

# The Parish Church of St. Paul, Wokingham



## Maundy Thursday Liturgy

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Through this service we travel with Jesus as his disciples.

We will hear that Jesus washed the feet of his disciples  
and then called them to do the same for others. We too will wash feet.

We will hear Jesus offering himself in bread and wine,  
the feast of the Church at which all are welcome.

We too will take bread and wine, bless and share them.

Then we will go with Jesus to an abandoned garden.

We will hear him ask his disciples to stay awake with him while he prays.

We too will keep watch with him through the dark hours of the night.

A new commandment: to love as we are loved.  
And what is love? Watch. Listen.  
It looks like this. It dares this.  
This is love...

## The Gathering

*At the entry of the procession a hymn is sung.*

*During the hymn the three sacred oils- of the sick, of baptism  
and of chrism (of confirmation and call)- are carried to the altar.*

### The Greeting

A new commandment I give to you,  
that you love one another, as I have loved you. *John 13.34*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all  
**and also with you.**

### The Reception of Holy Oils

Brothers and sisters, on this most holy night, we receive from our Bishop  
the holy oils blessed and set apart for the sacramental life of our parish.  
They are a gift, a sign of God at work in his Church today, bringing his  
healing and salvation to those who long for it. They are a sign of the  
anointing power of the Spirit to equip the Church and her people as they  
serve in their particular vocations.

May all who are signed with these holy oils  
in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit  
know the love of God, be filled with the presence of God  
and be inspired to live courageously  
as the precious people of God every day. **Amen.**

# The Introduction to the Service

## The Prayers of Penitence

Our Lord Jesus Christ says:

‘If you love me, keep my commandments.’

‘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.

*We kneel and silence is kept.*

Have mercy on us, O God, in your great goodness;  
according to the abundance of your compassion  
blot out our offences.

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Against you only have we sinned  
and done what is evil in your sight.  
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Purge us from our sin and we shall be clean;  
wash us and we shall be whiter than snow.  
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

May the + Father forgive you by the death of his Son  
and strengthen you to live in the power of the Spirit  
all your days. **Amen.**

*We stand as a fanfare and ringing of bells precedes the singing  
of the Gloria to mark the start of the Paschal Triduum –  
the ‘three days’ which lie at the very heart of the Christian faith.*

## **Gloria in Excelsis** *(We stand)*

*A song of praise to God for his wonderful goodness*

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the Highest,**

**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.**

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the Highest.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father.**

**Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us;**

**you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.**

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the Highest.**

**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.**

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the Highest.**

## **The Collect**

God our Father,  
you have invited us to share in the supper  
which your Son gave to his Church  
to proclaim his death until he comes:  
may he nourish us by his presence, and unite us in his love;  
who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## Old Testament Reading [Sit]

*At the end the reader says*

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

## The Gospel Reading

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

I give you a new commandment, says the Lord:

Love one another as I have loved you.

**Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end of the Gospel*

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## The Address

## The Washing of Feet

*The President washes the feet of 12 members of the congregation*

*while the choir sings Ubi Caritas ('Where charity and love are, there is God').*

## The Prayers of Intercession

# “Do this in remembrance of me”

## The Peace [Stand]

Not an easy peace: not an insignificant peace:

not a half-hearted peace

but the peace of the Lord Jesus is with us now.

The peace of the Lord be always with you **and also with you.**

## The Offertory Hymn

## The Preparation of the Table

At the Eucharist we are with our crucified and risen Lord.  
We know that it was not only our ancestors,  
but we ourselves who were redeemed and brought forth  
from bondage to freedom, from mourning to feasting.  
We know that as he was with them in the upper room  
so our Lord is here with us now.

