

The Easter Vigil And First Eucharist of Easter With Baptisms and Confirmations



**Truro
Cathedral**
sacred space, common ground

Easter Eve
4th April 2026
7.30pm

Today is the day of days, the feast of feasts, and in this special service we recapture some of the earliest traditions of the Christian Church. As we celebrate the joy of Easter, we are united with Christians of every age and place, who through word and music and sacramental sign enter afresh into the Passover of the Lord, moving from the darkness of the tomb to the light of Christ's risen life.

We begin by gathering in darkness to hear the history of God's saving work, from the dawn of creation through to the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, just as Christians did in the earliest times. There is a particular emphasis on liberation; as God's holy people were liberated from slavery in Egypt, so we are liberated from the slavery of sin and death.

The vigil is followed by the service of light as we move outside the West end of the cathedral to light the Easter fire. The Easter Candle is prepared and blessed at the West End of the Cathedral, and we light candles from it, shining as lights of hope within a dark world. The great Easter song of praise, the Exultet, is sung and an organ fanfare rings out through the building. The candle remains in place throughout the Easter Season, a symbol of the triumph of Christ over death.

After the Gospel and Sermon, we are invited to renew our baptismal vows, and are sprinkled with water taken from the font. It is traditional to baptise and confirm at this service and today we will have 10 candidates being baptised and confirmed by Bishop David including some making their promises for the first time as adults.

Please pray for our candidates for Baptism and confirmation:

April Bullard
Helen Campbell
Pam Faulkener
Issy Fletcher
Alice Fletcher

Noah Harrison
Teddy Harrison
Rory Murdoch
Rupert Street
Alfie Whillson

Vigil Readings, Psalms and Prayers

*The service begins at the lectern in the nave. The clergy enter informally. Please join in the words marked in **bold type**.*

The Dean says

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light.

Two lights upon the lectern are lit

Dear brothers and sisters, as we await the risen Christ, the Church invites her children throughout the world to come together in vigil and prayer. Let us hear the record of God's saving deeds in history, recalling how he saved his people in ages past, and in the fullness of time sent his Son to be our Redeemer. Let us pray that, through this Easter celebration, God may bring to perfection in each of us the saving work he has begun:

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, to you be glory and praise for ever. Your steadfast love extends to the heavens and your faithfulness never ceases. Illuminate our hearts with your wisdom and strengthen our lives with your word, for you are the fountain of life; in your light we see true light.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God for ever.

First Reading – from Genesis 1

God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." And it was so. God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years." And it was so. God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth" So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind." And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth."

So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm 104: 1 - 7

Response: **Send forth your Spirit, O Lord,
and renew the face of the earth.**

Silence is kept.

The Collect

Let us pray:

Almighty God, you have created the heavens and the earth and made us in your own image: teach us to discern your hand in all your works and your likeness in all your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Second Reading - From Jonah 1

Now the word of the Lord came to Jonah son of Amittai, saying, 'Go at once to Nineveh, that great city, and cry out against it; for their wickedness has come up before me.' But Jonah set out to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the Lord. He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish; so he paid his fare and went on board, to go with them to Tarshish, away from the presence of the Lord. But the Lord hurled a great wind upon the sea, and such a mighty storm came upon the sea that the ship threatened to break up. Then the mariners were afraid, and each cried to his god. Jonah, meanwhile, had gone down into the hold of the ship and had lain down, and was fast asleep. The sailors said to one another, 'Come, let us cast lots, so that we may know on whose account this calamity has come upon us.' So they cast lots, and the lot fell on Jonah. Then they said to him, 'Tell us why this calamity has come upon us. What is your occupation? Where do you come from? What is your country? And of what people are you?' 'I am a Hebrew,' he replied. 'I worship the Lord, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land.' Then the men were even more afraid, and said to him, 'What is this that you have done!' For the men knew that he was fleeing from the presence of the Lord, because he had told them so. Then they said to him, 'What shall we do to you, that the sea may quieten down for us?' For the sea was growing more and more tempestuous. He said to them, 'Pick me up and throw me into the sea; then the sea will quieten down for you; for I know it is because of me that this great storm has come upon you.' Nevertheless, the men rowed hard to bring the ship back to land, but they could not, for the sea grew more and more stormy against them. Then they cried out to the Lord, 'Please, O Lord, we pray, do not let us perish on account of this man's life. Do not make us guilty of innocent blood; for you, O Lord, have done as it pleased you.' So they picked Jonah up and threw him into the sea; and the sea ceased from its raging. Then the men feared the Lord even more, and they offered a sacrifice to the Lord and made vows. But the Lord provided a large fish to swallow up Jonah; and Jonah was in the

belly of the fish for three days and three nights. And the Lord commanded the fish, and it vomited Jonah onto dry land

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm 130

Response: **Out of the depths have I cried to you, O Lord.**

Silence is kept.

