



ST MARY'S  
ATTLEBOROUGH

**Eucharist**  
**of the Last Supper**  
*Thursday 6th April 2023*

*The priest welcomes the congregation and a time of silence follows for prayer.*

*When the organ starts the hymn, please stand to sing:*

Sweet Sacrament divine,  
hid in thy earthly home,  
lo! round thy lowly shrine,  
with suppliant hearts we come;  
Jesus, to thee our voice we raise  
in songs of love and heartfelt praise:  
sweet Sacrament divine,  
sweet Sacrament divine.

Sweet Sacrament of peace,  
dear home for every heart,  
where restless yearnings cease  
and sorrows all depart;  
there in thine ear all trustfully  
we tell our tale of misery:  
sweet Sacrament of peace,  
sweet Sacrament of peace.

Sweet Sacrament of rest,  
ark from thy ocean's roar,  
within thy shelter blest  
soon may we reach the shore;  
save us, for still the tempest raves,  
save, lest we sink beneath the waves:  
sweet Sacrament of rest,  
sweet Sacrament of rest.

Sweet Sacrament divine,  
earth's light and jubilee,  
in thy far depths doth shine  
the Godhead's majesty;  
sweet light, so shine on us, we pray,  
that earthly joys may fade away:  
sweet Sacrament divine,  
sweet sacrament divine.

Francis Stanfield (1835–1914)

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

Our Lord Jesus Christ says:

'If you love me, keep my commandments.'

'Unless I wash you, you have no part with me.'

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

Have mercy on us, O God,  
according to your loving-kindness:  
and in your great 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 pure:  
wash us and we shall be clean indeed.  
Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

*The priest says the prayer of absolution:*

The Lord, who is faithful and just forgive us our sins  
create and make in us a clean heart  
and renew a right spirit within us  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

**Amen**

*We remain standing to sing the Gloria.*

**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, Heav'nly 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.**

*Remain standing for 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**

*Please sit for the readings:*

A reading from the book of Exodus [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.**

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians  
[1 Corinthians 11.23-26]

For 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.**

*Stand to sing the Gradual Hymn:*

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

Here in Christ we gather, love of Christ our calling.

Christ, our love, is with us, gladness be his greeting.

Let us all revere and love him, God eternal.

Let each love Christ in sisters and in brothers all.

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

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 present always here among us.

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

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.

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

translated by James Quinn, SJ (1919–2010)

based on *Ubi caritas et amor*, (Latin, 9th century)

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*Turn to face where the Gospel is read in the centre of the church.*

**All Praise to you, O Christ,  
King of eternal glory!**

Choir I give you a new commandment, says the Lord:  
Love one another as I have loved you.

**All 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** *[John 13.1-17, 31b-35]*

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.'

Jesus said, '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.'

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

The Sermon

The Washing of Feet

*During the washing of feet the choir sings the anthem:  
I give to you a new commandment (Nardone).*

*After the washing of feet this prayer is said:*

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 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. 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 their message.

We pray for the mission of your Church.

Lord, hear us

**and renew our zeal.**

On this night, he commanded them 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 them 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.**

*Please stand for the 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

**and also with you.**

*We greet one another with a hand shake or some  
other sign of peace.*

*The offertory hymn:*

Now, my tongue, the mystery telling  
of the glorious body sing,  
and the blood, all price excelling,  
which the Gentiles' Lord and King,  
in a Virgin's womb once dwelling,  
shed for this world's ransoming.

Given for us, and condescending  
to be born for us below,  
he, with us in converse blending,  
dwelt the seed of truth to sow,  
till he closed with wondrous ending  
his most patient life of woe.

That last night, at supper lying,  
'mid the Twelve, his chosen band,  
Jesus, with the law complying,  
keeps the feast its rites demand ;  
then, more precious food supplying,  
gives himself with his own hand.

Word-made-flesh, true bread he maketh  
by his word his flesh to be,  
wine his blood ; which whoso taketh  
must from carnal thoughts be free :  
faith alone, though sight forsaketh,  
shows true hearts 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 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. Amen**

St Thomas Aquinas (c.1225–1274)  
translated by John Mason Neale (1818–1866)  
Edward Caswall (1814–1878) and others

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*Please remain standing.*

At the Eucharist we are with  
our crucified and risen Lord.

We know that it was not only our ancestors,  
but we 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.

**Until the Kingdom of God comes  
let us celebrate this feast.**

Blessed are you, Lord God of the universe,  
you bring forth bread from the earth.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord God of the universe,  
you create the fruit of the vine.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

*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.**

*The president praises God for his mighty acts before the choir sings the Sanctus and Benedictus from Missa brevis in D minor (Rheinberger).*

*The president recalls the Last Supper, during which this response is used:*

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died:**

**Christ is risen:**

**Christ will come again.**

*The prayer continues and leads into the doxology to which we sing in response: **Amen***

*We sit or kneel for the Lord's Prayer.*

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**

*Breaking of the Bread*

Every time we eat this bread

and drink this cup.

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

*The invitation to Communion:*

Jesus 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.**

*If you normally receive Communion in any Church you are welcome to receive at this service; come forward to the altar rail now. If you do not receive, you are welcome to come forward for a blessing. Carry this booklet, or bow your head, to indicate that you would prefer a blessing.*

*During the distribution the choir sings the Agnus Dei and the the anthem: Ave verum corpus (Mozart)*

*When everybody has received communion please keep a moment of silence before the Post Communion prayer:*

Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you that in this wonderful sacrament you have given us the memorial of your passion: grant us so to reverence the sacred mysteries of your body and blood that we may know within ourselves and show forth in our lives the fruit of your redemption, for you are alive and reign, now and for ever. **Amen**

*We stand to sing the final hymn. During the hymn the reserved sacrament is taken from the altar and placed near the cross in the garden of repose. Then the choir process to the West End.*

And now, O Father, mindful of the love  
that bought us, once for all, on Calvary's tree,  
and having with us him that pleads above,  
we here present, we here spread forth to thee  
that only offering perfect in thine eyes,  
the one true, pure, immortal sacrifice

Look, Father, look on his anointed face,  
and only look on us as found in him ;  
look not on our misusings of thy grace,  
our prayer so languid, and our faith so dim :  
for lo, between our sins and their reward  
we set the Passion of thy Son our Lord.

And then for those, our dearest and our best,  
by this prevailing presence we appeal:  
O fold them closer to thy mercy's breast,  
O do thine utmost for their souls' true weal;  
from tainting mischief keep them white and clear,  
and crown thy gifts with strength to persevere.

And so we come : O draw us to thy feet,  
most patient Saviour, who canst love us still ;  
and by this food, so awful and so sweet,  
deliver us from every touch of ill :  
in thine own service make us glad and free,  
and grant us never more to part with thee.

William Bright (1824–1901)

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## **The Watch**

*Please sit for the Gospel of the Watch. [Mark 14.26-end]*

*After the Gospel is read the lights are dimmed and the choir sings Psalm 22 while the sanctuary is stripped. After this, please remain in silence as long as you wish, either in the nave or in the garden of repose. If you go home, please remember that you can return later in the evening to share in the Watch, which continues until midnight.*

**Whenever you leave, please do so silently**

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