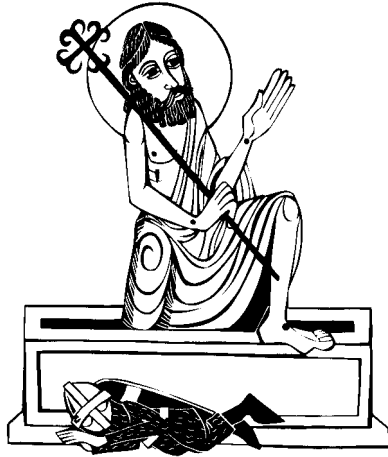




The Parish of St Mary Portsea



The Paschal Vigil and First Mass of Easter

We begin in darkness

The service begins in darkness – if at home make the place you are as dark as you can. The Priest invites us to the celebration of the Liturgy and blesses the New Fire. The Paschal Candle is marked with the sign of the cross, the sign of Christ; then with an Alpha and a Omega, the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet, a sign of Christ the beginning and the end; and finally with the year, reminding us that Christ is alive in all things- even in the darkness of our times. The Priest then places five incense “grains” into the candle, reminding us of the 5 wounds Christ received on the cross.

The Paschal Candle is then lit from the fire – as this is done the following words are sung :

Christ our light.

Thanks be to God.

The people's candles are lit in church.

If you are at home and have a candle then you may want to light it as a sign of you sharing that light..

We give thanks with Easter words of Praise (The Exsultet)

The Exsultet – the great and ancient proclamation of Easter – is sung. It includes the following response

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.

At the conclusion

...who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Amen.

We hear God's word from the Old Testament

– read in the light

At the end of each reading

This is the word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God

Followed by a Psalm or song sung by the Church with the response below and a prayer

After recalling the account of Creation in Genesis

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

After recalling the crossing of the Red Sea in Exodus

I will sing to the Lord, glorious his triumph!

After recalling the valley of dry bones

**What marvels the Lord worked for us!
Indeed we were glad.**

At Church after the 3rd reading we extinguish our candles

We celebrate the joy of the Resurrection

As we hear the Gloria light other candles are lit if you have candles at home light them and lighten the room

The Priest sings:

Gloria in excelsis deo

A loud fanfare erupts from the organ and all celebrate the joy of the resurrection by ringing bells, letting of party poppers, streamers and generally making a noise – and a mess!

All sing the Gloria, during the refrain please ring bells, or jangle keys.

Choir Glory to God, glory in the highest.
Peace to his people, peace on earth.

All sing **Glory to God, glory in the highest.**
Peace to his people, peace on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King almighty God and Father.

Glory to God, glory in the highest.
Peace to his people, peace on earth.

We worship you, **glory in the highest.**

Give you thanks, **glory in the highest.**

Praise you for your glory.

Glory to God, glory in the highest.
Peace to his people, peace on earth.

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;

have mercy on us.

You are seated at the right hand of the Father,

receive our prayer,

receive our prayer.

Glory to God, glory in the highest.

Peace to his people, peace on earth.

Glory to God, glory in the highest.
Peace to his people, peace on earth.

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 glory of God the Father.

Glory to God, glory in the highest.

Peace to his people, peace on earth.

Amen. **Amen.**

Coventry Gloria by Peter Jones

We pray to God

The Priest prays the Easter collect

Amen

We listen to God's word

We hear a reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

This is the word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God

The Alleluia – the Easter shout of joy – is sung.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

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

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

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

We hear the Easter Gospel

The Lord be with you

All And also with you

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

All Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end ... This is the Gospel of the Lord

All Praise to you, O Christ.

A short reflection

We pray with the Saints

As we sing the litany the Paschal Candle is carried to the portable font

We renew our Baptismal Promises

After the water has been blessed, all baptised are asked

Do you turn away from sin?

I do.

Do you reject evil?

I do.

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

I do.

Do you trust in him as Lord?

I do.

Brothers and sisters, let us affirm,

With all who are baptized,
our common faith in Jesus Christ.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist?

I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again?

I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world?

I believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith.

**We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

We are reminded of our baptism

The Priest sprinkles those present with water from the font, and all sing

Give thanks to God, his love will never end:
Eternal Saviour, now our praise ascends.
With joyful hearts your pilgrim people shout
Surrexit Christus, Alleluia!

O Christ who triumphed and has raised us high,
We tell your wonders; we shall never die:
For we your people praise you glorious King
Surrexit Christus, Alleluia!

