

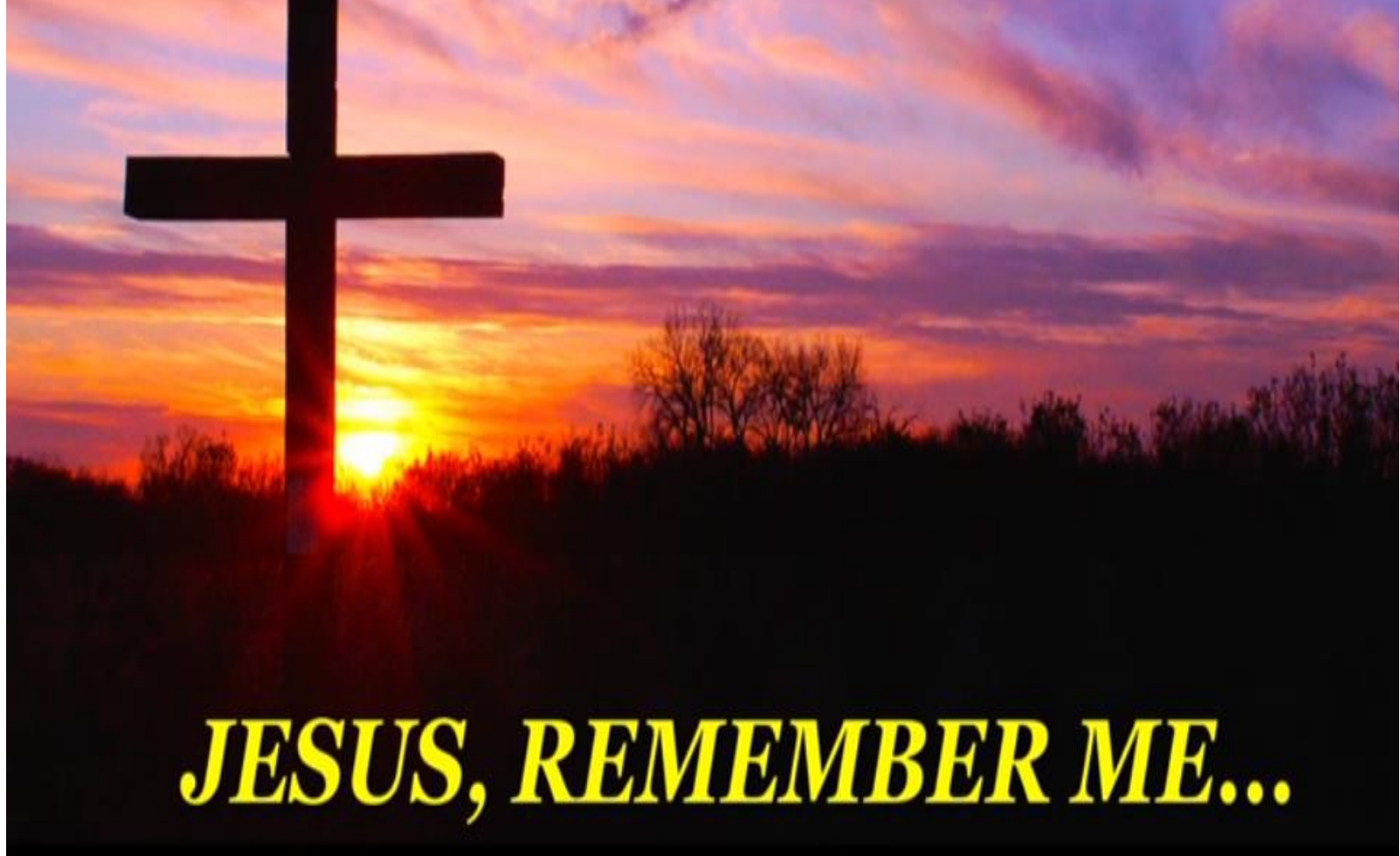
# **Easter Liturgy**

**Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March  
2023**

**“In the name of the  
Father, and of the  
Son and of the Holy  
Spirit.”**

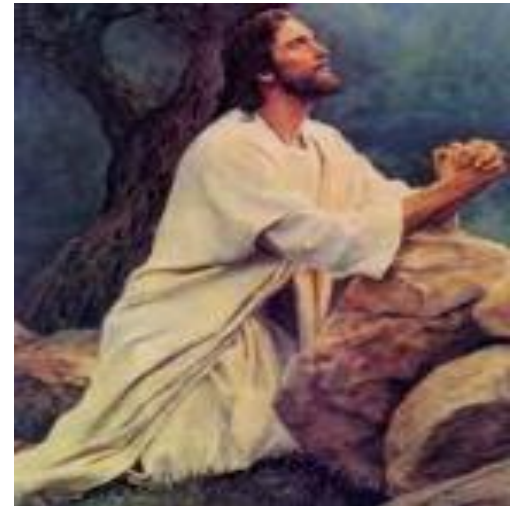


**Amen.**



<https://youtu.be/RGB2E0NzO2A>

On the night before He was to die, Jesus gave us the great gift of the Eucharist at the Last supper so he could always be with us truly present in the bread and wine at Mass. He washed the feet of the disciples to show how to serve one another. Later, knowing that he was about to be betrayed by Judas and denied by Peter, he went to the Garden of Gethsemane to pray. He was frightened and upset because he knew what his father wanted him to do and despite asking that the cup would pass him by he was obedient to his father will and said, your will be done.



# **Hymn - The Servant King**

**Choir – Verse**

**Chorus - ALL**



# Hymn - The Servant King

This is our God, the Servant  
King

He calls us now to follow Him.

To bring our lives as a daily  
offering,

Of worship to, the Servant King





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A reading from the  
