



MAUNDY THURSDAY LITURGY – CYCLE C

14th April, 2022,

Note: Immediately after today's service, there will be Time spent with Jesus at Gethsemane, at the Altar of Repose.

Commentary: INTRODUCTION

Holy Thursday, also known as Maundy Thursday is the day when Christ gave us the new commandment—'Mandatum', mandate--to serve one another as he serves us. During the Last Supper, Jesus will himself become the Passover sacrifice, the sacrificial Lamb that will save us from our sins, through His Passion and Death.

Tonight's service is divided into 5 parts:

1. The Liturgy of the Word
2. The washing of feet
3. Liturgy of the Eucharist
4. Altar of repose. Time spent with Jesus at Gethsemane

Kindly rise as we welcome our celebrant and join in the entrance hymn.

PART 1: THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING: (Ex 12:1-8, 11-14)

SECOND READING - 1 Cor 11:23-26

GOSPEL – Jn 13:1-15

HOMILY.

Part 2 - THE WASHING OF THE FEET

COMMENTARY: We now, enter the second part of today's celebration - THE WASHING OF THE FEET. This was an act of love shown by Jesus to his disciples, as well as a reminder of the

type of service we should exercise towards one another. Let us understand the importance of Jesus' message for all of us, to serve with humility.

We shall listen to Jesus telling each one of us: "I have set you an example that you also should do as I have done to you." Jesus mandates us to live a life of love and service.

The 12 chosen members will now come up to the Altar. As the celebrant washes their feet, let us pray to God to give us a humble and Christ-like heart.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL:

CELEBRANT: On this night before he died, Jesus gave us a new example of love when he washed his apostles' feet. Let us pray for the grace to live like him, as we place our petitions, saying:

Our Response: Lord, hear our prayer.

1. For Pope Francis, the Bishops, the Clergy and Religious, that they may be guided to follow Christ's example of humility and service, throughout their lives. (Pause) We pray... **R/**
2. For our Celebrant, Con-celebrants, and all those participating in this celebration of the Lord's Supper, that we may grow in our appreciation of Holy Mass, and carry its effects into the world around us. (Pause) We pray... **R/**
3. For the Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, that they may grow in their love and devotion for the Eucharist, as they minister the Body and Blood of Christ to the faithful. (Pause) We pray... **R/**
4. For each one of us, that our gratitude for receiving the gift of the Eucharist on this night, may strengthen our solidarity with those in need, and lead us to a deeper realization of Jesus' continuous presence within us. (Pause) We pray... **R/**
5. For peace and reconciliation in the ongoing war in Ukraine, that prayers rising to the Lord from all over the world, may enable those suffering people to return and rebuild their lives. (Pause) We pray... **R/**
6. Let us bring to the Lord, all those in need, especially those who silently suffer the difficulties of life, that the Lord may offer them comfort. (Pause) We pray in faith... **R/**

CELEBRANT: Father, your Son Jesus Christ commanded us to love one another. Help us to be faithful to that command and to dedicate ourselves to a life of service to all we meet. We ask this through the same Christ our Lord... Amen.

PART 3 – LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

COMMENTARY: Having listened to the Word of God and offered our prayers to the Father, we now proceed to celebrate the Institution of the Eucharist, at this Supper of the Lord - the most important part of the celebration.

With much gratitude to Jesus in our hearts, we promise the Lord never to miss an opportunity to participate with great devotion, and actively, in the great gift of the Holy Mass which the Lord has left to us.

PART 4 – ALTAR OF REPOSE

COMMENTARY:

Getting up from the table, Jesus “came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, ‘Sit here while I go over there to pray.’” (Mt 26:36)

“He went back to his disciples and found them asleep, and he said to Peter: ‘Could you not stay awake with me for even an hour?’” (v.40)

We are now invited to be with the Lord at the Altar of Repose, as we accompany Jesus in his agony in the garden. Let Jesus not be disappointed if we fail to watch and pray with Him, in His time of grief and anguish. Jesus will say to us again: “Stay awake and pray, so that you may not slip into temptation. The spirit indeed is eager, but the flesh is weak.” (v.41)

[Groups now take their turn **TO SPEND TIME WITH JESUS IN GETHSEMANE**]