The Collect

Blessed are you, Lord, God of our salvation. In the face of wickedness and disobedience you still looked lovingly upon Nineveh and your prophet Jonah. As we see your mighty salvation, raising Jonah from his tomb within the deep waters, turn the heart of our culture to the ways of your love, that our world might return to you, our maker and our Saviour.

Amen.

Third Reading - Exodus 14: 15 – 15: 1a

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Why do you cry out to me? Tell the Israelites to go forward. But you lift up your staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the Israelites may go into the sea on dry ground. Then I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they will go in after them; and so I will gain glory for myself over Pharaoh and all his army, his chariots, and his chariot drivers. And the Egyptians shall know that I am the Lord, when I have gained glory for myself over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his chariot drivers."

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and

the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt." Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses. Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the Lord:

The Song of Moses and Miriam - Exodus 15: 1b-6

Response: **I will sing, I will sing to the Lord,
for he has triumphed gloriously.**

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Silence is kept

The Collect

Let us pray:

Lord God our redeemer, who heard the cry of your people and sent your servant Moses to lead them out of slavery: free us from the tyranny of sin and death and, by the leading of your Spirit, bring us to our promised land; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Fourth Reading - Ezekiel 36: 24-28

Again the word of the Lord came to me...“I will take you from the nations, and gather you from all the countries, and bring you into your own land. I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. I will put my spirit within you, and make you follow my statutes and be careful to observe my ordinances. Then you shall live in the land that I gave to your ancestors; and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm 42

Response:

Put your trust in God for he is our help and indeed our God.

Silence is kept.

The Collect

Let us pray:

Blessed are you, Lord, God of our salvation. When we are overwhelmed by the wasting world, gather us again and renew us. Create in us a new heart and a renewed spirit, that we may be a people prepared to live in your land and walk in your ways, O Lord, our maker and redeemer. **Amen**

Blessing of the Fire and Lighting of the Paschal Candle

The ministers and congregation move to High Cross (or the West End). The deacon carries the unlit Easter Candle. The new fire is lit. The fire is then blessed.

Bishop: Eternal God, who made this most holy night to shine with the brightness of your one true light: make this fire holy, set us aflame with the fire of your love, and bring us into the radiance of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Resurrection of Christ has always been celebrated with light, so the Paschal Candle is adorned with the Greek letters Alpha and Omega signifying that Christ is the beginning and the end, the sign of the cross is made symbolising the victory of Jesus over death and the year claimed for Christ as the president says

Christ yesterday and today, the beginning and the end, Alpha and Omega, all time belongs to him, and all ages; to him be glory for ever. Amen.

Five grains of incense are inserted into the candle representing the five wounds of the crucifixion.

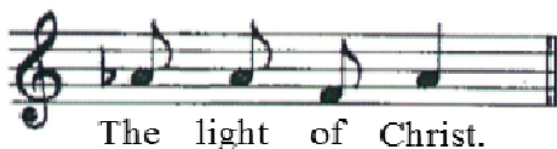
By his holy and glorious wounds may Christ our Lord guard us and keep us.

The Paschal Candle is then lit from the new fire as the president says

May the light of Christ, rising in glory, banish all darkness from our hearts and minds.

The procession, led by the Paschal Candle then enters the cathedral pausing three times as the "Light of Christ" is proclaimed, rising a tone each time.

Deacon



All



The Paschal Candle is then censed and the deacon sings the Exultet

Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels! O Universe, dance around God's throne! Jesus Christ, our King, is risen! Sound the victorious trumpet of salvation! Rejoice, O earth, in glory, revealing the splendour of your creation, radiant in the brightness of your triumphant King! Christ has conquered! Now his life and glory fill you! Darkness vanishes for ever! Rejoice, O Mother Church! Exult in glory! The risen Saviour, our Lord of life, shines upon you! Let all God's people sing and shout for joy.

