

To Wash Is to Love

Dear Parish Family,

Tonight, we begin the most sacred days of our faith - the Sacred Triduum - starting with Maundy Thursday, the night when love took the form of service.

In the Upper Room, Jesus does something extraordinary. He kneels. He washes. He gives. He stoops low - not because He is weak, but because love stoops low. He washes even the feet of those who will deny, betray, and abandon Him.



"If I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet." (Jn 13:14)

This is not a night for spectators - it is a night for reflection. A mirror is held before each of us.

Will we love like Christ?

Will we kneel, serve, forgive, and give?

Tonight, Jesus gives us the gift of the Eucharist, the call to priesthood, and the command to love one another as He has loved us. Let this night transform us from within.

Triduum & Easter Celebrations at St. Ann's

Good Friday – 18 April

- 🕒 2:00 PM – Way of the Cross (Outdoor)
- 🕒 3:00 PM – Celebration of the Lord's Passion

Holy Saturday – 19 April

- 🕒 7:00 PM – Easter Vigil (followed by refreshments)

Easter Sunday – 20 April

- 🕒 10:30 AM – Easter Sunday Mass
- 🐣 After Mass – Children's Easter Egg Hunt (organised by our Catechists)

Let us walk with Jesus these days - not from a distance, but closely, tenderly, and courageously. Let this Holy Triduum not pass as a memory, but as a moment of renewal to serve with love and to live with grace.

With Blessings and prayers, Fr. James Raj (jamesraj@rcaos.org.uk)

Understanding Maundy Thursday Signs of Love and Service

👉 **Washing of the Feet:** During the Mass of the Lord's Supper, we recall how Jesus washed the feet of His disciples — including Peter and Judas — a sign of humble love and servant leadership. **“If I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also must wash one another's feet.” (John 13:14)**

At St. Ann's, twelve parishioners of different age groups will have their feet washed as a symbol of Christ's command: to love one another by serving with humility and compassion.

🕯️ **Procession of the Three Holy Oils:** Before Offertory, we receive the Three Sacred Oils, blessed earlier this week by the Archbishop during the Chrism Mass at St. George's Cathedral:

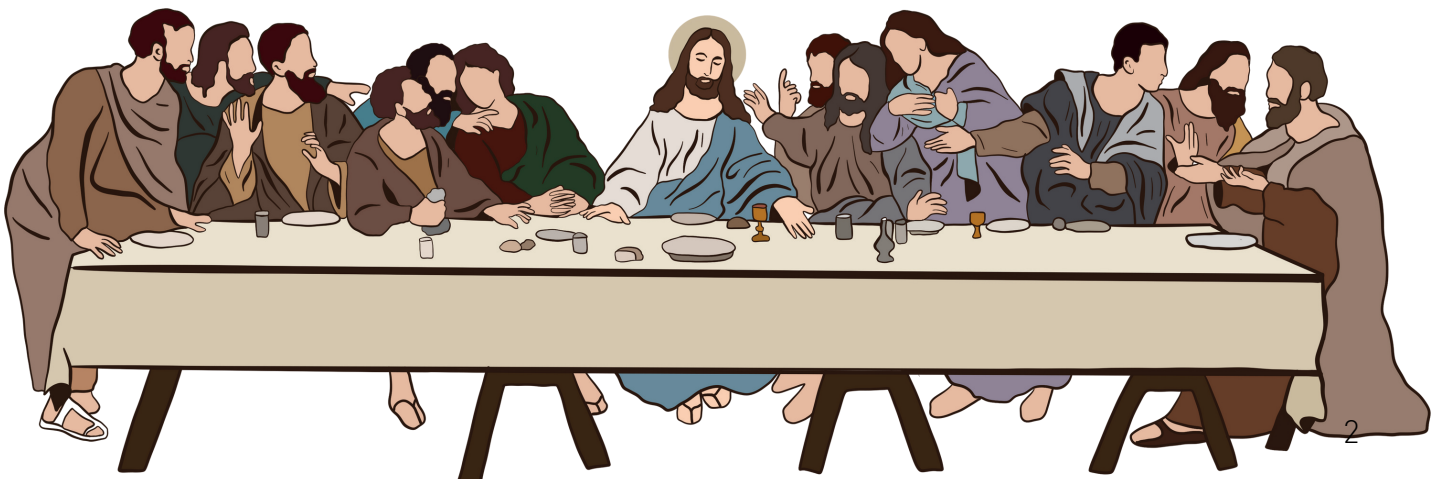
Oil of Catechumens – used in Baptism

Oil of the Sick – used in the Anointing of the Sick

Sacred Chrism – used in Baptism, Confirmation, and Ordination

These oils are signs of **healing, holiness, and mission**, and will be used in the sacramental life of our parish throughout the year.

