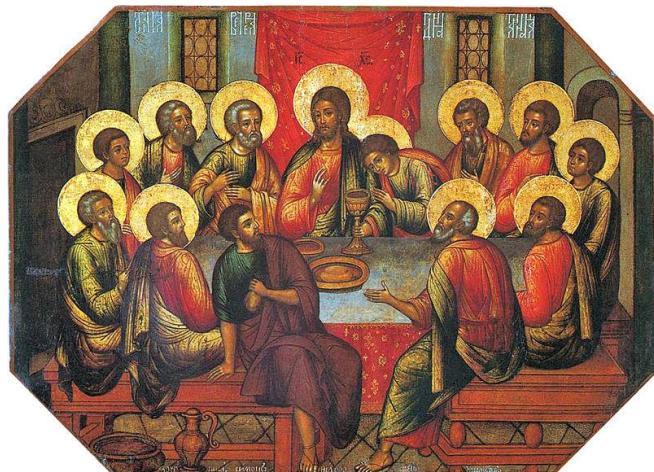


The Parish Church of St Matthew
Northampton

Wednesday of Holy Week



*Jesus was troubled in spirit and declared,
'Very truly, I tell you, one of you will betray me.'*

Mass with homily

Wednesday 31st March 2021

7.30 pm

¶ A Corporate Preparation for Mass

After a period of silent recollection ...

All I will go to the altar of God
to the God of my joy and gladness.

Give judgement for me, O God,
and defend my cause against an ungodly people:
deliver me from the deceitful and the wicked.

All **For you are the God of my refuge;**
why have you cast me from you,
and why go I so heavily, while the enemy oppresses me?

O send out your light and your truth, that they may lead me:
and bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling.

All **That I may go to the altar of God,**
to the God of my joy and gladness;
and on the lyre I will give thanks to you, O God my God.

Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul,
and why are you so disquieted within me?

All **O put your trust in God;**
for I will yet give him thanks,
who is the help of my countenance, and my God.

I will go to the altar of God.
To the God of my joy and gladness.

From Psalms 42 and 43

The altar is reverenced

Order of Service

¶ The Gathering

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

At the name of Jesus every knee should bend, for the Lord became obedient to death, death on a cross: therefore Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The Greeting

All The Lord our redeemer be with you
and also with you.

The Mass is introduced

Invitation to Confession

Christ became obedient unto death, even death on a cross.
He has become for us the pioneer and perfecter of our faith
and the source of our eternal salvation.
Let us lay hold of the life which he has won for us by his death
and confess our sins to our heavenly Father.

Confession

All **Lord God,**
we have sinned against you;
we have done evil in your sight.
We are sorry and repent.
Have mercy on us according to your love.
Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin.
Renew a right spirit within us
and restore us to the joy of your salvation,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Kyries

Lord, you bore our sins in your body on the tree
that we may die to sin and live to righteousness:
Kyrie eleison.

All Kyrie eleison.

You suffered for us, leaving us an example,
that we should follow in your steps:
Christe eleison.

All Christe eleison.

By your wounds we are healed:
Kyrie eleison.

All Kyrie eleison.

Absolution

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

All Amen.

The Collect

Let us pray.

Gracious God, who for our sake
chose that your Son should bear the yoke of the cross
to drive out the enemy's power from our midst;
grant that as we celebrate the suffering of Christ,
so we may participate in the grace of the resurrection.
We make this prayer in his name,
who is alive, now and for ever.

All Amen.

¶ The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading Isaiah 50.4-9a

Reader A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

The Lord God has given me
the tongue of a teacher,
that I may know how to sustain
the weary with a word.
Morning by morning he wakens—
wakens my ear
to listen as those who are taught.
The Lord God has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious,
I did not turn backwards.
gave my back to those who struck me,
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;
I did not hide my face
from insult and spitting.
The Lord God helps me;
therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like flint,
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;
he who vindicates me is near.
Who will contend with me?
Let us stand up together.
Who are my adversaries?
Let them confront me.
It is the Lord God who helps me;
who will declare me guilty?
All of them will wear out like a garment;
the moth will eat them up.

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 70

O God, make speed to save me;
O Lord, make haste to help me.

All Come to me quickly, O God.

Let those who seek my life
be put to shame and confusion;
let them be turned back and disgraced
who wish me evil.

Let those who mock and deride me
turn back because of their shame.

All Come to me quickly, O God.

But let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you;
let those who love your salvation say always, ‘Great is the Lord!’
As for me, I am poor and needy;
come to me quickly, O God.
You are my help and my deliverer;
O Lord, do not delay.

All Come to me quickly, O God.

Holy Gospel

John 12.20-36

Acclamation

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.
Hail to you, our King!

You alone have had compassion on our sins.

