHING OF FEET

Still in silence, the people chosen for this sit at the end of the pews either side of the nave (centre aisle). Then the Priest, after removing the chasuble, goes to each one, and, with the help of the ministers, pours water over each one's feet and then dries them.

During this the choir sings 'Ubi Caritas'.

After the Washing of Feet, the Priest washes his hands, puts the chasuble back on, and returns to the chair, and from there introduces the Prayers of Intercession.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

In the power of the Spirit let us pray to the Father through Christ the saviour of the world.

Father, on this, the night he was betrayed,
your Son Jesus Christ washed his disciples' feet.
Help us to commit ourselves to follow his example of love and service.

Lord, in your mercy

All: hear our prayer.

On this night, he prayed for his disciples to be one.

We pray for the unity of your Church.

Lord, in your mercy

All: hear our prayer.

On this night, he prayed for those who were to believe through his disciples' message. We pray for the mission of your Church.

Lord, in your mercy

All: hear our prayer.

On this night, he commanded his disciples to love,
but suffered rejection himself.

We pray for the rejected and unloved.

Lord, in your mercy

All: hear our prayer.

On this night, he reminded his disciples
that if the world hated them it hated him first.

We pray for those who are persecuted for their faith.

Lord, in your mercy

All: hear our prayer.

On this night, he accepted the cup of death
and looked forward to the new wine of the kingdom.
We pray for all faithful departed.
Lord, in your mercy

All: hear our prayer.

Be with us, Lord, in all our prayers,
and direct our way toward the attainment of salvation,
that among the changes and chances of this mortal life,
we may always be defended by your gracious help;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

*We **STAND** for the Sign of Peace*

Jesus says: 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.
Do not let your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.'

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

We are all invited to share a sign of peace, normally a handshake, with those around us.

*After this, we remain **STANDING** to sing the Offertory hymn.
During this hymn a collection will be taken.*

**1. O Bread of Heaven, beneath this veil
Thou dost my very God conceal:
My Jesus, dearest treasure, hail!
I love Thee and, adoring, kneel;
Each loving soul by Thee is fed
With Thine own Self in form of Bread.**

**2. O food of life, Thou Who dost give
The pledge of immortality;
I live, no 'tis not I that live;
God gives me life, God lives in me:
He feeds my soul, He guides my ways,
And every grief with joy repays.**

**3. O Bond of love that dost unite
The servant to his living Lord;
Could I dare live and not requite
Such love - then death were meet reward:
I cannot live unless to prove
Some love for such unmeasured love.**

**4. Beloved Lord, in Heaven above
There, Jesus, Thou awaitest me,
To gaze on Thee with endless love;
Yes, thus I hope, thus shall it be:
For how can He deny me Heaven,
Who here on earth Himself hath given?**

We remain STANDING.

Once the altar has been prepared the Priest says,

Pray, my brothers and sisters, that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

All: May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his Church.

Grant us, O Lord, we pray, that we may participate worthily in these mysteries, for whenever the memorial of this sacrifice is celebrated the work of our redemption is accomplished. Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer follows.

The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Christ our Lord.

For he is the true and eternal Priest, who instituted the pattern of an everlasting sacrifice and was the first to offer himself as the saving Victim, commanding us to make this offering as his memorial. As we eat his flesh that was sacrificed for us, we are made strong,

and, as we drink his Blood that was poured out for us,
we are washed clean.

And so, with Angels and Archangels,
with Thrones and Dominions,
and with all the hosts and Powers of heaven,
we sing the hymn of your glory,
as without end we acclaim:

**♪ All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord
God of pow'r and God of might.
Heaven and earth,
heaven and earth are full of your glory,
your pow'r and might.
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest heav'ns;
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest heav'ns.
Blessed, blessed, is he who comes,
Blessed, blessed, is he who comes,
Blessed is he, blessed is he
who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest heav'ns;
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest heav'ns.**

*We **KNEEL** for the second part of the Eucharistic Prayer.*

To you, therefore, most merciful Father, we make humble prayer and petition
through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord:

that you accept and bless these gifts, these offerings,
these holy and unblemished sacrifices,
which we offer you firstly for your holy catholic Church.

Be pleased to grant her peace, to guard, unite and govern her
throughout the whole world, together with your servant **N.** our archbishop
and **N.** our Bishop, and all those who, holding to the truth,
hand on the catholic and apostolic faith.

Remember, Lord, your servants (*N.* and *N.*)

We pray silently for a few moments for anyone we wish to remember at this Mass,

and all gathered here, whose faith and devotion are known to you.

For them, we offer you this sacrifice of praise

or they offer it for themselves and all who are dear to them:

for the redemption of their souls,

in hope of health and well-being,

and paying their homage to you,

he eternal God, living and true.