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 right and good that with hearts and minds and voices we should praise you, Father almighty, the unseen God, through your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who has saved us by his death, paid the price of Adam's sin, and reconciled us once again to you. For this is the Passover feast, when Christ, the true Lamb of God, is slain whose blood consecrates the homes of all the faithful.

This is the night when you first saved our ancestors, freeing Israel from her slavery and leading her safely through the sea. This is the night when Jesus Christ vanquished hell, broke the chains of death and rose triumphant from the grave. This is the night when all who believe in him are freed from sin, restored to grace and holiness, and share the victory of Christ.

This is the night that gave us back what we had lost; beyond our deepest dreams you made even our sin a happy fault. Most blessed of all nights! Evil and hatred are put to flight and sin is washed away, lost innocence regained, and mourning turned to joy. Night truly blessed, when hatred is cast out, peace and justice find a home, and heaven is joined to earth and all creation reconciled to you.

Therefore, heavenly Father, in this our Easter joy accept our sacrifice of praise, your Church's solemn offering, the work of bees and of your servants hands. Grant that this Easter Candle may make our darkness light. For Christ the morning star has risen in glory; Christ is risen from the dead and his flame of love still burns within us! Christ sheds his peaceful light on all the world! Christ lives and reigns for ever and ever! Amen.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. ALLELUIA!

A fanfare is played on the organ, the lights are turned on and all are invited to ring their bells or rattle their keys. Finally the gloria is intoned.

Gloria in excelsis Deo,
et in terra pax
hominibus bonae voluntatis.
Laudamus te, benedicimus te,
adoramus te, glorificamus te.
Gratias agimus tibi propter
magnam gloriam tuam,
Domine Deus,
Rex caelestis,
Deus Pater omnipotens.
Domine Fili unigenite,
Jesu Christe, Domine Deus, Agnus
Dei, Filius Patris,
qui tollis
peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.
Qui tollis peccata mundi,
suscipe deprecationem nostram.
Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris,
miserere nobis.
Quoniam tu solus Sanctus,
tu solus Dominus,

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace
to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
Almighty God and Father,
we worship you,
we give you thanks,
we praise you
for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ,
only Son of the Father,
Lord God,
Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated
at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone
are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,

tu solus Altissimus,
Jesu Christe,
cum Sancto Spiritu:
in gloria Dei Patris. Amen.

Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

The lights are turned on

The Collect

Let us pray

Lord of all life and power, who through the mighty resurrection of your Son overcame the old order of sin and death to make all things new in him: grant that we, being dead to sin and alive to you in Jesus Christ, may reign with him in glory; to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be praise and honour, glory and might, now and in all eternity. **Amen.**

Please extinguish your candles and sit.

New Testament Reading **Romans 6: 3 – 11**

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading Matthew 28. 1-10

Please stand.

Choir Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.



I am the first and the last, says the Lord, and the living one;
I was dead, and behold I am alive for evermore.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

On After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men.

The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay.⁷ Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you."

So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them. "Greetings," he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

During the procession the following Litany of the Resurrection is sung and the candles of the people are relit. Please follow the Procession to the font.

The Liturgy of Initiation

The Litany of the Resurrection

1. O give thanks to the Lord, for he is gracious:

and his mercy endures for ever.

2. He has loved us from all eternity:

and his mercy endures for ever.

3. And remembered us when we were in trouble:

and his mercy endures for ever.

4. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:

and his mercy endures for ever.

5. He became incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man:

and his mercy endures for ever.

6. By his cross and passion he has redeemed the world:

and his mercy endures for ever.

7. And has washed us from our sins in his own blood:

and his mercy endures for ever.

8. On the third day he rose again:
and his mercy endures for ever.

9. And has given us the victory:
and his mercy endures for ever.

10. He ascended into heaven:
and his mercy endures for ever.

11. And opened wide for us the everlasting doors:
and his mercy endures for ever.

12. He is seated at the right hand of the Father:
and his mercy endures for ever.

13. And ever lives to make intercession for us:
and his mercy endures for ever.

14. For the gift of his Spirit:
blessed be Christ.

15. For the catholic Church:
blessed be Christ.

16. For the means of grace:
blessed be Christ.

17. For the hope of glory:
blessed be Christ.

18. For the triumphs of his gospel:
blessed be Christ.

19. For the lives of his saints:
blessed be Christ.

20. In joy and in sorrow:
blessed be Christ.

21. In life and in death:
blessed be Christ.

22. Now and to the end of the
ages:
blessed be Christ.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

Re-hallowing of the Font

Water is poured into the font and the people gather around

Springs of water, bless the Lord.
Give him glory and praise for ever!

