

The Precious Blood of Our Lord & All Souls Coventry



## THE EASTER VIGIL



*Christ yesterday and today; the Beginning and the End;  
the Alpha and the Omega.*

*All time belongs to him; and all the ages.*

*To him be glory and power  
through every age and for ever. Amen.*

*By his holy and glorious wounds,  
may Christ the Lord guard us and protect us.*

*May the light of Christ rising in glory*

*dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds.*

### THE SOLEMN BEGINNING OF THE VIGIL (Lucernarium)

*This year the Paschal Candle is lit simply at the beginning of tonight's service. STAND*

Dear brothers and sisters,  
on this most sacred night,  
in which our Lord Jesus Christ  
passed over from death to life,  
the Church calls upon her sons and daughters,  
scattered throughout the world,  
to come together to watch and pray.  
If we keep the memorial  
of the Lord's Paschal solemnity in this way,  
listening to his word and celebrating his mysteries,  
then we shall have the sure hope  
of sharing his triumph over death  
and living with him in God.



### The Easter Proclamation (The Exsultet)

*This ancient chant rejoices at the present reality of God's deliverance and the blessings of salvation through the Passover of Christ.*

Exult, let them exult, the hosts of heaven, exult, let Angel ministers of God exult, let the trumpet of salvation sound aloud our mighty King's triumph! Be glad, let earth be glad, as glory floods her, ablaze with light from her eternal King, let all corners of the earth be glad, knowing an end to gloom and darkness. Rejoice, let Mother Church also rejoice, arrayed with the lightning of his glory, let this holy building shake with joy, filled with the mighty voices of the peoples.

It is truly right and just, with ardent love of mind and heart and with devoted service of our voice, to acclaim our God invisible, the almighty Father, and Jesus Christ, our Lord, his Son, his Only Begotten.

Who for our sake paid Adam's debt to the eternal Father, and, pouring out his own dear Blood, wiped clean the record of our ancient sinfulness.

These, then, are the feasts of Passover, in which is slain the Lamb, the one true Lamb, whose Blood anoints the doorposts of believers.

This is the night, when once you led our forebears, Israel's children, from slavery in Egypt and made them pass dry-shod through the Red Sea.

This is the night that with a pillar of fire banished the darkness of sin.

This is the night that even now, throughout the world, sets Christian believers apart from worldly vices and from the gloom of sin, leading them to grace and joining them to his holy ones.

This is the night, when Christ broke the prison-bars of death and rose victorious from the underworld.

○ wonder of your humble care for us! ○ love, ○ charity beyond all telling, to ransom a slave you gave away your Son!

○ truly necessary sin of Adam, destroyed completely by the Death of Christ!

○ happy fault that earned so great, so glorious a Redeemer!

The sanctifying power of this night dispels wickedness, washes faults away, restores innocence to the fallen, and joy to mourners.

○ truly blessed night, when things of heaven are wed to those of earth, and divine to the human.

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On this, your night of grace, ○ holy Father, accept this candle, a solemn offering, the work of bees and of your servants' hands, an evening sacrifice of praise, this gift from your most holy Church.

Therefore, ○ Lord, we pray you that this candle, hallowed to the honour of your name, may persevere undimmed, to overcome the darkness of this night. Receive it as a pleasing fragrance, and let it mingle with the lights of heaven. May this flame be found still burning by the Morning Star: the one Morning Star who never sets, Christ your Son, who, coming back from death's domain, has shed his peaceful light on humanity, and lives and reigns for ever and ever.

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

*Now, in the presence of the burning Light which illumines the darkness of our hearts, we listen to scripture readings from the Old Testament which speak of salvation history.*

**First reading** Genesis 1: 1,26-31

SIT

*God saw all that he had made, and indeed it was very good.*

**Psalm** 103(104):1-2,5-6,10,12-14,24,35

**R. Send forth your spirit, ○ Lord, and renew the face of the earth.**

Bless the Lord, my soul!

Lord God, how great you are,  
clothed in majesty and glory,  
wrapped in light as in a robe! **R.**

You founded the earth on its base,  
to stand firm from age to age.

You wrapped it with the ocean like a cloak:  
the waters stood higher than the mountains. **R.**

You make springs gush forth in the valleys;  
they flow in between the hills.

On their banks dwell the birds of heaven;  
from the branches they sing their song. **R.**

From your dwelling you water the hills;  
earth drinks its fill of your gift.

You make the grass grow for the cattle  
and the plants to serve man's needs. **R.**

How many are your works, ○ Lord!  
In wisdom you have made them all.  
The earth is full of your riches.  
Bless the Lord, my soul! **R.**

**Prayer**

STAND

**Second reading** Genesis 22:1-2,9-13,15-18

SIT

*The sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith.*

**R. Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you.**

O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup;  
 it is you yourself who are my prize.  
 I keep the Lord ever in my sight:  
 since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm. **R.**

And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad;  
 even my body shall rest in safety.  
 For you will not leave my soul among the dead,  
 nor let your beloved know decay. **R.**

You will show me the path of life,  
 the fullness of joy in your presence,  
 at your right hand happiness for ever. **R.**

**Prayer**

STAND

**Third reading** Exodus 14:15-15:1

SIT

*The children of Israel went on dry ground right into the sea.*

“...Moses and the sons of Israel sang this song in honour of the Lord:”

*I will sing to the Lord, glorious his triumph!* (sung by the cantor)

I will sing to the Lord, glorious his triumph!  
 Horse and rider he has thrown into the sea!  
 The Lord is my strength, my song, my salvation.  
 This is my God and I extol him,  
 my father’s God and I give him praise.

