

The Easter Liturgy

Service of Light

The building being in darkness, the minister goes in silence to the main entrance, carrying the unlit Easter candle. All stand and face the minister. The fire is lit.



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.
Amen.



The president lights the Easter candle from the fire, saying

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

The minister bearing the candle enters the building, and pause just inside the entrance, and raises candle and sings

The light of Christ.

All **Thanks be to God.**

The procession moves further into the building and then stops. The versicle and response are repeated, and the candles of those around are lit from the Easter candle.

The procession continues to the centre of the building and stops once more. The versicle and response are again repeated, and the candles of those around are lit.

The Easter candle is placed on a stand in the midst of the building, and all other candles in the church are now lit.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

All **He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

The Exsultet

We sing

**Sing choirs of heaven! Let saints and angels sing!
Around God's throne exult in harmony!
Now Jesus Christ is risen from the grave!
Salute your king in glorious symphony!**

**Sing choirs of earth! Behold, your light has come!
The glory of the Lord shines radiantly!
Lift up your hearts for Christ has conquered death!
The night is past; the day of life is here!**

**Sing church of God! Exult with joy outpoured!
The gospel trumpets tell of victory won!
Your Saviour lives: he's with you evermore!
Let all God's people shout the long Amen!**



We remain standing

The Lord be with you

All **and also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

All **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

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 has saved us by his death, paid the price of Adam's sin, and reconciled us once again to you.

All **Glory to you for ever.**

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

All **Glory to you for ever.**

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

All **Glory to you for ever.**

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

All **Glory to you for ever.**

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.

All **Glory to you for ever.**

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

All **Glory to you for ever.**

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.

All **Glory to you for ever.**

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.

All **Glory to you for ever.**

Therefore, heavenly Father, in this our Easter joy
accept our sacrifice of praise, your Church's solemn offering.
Grant that this Easter Candle 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!

Amen.



The Vigil

Lights are taken from the Easter Candle to illuminate the Bible from which the Vigil readings will be taken

The president introduces the 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 fullness 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.

Reading I

Christ is the image of the unseen God
All **through him all things were made**

Reading II

The Lord is my strength and my might
All **He has become my salvation.**

Reading III

Christ is the resurrection and the life
All **Those who believe in Christ will never die.**

THE EASTER ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
All **He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**



*A joyful fanfare may be played,
 bells rung, cymbals clashed,
 noise be made.*

Gloria in Excelsis

We sing the gloria during which all the candles in the church are lit, the lights switched on and the people's candles extinguished.

Glory, Glory, Glory to God!
Glory, Glory, Glory to God!

Refrain **Glory to God, Glory to God,**
Glory to God in the highest.

*Glory to God in the heights of the heavens,
Peace to God's people all people on earth.*
Glory, Glory, Glory to God! (x2)

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

*Son of the father, all glory and worship:
praise and thanksgiving to you, Lamb of God.*
Glory, Glory, Glory to God! (x2)

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. **R/.**

*You take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us, receive our prayer.*
Glory, Glory, Glory to God! (x2)

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. **R/.**

*Seated in pow'r at the right of the Father,
Jesus alone is the Lord, the most High.*
Glory, Glory, Glory to God! (x2)

*And with the Spirit of love everlasting,
reigning in glory for ever. Amen*
Glory, Glory, Glory to God! (x2)

Collect

The Easter Collect is said, we all respond **Amen**

The Liturgy of the Word

The Reading

At the end the reader says

 This is the word of the Lord.
All **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn

The Gospel Reading

We sing

All Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Jesus Christ is risen from the dead **Alleluia!**
 He has defeated the powers of death **Alleluia!**
 Jesus turns our sorrow into dancing **Alleluia!**
 He has the words of eternal life. **Alleluia!**

Alleluia! Christ is risen

All He is risen indeed, Alleluia!

