

EASTER VIGIL

SERVICE OF LIGHT AND RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

Saturday 19th April 8.30pm

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, RANMOOR



We gather outside.

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 of Easter is kindled.

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 Easter candle is marked as a sign of blessing.

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

Amen.

Nails or incense studs may be inserted into the Easter Candle.

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

All Amen.

The president lights the Easter Candle, saying:

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

We enter the church in darkness and the Deacon sings:

All The light of Christ.
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 Easter Candle is placed on a stand in the midst of the building.

THE EXULTET

Sung by the Deacon.

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.

Please sit

THE CREATION

Genesis 1.1 – 2.4a

The Choir sings Psalm 104

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.**

THE FALL

Genesis 3

The Choir sings Psalm 51

Heavenly Father,
whose blessed Son was revealed
to destroy the works of the devil
and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life:
grant that we, having this hope,
may purify ourselves even as he is pure;
that when he shall appear in power and great glory
we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom;
where he is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

NOAH & THE FLOOD

Genesis 7.1-5,11-18; 8.6-19; 9.8-13

The Choir sings Psalm 36

Grant, Lord,
that we who are baptized into the death
of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ
may continually put to death our evil desires
and be buried with him;
and that through the grave and gate of death
we may pass to our joyful resurrection;
through his merits,
who died and was buried and rose again for us,
your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

CROSSING THE RED SEA

Exodus 14.10-end; 15.1a

The Choir sings the song of Moses and the Israelites (Exodus 15)

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.

THE EASTER ACCLAMATION

Choir: *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.*

*The Gloria is intoned, a joyful fanfare will be played, bells rung, cymbals clashed, noise made.
All STAND.*

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Missa brevis

Jonathan Dove (b.1959)

The Gloria in excelsis is sung, during which all the candles in the church are lit from the Easter Candle, the lights are switched on and the people's candles extinguished.

Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis.
Laudamus te. Benedicimus te.
Adoramus te. Glorificamus te.
Gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tuam.
Domine Deus, Rex caelestis, Deus Pater omnipotens.
Domine Fili unigenite, Iesu Christe.

Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris.

Qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.

Qui tollis peccata mundi, suscipe deprecationem nostram.
Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris, miserere nobis.
Quoniam tu solus Sanctus. Tu solus Dominus.
Tu solus Altissimus, Iesu Christe.
Cum Sancto Spiritu, in gloria Dei Patris.

Amen.

Glory be to God on high,
and on 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, Jesus 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 most high in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

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

SILENCE is kept.

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.

Amen.

NEW TESTAMENT

Romans 6.3-11

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore 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. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We 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. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

All STAND.

GOSPEL

John 20.1-18

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.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *John*.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.' Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by

itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' She said to them, 'They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.' When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?' Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.' Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabbouni!' which means Teacher. Jesus said to her, 'Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God."' Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord'; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

All STAND and FOLLOW the clergy and choir to the FONT.

HYMN

1 With Christ we share a mystic grave,
With Christ we buried lie:
But not within the darksome cave
By mournful Calvary.

2 The pure and bright baptismal flood
Entombs our nature's stain:
New creatures from the cleansing wave
With Christ we rise again.

3 Thrice blest, if through this world of
sin,
Of lust and selfish care,
Our resurrection robe of white
And undefiled we wear.

4 Thrice blest, if through the gates of
death,
Glorious at last and free,
We to our joyful rising pass,
O risen Lord with thee.

5 And now to thy thrice holy Name,
The God whom we adore,
To Father, Son, and Spirit blest,
Be glory evermore. Amen.

THE RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light.
To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him.
Therefore I ask:

All Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?
I reject them.

All Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?
I renounce them.

All Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?
I repent of them.

All Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?
I turn to Christ.

All Do you submit to Christ as Lord?
I submit to Christ.

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

PRAYER OVER WATER

All Praise God who made heaven and earth,
who keeps his promise for ever.

All Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give him 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.

All Saving God,
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.

All Saving God,
give us life.

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

All Saving God,
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.

All Saving God,
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.

All Saving God,
give us life.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess the faith of the Church.

All Do you believe and trust in God the Father?
**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

All Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?
**I 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.**

All Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?
**I 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.**

Almighty God,
we thank you for our fellowship in the household of faith
with all 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.

All **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.

All **Amen.**

All return to your places during the hymn

HYMN

Love's redeeming work is done

1 Jesus lives! thy terrors now
Can, O Death, no more appal us;
Jesus lives! by this we know
Thou, O Grave, canst not enthrall us.
Alleluya!

4 Jesus lives! our hearts know well
Naught from us His love shall sever;
Life, nor death, nor powers of hell
Tear us from His keeping ever.
Alleluya!

2 Jesus lives! henceforth is death
But the gate of Life immortal;
This shall calm our trembling breath,
When we pass its gloomy portal.
Alleluya!

5 Jesus lives! to Him the Throne
Over all the world is given;
May we go where he is gone,
Rest and reign with Him in heaven.
Alleluya!

3 Jesus lives! for us He died;
Then, alone to Jesus living,
Pure in heart may we abide,
Glory to our Saviour giving.
Alleluya!

COMMISSION

Those who are baptized are called to worship and serve God.

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship,
in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

With the help of God, I will.

Will you persevere in resisting evil,
and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?
With the help of God, I will.

Will you proclaim by word and example
the good news of God in Christ?
With the help of God, I will.

Will you seek and serve Christ in all people,
loving your neighbour as yourself?
With the help of God, I will.

Will you acknowledge Christ's authority over human society,
by prayer for the world and its leaders,
by defending the weak, and by seeking peace and justice?
With the help of God, I will.

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 PEACE

Alleluia.
The peace of the risen Christ be always with you
and also with you. Alleluia.

All

All may exchange a sign of peace

THE ANTHEM

Surrexit a Mortuis

Charles-Marie Widor (1844-1937)

Surrexit a mortuis,
Christus Dei Filius,
Pastor bonus,
Pastor qui animam
Pro grege suo posuit.
Pascha nostrum immolatus est
Christus.
Surrexit a mortuis.
Alleluia.

He rose from the dead,
Christ, the Son of God,
the good shepherd,
the shepherd who for his flock
laid down his life.
Christ our Passover has been sacrificed
for us.
He rose from the dead.
Alleluia.

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

BLESSING

God, who through the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ
has given us the victory,
give you joy and peace in your faith;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

HYMN

The Strife is o'er

Latin 17th century, Tr Francis Pott (1832-1909)

1 The strife is o'er, the battle done;
Now is the Victor's triumph won;
O let the song of praise be sung.
Alleluia!

2 Death's mightiest powers have done their
worst,
And Jesus hath his foes dispersed;
Let shouts of praise and joy outburst.
Alleluia!

3 On the third morn he rose again
Glorious in majesty to reign;
O let us swell the joyful strain.
Alleluia!

4 He brake the age-bound chains of
hell;
The bars from heaven's high portals
fell;
Let hymns of praise his triumph tell.
Alleluia!

5 Lord, by the stripes which wounded
thee,
From death's dread sting thy servants
free,
That we may live, and sing to thee.
Alleluia!

The candles of the congregation are re-lit.

God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness
and has given us a place with the saints in light.

You have received the light of Christ;
walk in this light all the days of your life.

All **Shine as a light in the world
to the glory of God the Father.**

THE DISMISSAL

A minister says:

With the risen life of Christ within you,
go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

All **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

The ministers and choir depart.

JOIN US TOMORROW

ON

EASTER SUNDAY 20th April
10.30am Easter Day Holy Communion

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