

~ **Act of Contrition** ~

I confess to almighty God, & to you, my brothers & sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words through my own fault in my thoughts & in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary, ever-virgin, all the Angels & Saints, and you, my brothers & sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

~ **Prayer of Thanksgiving** ~

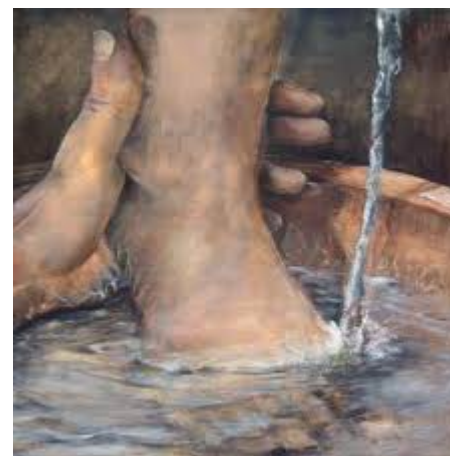
Almighty & merciful God, how wonderfully you created man & woman & still more wonderfully recreated them. You do not abandon us but seek us out with a father's love. You sent your Son into the world to destroy sin & death by his passion, & to restore life & joy by his resurrection. You sent the Holy Spirit into our hearts to make us your children & heirs of your kingdom. You constantly renew our spirit in the sacraments of your redeeming love, freeing us from slavery to sin & transforming us ever more closely into the likeness of your beloved Son. We thank you for the wonders of your mercy, & with heart & hand & voice we join with the whole Church in a new song of praise: Glory to you through Christ in the Holy Spirit, now & for ever.

Closing Hymn: *Longing for Light*

***“Though we do not sing ‘alleluia’ till the vigil, it swells in each of our hearts when we meditate on the passion of the Lord. Never should we forget or underestimate the sufferings Jesus went through on the cross. But we must contemplate him on the cross as the glorious Victor over Satan, over sin and death. The cross has become the tree of life. The arms of the Lord stretched out ‘between heaven and earth’ are ‘the everlasting sign of the covenant’ that the Father has made with humanity through the Son.”***

Days of the Lord - Easter Triduum

## ***Lent Reconciliation Service*** **2021**



Opening Hymn: *The Servant King*

~ **Opening Prayer** ~

Loving and Almighty Father, you have brought us together in the name of your Son to receive your mercy and grace. Where sin has divided and scattered, may your love make us one again; where sin has brought weakness, may your power heal and strengthen; where sin has brought death, may your Spirit raise to new life. Give us a new heart to love you. May the world see the glory of Christ revealed in our lives, and come to know that he is the one whom you have sent, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

### **Romans 6:3-11**

When we were baptised in Christ Jesus we were baptised in his death; in other words, when we were baptised we went into the tomb with him and joined him in death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the Father's glory, we too might live a new life.

If in union with Christ we have imitated his death, we shall also imitate him in his resurrection. We must realise that our former selves have been crucified with him to destroy this sinful body and to free us from the slavery of sin. When a Christian dies, of course, he has finished with sin.

But we believe that having died with Christ we shall return to life with him: Christ, as we know, having been raised from the dead will never die again. Death has no power over him any more. When he died, he died, once for all, to sin, so his life now is life with God; and in that way, you too must consider yourselves to be dead to sin but alive for God in Christ Jesus.

Hymn: *As the deer pants*

### **John 13:1-15**

It was before the festival of the Passover, and Jesus knew that the hour had come for him to pass from this world to the Father. He had always loved those who were his in the world, but now he showed how perfect his love was.

They were at supper, and the devil had already put it into the mind of Judas Iscariot son of Simon, to betray him. Jesus knew that the Father had put everything into his hands, and that he had come from God and was returning to God, and he got up from table, removed his outer garment and, taking a towel, wrapped it round his waist; he then poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel he was wearing. He came to Simon Peter, who

said to him, 'Lord, are you going to wash my feet?' Jesus answered, 'At the moment you do not know what I am doing, but later you will understand.' 'Never!' said Peter 'You shall never wash my feet.' Jesus replied, 'If I do not wash you, you can have nothing in common with me.' 'Then, Lord,' said Simon Peter 'not only my feet, but my hands and my head as well!' Jesus said, 'No one who has taken a bath needs washing, he is clean all over. You too are clean, though not all of you are.' He knew who was going to betray him, that was why he said, 'though not all of you are.'

'Do you understand' he said 'what I have done to you? You call me Master and Lord, and rightly; so I am. If I, then, the Lord and Master, have washed your feet, you should wash each other's feet. I have given you an example so that you may copy what I have done to you.'

#### *~ Examination of Conscience ~*

*For the times when I forget that I need a Saviour, and arrogantly  
rely on myself ~ Lord have mercy.*

*For the times when I trust my sinful attachments more than  
the Father's love ~ Lord have mercy.*

*For the times when I allow my own reactions and opinions to supersede  
the truth of the Father revealed to me through Christ in his Church ~  
Lord have mercy.*

*For the times when I shun the presence of Christ in the sacraments,  
and in the people I meet ~ Lord have mercy.*

*For the times I use other human beings as things that I can manipulate  
or use for my own selfish ends ~ Lord have mercy.*

*For the times when I abuse those things the Father has given to me  
for the building up of his Kingdom ~ Lord have mercy.*

*For the times when I justify my sinfulness ~ Lord have mercy.*

Hymn: ***This is my body***