

Thursday of the Lord's Supper at the Evening Mass

9 April 2020

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6aKBtuakKWo>

God is love, and where true love is, God himself there.

- 1 Here in Christ we gather, love of Christ our calling.
Christ, our love, is with us, gladness be his greeting.
Let us fear and love him, holy God eternal,
Loving him, let each love Christ in one another.**
- 2 When we Christians gather, members of one Body,
Let there be in us no discord, but one spirit.
Banished now be anger, strife and every quarrel.
Christ, our God, be always present here among us.**
- 3 Grant us love's fulfilment, joy with all the blessed,
When we see your face, O Saviour, in its glory.
Shine on us, O purest Light of all creation,
Be our bliss while endless ages sing your praises.**

*From the Liturgy of Maundy Thursday,
trans James Quinn SJ 1919-2010*

Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Galatians 6.14

We should glory in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,
in whom is our salvation, life and resurrection,
through whom we are saved and delivered.

Greeting

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

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Penitential Act

Let us acknowledge our sins,
and so prepare to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

A brief pause for silence follows.

Lord Jesus, you raise the dead to life in the Spirit:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you bring pardon and peace to the sinner:

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you bring light to those in darkness:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

May almighty God have mercy on us,

forgive us our sins,

and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen.**

Hymn of Praise

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

**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.**

**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.**

Collect

Let us pray.

O God, you 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. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading

Exodus 12.1-4, 11-14

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbour in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it.

This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the LORD. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgements: I am the LORD. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt. This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 116.9–10, 12–17 *R.* v.11

R. **I will take the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the Lord.**

9 I believed, even when I said, “I have been brought very low.”

In my distress I said, “No one can be trusted.”

10 How shall I repay the Lord

for all the good things he has done for me? *R.*

12 I will fulfil my vows to the Lord

in the presence of all his people.

13 Precious in the sight of the Lord

is the death of his servants. *R.*

14 O Lord, I am your servant;

I am your servant and the child of your handmaid;
you have freed me from my bonds.

15 I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving

and call upon the name of the Lord. *R.*

16 I will fulfil my vows to the Lord

in the presence of all his people.

17 In the courts of the Lord’s house,

in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. *R.*

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 11.23-26

Beloved: I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, 'This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.' For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

John 13.34

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus!

I give you a new commandment:

love one another as I have loved you, says the Lord.

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus!

Gospel

John 13.1-17, 31b-35

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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

✠ **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, 'Lord, are you going to wash my feet?' Jesus answered, 'You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand.' Peter said to him, 'You will never wash my feet.' Jesus answered, 'Unless I wash you, you have no share with me.' Simon Peter said to him, 'Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!' Jesus said to him, 'One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you.' For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, 'Not all of you are clean.'

After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, 'Do you know what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord – and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.'

Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once.

Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, "Where I am going, you cannot come." I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.'

For the Gospel of the Lord,
praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Reflection

Revd Sr Juliana SI

Maundy Thursday, my second most favourite service of the year ... with its different focuses ... the Last Supper for the first time, the washing of the feet, the procession of the Blessed Sacrament to the Garden, the Altar of Repose, the stripping of the Altar and finally the Watch. Such a rich and diverse liturgy.

I am so sad not to be with you, celebrating this most holy night. Sr Patricia and I will be keeping this service in our chapel, incorporating you all.

On this night Jesus is always pointing the disciples and of course us to his forthcoming passion and death. The foot washing is not just an act of serving his disciples in general, though it is of course that, but most importantly it is a foretelling of the ultimate act of service, of the washing and cleansing Jesus will do for all humankind on the cross.

And the Last Supper, that first Eucharist, not recorded by John, in our gospel reading tonight but recorded in our second reading from the first Letter of Paul to the Corinthians (1 Cor 11.23-26).

The Eucharist is always bringing us into the mystery of Jesus death and resurrection.

And this year, we are separated from each, unable to be present in this Eucharist sacrifice, which we are used to living in, Sunday by Sunday, and especially on this most holy night when our Lord instituted this way of remembering him and being with him in the Sacrament of the altar.

I wonder how you are all travelling as you share in a very special way this suffering of the separation from the Eucharist.

A reflection on this very pain we are experiencing came to me last week which I hope you might find helpful.

Fr Kevin Bates, a Marist priest, wrote:

"A look at history, however, reveals to us that the Church has not only survived, but thrived during times of persecution when access to the Eucharist was denied.