The Gospel is introduced by the reader

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

All Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end the reader says

This is the Gospel of the Lord

All Praise to you, O Christ

All Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Sermon

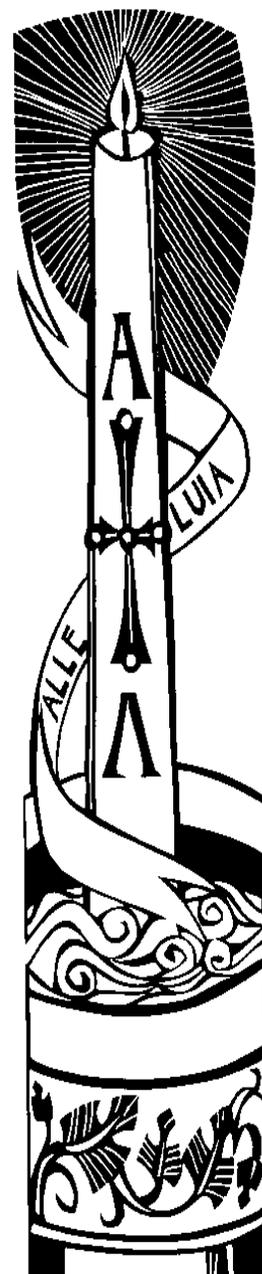


Renewal of Baptismal Vows

Stand *We gather around the font, water is poured into the font*

As we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead, we remember that through the paschal mystery we have died and been buried with him in baptism, so that we may rise with him to a new life within the family of his Church. Now that we have completed our observance of Lent, we renew the promises made at our baptism, affirming our allegiance to Christ, and our rejection of all that is evil.

Therefore I ask these questions:



Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?

All **I reject them.**

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

All **I renounce them.**

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

All **I repent of them.**

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

All **I turn to Christ.**

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

All **I submit to Christ.**

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

All **I come to Christ.**

Prayer Over The Water

The president says

Praise God who made heaven and earth,

All **who keeps his promise for ever.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ was baptized in the river Jordan. we thank you for the gift of water to cleanse us and revive us. Saving God,

All **give us life.**

We thank you that through the waters of the Red Sea you led your people out of slavery to freedom in the promised land. Saving God,

All **give us life.**

We thank you that through the deep waters of death you brought your Son, and raised him to life in triumph. Saving God,

All **give us life.**

Bless this water, that your servants who are washed in it may be made one with Christ in his death and in his resurrection, to be cleansed and delivered from all sin. Saving God,

All **give us life.**

Send your Holy Spirit upon them, bring them to new birth in the household of faith, and raise them with Christ to full and eternal life; for all might, majesty, authority, and power are yours, now and for ever. **Amen.** Saving God,

All **give us life.**



Brothers and sisters, I ask you to make the profession of Christian faith into which you were baptized, and in which you live and grow.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, who made the world?

All **I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ, who redeemed mankind?

All **I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in his Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God?

All **I believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.

All **This is our faith. We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

We are sprinkled with baptismal water

Almighty God, we thank you for our fellowship in the household of faith with all those who have been baptized in your name. Keep us faithful to our baptism, and so make us ready for that day when the whole creation shall be made perfect in your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith, that you may be rooted and grounded in love and bring forth the fruit of the Spirit. **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Eucharist

The Peace

Alleluia! The peace of the risen Christ
be always with you

All **and also with you. Alleluia!**

*All may exchange a sign of peace, greeting one another
with these words* **Christ is risen.**

The Offertory Hymn

Preparation of the Gifts

The president praises God for his gifts in appropriate words



The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you.

All **and also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

All **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give thanks and praise.**



The president praises God for his mighty acts and all respond

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.**

The prayer continues these acclamations are used

Lord we worship you

All **To you be glory and praise for ever.**

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

All **Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life:
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

The prayer continues these acclamations are used

Lord we worship you

All **To you be glory and praise for ever.**

The Prayer continues and leads into the Doxology, to which all respond

in songs of everlasting praise:

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

Communion

Silence may be kept.

The Lord's Prayer

The President breaks the consecrated bread, saying

Jesus says, I am the bread of life, whoever eats this bread will live for ever.

All Lord, our hearts hunger for you; give us this bread always.

**All 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.**



The president invites the people to communion, saying

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

All Alleluia! Let us keep the feast.

We receive communion

Prayer after Communion

Silence is kept.

**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

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

All He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

The blessing is given we all respond **Amen.**

We sing a hymn

With the risen life of Christ within us
Let us go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia. Alleluia.

All Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

