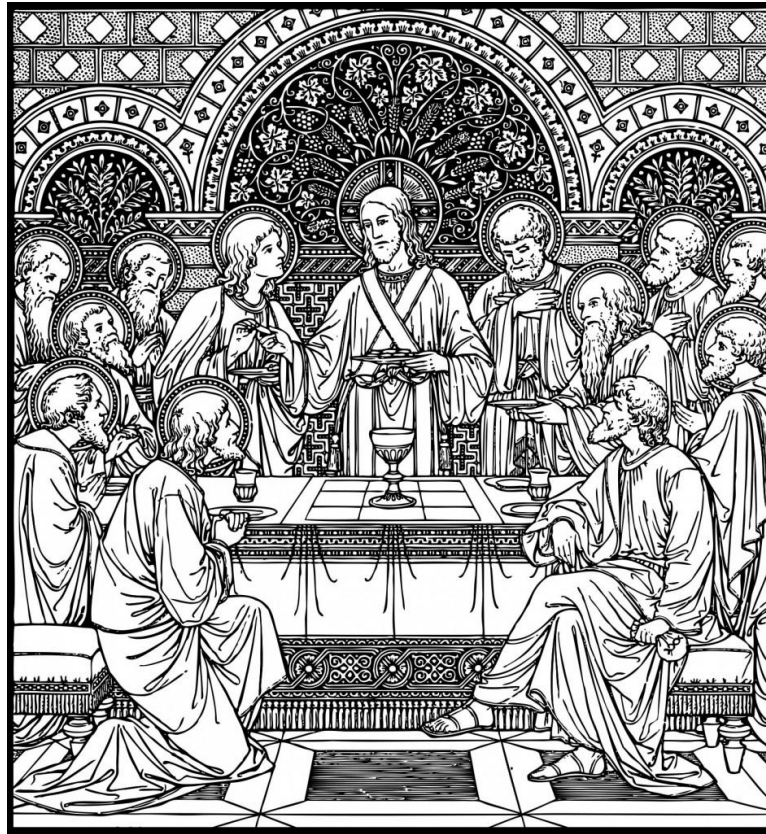


ST PAUL'S
BRIGHTON



THE MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER



HOLY (MAUNDY) THURSDAY

2 APRIL 2026

7.00PM

Welcome to **St Paul's Church**, a parish in the Diocese of Chichester and affiliated to The Society under the patronage of St Wilfrid and St Hilda.

We offer a particular welcome to our brothers and sisters from St Bartholomew's who are joining us for this shared celebration.

The Mass this evening marks the start of the Sacred Triduum, a single liturgy that begins today on Maundy Thursday, continues on Good Friday, and concludes with the Easter Vigil. Tonight, we commemorate the Last Supper that Our Lord shared with his Apostles on the night he was betrayed.

As we gather at the Altar in a mood of celebration, we remember the meal in which Jesus instituted the Sacrament of his Body and Blood (the Eucharist) and the priesthood that is ordained to preside at this holy celebration. At the end of the Mass the mood changes to solemnity, as the Blessed Sacrament is processed to the Altar of Repose and the Watch begins. The church is unceremoniously stripped and we keep a silent vigil with the sacramental presence of our Lord in the Eucharist, as we remember his agony in the Garden of Gethsemane.

Today's Mass setting is *Mass for 4 Voices* by Byrd.

The Mass is offered daily across our parish and our sister parish of St Bartholomew's, Ann Street. Confessions can be heard after any Mass. For enquiries about baptism, marriage or funerals, please contact the Parish Office in the first instance.

We rely on the generosity of those who come here to sustain our life. Please do give so that this may continue to be a place where the love of God is known and shared. All donations are gratefully received.

- You can make a donation using the collection plate during the Mass. If you pay Income Tax, please do fill out a yellow Gift Aid envelope for your donation, which enables us to increase the value of your donation by 25% without costing you anything.
- You can leave a donation in the box in the narthex.
- You can use the contactless machine in the narthex.
- You can scan the QR code to make your donation:
- You can make a bank transfer using these details.
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www.saintpaulschurch.org.uk

¶ *Before the Mass, we keep a prayerful atmosphere in church. We stand when the bell is rung.*

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

HYMN: NEH 439

Praise to the Holiest in the height,
And in the depth be praise,
In all his words most wonderful,
Most sure in all his ways.

O loving wisdom of our God!
When all was sin and shame,
A second Adam to the fight
And to the rescue came.