The Lord is a warrior! ‘The Lord’ is his name.  
 The chariots of Pharaoh he hurled into the sea,  
 the flower of his army is drowned in the sea.  
 The deeps hide them; they sank like a stone.

Your right hand, Lord, glorious in its power,  
 your right hand, Lord, has shattered the enemy.  
 In the greatness of your glory you crushed the foe.

You will lead your people and plant them on your mountain,  
 the place, O Lord, where you have made your home,  
 the sanctuary, Lord, which your hands have made.  
 The Lord will reign for ever and ever.

*I will sing to the Lord, glorious his triumph!*

**Prayer**

STAND

**Gloria**

*Candles in the sanctuary are lit and bells are rung while we say the Church’s great hymn of praise.*

Glory to God in the highest,  
**and on earth peace to people of good will.**  
**We praise you,**  
**we bless you,**  
**we adore you,**  
**we glorify you,**  
**we give you thanks for your great glory,**  
**Lord God, heavenly King,**  
**O God, almighty Father.**  
**Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,**  
**Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,**  
**you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;**  
**you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;**  
**you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.**  
**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.**

**Collect**

O God, who make this most sacred night radiant  
 with the glory of the Lord’s Resurrection,  
 stir up in your Church a spirit of adoption,  
 so that, renewed in body and mind,  
 we may render you undivided service.  
 Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
 who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
 one God, for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

**Epistle** Romans 6:3-11

SIT

*Christ, having been raised from the dead, will never die again.*

**Priest:** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia Christ is risen,  
**All:** He is risen indeed, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**Psalm** 117(118):1-2,16-17,22-23 sung by the cantor

*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,  
for his love has no end.

Let the sons of Israel say:  
'His love has no end.'

The Lord's right hand has triumphed;  
his right hand raised me up.  
I shall not die, I shall live  
and recount his deeds.

The stone which the builders rejected  
has become the corner stone.  
This is the work of the Lord,  
a marvel in our eyes.

*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

**Gospel** Mark 16:1-8

*Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified, has risen.*

The Lord be with you.

**And with your spirit.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Homily**

### THE BAPTISMAL LITURGY

**The Blessing of Water**

Lord our God,  
in your mercy be present to your people  
who keep vigil on this most sacred night,  
and, for us who recall the wondrous work of our creation

STAND

STAND

and the still greater work of our redemption,  
graciously bless this water.  
For you created water to make the fields fruitful  
and to refresh and cleanse our bodies.  
You also made water the instrument of your mercy:  
for through water you freed your people from slavery  
and quenched their thirst in the desert;  
through water the Prophets proclaimed the new covenant  
you were to enter upon with the human race;  
and last of all, through water,  
which Christ made holy in the Jordan,  
you have renewed our corrupted nature in the bath of regeneration.  
Therefore, may this water be for us  
a memorial of the Baptism we have received,  
and grant that we may share in the gladness of our brothers and sisters,  
who at Easter have received their Baptism.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen

### The Renewal of Baptismal Promises

Dear brothers and sisters, through the Paschal Mystery  
we have been buried with Christ in Baptism,  
so that we may walk with him in newness of life.  
And so, now that our Lenten observance is concluded,  
let us renew the promises of Holy Baptism,  
by which we once renounced Satan and his works  
and promised to serve God in the holy Catholic Church.  
And so I ask you:

Do you renounce Satan?

**I do.**

And all his works?

**I do.**

And all his empty show?

**I do.**

Do you believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth?

**I do.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was born of the Virgin Mary,

SIT

STAND



suffered death and was buried,  
rose again from the dead  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father?  
**I do.**

Do you 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?  
**I do.**

And may almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who has given us new birth by water and the Holy Spirit  
and bestowed on us forgiveness of our sins,  
keep us by his grace,  
in Christ Jesus our Lord,  
for eternal life.  
**Amen.**

## THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

*All sit while the altar is prepared and the cantor sings*

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.**

### Prayer over the Offerings

Accept, we ask, O Lord,  
the prayers of your people  
with the sacrificial offerings,  
that what has begun in the paschal mysteries  
may, by the working of your power,  
bring us to the healing of eternity.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

The Lord be with you.

**And with your spirit.**

Lift up your hearts.

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right and just.**

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.**

**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 mystery of faith:

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

### The Communion Rite

At the Saviour's command  
and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

**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 with your spirit.**  
Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

**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.**

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  
that you should enter under my roof,  
but only say the word  
and my soul shall be healed.**

The Body of Christ.  
**Amen.**

The Blood of Christ.  
**Amen.**

### **Prayer after Communion**

Pour out on us, O Lord, the Spirit of your love,  
and in your kindness make those you have nourished  
by this paschal Sacrament  
one in mind and heart.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

### **Solemn Blessing**

The Lord be with you.  
**And with your spirit.**

May almighty God bless you  
through today's Easter Solemnity  
and, in his compassion,  
defend you from every assault of sin.  
**Amen.**

And may he, who restores you to eternal life  
in the Resurrection of his Only Begotten,  
endow you with the prize of immortality.  
**Amen.**

Now that the days of the Lord's Passion have drawn to a close,  
may you who celebrate the gladness of the Paschal Feast  
come with Christ's help, and exulting in spirit,  
to those feasts that are celebrated in eternal joy.

**Amen.**

And may the blessing of almighty God,  
the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit,  
come down on you and remain with you for ever.  
**Amen.**

### **Dismissal**

Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord, alleluia, alleluia.  
Thanks be to God, alleluia, alleluia.

**A very happy Easter to you and all whom you love.**