



The Chapel of The Transfiguration

Holy Saturday

4th April 2026
6.00 pm

The Chapel remains in darkness.

The congregation gathers on the chapel steps.

The Choir, Servers, and Clergy assemble on the chapel steps, bearing the unlit Easter Candle.

All face the Clergy.

The Assistant Chaplain says

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 new fire is kindled.

The Assistant Chaplain says

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.

Amen.

A Server brings the Easter Candle to the Assistant Chaplain, who traces the cross and then the Greek letter Alpha (A) above and the Greek letter Omega (Ω) below it. The numbers of the current year are marked in the space between the arms of the cross and 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 and power,
through every age and for ever.

Amen.



Five 'nails' of incense, signifying the wounds of Christ, are inserted into the Candle. The Assistant Chaplain says

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

Amen.

The Lighting of the Easter Candle

The Assistant Chaplain lights the Easter Candle, saying

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

The Assistant Chaplain bearing the Candle enters the Chapel followed by the Choir and Congregation, and they pause just inside the entrance.

The Assistant Chaplain raises the Candle and sings



The light of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

The procession of the Easter Candle moves further into the Chapel and then stops twice more. The versicle and response are repeated and the candles of those around are lit from the Easter Candle.

After the third response a fanfare is sounded the bells are rung the lights of the chapel are switched on and the congregation carefully extinguishes their candles. After-which all sing

Exsultet
(Song of Easter)

**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 out-poured!
The gospel trumpets tell of victory won!
Your Saviour lives; he's with you evermore!
Let all God's people sound the long Amen!**

Tune: Woodlands
Walter Greatorex (1877–1949)

The Collect

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

All kneel and silence is kept.

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.

All sit

Reading

St. Mark 16. 1–7

A reading from the Gospel of St. Mark

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, 'Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?' When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back.

As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, 'Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.'

Thanks be to God

All stand to sing

Hymn

**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!**

**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;
may we go where he is gone,
rest and reign with him in heaven.**

Alleluia!

Remain standing for the

Blessing

The God of peace,
who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus,
that great shepherd of the sheep,
through the blood of the eternal covenant,
make you perfect in every good work to do his will,
working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

Remain standing as the Servers, Clergy and Choir depart.

The Marking of the Easter Candle

As the vertical of the cross is traced the president says
Christ, yesterday and today,

As the horizontal is traced the president says
the beginning and the end,

As the Alpha is traced
Alpha

As the Omega is traced
and Omega,

As the first number of the year is traced the president says
all time belongs to him,

As the second number is traced
and all ages;

As the third number is traced
to him be glory and power,

As the fourth number is traced
through every age and for ever.

*The Five 'nails' of incense, signifying the wounds of Christ,
are inserted as so*

1

By his holy

4

guard us

2

and glorious
wounds

5

and keep us.

3

may Christ
our Lord