Praise God who made heaven and earth
who keeps his promise for ever.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ was baptized in the river Jordan,
we thank you for the gift of water to cleanse us and revive us.

We thank you that through the waters of the Red Sea
you led your people out of slavery to freedom in the Promised Land.

We thank you that through the deep waters of death
you brought your Son, and raised him to life in triumph.

Bless this water, that your servants who are washed in it

may be made one with Christ in his death and in his resurrection,
to be cleansed and delivered from all sin.
Send your Holy Spirit upon them,
bring them to new birth in the household of faith
and raise them with Christ to full and eternal life;
for all might, majesty, authority and power are yours,
now and for ever. **Amen.**

Presentation of Candidates

Sponsors: I present N to be baptised.
I present N and N to be confirmed.

Bishop to baptism candidates: Do you wish to be baptized?
Candidates: I do.

Baptisms and the Renewal of Baptismal Vows

Standing at the Font, the president says

Dear friends, as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead, we remember that through the paschal mystery we have died and been buried with him in baptism. Now that we have completed our observance of Lent, let us renew with these candidates the promises made at our baptism.

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?
I reject them.

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?
I renounce them.

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?
I repent of them.

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

I turn to Christ.

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

I submit to Christ.

Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?

I come to Christ.

The ministers make the sign of the cross on the forehead of the baptism candidates

Christ claims you for his own.

Receive the sign of the cross.

Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.

**Fight valiantly as a disciple of Christ
against sin, the world and the devil,
and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.**

May almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness,
restore in you the image of his glory,
and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ. **Amen.**

Brothers and sisters, I invite you to profess the faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Bishop asks the candidates for baptism and confirmation

Is this your faith?

This is my faith.

N, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Almighty God, we thank you for our fellowship in the household of faith
with all who have been baptized in your name. Keep us faithful to our
baptism, and so make us ready for that day when the whole creation shall
be made perfect in your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

May God, who has received you by baptism into his Church,
pour upon you the riches of his grace,
that within the company of Christ's pilgrim people
you may daily be renewed by his anointing Spirit,
and come to the inheritance of the saints in glory. **Amen.**

*The president sprinkles all the people with the water drawn from the Font as a
reminder to them of their baptism saying "Remember your baptism"*

May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith,
that you may be rooted and grounded in love
and bring forth the fruit of the Spirit. **Amen.**

The people extinguish their candles.

Processional Hymn

A Hymn is sung during which the Procession moves into the podium where the next part of the service takes place.

**Jesus lives! thy terrors now
can, O Death, no more appal us;
Jesus lives! by this we know
thou, O Grave, canst not enthrall us.
Alleluia!**

Confirmation

The Bishop stands before those who are to be confirmed and says
Our help is in the name of the Lord
who has made heaven and earth.
Blessed be the name of the Lord
now and for ever. Amen.

The Bishop extends his hands towards those to be confirmed and says
Almighty and ever-living God, you have given these your servants new
birth in baptism by water and the Spirit,
and have forgiven them all their sins.
Let your Holy Spirit rest upon them:
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding;
the Spirit of counsel and inward strength;
the Spirit of knowledge and true godliness;
and let their delight be in the fear of the Lord. **Amen.**

*The Bishop addresses each candidate by name,
anointing them with Chrism whilst saying*
N, God has called you by name and made you his own.
He then lays his hand on the head of each, saying
Confirm, O Lord, your servant with your Holy Spirit.
Amen.

The Bishop invites the congregation to pray for all those on whom hands have been laid

Defend, O Lord, **these your servants with your heavenly grace,
that they may continue yours for ever,
and daily increase in your Holy Spirit more and more**

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then were they glad when they saw the Lord.

The peace of the risen Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

The deacon says

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

The new-ly confirmed follow the altar party to seats in the sanctuary.

