

The Parish Church of St. Paul, Wokingham



The Liturgy of Good Friday

The Ministry of the Word

We stand as the Clergy enter in silence.

We all kneel for a time of silent prayer.

The Psalm (*sung by members of the Choir*)

Psalm 22.1-11

The Collect (*the Celebrant alone stands*)

Almighty Father,
look with mercy on this your family
for which our Lord Jesus Christ was content to be betrayed
and given up into the hands of sinners
and to suffer death upon the cross;
who is alive and glorified with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Bible Reading

At the end:

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn

There is a green hill far away,
without a city wall,
where our dear Lord was crucified
who died to save us all.

We may not know, we cannot tell,
what pains he had to bear,
but we believe it was for us
he hung and suffered there.

He died that we might be forgiven,
he died to make us good,
that we might go at last to heaven,
saved by his precious blood.

There was no other good enough
to pay the price of sin,
he only could unlock the gate
of heaven and let us in.

O, dearly, dearly has he loved!
And we must love him too,
and trust in his redeeming blood,
and try his works to do.

The Passion Gospel

We stand if we are able to do so. It is customary to genuflect or bow for a moment of silent reflection after the death of Jesus on the cross and to stand again when the Passion Gospel is resumed.

The words put an unfair portion of blame on the Jewish people for the death of Jesus- it is humanity which crucifies God and we all are complicit because of our sin and self-centredness.

We cannot and must not seek to avoid blame or responsibility or involvement by saying 'it was others', by saying 'it was them'.

The Reflection

The Proclamation of the Cross

During the hymn, a wooden cross is brought into the church and placed in the sight of the people. As the cross is carried in, the procession stops three times. When the cross passes by you are encouraged to kneel or sit.

When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.

This is the wood of the cross,
on which hung the Saviour of the world.
O come, let us worship!

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
Save in the death of Christ my God!
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to His blood.

This is the wood of the cross,
on which hung the Saviour of the world.
O come, let us worship!

See from His head, His hands, His feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down!
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

This is the wood of the cross,
on which hung the Saviour of the world.
O come, let us worship!

His dying crimson like a robe,
spreads o'er his body on the tree:
then am I dead to all the world,
and all the world is dead to me.

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

The Veneration of the Cross

All are invited to come forward and kneel at the foot of the cross.

Those who wish to venerate the cross with a touch, embrace or

kiss are welcome to do so. The congregation follow the choir.

During the Veneration, the choir sing.

After venerating the cross we return to our place and sit or kneel.

Prayer of Confession

Lord Jesus, hear our prayer and forgive us.

Unstop our ears that we may receive the Gospel of the Cross.

Lighten our eyes that we may see your glory
in the face of your Son.

Penetrate our minds that your truth may make us whole.

Fill our hearts with your love that we may love one another
as Christ has loved us.

Lord Jesus, hear our prayer and forgive us.

The Prayers of Intercession

God sent his Son into the world, not to condemn the world,
but that the world might be saved through him.

Therefore we pray to our heavenly Father
for people everywhere according to their needs.

Let us pray for the Church of God throughout the world:
For unity in faith, in witness and in service,
for bishops and other ministers, and those whom they serve,
for N, our bishop, and the people of this diocese,
for all Christians in this place, for those to be baptized,
for those who are mocked and persecuted for their faith,
that God will confirm his Church in faith,
increase it in love, and preserve it in peace.

Silence is kept.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Almighty and everlasting God,
by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church
is governed and sanctified:

hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people,
that in their vocation and ministry
they may serve you in holiness and truth
to the glory of your name;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Let us pray for the nations of the world and their leaders:
for Elizabeth our Queen and the Parliaments of this land,
for those who administer the law and all who serve in public office,
for all who strive for justice and reconciliation,
that by God's help the world may live in peace and freedom.
Silence is kept.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Most gracious God and Father,
in whose will is our peace,
turn our hearts and the hearts of all to yourself,
that by the power of your Spirit
the peace which is founded on justice
may be established throughout the world;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for God's ancient people, the Jews,
the first to hear his word:
for greater understanding between Christian and Jew,
for the removal of our blindness and bitterness of heart,
that God will grant us grace to be faithful to his covenant
and to grow in the love of his name.
Silence is kept.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Merciful God,
creator of all the people of the earth,
have compassion on all who do not know you,
and by the preaching of your gospel with grace and power,
gather them into the one fold of the one Shepherd;
Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for all those who suffer:
for those who are deprived and oppressed,
for all who are sick,
for those in darkness, doubt and despair,
in loneliness and in fear,
for prisoners, captives and refugees,
for the victims of false accusations and violence,
for all at the point of death and those who watch beside them,
that God in his mercy will sustain them
with the knowledge of his love.

Silence is kept.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Almighty and everlasting God,
the comfort of the sad, the strength of those who suffer:
hear the prayers of your children who cry out of any trouble,
and to every distressed soul grant mercy,
relief and refreshment,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us commend ourselves and all God's children
to his unfailing love, and pray for the grace of a holy life,
that, with all who have died in the peace of Christ,
we may come to the fullness of eternal life
and the joy of the resurrection.

Silence is kept.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us. Amen.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

Hymn

During the hymn we remain kneeling as the Blessed Sacrament is brought from the Altar of Repose to the High Altar.

All for Jesus! All for Jesus!
This our song shall ever be;
for we have no hope nor Saviour
if we have not hope in thee.

All for Jesus! Thou wilt give us
strength to serve thee hour by hour:
none can move us from the presence
while we trust thy love and power.

All for Jesus! At thine altar
thou dost give us sweet content;
there, dear Saviour, we receive thee
in thy holy sacrament.

All for Jesus! Thou hast loved us.
All for Jesus! Thou hast died.
All for Jesus! Thou art with us.
All for Jesus! Glorified!

All for Jesus! All for Jesus!
This the Church's song shall be,
'til at last her flock is gathered,
one in love, and in one in Thee.

The Lord's Prayer

Standing at the foot of the cross,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us
**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**

Agnus Dei

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

Giving of Communion

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

*The priest and people are invited to receive the bread of life.
The body of Christ, broken for you. Amen.*

*"Were you there when they crucified my Lord?"
is sung while we return to our seats and kneel.*

The Conclusion

The ciborium is laid on its side as a sign of devastation.

A poem is read. Silence is kept.

O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God,

set your passion, cross and death

between your judgement and our souls,

now and in the hour of our death.

Grant mercy and grace to the living, rest to the departed,

to your Church peace and concord

and to us sinners forgiveness,

and everlasting life and glory;

for, with the Father and the Holy Spirit,

you are alive and reign,

God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Everyone departs in SILENCE.