Celebrating the most sacred day on which our Lord Jesus Christ

was handed over for our sake,

and in communion with those whose memory we venerate,

especially the glorious ever-Virgin Mary, Mother of our God and Lord, Jesus Christ,

and blessed Joseph, her Spouse, your blessed Apostles and Martyrs,

Peter and Paul, Andrew, (James, John, Thomas, James, Philip,

Bartholomew, Matthew, Simon and Jude; Linus, Cletus, Clement,

Sixtus, Cornelius, Cyprian, Lawrence, Chrysogonus,

John and Paul, Cosmas and Damian) and all your Saints;

we ask that through their merits and prayers,

in all things we may be defended by your protecting help.

Therefore, Lord, we pray: graciously accept this oblation of our service,

that of your whole family, which we make to you

as we observe the day on which our Lord Jesus Christ

handed on the mysteries of his Body and Blood for his disciples to celebrate;

order our days in your peace,

and command that we be delivered from eternal damnation

and counted among the flock of those you have chosen.

Be pleased, O God, we pray, to bless, acknowledge,

and approve this offering in every respect;

make it spiritual and acceptable,

so that it may become for us the Body and Blood

of your most beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

On the day before he was to suffer,

he took bread in his holy and venerable hands,


and with eyes raised to heaven to you, O God, his almighty Father, giving you thanks, he said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND EAT OF IT,
FOR THIS IS MY BODY, WHICH WILL BE GIVEN UP FOR YOU.

In a similar way, when supper was ended, he took this precious chalice in his holy and venerable hands, and once more giving you thanks, he said the blessing and gave the chalice to his disciples, saying:

TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND DRINK FROM IT,
FOR THIS IS THE CHALICE OF MY BLOOD,
THE BLOOD OF THE NEW AND ETERNAL COVENANT,
WHICH WILL BE Poured OUT FOR YOU AND FOR MANY
FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS.
DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME.

Great is the mystery of faith.

 **All: Christ has died, Christ is ris'n,
Jesus Christ will come again
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest heav'ns;
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest heav'ns.**

Therefore, O Lord,
as we celebrate the memorial of the blessed Passion,
the Resurrection from the dead, and the glorious Ascension into heaven
of Christ, your Son, our Lord,
we, your servants and your holy people offer to your glorious majesty
from the gifts that you have given us, this pure victim,
this holy victim, this spotless victim, the holy Bread of eternal life
and the Chalice of everlasting salvation.

Be pleased to look upon these offerings
with a serene and kindly countenance, and to accept them,
as once you were pleased to accept
the gifts of your servant Abel the just,

the sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith,
and the offering of your high priest Melchizedek,
a holy sacrifice, a spotless victim.

In humble prayer we ask you, almighty God:
command that these gifts be borne by the hands of your holy Angel
to your altar on high in the sight of your divine majesty,
so that all of us, who through this participation at the altar
receive the most holy Body and Blood of your Son,
may be filled with every grace and heavenly blessing.

Remember also, Lord, your servants (*N.* and *N.*),
who have gone before us with the sign of faith
and rest in the sleep of peace.

We pray silently for anyone departed we wish to remember at this Mass,

Grant them, O Lord, we pray, and all who sleep in Christ,
a place of refreshment, light and peace.

To us, also, your servants, who, though sinners,
hope in your abundant mercies,
graciously grant some share and fellowship
with your holy Apostles and Martyrs:
with John the Baptist, Stephen, Matthias, Barnabas,
(Ignatius, Alexander, Marcellinus, Peter,
Felicity, Perpetua, Agatha, Lucy, Agnes, Cecilia, Anastasia)
and all your Saints;
admit us, we beseech you, into their company,
not weighing our merits, but granting us your pardon,
through Christ our Lord.

Through whom you continue to make all these good things, O Lord;
you sanctify them, fill them with life, bless them,
and bestow them upon us.

Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour is yours,
for ever and ever,


 **All: Amen.**

Silence is kept.

*We **STAND** as the priest invites the congregation to join in the Lord's Prayer.*

All: Our Father,
who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

*We remain **STANDING** to sing,*

 **All: Lamb of God,**
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.

We **KNEEL**. Showing the Host to the congregation, the Priest says,
This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.
**All: Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

The Priest receives Communion and says the Communion Antiphon,
This is the Body that will be given up for you;
this is the Chalice of the new covenant in my Blood, says the Lord;
do this, whenever you receive it, in memory of me.

A note about receiving Holy Communion

Every Baptised and Confirmed person is warmly invited to receive Holy Communion at this point.

If you receive Holy Communion in another church or Christian denomination, you are very welcome to receive the Sacrament here. Should you require a gluten-free wafer, please say so to the Priest.

Intinction (dipping the host into the chalice) is not permitted.

