

THE PARISH
CHURCH
OF
ST STEPHEN
GUERNSEY



THE
EASTER
VIGIL

The church is in darkness.

The priests, vested in white, gather at the entrance of the church with the altar party. The congregation is assembled and remains standing.

The Service of Light

The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, on this most holy night, when our Lord Jesus Christ passed from death to life, the Church invites her children throughout the world to come together in vigil and prayer. This is the Passover of the Lord. We remember his death and resurrection by hearing his word and celebrating his mysteries, confident that we shall share his victory over death and live with him for ever in God.

The new fire is kindled.

Let us pray.

Eternal God, who made this most holy night to shine with the brightness of your one true light: set us aflame with the fire of your love, and bring us to the radiance of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The Paschal Candles are prepared for lighting. The priests first mark them with the sign of the cross, the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet and the numerals of the year, saying:

Christ yesterday and today, the beginning and the end, Alpha and Omega, all times belong to him and all the ages; to him be glory and power through every age and for ever.

All **Amen.**

The Paschal Candles are censed and blessed with holy water. Five incense grains, representing the five wounds of Christ, are inserted in the form of a cross. The priests say:

By his holy and glorious wounds may Christ our Lord guard and keep us.

All **Amen.**

The priests light the Paschal Candles, saying

May the light of Christ, rising in glory, banish all darkness from our hearts and minds.

The priests take the Paschal Candles, raise them and begin the procession, as the celebrant sings

The Light of Christ.

The people reply

All Thanks be to God.

This is sung three times during the procession. The candles of those around are lit from the Paschal Candles.

The Paschal Candles are placed in their stands and are censed by the priests.

The Exsultet

The Exsultet (the Easter Song of Praise) is sung in full.

Rejoice heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels!
O Universe, dance around God's throne!
Jesus Christ, our King, is risen!
Sound the victorious trumpet of salvation!

Rejoice, O earth, in glory, revealing the splendour of your creation,
radiant in the brightness of your triumphant King!
Christ has conquered! Now his life and glory fill you!
Darkness vanishes for ever!

Rejoice O Mother Church! Exult in glory!
The risen Saviour, our Lord of life, shines upon you!
Let all God's people sing and shout for joy.

The celebrant continues

The Lord be with you.

All And with thy spirit.

Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is meet and right so to do.

It is right and good that with hearts and minds and voices we should praise you, Father almighty, the unseen God, through your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who have saved us by his death, paid the price of Adam's sin, and reconciled us once again to you.

For this is the Passover feast, when Christ, the true Lamb of God, is slain, whose blood consecrates the homes of all the faithful.

This is the night when you first saved our ancestors, freeing Israel from her slavery and leading her safely through the sea.

This is the night when Jesus Christ vanquished hell, broke the chains of death and rose triumphant from the grave.

This is the night when all who believe in him are freed from sin, restored to grace and holiness, and share the victory of Christ.

This is the night that gave us back what we had lost; beyond our deepest dreams you made even our sin a happy fault.

Most blessed of all nights! Evil and hatred are put to flight and sin is washed away, lost innocence regained, and mourning turned to joy.

Night truly blessed, when hatred is cast out, peace and justice find a home, and heaven is joined to earth and all creation reconciled to you.

Therefore, heavenly Father, in this our Easter joy accept our sacrifice of praise, your Church's solemn offering. Grant that these Easter Candles may make our darkness light.

For Christ the morning star has risen in glory; Christ is risen from the dead and his flame of love still burns within us! Christ sheds his peaceful light on all the world! Christ lives and reigns for ever and ever!

All Amen.

*The Candles are extinguished, and all sit. The visiting priests sit at their places in the Choir. The celebrant remains at the Sedilia in the Chancel.
The Liturgy is introduced.*

The Vigil

Dear friends in Christ, we have begun our solemn vigil; as we await the risen Christ, let us hear the record of God's saving deeds in history, recalling how he saved his people in ages past and in the fulness of time

sent his Son to be our Redeemer; and let us pray that through this Easter celebration God may bring to perfection in each of us the saving work he has begun.

Four Old Testament passages are read. Each reading is followed either by a responsorial psalm or a canticle (sung by the Choir); then a time of silence; and then a prayer.

First Reading: Genesis 1.1 - 2.4a

¹In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

⁶And God said, 'Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.' ⁷So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. ⁸God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

⁹And God said, 'Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.' And it was so. ¹⁰God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. ¹¹Then God said, 'Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.' And it was so. ¹²The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. ¹³And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

¹⁴And God said, 'Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, ¹⁵and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.' And it was so. ¹⁶God made the two great lights - the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night - and the stars. ¹⁷God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, ¹⁸to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

²⁰And God said, 'Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.' ²¹So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. ²²God blessed them, saying, 'Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.' ²³And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

²⁴And God said, 'Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.' And it was so. ²⁵God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

²⁶Then God said, 'Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.'

