



St Mary's Parish Church, Ross-on-Wye

# Sung Eucharist

for Palm Sunday



Today we begin to hear the story of Holy Week, with the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. At times in this service, though, we keep in mind the events that are to follow as the week unfolds.

The weekly newsletter and our website gives more detail on the specifics of this service and the services that will take place during Holy Week and next Sunday, Easter Day.

- The musical setting for our Eucharist changes from week to week and you'll find the details on the weekly newsletter. A copy of the music is available from one of the welcomers by the door. Please ask if that would be helpful.
- At various points in the service people are invited to stand. However, if you prefer to remain seated, please don't feel embarrassed to do so.
- This service is being live streamed to YouTube and recorded. Unless you are told otherwise, only the area at the front from where the service is led is usually in shot. However if you wish to be assured that you will remain off camera please sit further back in the nave.
- Gluten-free wafers are available, please let one of the welcomers know at the door if you would like to receive one.

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rossparishes.uk | facebook.com/stmarysross | administrator@rossparishes.uk

# The Gathering

## Welcome & Notices

*Before the service, the president offers words of welcome and gives any notices. More about what's going on in and around St Mary's will be found on our website, [rossparishes.uk](http://rossparishes.uk) and Facebook page **St Mary's Church Ross-on-Wye**.*

*Our service then begins at the west end of the nave.*

## The Greeting

Hosanna to the Son of David, the King of Israel.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

Grace, mercy and peace  
from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ  
be with you  
**All and also with you.**

## The Introduction

*The president introduces the celebration.*

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, during Lent we have been preparing by works of love and self-sacrifice for the celebration of our Lord's death and resurrection. Today we come together to begin this solemn celebration in union with the Church throughout the world. Christ enters his own city to complete his work as our Saviour, to suffer, to die, and to rise again. Let us go with him in faith and love, so that, united with him in his sufferings, we may share his risen life.

## Blessing of the Palms

*We hold up our palm crosses while this prayer is said by the president.*

God our Saviour,  
whose Son Jesus Christ entered Jerusalem as Messiah to suffer and to die;  
let these palms be for us signs of his victory  
and grant that we who bear them in his name  
may ever hail him as our King,  
and follow him in the way that leads to eternal life;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**All Amen**

## Introit Hymn

*Details of the hymn will be found in the weekly newsletter. Please note that we omit starred verses in hymns unless otherwise announced. During the hymn the clergy and choir process to the front of the church.*

## Prayers of Penitence

The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit;  
a broken and contrite heart God will not despise.  
Our sins accuse us.  
We confess them to God.

cf Psalm 51.17

*We sit to confess our sins.*

Lord Jesus Christ,  
we confess we have failed you as did your first disciples.  
We ask for your mercy and your help.

When we take our ease  
rather than watch with you:

Lord, forgive us.

*All* **Christ have mercy.**

When we bestow a kiss of peace  
yet nurse enmity in our hearts:

Lord, forgive us.

*All* **Christ have mercy.**

When we strike at those who hurt us  
rather than stretch out our hands to bless:

Lord, forgive us.

*All* **Christ have mercy.**

When we deny that we know you  
for fear of the world and its scorn:

Lord, forgive us.

*All* **Christ have mercy.**

## *Absolution*

Almighty God,  
who forgives all who truly repent,  
have mercy upon you,  
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,  
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,  
and keep you in life eternal;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

## *The Collect*

Almighty and everlasting God,  
who in your tender love towards the human race  
sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ  
to take upon him our flesh

and to suffer death upon the cross:  
grant that we may follow the example of his patience and humility,  
and also be made partakers of his resurrection;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

*All* **Amen.**

## The Liturgy of the Word

### *Old Testament Reading*

*Please sit for the reading*

Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!  
Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding  
on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. He will cut off the chariot  
from Ephraim and the warhorse from Jerusalem; and the battle-bow shall be  
cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations; his dominion shall be from  
sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. As for you also,  
because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free  
from the waterless pit. Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I  
declare that I will restore to you double.

Zechariah 9.9-12

This is the word of the Lord

*All* **Thanks be to God**

### *The Gradual*

*We stand to sing the hymn, or sit while the choir sings the psalm (118.1-2,19-29), which introduces the Gospel. Details are on the newsletter. During this hymn the Gospel procession moves to the top of the nave symbolising the coming of God into our world.*

## The Gospel

*We remain standing to hear the Gospel – a reading about the events of that first Palm Sunday.*

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

**All** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end of the reading*

This is the Gospel of the Lord

**All** **Praise to you, O Christ**

*After the response the Gospel procession returns, as the organ plays, and we sit for:*

## The Sermon

## The Creed

*We stand to join in with the words of the historic Nicene Creed, a summary of our Christian faith.*

**All** **We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is,  
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,**

was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

## *Prayers of Intercession*

*We sit or kneel for the prayers. At the end of each section there is a response that reflects our parish vision:*

We offer our prayers to God, in the name of Jesus Christ and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

We pray that all people may recognise Jesus as the one who comes in the name of Lord. God, whose son Jesus Christ subverted the expectations of the crowd, we pray for the Church and for the world:

For those who are intrigued or baffled by Jesus;

For those who are challenged or angered by the Gospel;

For all who are seeking to follow the way of discipleship.