🌿 **Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament:** At the end of Mass, the Blessed Sacrament is carried in silent procession to a place of Repose, where we remain with Jesus in prayer — just as the disciples watched with Him in the Garden of Gethsemane. You are advised to spend a few moments in silent adoration after Mass, keeping watch with the Lord in His hour of loneliness and love. **“Could you not watch with me one hour?” (Matthew 26:40)** Let me know if you'd like this in a formatted Word document or added directly into your Holy Week newsletter.



HYMNS FOR THE CELEBRATION

706 entrance	440c – save us saviour of the world
1011 glory glory glory to god	466 – lamb of god
813 (washing of the feet)	730 communion just music while incense
72 offertory	164 father we adore you
439 – holy holy	593 last 2 stanzas
440c – save us saviour of the world	663 soul of my saviour

The Liturgy of the Word

First reading

Exodus 12:1–8, 11–14

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, “This month is to be the first of all the others for you, the first month of your year. Speak to the whole community of Israel and say, ‘On the tenth day of this month each man must take an animal from the flock, one for each family: one animal for each household. If the household is too small to eat the animal, a man must join with his neighbour, the nearest to his house, as the number of persons requires. You must take into account what each can eat in deciding the number for the animal. It must be an animal without blemish, a male one year old; you may take it from either sheep or goats. You must keep it until the fourteenth day of the month when the whole assembly of the community of Israel shall slaughter it between the two evenings. Some of the blood must then be taken and applied to the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses where it is eaten. That night, the flesh is to be eaten, roasted over the fire; it must be eaten with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. This is how you are to eat it: with a girdle round your waist, sandals on your feet, and a staff in your hand. You shall eat it hastily: it is a Passover in honour of the Lord. That night I will go through the land of Egypt and strike down all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, man and beast alike, and I shall deal out punishment to all the gods of Egypt—I am the Lord. The blood shall serve to mark the houses that you live in. When I see the blood, I will pass over you, and you shall escape the destroying plague when I strike the land of Egypt. This day is to be a day of remembrance for you, and you must celebrate it as a feast in the Lord’s honour. For all generations, you are to declare it a day of festival, for ever.’”

The word of the Lord. All reply: **Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 116(115):12–13, 15–16bc, 17–18

℟.: **The cup of blessing is a communion in the blood of Christ.**

How can I repay the LORD for all his goodness to me? The cup of salvation I will raise; I will call on the name of the LORD. **℟.**

How precious in the eyes of the LORD is the death of his faithful. Your servant am I, the son of your handmaid; you have loosened my bonds. **℟.**

I will offer a thanksgiving sacrifice; I will call on the name of the LORD. My vows to the LORD I will fulfil before all his people. **℟.**

Second Reading**1 Corinthians 11:23–26**

This is what I received from the Lord, and in turn passed on to you: that on the same night that he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took some bread, and thanked God for it and broke it, and he said, “This is my body, which is for you; do this as a memorial of me.” In the same way he took the cup after supper, and said, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Whenever you drink it, do this as a memorial of me.” Until the Lord comes, therefore, every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you are proclaiming his death. **The word of the Lord. R. Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation**John 13:34**

Praise to you, O Christ, our Saviour, Word of the Father, calling us to life;
Son of God who leads us to freedom: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

**“A new commandment I give to you,” says the Lord,
“that you love one another, just as I have loved you.”**

Praise to you, O Christ, our Saviour, Word of the Father, calling us to life;
Son of God who leads us to freedom: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel**John 13:1–15****Proclaimed by Fr James Raj****The Gospel of the Lord. R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

The Creed: I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.



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Thank you for being part of our St. Ann's family.
Let's pray for one another and for the growth of our parish family.