²⁷So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

²⁸God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.'²⁹God said, 'See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food.³⁰And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.' And it was so. ³¹God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

²¹Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. ²And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. ³So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

^{4a}These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 104. 1-7

104 ¹O Lord my God, you are very great.
You are clothed with honour and majesty,
²wrapped in light as with a garment.
You stretch out the heavens like a tent,
³you set the beams of your chambers on the waters,
you make the clouds your chariot,
you ride on the wings of the wind,
⁴you make the winds your messengers,
fire and flame your ministers.
⁵You set the earth on its foundations,
so that it shall never be shaken.

⁶You cover it with the deep as with a garment;
the waters stood above the mountains.
⁷At your rebuke they flee;
at the sound of your thunder they take to flight.

All Send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.

Prayer

Almighty God, you have created the heavens and the earth and made us in your own image: teach us to discern your hand in all your works and your likeness in all your children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

All Amen.

Second Reading: Exodus 14. 10-31, 15. 1a

¹⁴¹⁰As Pharaoh drew near, the Israelites looked back, and there were the Egyptians advancing on them. In great fear the Israelites cried out to the Lord. ¹¹They said to Moses, 'Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us, bringing us out of Egypt? ¹²Is this not the very thing we told you in Egypt, "Let us alone and let us serve the Egyptians"? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness.' ¹³But Moses said to the people, 'Do not be afraid, stand firm, and see the deliverance that the Lord will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians whom you see today you shall never see again. ¹⁴The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to keep still.'

¹⁵Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Why do you cry out to me? Tell the Israelites to go forward. ¹⁶But you lift up your staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the Israelites may go into the sea on dry ground. ¹⁷Then I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they will go in after them; and so I will gain glory for myself over Pharaoh and all his army, his chariots, and his chariot drivers. ¹⁸And the Egyptians shall know that I am the Lord, when I have gained glory for myself over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his chariot drivers.'

¹⁹The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. ²⁰It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

²¹Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. ²²The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. ²³The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. ²⁴At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked

down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. ²⁵He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, 'Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt.'

²⁶Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers.' ²⁷So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. ²⁸The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. ²⁹But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

³⁰Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. ³¹Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

15 ^{1a}Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the Lord:

Canticle: *Cantemus Domino* (Exodus 15. 1-3)

We will sing unto the Lord; for he hath triumphed gloriously: the horse and the rider hath he thrown into the sea.

The Lord is my strength and my song: and he is become my salvation.

He is my God, and I will prepare him an habitation: my father's God, and I will exalt him.

The Lord is a man of war: the Lord is his Name.

Prayer

Lord God our redeemer, who heard the cry of your people and sent your servant Moses to lead them out of slavery: free us from the tyranny of sin and death and, by the leading of your Spirit, bring us to our promised land; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Third Reading: Isaiah 55. 1-11

55¹Ho, everyone who thirsts,
come to the waters;
and you that have no money,
come, buy and eat!

Come, buy wine and milk

without money and without price.

²Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,
and your labour for that which does not satisfy?

Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.

³Incline your ear, and come to me;
listen, so that you may live.

I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.

⁴See, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander for the peoples.

⁵See, you shall call nations that you do not know,
and nations that do not know you shall run to you,
because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel,
for he has glorified you.

⁶Seek the Lord while he may be found,
call upon him while he is near;

⁷let the wicked forsake their way,
and the unrighteous their thoughts;

let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

⁸For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord.

⁹For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

¹⁰For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven,
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,

¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

Canticle: *A Song of Deliverance* (Isaiah 12. 2-6)

Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid:
For the Lord Jehovah is my strength and my song:
He also is become my salvation.

Therefore with joy
shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation.

And in that day shall ye say,
'Praise the Lord, call upon his name,

declare his doings among the people,
make mention that his name is exalted.'

'Sing unto the Lord; for he hath done excellent things:
This is known in all the earth.'

'Cry out and shout, thou inhabitant of Zion:
for great is the Holy One of Israel in the midst of thee.'