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

The Lord our redeemer be with you

All and also with you.

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

All Glory to you, O Lord.

After saying this Jesus was troubled in spirit, and declared, ‘Very truly, I tell you, one of you will betray me.’ The disciples looked at one another, uncertain of whom he was speaking. One of his disciples—the one whom Jesus loved—was reclining next to him; Simon Peter therefore motioned to him to ask Jesus of whom he was speaking. So while reclining next to Jesus, he asked him, ‘Lord, who is it?’ Jesus answered, ‘It is the one to whom I give this piece of bread when I have dipped it in the dish.’ So when he had dipped the piece of bread, he gave it to Judas son of Simon Iscariot. After he received the piece of bread, Satan entered into him. Jesus said to him, ‘Do quickly what you are going to do.’ Now no one at the table knew why he said this to him. Some thought that, because Judas had the common purse, Jesus was telling him, ‘Buy what we need for the festival’; or, that he should give something to the poor. So, after receiving the piece of bread, he immediately went out. And it was night.

When he had gone out, 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.

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

The Homily

Prayers of the Faithful

Lord God of our salvation hear us as we pray
through Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith,
who endured the cross, despising the shame,
and who lives to make intercession for us.

After each petition

All By the Saviour's cross and passion,
Lord, save us and help us.

At the end

By his holy and glorious wounds
may Christ our Lord guard us and keep us
and may his Passion bring us, at the end,
to be numbered with Blessed Mary
and all the redeemed in glory everlasting.

All Amen.

¶ The Liturgy of the Sacrament

Sign of Peace

Once we were far off
but now in union with Christ Jesus we have been brought near
through the shedding of Christ's blood,
for he is our peace.

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

As we are able, let us offer one another a sign of Christ's peace.

The Offertory

The altar is prepared

Invitation to Prayer

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

**All 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.**

Prayer over the Gifts

Receive, O Lord, we pray, the offerings made here,
and graciously grant
that, celebrating your Son's passion in mystery,
we may experience the grace of its effects.
Through Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer

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

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

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

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

For the days of his saving passion
and glorious resurrection are approaching,
by which the pride of the ancient foe is vanquished
and the mystery of our redemption in Christ is celebrated.

Through him the host of angels adores your majesty
and rejoices in your presence for ever.
May our voices, join with theirs
for ever praising you and saying:

All **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.

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,
and as we follow his example and obey his command,
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us his body and his blood;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:

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.

Jesus Christ is Lord:

All Lord, by your cross and resurrection you have set us free.
You are the Saviour of the world.

Therefore, heavenly Father,
we remember his offering of himself
made once for all upon the cross;
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;
we look for the coming of your kingdom,
and with this bread and this cup
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Accept through him, our great high priest,
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts
in the presence of your divine majesty,
renew us by your Spirit,
inspire us with your love
and unite us in the body of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
we worship you, Father almighty,
in songs of everlasting praise:

All Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever.
Amen.

The Blessed Sacrament is elevated and bells are rung

The Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom,
as we pray in the words you gave us.

All

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

All

We break this bread,
and receive Christ's body once broken.

Agnus Dei

Jesus, Lamb of God,
have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins,
have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer of the world,
grant us peace.

Invitation to Communion

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

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

Giving of Communion

The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve,
and to give his life a ransom for many.

Spiritual Communion – *for those at home*

It is an ancient practice of the Church that, when you are prevented from attending the Holy Eucharist, people are invited to express, in the words of St Thomas Aquinas, “an ardent desire to receive Jesus in the Holy Sacrament and a loving embrace as though we had already received Him.” Therefore, during this time you are invited to pray this prayer, which may be said as often as you desire:

Act of Reception

**All In union, blessed Jesus,
 with the faithful gathered at every altar of your Church
 where your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day,**

(and remembering particularly my own parish ...)

**I long to offer you praise and thanksgiving,
for creation and all the blessings of this life,
for the redemption won for us by your life, death,
and resurrection,
for the means of grace and the hope of glory.**

(and particularly for the blessings given me ...)

**I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament,
and, since I cannot at this time receive communion,
I pray you to come into my heart.
I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart,
my soul, and my mind.
Let nothing separate me from you;
let me serve you in this life until, by your grace,
I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace.
Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray:

Grant us, O God, to recognize the wonder of this holy gift,
and as this communion bears witness
to the saving death of Christ your Son,
so it may fill us with the hope of eternal life
when he comes again in glory.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All

Amen.

¶ Sending Out

All The Lord our redeemer be with you
and also with you.

The Blessing

Christ crucified draw you to himself,
to find in him a sure ground for faith,
a firm support for hope,
and the assurance of sins forgiven;

and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son †, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

The Dismissal

The Mass is ended, go in peace.

All **Thanks be to God.**