Blessed are you, eternal God, Source of all creation:  
through your goodness we have this bread to offer,  
which earth has given and human hands have made:  
**It will become for us the Bread of Life.**

Blessed are you, eternal God, Source of all creation:  
through your goodness we have this wine to offer,  
fruit of the vine and work of human hands:  
**It will become for us the Lifeblood of the World.**

Blessed are you, eternal God, Source of all creation:  
through your goodness we have ourselves to offer,  
gift of the womb and shaped by human hands:  
**We will become for you a living body.**

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

## The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you **and also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give thanks and praise**

It is indeed right to give you thanks,  
Father most holy, through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
For on this very night he girded himself with a towel  
and, taking the form of a servant,  
washed the feet of his disciples.  
He gave us a new commandment  
that we should love one another as he has loved us.  
Knowing that his hour had come,  
in his great love he gave this supper to his disciples  
to be a memorial of his passion,  
that we might proclaim his death until he comes again,  
and feast with him in his kingdom.  
Therefore earth unites with heaven  
to sing a new song of praise;  
we too join with angels and archangels  
as they proclaim your glory without end:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

We praise and bless you, loving Father,  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit,  
that broken bread and wine outpoured  
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On this very night, the night before he died,  
Jesus had supper with his friends  
and, taking bread, he praised you.  
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.  
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:  
Drink this, all of you;  
this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did;  
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice  
made once for all upon the cross.  
Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,  
we proclaim his death and resurrection  
until he comes in glory.

Christ is the bread of life:  
**When we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
we proclaim your death Lord Jesus  
until you come in glory.**

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day  
when your kingdom comes  
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,  
gather us in your loving arms  
and bring us with Blessed Mary, the Mother of Jesus,  
and the disciples and of all the saints  
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,  
for ever and ever.

**Amen.**



## **The Lord's Prayer [Sit or kneel]**

Lord Jesus remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray

**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.**

## **The Breaking of the Bread**

*The priest breaks the consecrated bread.*

Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup,

**we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

## **The Agnus Dei**

**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.**

## **The Communion**

Come to this table to meet the living Creator, God our Father,

Love indescribable and beyond our imagining,

yet closer than our own breath.

Come to this table to meet the living Christ,

flesh of our flesh, bone of our bone,

who rescues a fallen people through his death on the cross.

Come to this table to meet the living Spirit,  
inspiring our quest for truth and justice,  
breathing into us life and hope.

Come to find, to meet the living God,  
whose love is ever new in bread and in wine.

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.**

*This feast is the feast of God's people.*

*All those who have been baptised are invited by Jesus to receive communion here.*

*It is his offer, his welcome. We are his people, made one, made equal,  
through his radical love, by his amazing gift of himself.*

The body of Christ, broken for you. **Amen.**

The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

### **The Prayer after Communion [Stand]**

St Paul writes: Every time you eat this bread and drink this cup you  
proclaim the death of our Lord, until he comes in glory. Let us pray.

May our eyes turn to look again on you, O Christ,  
for you are the Way, the Truth and the Life.

Give us courage always to be loyal to the Truth,  
to follow wherever the Way may lead, costly though it be,  
trusting that the goal is none other than Life with you. **Amen.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us that what we do  
for the least of our brothers and sisters we do also for you:  
give us the will to be the servant of others  
as you were the servant of all,  
and gave up your life and died for us,  
but are alive and reign, now and for ever. Amen.**

## The Dismissal

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

Jesus prayed: "Abba Father, if it be possible,  
take this cup of suffering from me."

Jesus grieved that his disciples were not able  
to stay awake with him one hour.

There he was betrayed by the kiss of a friend.

He was handed over to the authorities  
who had longed long for this moment.

They took him in chains to a secure place.

Jesus was obedient even unto death.

## "Stay awake with me and watch"

### The Procession to the Altar of Repose

*We stand to sing the hymn. We kneel as the Blessed Sacrament passes by  
and then remain sitting or kneeling for the rest of the hymn. Then we sing:*

### Tantum Ergo

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.

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.

## The Stripping of the Sanctuary

*As the altars are stripped the choir sing Psalm 22.*

*Please make your way quietly to the Altar of Repose to Keep Watch,  
or leave in silence. You are welcome to return later,  
at some time before Midnight, to Keep Watch.*



### Psalm 22 (NRSV translation)

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?

O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer; and by night, but find no rest.

Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.

In you our ancestors trusted; they trusted, and you delivered them.

To you they cried, and were saved; in you they trusted, and were not put to shame.

But I am a worm, and not human; scorned by others, and despised by the people.

All who see me mock at me; they make mouths at me, they shake their heads;

“Commit your cause to the LORD; let him deliver—

let him rescue the one in whom he delights!”

Yet it was you who took me from the womb;

you kept me safe on my mother’s breast.

On you I was cast from my birth,

and since my mother bore me you have been my God.

Do not be far from me, for trouble is near and there is no one to help.