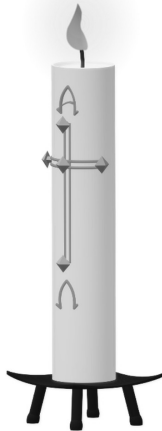


Welcome to St Andrew's Church Shrivenham



Easter Service of Light and Vigil With Renewal of Baptismal Vows

*All gather in silence, the building being in darkness.
The ministers, one of them carrying the unlit Easter Candle, go outside the porch.
The choir and congregation follow in silence.*

The Service of Light

The President introduces the Service of Light, saying:

President: Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,
on this most holy night,
when our Lord Jesus Christ passed from death to life,
the Church invites her children throughout the world
to come together in vigil and prayer.
This is the Passover of the Lord.
We remember his death and resurrection
by hearing his word and celebrating his mysteries,
confident that we shall share his victory over death
and live with him for ever in God.

The bonfire is lit, and the President prays:

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

All: Amen.

The Paschal Candle is marked by the President saying:

President: Christ yesterday and today,
the beginning and the end,
Alpha and Omega,
all time belongs to him,
and all ages;
to him be glory and power,
through every age and for ever.

All: Amen.

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

All: **Amen.**

The Lighting of the Paschal Candle

The President lights the Paschal Candle saying:

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

The Deacon raises the Paschal Candle saying:

Deacon: The light of Christ

All: **Thanks be to God**

The congregation follow the Deacon into church. At the centre, the Deacon raises the Paschal Candle saying:

Deacon: The light of Christ

All: **Thanks be to God**

The Deacon proceeds to the altar; the altar candles are lit and the light of Christ is passed from the Paschal Candle through the congregation; when all candles have been lit, Deacon again raises the Paschal Candle saying:

Deacon: The light of Christ

All: **Thanks be to God**

The Deacon proceeds to the font; the choir and congregation gather around. The Paschal Candle is plunged three times into the font and then placed in its stand.

The Exsultet

The Exsultet is sung. The metrical form of the introduction is sung by all to the tune Woodlands:

All: **Sing, choirs of heaven! Let saints and angels sing!
Around God's throne exult in harmony!
Now Jesus Christ is risen from the grave!
Salute your King in glorious symphony!**

**Sing, choirs of earth! Behold, your light has come!
The glory of the Lord shines radiantly!
Lift up your hearts, for Christ has conquered death!
The night is past, the day of life is here!**

**Sing, Church of God! Exult with joy outpoured!
The gospel trumpets tell of victory won!
Your Saviour lives; he's with you evermore!
Let all God's people sound the long Amen!**

The Cantor(s) continue:

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.

Glory to you for ever.

For this is the Passover feast,
when Christ, the true Lamb of God, is slain
whose blood consecrates the homes of all the faithful.

Glory to you for ever.

This is the night when you first saved our ancestors,
freeing Israel from her slavery
and leading her safely through the sea.

Glory to you for ever.

This is the night when Jesus Christ vanquished hell,
broke the chains of death
and rose triumphant from the grave.

Glory to you for ever.

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.

Glory to you for ever.

This is the night that gave us back what we had lost;
beyond our deepest dreams
you made even our sin a happy fault.

Glory to you for ever.

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.

Glory to you for ever.

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.

Glory to you for ever.

Therefore, heavenly Father, in this our Easter joy
accept our sacrifice of praise, your Church's solemn
offering,
this wax, the work of bees and the hands of your ministers.

Glory to you for ever.

As we gaze on the splendour of this flame
fed by melting wax conceived by mother bee,
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.**

The Choir and congregation return to their seats

The Vigil

Vigil Readings

First Reading:

Second Reading:

At the end, the reader may say:

This is the word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Hymn

The Easter Acclamation

President: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

All: He is risen indeed. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Gloria in Excelsis

We sing the Peruvian Gloria:

Cantor: Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to the Father

All: Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to the Father

Cantor: To God be glory forever

All: To God be glory forever

Cantor: Alleluia, Amen.

All: Alleluia, Amen.

All: Alleluia, Amen. Alleluia, Amen.

Cantor: Glory to God, Glory to God, Son of the Father
All: **Glory to God, Glory to God, Son of the Father**
Etc

Cantor: Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to the Spirit
All: **Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to the Spirit**
Etc

Psalm 24

Please say the words in bold type:

- 1 The earth is the Lord's and all that fills it, ♦
the compass of the world and all who dwell therein.
- 2 For he has founded it upon the seas ♦
and set it firm upon the rivers of the deep.
- 3 **'Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord, ♦
or who can rise up in his holy place?'**
- 4 'Those who have clean hands and a pure heart, ♦
who have not lifted up their soul to an idol,
nor sworn an oath to a lie;
- 5 'They shall receive a blessing from the Lord, ♦
a just reward from the God of their salvation.'
- 6 Such is the company of those who seek him, ♦
of those who seek your face, O God of Jacob.
- 7 Lift up your heads, O gates; be lifted up, you everlasting doors; ♦
and the King of glory shall come in.
- 8 **'Who is the King of glory?' ♦**
'The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord who is mighty in battle.'
- 9 Lift up your heads, O gates; be lifted up, you everlasting doors; ♦
and the King of glory shall come in.

10 **'Who is this King of glory?' ♦**
'The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.'

Refrain: **Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

Gospel Reading

President: 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.

All Alleluia.

Reader: Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *N*
Glory to you, O Lord,

At the end, the reader may say:

This is the Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon

Anthem

The choir sings the anthem

Renewal of Baptismal Vows

The Renunciation

The President says to the whole congregation:

President: Moses said to the people of Israel:
'See I have set before you life and death,
blessing and curse.
Therefore choose life
loving the Lord your God,
obeying his voice, and cleaving to him.'

That is the choice offered to us
through the Paschal mystery,
that we may die to sin and be buried with Christ in baptism
that we may have life.

Therefore I ask:

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?

All: **I reject them.**

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

All: **I renounce them.**

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

All: **I repent of them.**

The Affirmation

President: God says to his people:

‘Fear not, for I have redeemed you;

I have called you by name, you are mine.

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;

and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;

when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,

and the flame shall not consume you.

For I am the Lord your God,

the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour..’

In baptism, God calls out of darkness
into his marvellous light.

Therefore I ask:

Do you turn to Christ as saviour?

All: **I turn to Christ.**

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

All: **I submit to Christ.**

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

All: **I come to Christ.**

President: 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.

The President makes the sign of the cross, saying to the congregation:

President: 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.

All: **Amen.**

Hymn

The Collect

President: Let us pray that we may reign with the risen Christ in glory.

Silence is kept.

President: God of glory,

by the raising of your Son

you have broken the chains of death and hell:

fill your Church with faith and hope;

for a new day has dawned

and the way to life stands open

in our Saviour Jesus Christ.

All: **Amen.**

We leave quietly; the graves outside are sprinkled with holy water.

*The **Easter Liturgy** is not yet complete. It will continue here tomorrow with the*

***Eucharist**; please see the **Benefice** website for other services.*

We hope you will join us at one of these.