Perhaps there is more to the Body of Christ than we think! Perhaps too, God's grace can still be at work within and among us with all God's nourishing and healing power, even when we are denied the normal sacred engagement that the Eucharist provides for us.

A look around the world right now will reveal to us the hand of God at work in the most desperate and difficult circumstances. If Jesus is anything to go by, God was in best form when the going was toughest.

The bread of Eucharist is taken, blessed, broken and shared by Jesus. In our time of crisis, the bread of Christ's Body is still available in different guises.

Take the extraordinary sacrifices being made by people in the medical profession all around the world right now.

The bread of their lives is taken by their embracing their medical careers, blessed by their studies and the skills they develop and use, broken open by the risks they take in ministering to those in most need, and shared in the lives they heal, save and comfort.

We could apply this analogy to so many others, including our political leaders who are working so hard on our behalf to see that we stay safe and well.

We encounter the suffering Body of Christ in those who are responsible for letting people know that they have just lost their jobs due to this fearful crisis. Along with their suffering, there is that of the thousands whose jobs have disappeared on them during these past days.

The broken Body of Christ is everywhere, and everywhere too there are people seeking to pick up the broken pieces in order that good nourishment may be rescued from places where such nourishment seems impossible to find.”

So wrote Fr Bates.

Each of us in our own lives and circumstances are experiencing this suffering in our loss of work, fear of the future, isolation, and separation from our families, our church, and the Eucharist itself.

We may not be in the front line of service, though our family members may be. But we are called at this time to share in our own way in the suffering of all, which is Christ’s suffering. And as we face trials in the days ahead, as Jesus himself faced his own demons in the agony of the Garden of Gethsemane, may we too serve others as we all share in this turbulent world we find ourselves. May we give ourselves, as we are able, in connecting, communicating, supporting, helping, praying, for our families and friends and indeed for all our neighbours, whomever the Lord sends us to.

In this way, the bread of Eucharist will still be taken, blessed, broken and shared by Jesus. In our time of crisis, the bread of Christ’s Body will still available through our lives of service.

Music for Meditation

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1BTWCpEFRQ>

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.

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

The Universal Prayer

For our bishop Geoffrey and all bishops, priests, and deacons, that their lives of service may continue to flow from the Eucharist.

A period of silence is observed after each petition, then, Lord, hear our prayer.

For all those for whom the Eucharist is not available at this time, that you may dwell in them and send your Holy Spirit that they may be filled with your presence.

For peace, that the blood of the divine Lamb may keep the destructive blow of war and oppression from us, and that each of us may partake of the Lamb with staff in hand, ready for the journey that justice will demand of us.

For all of us in every capacity of loving service that we give to each other, that our Lord's humility and self-emptying may continue in our mutual reverence and devotion.

For all those who are far from the sacraments, for the sick and addicted, the imprisoned and abused, the lonely and the poor, that this night of love and suffering may draw them into communion with Jesus who has the remedy for their wounds.

For all of us who share this Eucharist, remembering most vividly that hour when Jesus showed us the very depths of his love, that we might express our gratitude to him by being faithful in all that he asks of us.

For our faithful departed loved ones, who ate the Divine Bread and drank the Holy Cup and proclaimed the death of the Lord while on earth, that they may now share his victory over death in heaven.

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

When all is prepared, the celebrant says

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

**May the Lord accept our sacrifice
for the praise and glory of God's name,
for our good, and the good of all God's holy Church.**

Prayer over the Offerings

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. **Amen.**

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 our thanks and praise.

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

He is the true and eternal priest,
who founded this memorial of his unending sacrifice.
He gave himself to you as victim for our deliverance,
and commanded us to make this offering in his memory.

As we eat his body, given for us,
we grow in strength.
As we drink his blood, poured out for us,
we are washed clean.

And so, with angels and archangels,
with all the heavenly host,
we proclaim your glory
and join their unending chorus of praise:

**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.**

Lord, you are holy indeed,
and all creation rightly gives you praise.
All life, all holiness comes from you
through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,
by the working of the Holy Spirit.
From age to age you gather a people to yourself,
so that from the rising of the sun to its setting
a pure offering may be made
to the glory of your name.

And so, Lord God, we humbly pray:
by the power of your Spirit sanctify these gifts
we have brought before you,
that they may become the body and blood
of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,
at whose command we celebrate this eucharist.

On this night,
the night he was handed over to death,
Jesus washed the feet of his disciples
and gave us a new commandment:
to love one another as he has loved us.