Offertory Hymn

**Jesus lives! henceforth is death
but the gate of Life immortal;
this shall calm our trembling breath,
when we pass its gloomy portal.
Alleluia!**

**Jesus lives! for us he died;
then alone to Jesus living,
pure in heart may we abide,
Glory to our Saviour giving.
Alleluia!**

**Jesus lives! our hearts know well
nought from us his love shall sever;
life, nor death, nor powers of hell
tear us from his keeping ever.
Alleluia!**

**Jesus lives! to him the Throne
over all the world is given;
we, in spirit with Him one,
rest and reign with Him in heaven.
Alleluia!**

Preparation of the Table

Lord of life, with unbounded joy we offer you our sacrifice of praise. As we are fed with the bread of heaven may we know your resurrection power; through Christ our risen Lord. **Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer E

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, 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:

Choir

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.
Pleni sunt coeli et terra
gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis

Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full
of your glory.
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 friends 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.

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.

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.

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

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 all the saints to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours,
O loving Father, for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Jesus Christ is risen from the dead, and so with faith and confidence we
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.**

Breaking of the Bread

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

Jesus says, I am the bread of life,
whoever eats this bread will live for ever.

**Lord, our hearts are hungry for you;
give us this bread always.**

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

All sit. The baptism and confirmation candidates receive communion first. Please follow the direction of the Lay Assistants during the distribution of communion.

After Communion

Please stand.

Heavenly Father, you have delivered us from the power of darkness, and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: grant that, as his death has recalled us to life, so his continual presence in us may raise us to eternal joy; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**Father of all, we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off
you met us in your Son and brought us home.
Dying and living, he declared your love,
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;
we who drink his cup bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
so we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Hymn

**Alleluya, sing to Jesus,
his the sceptre, his the throne;
alleluya, his the triumph,
his the victory alone:
Hark the songs of peaceful Sion
thunder like a mighty flood;
Jesus, out of every nation,
hath redeemed us by his blood.**

**Alleluya, not as orphans
are we left in sorrow now;
alleluya, he is near us,
faith believes, nor questions how;
though the cloud from sight received him
when the forty days were o'er,
shall our hearts forget his promise,
'I am with you evermore'?**

**Alleluya, Bread of Angels,
thou on earth our food, our stay;
alleluya, here the sinful
flee to thee from day to day;
Intercessor, Friend of sinners,
earth's Redeemer, plead for me,
where the songs of all the sinless
sweep across the crystal sea.**

**Alleluya, King eternal,
thee the Lord of lords we own;
alleluya, born of Mary,
earth thy footstool, heaven thy throne:
Thou within the veil hast entered,
robed in flesh, our great High Priest;
thou on earth both Priest and Victim
in the Eucharistic Feast.**

Tune: Hyfrydol 271 NEH Melody by Richard Huw Pritchard (1811-87).

Words: W Chatterton Dix (1837-1898)

The Dismissal

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

The Bishop uses this or another suitable blessing

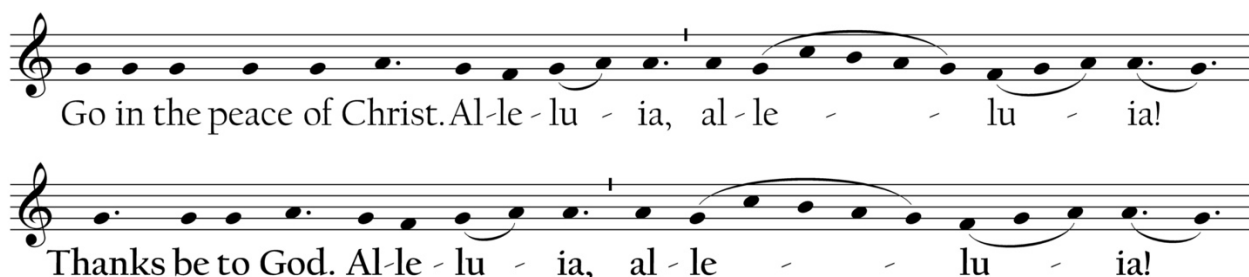
God the Father, by whose love Christ was raised from the dead,
open to you who believe the gates of everlasting life. **Amen.**

God the Son, who in bursting from the grave has won a glorious victory,
give you joy as you share the Easter faith. **Amen.**

God the Holy Spirit, who filled the disciples with the life of the risen Lord,
empower you and fill you with Christ's peace. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The deacon sings and all reply



Go in the peace of Christ. Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Thanks be to God. Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Please remain standing as the choir, servers and clergy depart



**Truro
Cathedral**
sacred space, common ground

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