Prayer

Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world: grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross we may triumph in the power of his victory; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Fourth Reading: Zephaniah 3. 14-20

³¹⁴ Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;
shout, O Israel!
Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter Jerusalem!
¹⁵ The Lord has taken away the judgements against you,
he has turned away your enemies.
The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst;
you shall fear disaster no more.
¹⁶ On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:
Do not fear, O Zion;
do not let your hands grow weak.
¹⁷ The Lord, your God, is in your midst,
a warrior who gives victory;
he will rejoice over you with gladness,
he will renew you in his love;
he will exult over you with loud singing
¹⁸ as on a day of festival.
I will remove disaster from you,
so that you will not bear reproach for it.
¹⁹ I will deal with all your oppressors
at that time.
And I will save the lame
and gather the outcast,
and I will change their shame into praise
and renown in all the earth.
²⁰ At that time I will bring you home,
at the time when I gather you;
for I will make you renowned and praised
among all the peoples of the earth,

when I restore your fortunes
before your eyes,' says the Lord.

Canticle: *Praise the Judge of the World (Psalm 98. 1-3)*

O sing unto the Lord a new song:
for he hath done marvellous things:
His right hand, and his holy arm, hath gotten him the victory.

The Lord hath made known his salvation:
His righteousness hath he openly shewed in the sight of the heathen.

He hath remembered his mercy and his truth toward the house of Israel:
all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Prayer

Almighty God, who called your Church to bear witness that you were in Christ reconciling the world to yourself; help us to proclaim the good news of your love, that all who hear it may be drawn to you; through him who was lifted up on the cross, and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

The Easter Acclamation

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

All **He is risen indeed. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

A joyful fanfare may be played.

Gloria in Excelsis

As the Gloria in Excelsis is sung, the altar candles are lit from the Paschal Candles.

**Glory be to God on high,
and in earth peace, good will towards men.**

**We praise thee, we bless thee,
we worship thee, we glorify thee,
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,
O Lord God, heavenly King,
God the Father almighty.**

**O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesu Christ:
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,**

**that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.**

**Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,
have mercy upon us.**

**For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord;
thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,
art the Most High, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Let us pray that we may reign with the risen Christ in glory.

The Collect

Lord of all life and power, who through the mighty resurrection of your Son overcame the old order of sin and death to make all things new in him: grant that we, being dead to sin and alive to you in Jesus Christ, may reign with him in glory; to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be praise and honour, glory and might, now and in all eternity.

All Amen.

New Testament Reading

Epistle: Romans 6. 3-11

³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptised into Christ Jesus were baptised into his death? ⁴Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 114

114 ¹When Israel went out from Egypt,
the house of Jacob from a people of strange language,

²Judah became God's sanctuary,
Israel his dominion.
³The sea looked and fled;
Jordan turned back.
⁴The mountains skipped like rams,
the hills like lambs.
⁵Why is it, O sea, that you flee?
O Jordan, that you turn back?
⁶O mountains, that you skip like rams?
O hills, like lambs?
⁷Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord,
at the presence of the God of Jacob,
⁸who turns the rock into a pool of water,
the flint into a spring of water.

All Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord.

The Alleluias are sung, followed by The Gradual:

Alleluia.

All Alleluia.

Alleluia.

All Alleluia.

Alleluia.

All Alleluia.

O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is gracious: and his mercy endureth for ever.

Laudate Dominum

O praise the Lord all ye heathen: praise him, all ye nations. For his merciful kindness is ever more and more towards us and the truth of the Lord endureth for ever.

Gospel Reading

Alleluia, alleluia.

I am the first and the last, says the Lord, and the living one.

I was dead, and behold I am alive for evermore.

All Alleluia.

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

All Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 28. 1-10

28¹After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ²And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. ⁴For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. ⁵But the angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. ⁶He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷Then go quickly and tell his disciples, "He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him." This is my message for you.' ⁸So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹Suddenly Jesus met them and said, 'Greetings!' And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him. ¹⁰Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

All sit.

Homily

The altar party processes to the baptismal font, carrying the Paschal Candles, as the following Litany is said:

Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Christ, hear us.

All **Christ, graciously hear us.**

Holy Mary, Mother of God

St. Joseph

St. Michael and all Holy Angels

St. John Baptist

All Holy Patriarchs and Prophets

St. Peter and St. Paul

All Holy Disciples of the Lord

Pray for us

Pray for us

Pray for us

Pray for us

Pray for us

Pray for us

Pray for us

St. Philip and St. John

Pray for us

In water your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us from the death of sin to newness of life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of baptism.
In it we are buried with Christ in his death.
By it we share in his resurrection.
Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit.
Therefore, in joyful obedience to your Son,
we baptise into his fellowship those who come to him in faith.

