

Ash Wednesday Eucharist

The Liturgy of the Word

The President says

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you
and also with you.

Brothers and sisters in Christ, since early days
Christians have observed with great devotion the time
of our Lord's passion and resurrection and prepared for
this by a season of penitence and fasting. By carefully
keeping these days, Christians take to heart the call to
repentance and the assurance of forgiveness
proclaimed in the gospel, and so grow in faith and
in devotion to our Lord.

I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to
the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and
repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by
reading and meditating on God's holy word.

*After a silence the President says this opening prayer,
or the traditional Ash Wednesday Collect.*

Holy God, our lives are laid open before you: rescue us
from the chaos of sin and through the death of your
Son bring us healing and make us whole in Jesus Christ
our Lord. **Amen.**

Reading(s)

Responsorial Psalm Ps 51. 1-4, 11-13

Have mercy on us, O God, for we have sinned.

Have mercy on me, O God, in your great goodness;
according to the abundance of your compassion
blot out my offences.

Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness
and cleanse me from my sin.

Have mercy on us, O God, for we have sinned.

For I acknowledge my faults
and my sin is ever before me.
Against you only have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight.

Have mercy on us, O God, for we have sinned.

Make me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence
and take not your holy spirit from me.
Give me again the joy of your salvation
and sustain me with your gracious spirit

Have mercy on us, O God, for we have sinned.

Gospel

Before: Glory to Christ our saviour

After: Praise to Christ our Lord.

Sermon

The Liturgy of Penitence

Let us now call to mind our sin
and the infinite mercy of God.

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you, through our own fault,
in thought, and word, and deed,
and in what we have left undone.
We are heartily sorry, and repent of all our sins.
For your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

The Imposition of Ashes

Dear friends in Christ, I invite you to receive these ashes
as a sign of the spirit of penitence with which we shall
keep this season of Lent.

God our Father, you create us from the dust of the
earth: grant that these ashes may be for us a sign of our
penitence and a symbol of our mortality; for it is by your
grace alone that we receive eternal life in Jesus Christ
our Saviour. **Amen.**

As each is ashed these words are said.

Remember that you are dust,
and to dust you shall return.

The president says the absolution

The Lord enrich you with his grace, and nourish you
with his blessing; the Lord defend you in trouble and
keep you from all evil; the Lord accept your prayers, and
absolve you from your offences, for the sake of Jesus
Christ, our Saviour. **Amen.**

The Peace

Since we are justified by faith,
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
who has given us access to his grace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

The Liturgy of the Eucharist

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
to give you thanks and praise,
almighty God and everlasting Father,
through Jesus Christ your Son.

For in these forty days
you lead us into the desert of repentance
that through a pilgrimage of prayer and discipline
we may grow in grace
and learn to be your people once again.
Through fasting, prayer and acts of service
you bring us back to your generous heart.
Through study of your holy word
you open our eyes to your presence in the world
and free our hands to welcome others
into the radiant splendour of your love.
As we prepare to celebrate the Easter feast
with joyful hearts and mind
we bless you for your mercy
and join with saints and angels
for ever praising you and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Father, on the night before he died,
Jesus shared a meal with his friends.
He took the bread, and thanked you.
He broke it, and gave it to them, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this to remember me.
After the meal, Jesus took the cup of wine.
He thanked you, and gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you.
This is my blood,
the new promise of God's unfailing love.
Do this to remember me.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:
**Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life:
Lord Jesus, come in glory**

Father, as we bring this bread and wine,
and remember his death and resurrection,
send your Holy Spirit,
that we who share these gifts
may be fed by Christ's body and his blood.

Pour your Spirit on us
that we may love one another,
work for the healing of the earth,
and share the good news of Jesus,
as we wait for his coming in glory.

For honour and praise belong to you, Father,
with Jesus your Son, and the Holy Spirit:
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Additional Eucharistic Prayer 1 with preface for Ash Wednesday

The Lord's Prayer.

Lord, remember us in your kingdom
and teach us to pray.

**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.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

Jesus is the Lamb of God
who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

Agnus Dei

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.**

The Communion

Draw near with faith . . .

The Prayer after Communion

The President says

God our Father, in your love and goodness you have
taught us to come close to you in penitence with
prayer and fasting, generosity and the breaking of
bread; accept our Lenten discipline, and when we fall by
our weakness, raise us up by your unfailing
mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Dismissal

The President says the blessing

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness, to deny
yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him; and the
blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the
Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you
always. **Amen.**

A minister says

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.