

Maundy Thursday
Solemn Eucharist of the Lord's Supper
2 April 2026

Welcome to Liverpool Parish Church as we enter the 'Triduum', the greatest three days of the Church's year. Please join in the texts in **bold type**.

Opening hymn and Greeting

The bell rings and we stand, as we are able, and sing:

**Brother, sister, let me serve you, let me be as Christ to you;
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.**

**We are pilgrims on a journey, fellow travellers on the road;
We are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.**

**I will hold the Christlight for you in the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.**

**I will weep when you are weeping; when you laugh I'll laugh with you.
I will share your joy and sorrow till we've seen this journey through.**

**When we sing to God in heaven we shall find such harmony,
Born of all we've known together of Christ's love and agony.**

**Brother, sister, let me serve you, let me be as Christ to you;
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.**

Words: Richard A. M. Gillard (born 1953)

Music: 'Servant Song' Richard A. M. Gillard (born 1953)

arranged by Betty Pulkingham (born 1928)

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you and also with you **and also with you.**

Confession

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.

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

Kyrie, kyrie, eleison **Kyrie, kyrie, eleison**

Against you only have we sinned and done what is evil in your sight.

Christe, Christe, eleison **Christe, Christe, eleison**

Purge us from our sin and we shall be clean; wash us and we shall be whiter than snow. Kyrie, kyrie, eleison **Kyrie, kyrie, eleison**

We receive an absolution, assuring us of God's forgiveness

The bell is briefly rung to mark the beginning of the Great Three Days. After this all bells will be silent until the Easter Vigil. We sing the Gloria, the congregation singing the refrain (below) while the cantor sings the 5 verses of the Gloria:



Glo - ry! Glo - ry! Glo-ry to God! Glo - ry! Glo - ry! Glo-ry to God!

The Collect

God our Father, your Son Jesus Christ was obedient to the end and drank the cup prepared for him: may we who share his table watch with him through the night of suffering and be faithful. Amen.

Readings (we sit)

First Reading (Exodus 12.1-4, 11-14)

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

Second reading (1 Corinthians 11.23-26)

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

(We stand)

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory. **(repeated by all)**

'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.**

Gospel Reading (John 13.1-17,31b-35)

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

Glory to you, O Lord

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

Sermon - Fr Bill Addy

The Washing of Feet

During the washing we sing:

A new commandment I give unto you:

That you love one another as I have loved you,

That you love one another as I have loved you.

By this shall all know that you are my disciples

If you have love one for another.

By this shall all know that you are my disciples

If you have love one for another. (*refrain*)

You are my friends if you do what I command you.

Without my help you can do nothing.

You are my friends if you do what I command you.

Without my help you can do nothing. (*refrain*)

I am the true vine, my Father is the gard'ner.

Abide in me: I will be with you.

I am the true vine, my Father is the gard'ner.

Abide in me: I will be with you. (*refrain*)

True love is patient, not arrogant or boastful;

Love bears all things, love is eternal.

True love is patient, not arrogant or boastful;

Love bears all things, love is eternal. (*refrain*)

Words: Based on

John. 13.34-35

Music: Unknown

arranged by Richard

Lloyd (1933-2021)

Followed by:

Ubi caritas et amor.

Ubi caritas Deus ibi est.

(Where charity and love are, God is there.)

At the conclusion of the foot-washing, we pray:

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 Intercessions (please kneel or sit)

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

Lord, hear us, **and humble us.**

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

We pray for the unity of your Church.

Lord, hear us, **and unite us.**

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

Lord, hear us, **and renew our zeal.**

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

We pray for the rejected and unloved.

Lord, hear us, **and fill us with your love.**

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, hear us, **and give us your peace.**

On this night, he accepted the cup of death and looked forward to the new wine of the kingdom. We remember those who have died in the peace of Christ.

Lord, hear us **and welcome all your children into paradise.**

The Peace (We stand)

The Peace is introduced, followed by:

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Offertory Hymn

**O thou, who at thy Eucharist didst pray
That all thy Church might be for ever one,
Grant us at every Eucharist to say
With longing heart and soul, 'Thy will be done.'
Oh, may we all one Bread, one Body be,
One through this Sacrament of unity.**

**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,
One through this Sacrament of unity.**

**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,
One through this Sacrament of unity.**

**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 blessèd still, in peace and love to be
One with the Trinity in Unity.**

Words: William Henry Turton (1856-1938)

Music: 'Song 1' Melody and Bass Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625)

The Eucharistic Prayer

A prayer is said over the gifts on the altar, to which we respond **Amen**.

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**.

The seasonal part of the prayer follows and at the end the Congregational Cantors sing:

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.

[The Servant Mass—Derek Sadler (1939-2013)]

We pray for the Holy Spirit to transform us and the gifts, and then the words of Jesus at the Last Supper are recalled:

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.

The prayer continues with oblation and intercession, ending:

... all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever. **Amen**.

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.

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

The Congregational Cantors sing:

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Tonight we receive Communion standing, forming a single file in front of the altar.

It is our custom not to direct people to the front, so we warmly invite everyone to come forward when you are ready. If you normally receive Communion in your own church then you are welcome to do so here, or you may prefer the priest to pray for God's blessing on you. Gluten-free hosts are available.

During Communion:

Panis angelicus fit panis hominum, dat panis coelicus figuris terminum:

O resmirabilis! Manducat Dominum pauper, pauper servus et humilis,

[The angel's bread becomes the bread of mortals, The heavenly bread ends all symbols: Oh, miraculous thing! The body of the Lord will nourish the poor and humble servant.]

Words: St Thomas Aquinas (1227-74)

Music: César Franck (1822-90)

Post-Communion Prayers (We stand at 'Let us pray')

*After the post-communion prayer the Blessed Sacrament is taken in procession to the Altar of Repose by the clergy and servers. **Please remain in the main body of the church at this time.***

During the procession we sing:

**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 spotless womb once dwelling, Shed for this world's ransoming.**

**Given 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.**

**At the last great supper lying circled by his chosen band,
Duly with the law complying, first he finished its command,
Then, immortal food supplying, gave himself by his own hand.**

**Word-made-flesh, by word he maketh bread his very flesh to be;
Man in wine Christ's blood partaketh: and if senses fail to see,
Faith alone the true heart waketh to behold the mystery.**

**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 the 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.**

Words: St Thomas Aquinas (1227-74) translated by J. M. Neale (12818-66)

*Music: 'Picardy' French carol, probably 17th century found in Tiersot's *Mélodies Paris* (1887)*

Clergy and servers then remove vestments and strip bare the altars and sanctuary, recalling the disciples falling away from Christ, leaving him alone in the garden. While this happens, Psalm 88 is recited.

At the completion of the stripping, those able to remain for the watch are invited to move to the Altar of Repose. Please stay and keep watch with the Lord in the Garden of Gethsemane for as long as you wish/are able.

A priest reads the Gospel of the Watch (Luke 22.31-62), followed by silence.



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