If do not wish to receive Communion, or if you are not Confirmed, you are invited to approach the altar to receive an individual blessing. Please indicate this by carrying this order of service with you.

*While distributing Holy Communion the Priest and the ministers will say,
The Body of Christ
and*

The Blood of Christ

*We reply **Amen** to these words before receiving the Sacrament.*

*We **KNEEL** or **SIT** after receiving Communion.*

After the distribution of Holy Communion we sing,

- 1. O Godhead hid, devoutly I adore Thee,
Who truly art within the forms before me;
To Thee my heart I bow with bended knee,
As failing quite in contemplating Thee.**
- 2. Sight, touch, and taste in Thee are each deceived;
The ear alone most safely is believed:
I believe all the Son of God has spoken,
Than Truth's own word there is no truer token.**
- 3. God only on the Cross lay hid from view;
But here lies hid at once the Manhood too;
And I, in both professing my belief,
Make the same prayer as the repentant thief.**
- 4. Thy wounds, as Thomas saw, I do not see;
Yet Thee confess my Lord and God to be:
Make me believe Thee ever more and more;
In Thee my hope, in Thee my love to store.**
- 5. O thou Memorial of our Lord's own dying!
O Bread that living art and vivifying!
Make ever Thou my soul on Thee to live;
Ever a taste of Heavenly sweetness give.**
- 6. O loving Pelican! O Jesu, Lord!
Unclean I am, but cleanse me in Thy Blood;
Of which a single drop, for sinners spilt,
Is ransom for a world's entire guilt.**
- 7. Jesu! Whom for the present veil'd I see,
What I so thirst for, O vouchsafe to me:
That I may see Thy countenance unfolding,
And may be blest Thy glory in beholding. Amen.**

The priest repeats the Communion Antiphon and then says,

Let us pray,
Grant, almighty God,
that, just as we are renewed
by the Supper of your Son in this present age,
so we may enjoy his banquet for all eternity.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.
All: Amen.

TRANSFER OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT

After the Prayer of Thanksgiving, the Priest accompanied by the ministers carries the Blessed Sacrament in procession from the High Altar to the Altar of Repose prepared in the Lady Chapel (left aisle).

We KNEEL as the procession moves through the church.

During the procession we sing the first part for the following hymn,

**I. Of the glorious Body telling,
O my tongue, its mysteries sing,
and the Blood, all price excelling,
which the world's eternal King,
in a noble womb once dwelling
shed for the world's ransoming.**

**2. Giv'n for us, for us descending,
of a Virgin to proceed,
man with man in converse blending,
scattered he the Gospel seed,
till his sojourn drew to ending,
which he closed in wondrous deed.**

**3. At the last great Supper lying
circled by his brethren's band,
meekly with the law complying,
first he finished its command
then, immortal Food supplying,
gave himself with his own hand.**

**4. Word made Flesh, by word is making
very bread his Flesh to be;
we, in wine, Christ's Blood partaking:
and if senses fail to see,
faith alone the true heart waking
to behold the mystery.**

Once the Blessed Sacrament is at the Altar of Repose, we continue to sing,

**5. Therefore we, before him bending,
this great Sacrament revere;
types and shadows have their ending,
for the newer rite is here;
faith, our outward sense befriending,
makes our inward vision clear.**

**6. Glory let us give, and blessing
to the Father and the Son,
honour, might and praise addressing,
while eternal ages run;
ever too his love confessing,
who from Both with Both is One. Amen.**

*We remain **KNEELING**. Silence is kept.*

After silently adoring the Eucharistic Christ, the Priest and the ministers return to the vestry.

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR AND WATCH

We SIT or remain kneeling. The High Altar and the Sanctuary are stripped, and their ornaments are removed by the ministers.

During this time the choir sings Psalm 22.

Once the stripping of the altar is complete, at a given sign, the choir and ministers disperse in silence. This reading follows,

When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

Then Jesus said to them, 'You will all become deserters because of me this night; for it is written,

"I will strike the shepherd,
and the sheep of the flock will be scattered."

But after I am raised up, I will go ahead of you to Galilee.' Peter said to him, 'Though all become deserters because of you, I will never desert you.' Jesus said to him, 'Truly I tell you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.' Peter said to him, 'Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you.' And so said all the disciples.

Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, 'Sit here while I go over there and pray.' He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated. Then he said to them, 'I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me.'

(Matthew 26:30-38)

*After the reading **THE CHURCH REMAINS IS SILENCE.***

Tonight's celebration of the Mass ends at this point, but we are invited to stay for a while to pray before the Blessed Sacrament..

*Before leaving the church,
please visit the Altar of Repose and the Lord Jesus present there.*



*The Parish of All Saints' is the Church of England
in Houghton Regis, Linnere, Thorn, Bidwell West, and North Dunstable.*

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