He took bread and gave you thanks and praise;
he broke the bread,
gave it to his disciples, and said:
Take this, all of you, and eat it:
this is my Body, which will be given up for you.

When supper was ended, he took the cup;
again he gave you thanks and praise,
gave the cup to his disciples, and said:
Take this, all of you, and drink from it:
this is the cup of my Blood,
the Blood of the new and everlasting Covenant.

It will be shed for you and for all,
so that sins may be forgiven.
Do this in memory of me.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**When we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus,
until you come in glory.**

Calling to mind, Lord God,
the death your Son endured for our salvation,
his glorious resurrection and ascension into heaven,
and eagerly awaiting the day of his return,
we offer you in thanksgiving this holy and living sacrifice.

Look with favour on your Church's offering
and see the Victim by whose sacrifice
you were pleased to reconcile us to yourself.
Grant that we who are nourished by the body and blood of your Son
may be filled with his Holy Spirit
and become one body, one spirit in Christ.

Let him make us an everlasting gift to you,
that we may share in the inheritance of your saints,
with Mary, the virgin Mother of God,
with blessed Joseph, her Spouse,
with the apostles, the martyrs,
Saint Mary Magdalene, and all your saints,
on whose constant intercession we rely for help.

Lord, may this sacrifice
which has made our peace with you
advance the peace and salvation of all the world.
Strengthen in faith and love your pilgrim Church on earth:
your servant our bishop Geoffrey,
all bishops, priests, and deacons,
all ministers of your Church,
and the entire people your Son has gained for you.

Merciful Father,
hear the prayers of the family you have gathered here before you,
and unite to yourself all your children
now scattered over the face of the earth.

Welcome into your kingdom our departed brothers and sisters
and all who have left this world in your friendship.
We hope to enjoy with them your everlasting glory,
through Christ our Lord,
through whom you give the world everything that is good.

Through whom, with whom, in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honour is yours,
almighty Father, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE COMMUNION RITE

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour Christ has taught us we are confident to pray:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil,
graciously grant peace in our days,
that, by the help of your mercy,
we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress,
as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

The celebrant breaks the bread, saying –

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
We who are many are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.

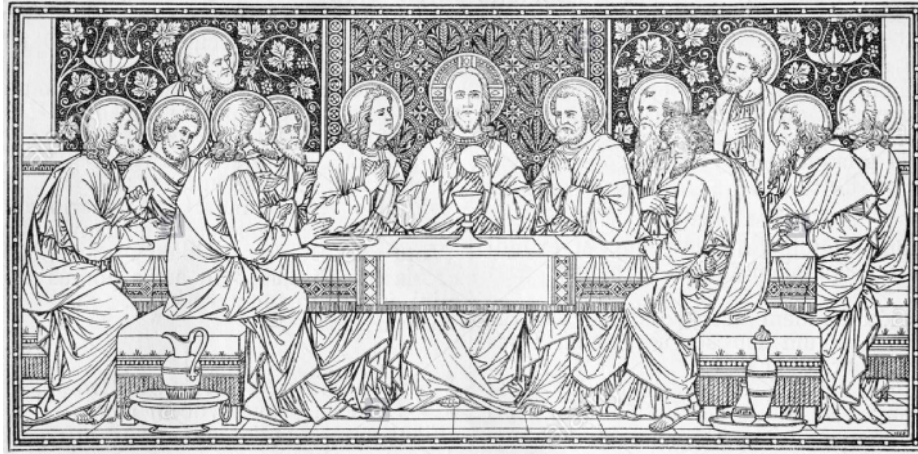
While the bread is broken Agnus Dei is sung –

**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.**

Invitation to Communion

Behold the Lamb of God,
behold him who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**



Act of Spiritual Communion

St Alphonsus Liguori

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Communion Antiphon

1 Cor 11.24-25

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.

After the distribution of Communion, a ciborium with hosts for Communion on the following day is left on the altar. The Priest says the Prayer after Communion.

Music for Meditation

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ADtCymPUlv4>

Tantum ergo Sacramentum

Prayer after Communion

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. **Amen.**

After a period of silent adoration, the Priest and ministers make a reverence and return to the sacristy.

At a suitable time the altar is stripped, and crosses removed from the church, or veiled.

Evening Prayer is not celebrated by those who have attended the Mass of the Lord's Supper.

Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament may continue for a suitable length of time.