

Text of the Mass for Easter IV – 21st April 2024

As the priest enters the church, the following is sung:

Christ is our corner-stone,
On him alone we build;
With his true saints alone
The courts of heaven are filled:
On his great love
Our hopes we place
Of present grace
And joys above.

Oh, then with hymns of praise
These hallowed courts shall ring;
Our voices we will raise
The Three in One to sing;
And thus proclaim
In joyful song,
Both loud and long,
That glorious Name.

Here may we gain from heaven The grace which we implore; And may that grace, once given, Be with us evermore, Until that day When all the blest To endless rest Are called away.

> Words: C7 Latin Tr John Chandler 1806 - 76 Music: Harewood SS Wesley 1810 - 76

+ The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

And with thy spirit.

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

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us. Let us, therefore, rejoice by putting away all malice and evil and confessing our wins with a true and sincere heart:

We have lived by our own strength and not by the power of Your Resurrection: Kyrie eleison.

Kyrie eleison

We have lived by the light of our own eyes as faithless and not believing: Christe eleison.

Christe eleison.

We have lived for this world alone and doubted our home in Heaven: Kyrie eleison.

Kyrie eleison

I beheld water which proceeded from the Temple, on the right side thereof, alleluia! And all they to whom that water came were healed every one; and they say, alleluia, alleluia!

O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is gracious: and His mercy endureth for ever. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost: as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

I beheld water &c

The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord: by the Word of the Lord were the Heavens made. Alleluia! Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous: praising befits those who are upright. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The earth is full &c

During the Gloria in excelsis, the Altar, the symbol of God's Presence, may be honoured with incense.

Glory be to God on high.

And in earth peace, goodwill 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.

Let us pray:

God of lasting love, fulfil Your plan of salvation to gather into one fold the peoples of the whole world. Let everyone on earth recognise Your Christ as the Good Shepherd, Who freely lays down His life for all to take it up again in power. Grant this through Jesus Christ, the Resurrection and the Life, Who is alive and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, God, throughout all ages world without end.

Amen.

A Reading from the Book of the Acts of the Apostles.

Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a cripple, by what means this man has been healed, be it known to you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by him this man is standing before you well. This is the stone which was rejected by you builders, but which has become the head of the corner. And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; • his mercy endures for ever

It is better to take refuge in the Lord ◆ than to put any confidence in flesh.

It is better to take refuge in the Lord ◆ than to put any confidence in princes.

I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me ◆ and have become my salvation.

The stone which the builders rejected ◆ has become the chief cornerstone.

This is the Lord's doing, ◆ and it is marvellous in our eyes.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; • we bless you from the house of the Lord.

You are my God and I will thank you; ◆ you are my God and I will exalt you.

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; • his mercy endures for ever.

A Reading from the first Letter of Saint John.

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; it does not yet appear what we shall be, but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

The Gospel book is carried to the Lectern:

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the Good Shepherd, says the Lord: I know My own sheep and they know me. Alleluia, alleluia!

Christ's Presence in the words of the Gospel may be honoured with incense.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. He who is a hireling and not a shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. He flees because he is a hireling and cares nothing for the sheep. I am the good shepherd; I know my own and my own know me, as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. And I have other sheep, that are not of this fold; I must bring them also, and they will heed my voice. So there shall be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life, that I may take it again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again; this charge I have received from my Father."

This is the Gospel of the Lord. Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

A homily may follow.

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.

In the power of the Resurrection and in union with Christ, let us who share in Christ's risen Life make our intercession to God our Father for the needs of the world and the Church:

Let us pray in the Name of Jesus the Nazarene for the Church:

[Petitions]

Good and gracious Lord, make Your Church attentive to the voice of the Shepherd that there may be one flock within one fold: Lord, hear us ... Lord, graciously hear us.

Let us pray in the Name of Jesus the Nazarene for the world:

[Petitions]

Good and gracious Lord, hasten the day when all the world acknowledges You and puts its trust in Your just and gentle rule: Lord, hear us ... Lord, graciously hear us.

Let us pray in the Name of Jesus the Nazarene for the communities around us:

[Petitions]

Good and gracious Lord, teach us a concern for one another that we may eschew the impulse to divide and scatter: Lord, hear us ... Lord, graciously hear us.

Let us pray in the Name of Jesus the Nazarene for those who are sick and suffering:

[Petitions]

Good and gracious Lord, reveal Your love and compassion to all who suffer that they might take refuge in You: Lord, hear us ... Lord, graciously hear us.

Let us pray in the Name of Jesus the Nazarene for those who have died:

[Petitions]

Good and gracious Lord, grant to those who have died a place in Your nearer Presence where they may see You as You really are: Lord, hear us ... Lord, graciously hear us.

Let us pray in the Name of Jesus the Nazarene for those things which weigh privately on our minds: ... Lord, hear us ... Lord, graciously hear us.