Father, look now with love upon your Church,
and unseal for her the fountain of baptism.
By the power of the Spirit, sanctify the water of this font
with the grace of your Son.
You created male and female in your likeness:
cleansing them from sin in a new birth of innocence by water and Spirit.

The Paschal Candles are lowered into the water three times.

Dear friends, through this Pascal Mystery,
we have been buried with Christ in Baptism,
so that we may rise with him to a new life.
Now that we have completed our Lenten observance,
Let us renew the promises we made in Baptism,
when we rejected Satan and all his works,
and promised to serve God faithfully in His Holy Church.

Therefore I ask:

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?

All We reject them.

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

All We renounce them.

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?

All We repent of them.

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

All We turn to Christ.

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

All We submit to Christ.

Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?

All We come to Christ.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

All **We believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

All **We believe 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

All **We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

The altar party, carrying the Paschal Candles, returns to the Sanctuary as the people are blessed with Holy Water.

Prayers of Intercession

All kneel or sit.

These responses may be used:

All Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

(or)

All Lord, hear us
Lord, graciously hear us.

At the end of the prayers

All Merciful Father,
**accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Eucharist

The Peace

All stand for The Peace.

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then they were glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia.

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

Let us acknowledge one another with a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

The Offertory chant and hymn (124) are sung whilst the collection is taken and the bread and wine are brought to the altar. Remain standing.

Preparation of the Table

The following prayers are said.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have this bread to offer,
which earth has given and human hands have made.
It will become for us the bread of life.

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have this wine to offer,
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.
It will become for us the cup of salvation.

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

All The Lord be with you
and with thy spirit.

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

Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.
All **It is meet and right so to do.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
almighty and eternal Father,

and on this night of our redemption
to celebrate with joyful hearts
the memory of your wonderful works.
For by the mystery of his passion
Jesus Christ, your risen Son,
has conquered the powers of death and hell
and restored in men and women the image of your glory.
He has placed them once more in paradise
and opened to them the gate of life eternal.
And so, in the joy of this Passover,
earth and heaven resound with gladness,
while angels and archangels and the powers of all creation
sing for ever the hymn of your glory:

The Choir sings

**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.**

(or)

**Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.
Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis.**

**Benedictus qui venit
in nomine Domini.
Hosanna in excelsis.**

The bell rings and all kneel or sit.

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 unto 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.

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.

Jesus Christ is Lord.

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

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,
including the Blessed Virgin Mary, St Joseph,
the holy apostles, St Stephen and all the saints;
we worship you, Father almighty,
in songs of everlasting praise:

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

All sing with the Choir

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Rejoicing in God's new creation,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught 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

The celebrant breaks the consecrated bread.

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

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

The Agnus Dei is sung as the bread is broken.

**O Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy upon us.**

**O Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy upon us.**

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

(or)

**Agnus Dei,
qui tollis peccata mundi,
misere nobis.**

**Agnus Dei,
qui tollis peccata mundi,
misere nobis.**

**Agnus Dei,
qui tollis peccata mundi,
dona nobis pacem.**

Giving of Communion

The celebrant says the invitation to communion.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
All Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

This prayer is said before the distribution

**All We do not presume
to come to this your table, merciful Lord,
trusting in our own righteousness,
but in your manifold and great mercies.
We are not worthy
so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table.
But you are the same Lord
whose nature is always to have mercy.
Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ
and to drink his blood,
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,
and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us.
Amen.**

The celebrant and people receive communion.

Please come to the altar quietly, respecting others' prayers.

Words of distribution are used and the communicant replies:

Amen.

Prayer after Communion

Silence is kept. All kneel or sit.

A Post Communion Prayer is sung.

Let us pray.

God of Life, who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection has delivered us from the power of our enemy: grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his risen life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

All say this prayer:

All **Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out
in the power of your Spirit
to live and work
to your praise and glory.
Amen.**

The Dismissal

The Dean of Guernsey pronounces the blessing.

God the Father
by whose love Christ was raised from the dead,
open to you who believe the gates of everlasting life.

All **Amen.**

God the Son,
who in bursting from the grave has won a glorious victory,
give you joy as you share the Easter faith.

All **Amen.**

God the Holy Spirit,
who filled the disciples with the life of the risen Lord,
empower you and fill you with Christ's peace.

All **Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit
be with you this night and for evermore.

All **Amen.**

All stand for the recessional hymn (114).

The following is then said:

All The Lord be with you
and also with you.

All With the risen life of Christ within you,
go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Year A

Common Worship: Times and Seasons
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The Revised Order for Holy Week
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