O cornerstone, raised up on Calvary
In cross and tomb is shown your victory
Cleanse us in water, flowing from your side:
Surrexit Christus, Alleluia

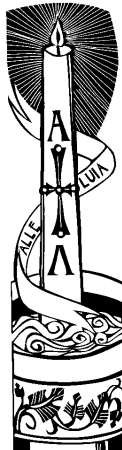
We share Christ's love and peace

Alleluia! The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

All And also with you. Alleluia!

Be aware of all who share in this celebration and reflect on how we share Christ's peace in our lives and how we can show and share that peace with others.

The gifts of bread and wine are prepared and offered to God – reflect on what you are offering to God today – what lies in your hearts ...



We sing

Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour,
first-begotten from the dead,
thou alone, our strong defender,
liftest up thy people's head.

Alleluia!

Jesu, true and living bread.

Here our humblest homage pay we,
here in loving reverence bow;
here for faith's discernment pray we,
lest we fail to know thee now.

Alleluia!

Thou art here, we ask not how.

Though the lowliest form doth veil thee
as of old in Bethlehem,
here as there thine angels hail thee,
branch and flower of Jesse's stem.

Alleluia!

We in worship join with them.

Paschal lamb, thine offering, finished
once for all when thou wast slain,
in its fulness undiminished
shall for evermore remain,

Alleluia!

Cleansing souls from every stain.

Life-imparting heavenly manna,
stricken rock with streaming side,
heaven and earth with loud hosanna
worship thee, the lamb who died,

Alleluia!

Risen, ascended, glorified!

At the end of the hymn a prayer over the gifts is said, all respond
Amen.

We thank God

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.

It is indeed right and good

The Priest offers thanks to God ending:

All sing **Holy, holy, holy, Lord,
God of power and God of might,
heaven and earth, heaven and earth
are full of your glory,
your power and might.**

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest heavens.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest heavens.

**Blessed, blessed is he who comes,
blessed, blessed is he who comes,
blessed is he, blessed is he
who comes in the name of the Lord.**

Hosanna, etc etc

Paul Inwood: Gathering Mass

The Priest continues the prayer, asking that the Spirit may come upon the gifts and recalling the action of Jesus at the Last Supper

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

Dying you destroyed our death,

Rising you restored our life:

Lord Jesus, come in glory.

The Priest continues the prayer, at the end all respond **Amen**

We pray as Jesus taught us

**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.
Lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the Kingdom, the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

We break the bread

Alleluia! Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us

All Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

Choir Jesus, risen Lord, triumphant King:
Jesus, true redeemer of the world:

All sing **Hear our prayer, have mercy;
hear our prayer have mercy;
give us your peace.**

Jesus, Morning Star which never sets:
Jesus Paschal Lamb and sacrifice:
Hear our prayer etc

Jesus, bursting from the shattered tomb:
Jesus mighty Victor over death:
Hear our prayer etc

Jesus is the Lamb of God,
who takes away the sins 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.**

We are blessed

As those at the Church receive communion those elsewhere pray that you may be aware of Christ's presence with you and that you will be blessed and comforted by it.

If you are at Church you can either come forward to the Dais and receive a host intincted (dipped in the chalice) – or remain standing in your place and a host will be brought to you. Please do what you feel comfortable doing.

We say thank you

The Priest says a prayer, of thanksgiving.

All Amen

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

He has given us new life and hope.

He has raised Jesus from the dead.

God has claimed us as his own.

He has brought us out of darkness.

He has made us light to the world.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

We are blessed

The Lord be with you

All And also with you

The Priest gives God's blessing

Live in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia!

All Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!

We sing the final hymn,

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!

Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!

Who did once, upon the cross, Alleluia!

Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!

Unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!

Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!

Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!

But the pains that he endured, Alleluia!
Our salvation have procured; Alleluia!
Now above the sky he's King, Alleluia!
Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

Joy to thee, O Queen of heaven, Alleluia!
He whom, thou was meet to bear, Alleluia!
As he promised hath arisen, Alleluia!
Pour for us to God thy prayer, Alleluia!

The service concludes with this traditional prayer used in the Easter season, the Priest says or sings

Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, Alleluia!
For the Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

O God, who by the resurrection of your Son,
Our Lord Jesus Christ,
Brought Joy to the whole world;
Grant that aided by the prayers of his Mother,
The virgin Mary,
We may know the joys of eternal life;
Through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

*You may wish to light your candle and leave it burning on a votive stand.
If you are at the Church you are invited to join us for a drink at the West
End*