In union with our Lady, Saint Matthew, Saint Philip, Saint Mark, Saint George, Saint Augustine, and all the saints, as we celebrate the New Life of Your Son, we ask that the whole world may bask in the glory of the Resurrection and find the peace of the Kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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

The risen Christ came and stood among His Apostles and said, "Peace be with you." They were glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia! The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

And with thy spirit.

As the bread and wine are brought to the Altar and prepared for the Mass, the following is sung:

O God, my God, from daybreak do I watch for You: and in invocation of Your Name will I lift up my hands. Alleluia!

Let us here who represent Cherubim guards around God's throne, As they cry out their thrice holy hymn, Praising the life-giving Trinity, Lay aside all earthly care. Borne by the power of angels' wings To His people now comes the King of kings. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

This joyful Eastertide,
Away with sin and sorrow.
My Love, the Crucified,
Hath sprung to life this morrow.
Had Christ that once was slain,
Ne'er broke His three day prison,
Our faith had been in vain,
But now is Christ arisen, arisen, arisen.

My flesh in hope shall rest, And for a season slumber: Till trump from East and West Shall wake the dead in number. Had Christ &c

Death's flood hath lost his chill, Since Jesus crossed the river: Lover of souls from ill My passing soul deliver. Had Christ &c

> Words: GR Woodward 1848 - 1934 Music: This joyful Eastertide Melody from David's Psalmen Amsterdam 1685 Harmony by Charles Wood 1866 - 1920

The preparation of the Altar continues; incense may be used to honour the place where Christ will become present. At the end:

Thine, O Lord, is the greatness, the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty. All that is in Heaven and earth is Thine:

All things come of Thee, O Lord, and of Thine own do we give Thee.

God of loving care, You spread before us the table of life and give us the cup of salvation to drink. Keep us always in the fold of Your Son Jesus Christ, our Saviour Shepherd and Lord.

Amen.

The priest begins the great prayer of thanksgiving:

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Lift up your hearts;

We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

It is meet and right so to do.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give you thanks, almighty and eternal Father, and in these days of Easter to celebrate with joyful hearts the memory of your wonderful works. For by the mystery of his passion Jesus Christ, your risen Son, has conquered the powers of death and hell and restored in men and women the image of your glory. He has placed them once more in paradise and opened to them the gate of life eternal. And so, in the joy of this Passover, earth and heaven resound with gladness, while angels and archangels and the powers of all creation sing for ever the hymn of your glory:

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory. Glory be to Thee, O Lord most high.

+ Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his Apostles and, taking bread, he praised you.

He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

The priest holds up the consecrated Host for the people to see.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.

Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:

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.

The priest holds up the chalice of consecrated wine for the people to see.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth. Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms and bring us with [N and] all the saints to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
By Whom and with Whom and in Whom,
Amen,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
Amen,
all honour and glory are Yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever.
Amen.

Instructed by saving precepts and taught by divine example, we are bold to say:

Our Father,

Who art in Heaven,
hallowed by 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.
For Thine is the Kingdom,
the power and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ. Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread. O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us Thy peace.

The priest holds up the consecrated elements and invites people to receive Holy Communion:

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us. Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

I am the Good Shepherd: I know My sheep and My sheep know Me. Alleluia!

Holy Communion follows.

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want, He makes me down to lie In pastures green, He leadeth me The quiet waters by.

My soul He doth restore again, And me to walk doth make Within the paths of righteousness, E'en for His own Name's sake.

Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, Yet will I fear none ill. For Thou are with me, and Thy rod And staff me comfort still.

My table Thou hast furnished In presence of my foes, My head Thou dost with oil anoint, And my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life Shall surely follow me. And in God's house for evermore My dwelling place shall be.

> Words: Scottish Psalter 1650 Music: Crimmond Melody by Jessie Irvine 1836 - 87 Harmony byTCL Pritchard 1885 - 1960

After Holy Communion:

The Good Shepherd is risen: He Who laid down His Life for His sheep, Who died for His sheep. He is risen. Alleluia!

Let us pray:

Merciful Father, You gave Your Son Jesus Christ to be the Good Shepherd, and in His love for us to lay down His life and rise again: keep us always under His protection, and give us grace to follow in His steps, the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Notices may follow.

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

The God of peace, Who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the Blood of the eternal Covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is well pleasing in His sight; and the + blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

The Mass is ended. Go in the Peace to love and serve the Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia!

In the Name of Christ. Amen. Alleluia, alleluia!

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

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

Let us pray:

O God, Who through the Resurrection of Thy Son, hath brought joy to the whole world; grant us with the Blessed Virgin Mary to attain to the joys of life eternal; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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!

He broke the age-bound chains of hell; The bars from Heaven's high portals fell; Let hymns of praise His triumph tell. Alleluia!

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

> Words: C17 Latin Tr Francis Pott 1832 - 1909 Music: Victory Adaptd from the Gloria of Palestrina's Magnificat Terti Toni with Alleluya by WH Monk 1823 - 89

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