Gospel of Luke.



**Glory to you O Lord**

**When they reached the place called The Skull, they crucified him there and the two criminals also, one on the right, the other on the left. Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them; they do not know what they are doing.' Then they cast lots to share out his clothing. The people stayed there watching him. As for the leaders, they jeered at him. 'He saved others,' they said 'let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One.' The soldiers mocked him too, and when they approached to offer vinegar they said, 'If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.' Above him there was an inscription: 'This is the King of the Jews.' One of the criminals hanging there abused him. 'Are you not the Christ?' he said. 'Save yourself and us as well.' But the other spoke up and rebuked him. 'Have you no fear of God at all?' he said. 'You got the same sentence as he did, but in our case we deserved it: we are paying for what we did.'**

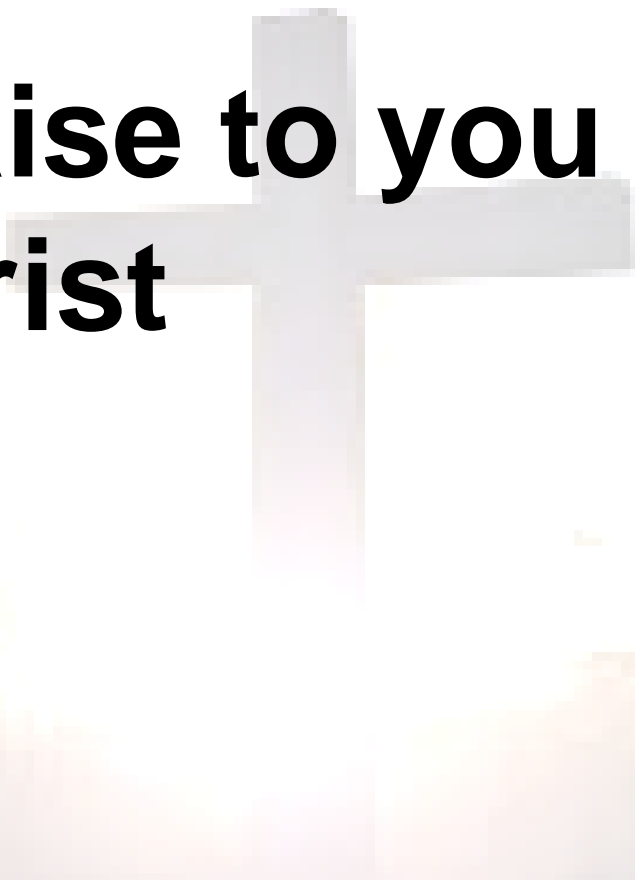
**But this man has done nothing wrong. Jesus,' he said 'remember me when you come into your kingdom.'**