O wisest love! that flesh and blood
Which did in Adam fail,
Should strive afresh against their foe,
Should strive and should prevail;

And that a higher gift than grace
Should flesh and blood refine,
God's presence and his very Self,
And Essence all-divine.

O generous love! that he who smote
In Man for man the foe,
The double agony in Man
For man should undergo;

And in the garden secretly,
And on the Cross on high,
Should teach his brethren, and inspire
To suffer and to die.

Praise to the Holiest in the height,
And in the depth be praise,
In all his words most wonderful,
Most sure in all his ways.

The Entrance Antiphon is sung by the choir.

THE GREETING

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

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

PENITENTIAL ACT

The Priest invites us to the Penitential Act.

A brief silence is observed, before we say:

**I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,**

(striking their breast)

**through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault;
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints,
and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.**

The absolution follows:

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life.

Amen.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

THE GLORIA

¶ *We sit after the opening phrase has been sung and the bells have been rung. Bells will not be heard in church until their return at the Gloria in the Easter Vigil on Saturday night.*

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.*

*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.*

*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. Amen.*

¶ *We stand to pray.*

THE COLLECT

We respond to the prayer:

Amen.

¶ *We sit to listen to the Scriptures.*

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING: Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14

At the end of the readings:

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: 116

We make the response to the Psalm:

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

SECOND READING: I Corinthians 11:23-26

¶ *We stand to hear Christ speak to us in the Gospel.*

THE GOSPEL: John 13:1-15

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

✠ A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

After the Gospel:

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

¶ *We sit to listen to the Priest expound the Scriptures.*

THE HOMILY

THE WASHING OF FEET

As the music begins, those taking part in this ceremony, who are sitting at the end of the front six rows on both sides, remove the footwear and hosiery from their right foot. Other members of the congregation remain seated as the ritual of the Washing of Feet takes place and the antiphons and chants are sung.

¶ *We stand to pray.*

THE PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

One of the following responses is used as we pray with the whole People of God:

Lord, in your mercy. *or:* Lord, hear us.

hear our prayer. Lord, graciously hear us.

We are invited to ask for the prayers of the Saints, most chiefly for those of the Blessed Virgin Mary:

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death.

We respond to the concluding prayer:

Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

A collection is taken during the hymn as the Altar is prepared. Other ways of making your offering, including by using our contactless machine, are listed at the front of this booklet.

HYMN: NEH 273

**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 grace 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 nevermore to part from thee.**

The Priest invites us to join with him in offering anew the sacrifice of Christ to the Father:

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

**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 holy Church.**

We respond to the Prayer over the Offerings:

Amen.

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 Priest praises God for his mighty acts and then the Sanctus & Benedictus are sung:

*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.

¶ *We kneel as the Priest begins the Eucharistic Prayer, the great prayer of the Church's thanksgiving.*

After the words of consecration, we make the acclamation:

The mystery of faith:

**We proclaim your Death, O Lord,
and profess your Resurrection until you come again.**

We respond to the conclusion of the Eucharistic Prayer:

Amen.

¶ *We stand to pray as taught by Christ, who is now truly present on the Altar.*

THE COMMUNION RITE

**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.**

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil,
graciously grant peace in our days,
that, by the help of your mercy,
we may be always free from sin
and safe from all distress,
as we await the blessed hope
and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.
**For the kingdom,
the power and the glory are yours
now and for ever.**

Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles:
Peace I leave you, my peace I give you,
look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church,
and graciously grant her peace and unity
in accordance with your will.
Who live and reign for ever and ever.
Amen.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

During the Fraction the Agnus Dei is sung:

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.

¶ *We kneel as the Priest shows us Christ in the Blessed Sacrament.*

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world.

Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

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

Anyone who is baptised and receives Holy Communion in their home church may receive Communion here. Please come forward to the Altar rail to receive the Sacrament in one or both kinds. A full Communion is made as soon as we have received the Lord present in the Sacred Host. If receiving from the Chalice, please note that it is not permitted to intinct the Host into the Precious Blood. If you seek a blessing from the Priest, do bring this booklet with you as a sign to him of your intention.

During Communion the Communion Antiphon is sung, followed by the hymn (NEH 302):

**O THOU, who at thy Eucharist didst pray
That all thy Church might be for ever one,
Grant us at every Eucharist to say
With longing heart and soul, 'Thy will be done'
O may we all one Bread, one Body be,
One through this Sacrament of unity.**

**For all thy Church, O Lord, we intercede;
Make thou our sad divisions soon to cease;
Draw us the nearer each to each, we plead,
By drawing all to thee, O Prince of Peace:
Thus may we all one Bread, one Body be,
One through this Sacrament of unity.**

**We pray thee too for wanderers from thy fold;
O bring them back, Good Shepherd of the sheep,
Back to the faith which saints believed of old,
Back to the Church which still that faith doth keep:
Soon may we all one Bread, one Body be,
One through this Sacrament of unity.**

**So, Lord, at length when sacraments shall cease,
May we be one with all thy Church above,
One with thy saints in one unbroken peace,
One with thy saints in one unbounded love:
More blessed still, in peace and love to be
One with the Trinity in Unity.**

¶ *We stand to pray.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We respond to the prayer:

Amen.

THE TRANSFER OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT

The Blessed Sacrament is taken in procession to the Altar of Repose. We follow behind the clergy and servers as we sing the following hymn (NEH 268). We kneel when we arrive at the Altar of Repose.

**OF the glorious body telling,
O my tongue, its mysteries sing,
And the Blood, all price excelling,
Which the world's eternal King,
In a spotless womb once dwelling,
Shed for this world's ransoming.**

**Given for us, for us descending,
Of a Virgin to proceed,
Man with man in converse blending,
Scattered he the Gospel seed,
Till his sojourn drew to ending,
Which he closed in wondrous deed.**

**At the last great Supper lying
Circled by his chosen band,
Duly with the law complying,
First he finished its command,
Then, immortal food supplying,
Gave himself with his own hand.**

**Word made flesh, by word he maketh
Bread his very flesh to be;
Man in wine Christ's blood partaketh:
And if senses fail to see,
Faith alone the true heart waketh
To behold the mystery.**

If necessary, the organ continues to play until the clergy and servers reach the Altar of Repose.

Once the Priest has placed the ciborium containing the Blessed Sacrament on the Altar and knelt, the Tantum Ergo is sung.

**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 the 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.**

After a period of adoration, the clergy and servers leave in silence and strip the altars while Psalm 22 is sung by the choir.

*The Watch of the Passion and the most solemn time in the Christian year have begun. **Absolute silence is maintained in the church** as we pray at the Altar of Repose.*

Present to us and with us in the Blessed Sacrament, we unite ourselves with the Lord Jesus in his prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane: "My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done" (Matthew 26:42). Further suggestions for prayer and reflection are given overleaf.

At 9.30pm tonight, the Watch will end here as the doors to the church are closed and the candles at the Altar of Repose extinguished.

A Conversation Watch

Begin by making a vivid picture in your mind of Jesus, praying to the Father in the Garden. The best prayer will be the conversation you hold with him in your own words, exactly as if he were visible to you.

Tell him about yourself, your hopes and fears, your worries, what has happened to you.

Also talk to him of the needs of others: the sick, the dying, the dead, the tempted, sinners, your family, your friends at home and work, those you love, those you dislike.

Think over the broken relationships of your life, the bitternesses, the sins unrepented, the hurts and unforgiven words and actions.

Before leaving, listen to what Jesus may have to say to you. 'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.' Try to spend at least some of the time in complete silence and stillness.

Further Prayers

Welcome, welcome, dear Jesus, I open my heart and soul to you. How glad I am that you have come to me, even though I am not worthy, because you are Christ, the Son of God. I believe this, because you have said it, and your word is true.

Sweet Jesus, I love you. You give yourself to me because you love me. I want to love you now and always. I want to go on loving you more and more. Dear Jesus, do not let me become selfish, always thinking of myself because that would stop me loving you.

O Jesus, I thank you with all my heart, For this wonderful gift of yourself. May you be blessed and praised for ever. I call on the angels and saints, and on everything you made to join me in thanking you. Let me thank you in everything I do today and tomorrow.

Bless me Jesus, and keep me in your love. Bless my family... my relatives... my friends. Bless those who are suffering for you. Bless the sick and give them patience. In your pity, bring sinners back to you. Have mercy on the souls of the departed...

What return can I make for your loving gift? Let me give you what you most want—myself. I give you all that I am and all that I can do. I promise to try to love and serve you. Help me to be humble and loving. O Jesus, I keep nothing back. Take me to yourself, to be yours for ever.

Soul of Christ, sanctify me. Body of Christ, save me. Blood of Christ, refresh me. Water from the side of Christ, wash me. Passion of Christ, strengthen me. O good Jesus, hear me. Within thy wounds hide me. Suffer me not to be separated from thee. From the malicious enemy defend me. In the hour of my death call me and bid me come to thee, that with the saints I may praise thee for ever and ever. Amen.