Lord we pray,

**All fill us with faith, hope and love.**

God, whose son Jesus Christ entered Jerusalem on the first Palm Sunday, we pray for our town and community:

For those who live or work here, in comfort or in need;

For those who come as visitors, that we may welcome them;

For those whose decisions and example shape our common life.

Lord we pray,

**All fill us with faith, hope and love.**

We pray that the disturbing story of Jesus may continue to find its way into hearts and minds, and so renew lives and transform the World.

God, whose son Jesus Christ humbled himself even to death on the cross, we pray for all in pain or distress:

For those who suffer because of the inhumanity of others;

For those who are sick, or frail, or depressed, we pray especially for ...

For those who have died and the bereaved, especially ...

Lord we pray,

**All fill us with faith, hope and love.**

We pray for strength and encouragement, for wholeness and for justice, for comfort and for hope.

God, whose son Jesus Christ is exalted and given the name above every name, we pray for the coming of your kingdom:

In the lives of your people;

In the worship and witness of your Church;

In and for the whole of your Creation.

Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!

**All Let it be so! Amen.**

# The Liturgy of the Sacrament

## The Peace

*The president introduces the Peace:*

Christ is our peace. He offered up his life for us with a love beyond imagining; with a love which dispels fear; with a love which holds and guides us through life's trials and joys.

The peace of the Lord be always with you:

**All and also with you.**

*We exchange a sign of peace. If you are joining us online, you might like to use the chat to do this.*

## The Offertory Hymn

*We stand to join in with the Offertory Hymn, details of which will be found on the newsletter.*

*During this hymn a collection is taken. We welcome your offering. If you prefer to give digitally please scan the QR code, visit [rossparishes.uk/giving](https://rossparishes.uk/giving) or use the contactless card reader by the north door. If you are a regular member of our community, we encourage you to consider the Parish Giving Scheme. Full details at [rossparishes.uk/giving](https://rossparishes.uk/giving)*



## The Eucharistic Prayer

*This long prayer, containing many elements, is the very heart of our Eucharist. In it we all pray that the Real Presence of Christ may be present in form of bread and wine, and that by partaking in this remembrance of Christ we may be spiritually united with God.*

*We stand for the Eucharist Prayer.*

The Lord is here.

**All His Spirit is with us.**

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

For as the time of his passion and resurrection draws near  
the whole world is called to acknowledge his hidden majesty.

The power of the life-giving cross  
reveals the judgement that has come upon the world  
and the triumph of Christ crucified.

He is the victim who dies no more,  
the Lamb once slain, who lives for ever,  
our advocate in heaven to plead our cause,  
exalting us there to join with angels and archangels,  
for ever praising you and singing:

**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.

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.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**All Christ has died,**

**Christ is risen:**

**Christ will come again.**

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 Lord's Prayer*

*We sit to say the words that Jesus taught us to pray.*

Believing the promises of God,  
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**All** Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation

but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.  
Amen.

## *Breaking of the Bread*

*The president breaks the consecrated bread.*

We break the bread of life,  
And that life is the light of the world.  
*All* God here among us,  
light in the midst of us,  
bring us to light and life.

## *Spiritual Communion*

*This prayer offers those who are taking part in our service online the opportunity to make a spiritual communion so that in communion we are united, as one Christian family with our Lord.*

*All* Come into my heart, Lord Jesus.  
May all that is you flow into me.  
May your body and blood be my food and drink.  
May your passion and death be my strength and life.  
Jesus, with you by my side enough has been given.  
May the shelter I seek be the shadow of your cross.  
Let me not run from the love which you offer  
but hold me safe from the forces of evil.  
On each of my dyings shed your light and your love.  
Keep calling to me until that day comes  
when with your saints, I may praise you for ever.  
Amen.

## Agnus Dei

*All* Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
grant us peace.

## Giving of Communion

*The president gives words of invitation to communion*

Jesus is 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

*Everyone is invited to take communion at St Mary's.*

*During the communion, music appropriate to the theme of the service is sung by the choir or played by the organist. Please see the newsletter for details.*

## Prayer after Communion

Lord Jesus Christ,  
you humbled yourself in taking the form of a servant,  
and in obedience died on the cross for our salvation:  
give us the mind to follow you  
and to proclaim you as Lord and King,  
to the glory of God the Father. **Amen**

## The Post Communion Hymn

*We stand to join in with the Hymn.*

## The Dismissal

May the Father, who so loved the world that he gave his only Son,  
bring you by faith to his eternal life.

*All* **Amen.**

May Christ, who accepted the cup of sacrifice  
in obedience to the Father's will,  
keep you steadfast as you walk with him the way of his cross.

*All* **Amen.**

May the Spirit, who strengthens us to suffer with Christ  
that we may share his glory,  
set your minds on life and peace.

*All* **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*All* **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

*Thank you for being with us today. May the faith, the hope and the love of Christ inspire and guide your life in the week ahead.*

*Please consider joining us later in the week as we continue through Holy Week. Details of services are on the newsletter and website.*

*Please join us for coffee which usually follows this service on the south side of the church.*