**'Indeed, I promise you,' he replied 'today you will be with me in paradise.'** It was now about the sixth hour and, with the sun eclipsed, a darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour. The veil of the Temple was torn right down the middle; and when Jesus had cried out in a loud voice, he said, 'Father, into your hands I commit my spirit' With these words he breathed his last. When the centurion saw what had taken place, he gave praise to God and said, 'This was a great and good man.' And when all the people who had gathered for the spectacle saw what had happened, they went home beating their breasts. All his friends stood at a distance; so also did the women who had accompanied him from Galilee, and they saw all this happen.



The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you Lord Jesus  
Christ**



## **Reflection on the Gospel**

**As Jesus carried His heavy cross up to Calvary he also carried the burden of every sin ever committed in the world. Despite being wiped, mocked and spat at, Jesus peacefully accepted his father's will he said from the cross, Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do. At 3pm on Good Friday he cried out his last "It is finished, into your hands I commend my spirit" and the earth went dark and as Jesus predicted the temple tore in two. When the centurion and those with him who were guarding Jesus saw the earthquake and all that had happened, they were terrified, and exclaimed, "Surely he was the Son of God!"**

**He was betrayed by a friend, denied by His disciples, abandoned in Gethsemene, accused by false witnesses, tried by corrupt lawyers, sentenced by a coward, jeered at by the crowd, pitied by the daughters of Rachel, tortured to death by a brutal army, He could have raised an army from the stones, He could have chosen the way of the sword but He didn't, He choose the cup His father gave him.**

We pray for our parish community: that, in this time of Lent, we will listen to the voice of Jesus and grow in love of God and neighbour.

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

We pray for all who thirst for water, justice or peace. May we work together so all people may flourish.

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

We pray for world leaders: that the Holy Spirit open their eyes to injustice and guide them to speak out for what is right and take action to build a better future.

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

We pray for everyone who is sick, bereaved or dealing with loss; and for all who support them. May God grant each of them peace and comfort, courage and perseverance.

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

We pray for the Church and for the world: that God may grant us the gifts of courage, compassion and wisdom as we face challenging circumstances together.

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

We pray for Mr Grayson, Miss Laverick and Mrs Burton who are leaving us today. We pray that they will be happy in their future roles.

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

**Lord Jesus,**

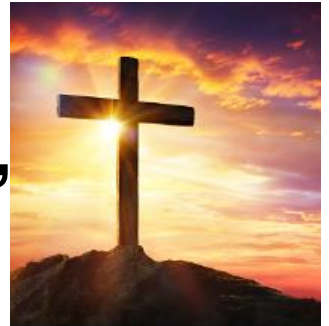
**You died for us on the cross to take away our sins. When you stretched out your arms, you showed us how much you love us.**

**May we always remember your great and merciful love.**

**Let's say together the words our Saviour taught us,  
Our Father ...**

# **The Lord's Prayer**

**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  
Amen**



**Going forth:**

**As you leave today, think about the times that you may have sinned and turned away from God. However remember that it is easy to make different choices and turn back to God.**

**“In the name of the  
Father, and of the  
Son and of the Holy  
Spirit.”**



**Amen.**



## Final Hymn : In Christ Alone

In Christ alone my hope is found  
He is my light, my strength, my song  
This cornerstone, this solid ground  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm  
What heights of love, what depths of peace  
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease  
My comforter, my all in all  
Here in the love of Christ I stand

In Christ alone who took on flesh  
Fullness of God in helpless babe  
This gift of love and righteousness  
Scorned by the ones He came to save  
Till on that cross as Jesus died  
The wrath of God was satisfied  
For every sin on Him was laid  
Here in the death of Christ I live

There in the ground His body lay  
Light of the world by darkness slain  
Then bursting forth in glorious day  
Up from the grave He rose again  
And as He stands in victory  
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me  
For I am His and He is mine  
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life, no fear in death  
This is the power of Christ in me  
From life's first cry to final breath  
Jesus commands my destiny  
No power of hell, no scheme of man  
Can ever pluck me from His hand  
Till He returns or calls me home  
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand