

S. THOMAS' COLLEGE, MOUNT LAVINIA



The Chapel of The Transfiguration

Sung Eucharist

Sunday after Ascension Day

Sunday 17th May 2026
7.30 am



Jesus' friends lived through the pain of parting not once but twice: the farewell discourses in John's Gospel tell of how Jesus prepared them for his coming death, and for his ascension back into heaven. Here he prays aloud, for their benefit, in words that are full of mystery and poetry, hope and comfort, reassuring them that they are already being drawn into the very love of God, and that the closer they come to God, the closer they become to each other. To be at one with God is to be at one with one another.



Order of Service

*The congregation is asked to join in all text printed in **bold**.*

If you are unable to stand at any point during the service, please feel free to remain seated.

*The service is sung by
The Chapel Choir of S. Thomas' College, Mount Lavinia.*

Please remain silent before the service.

The Gathering

Remain seated as the choir enters and takes their place.

All stand as the altar party enters and moves to the Sanctuary

The chaplain sings

Let us proceed in peace

In the name of Christ. Amen.

Processional Hymn

*during which the Servers, Choir and Clergy move in procession
around the Chapel and the altar is censed thereafter*



**At the name of Jesus
every knee shall bow,
every tongue confess him
King of glory now:
'tis the Father's pleasure
we should call him Lord,
who from the beginning
was the mighty Word.**

**At his voice creation
sprang at once to sight,
all the angel faces,
all the hosts of light,
thrones and dominations,
stars upon their way,
all the heavenly orders,
in their great array.**

**Humbled for a season,
to receive a name
from the lips of sinners
unto whom he came,
faithfully he bore it
spotless to the last,
brought it back victorious,
when from death he passed:**

**Bore it up triumphant
with its human light,
through all ranks of creatures,
to the central height,
to the throne of Godhead,
to the Father's breast;
filled it with the glory,
of that perfect rest.**

**Name him, brothers, name him,
with love strong as death,
but with awe and wonder
and with bated breath:
he is God the Saviour,
he is Christ the Lord,
ever to be worshipped,
trusted, and adored.**

**In your hearts enthrone him;
there let him subdue
all that is not holy,
all that is not true:
crown him as your Captain
in temptation's hour;
let his will enfold you
in its light and power.**

**Brothers, this Lord Jesus
Shall return again,
In the Father's glory,
With his angel train;
For all wreaths of empire
Meet upon his brow,
And our hearts confess him
King of glory now.**

Words: Caroline M. Noel (1817–77)

Tune: EVEVLVNS
William Monk (1823–89)

All remain standing.

The celebrant continues

Greeting

In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

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

“I came from the Father and have come into the world;
again, I am leaving the world and am going to the Father.”

John 16.28

Blessed be God
Blessed be God's reign for ever. Amen.

The celebrant continues

Prayer of Preparation

Almighty God,
**to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

The celebrant invites all to confess their sins

Prayers of Penitence

Christ has gone up on high, leading captivity captive and bringing gifts for men. As we prepare ourselves to meet him here in the courts of heaven let us call to mind our many failures and sins.

All kneel and silence is kept

Most merciful God,
**Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned in thought,
word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God.
Amen.**

The choir sings

Kyrie Eleison	<i>Lord, have mercy</i>
Christe Eleison	<i>Christ, have mercy</i>
Kyrie Eleison	<i>Lord, have mercy</i>

The celebrant pronounces the Absolution

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

All stand to sing

Gloria

Glory be to God on high,
and in earth peace, good will towards men.
We praise thee, we bless thee,
we worship thee, we glorify thee,
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,
O Lord God, heavenly King,
God the Father almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ:
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God
the Father,
have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord;
thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,
art the Most High, in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

Silence is kept.

The celebrant continues

Collect for the Day

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Let us pray

O God, the King of glory,
who hast exalted thine only Son Jesus Christ
with great triumph unto thy kingdom in heaven:
we beseech thee, leave us not comfortless;
but send to us thy Holy Spirit to strengthen us,
and exalt us unto the place whither our Saviour Christ
is gone before; who liveth and reigneth with thee,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God,
world without end.

Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

New Testament Reading

Acts 1. 6–14

When the apostles had come together, they asked Jesus, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.' Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

from Psalm 68

Let God arise and let his enemies be scattered;
let those that hate him flee before him.

**As the smoke vanishes, so may they vanish away;
as wax melts at the fire,
so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.**

But let the righteous be glad
and rejoice before God;
let them make merry with gladness.

**Sing to God, sing praises to his name;
exalt him who rides on the clouds—
the Lord is his name—
rejoice before him.**

Father of the fatherless, defender of widows,
God in his holy habitation.

**God gives the solitary a home,
and brings forth prisoners to songs of welcome,
but the rebellious inhabit a burning desert.**

O God, when you went forth before your people,
when you marched through the wilderness,
the earth shook and the heavens dropped down rain,
at the presence of God, the Lord of Sinai,
at the presence of God, the God of Israel.

**You sent down a gracious rain, O God;
you refreshed your inheritance**

**when it was weary;
your people came to dwell there;
in your goodness, O God,
you provide for the poor.**

**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.**

Epistle

I Peter 4. 12–14

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice in so far as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

All stand to sing

Gradual Hymn



**Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
Does his successive journeys run;
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
Till moons shall wax and wane no more.**

**People and realms of every tongue
Dwell on his love with sweetest song,
And infant voices shall proclaim
Their early blessings on his name.**

**Blessings abound where'er he reigns;
The prisoner leaps to lose his chains;
The weary find eternal rest,
And all the sons of want are blest.**

**Let every creature rise and bring
Peculiar honours to our King;
Angels descend with songs again,
And earth repeat the long Amen.**

Words: Isaac Watts (1674–1748)

Tune: TRURO

“Psalmodia Evangelica” in 1789

All stand to sing

Affirmation of Faith

We believe in one God,
**the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
And of all things visible and invisible;**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God, Begotten
of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
By whom all things were made:
Who for us men, and for our salvation
came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the
Virgin Mary, and was made man,
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate,
He suffered and was buried,
and the third day he rose again
according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of the Father.
And he shall come again with glory to judge
both the quick and the dead:
Whose Kingdom shall have no end.**

**And we believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
Who proceedeth from the Father,
who with the Father and the Son together
is worshiped and glorified,
who spake by the Prophets.**

**And we believe One Holy Catholic
and Apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one Baptism
for the remission of sins.**

**And we look for the Resurrection of the dead,
And the life of the world to come.**

Amen.

All kneel or sit

Prayers of Intercession

during which the following response is used

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

All stand

Greeting of Peace

God has made us one in Christ.

He has set his seal upon us and, as a pledge of what is to come, has given the Spirit to dwell in our hearts. Alleluia.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

and also with you.

Preparation of the Table

Offertory Hymn

during which the bread, wine and water are placed on the altar, and a collection is taken for the work of the chapel



**Crown him with many crowns,
The Lamb upon his throne;
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns
All music but its own:
Awake, my soul, and sing
Of him who died for thee,
And hail him as thy matchless King
Through all eternity.**

**Crown him the Virgin's Son,
The God incarnate born,
Whose arm those crimson trophies won
Which now his brow adorn:
Fruit of the mystic Rose,
As of that Rose the Stem;
The Root whence mercy ever flows,
The Babe of Bethlehem.**

**Crown him the Lord of love!
Behold his hands and side,
Rich wounds yet visible above
In beauty glorified:
No angel in the sky
Can fully bear that sight,
But downward bends his burning eye
At mysteries so bright.**

**Crown Him the Lord of peace,
Whose power a sceptre sways
From pole to pole, that wars may cease,
Absorbed in prayer and praise:
His reign shall know no end,
And round his pierced feet
Fair flowers of Paradise extend
Their fragrance ever sweet.**

**Crown him the Lord of years,
The Potentate of time,
Creator of the rolling spheres,
Ineffably sublime.
Glassed in a sea of light,
Where everlasting waves
Reflect his throne—the Infinite!
Who lives—and loves—and saves.**

Words: Matthew Bridges (1800–1894)

Tune: DIADEMATA
George Elvey (1816–60)

Remain standing. The celebrant invites all to say,

**All things come from you and of your own do we
give you, Creator and Lord of the universe, ever
adored by the holy Angels. Accept these gifts
of bread and wine and these offerings which we
present at your holy table and with them the
dedication of our lives for your service, through
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Remain standing. The celebrant continues

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you
And with thy spirit

Lift up your hearts
We lift them up unto the Lord

Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God
It is meet and right so to do

It is very meet, right, and our bounden
duty, that we should at all times, and in all
places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord,
Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God.

And now we give thee thanks
that, when thy Son our Lord had ascended far above all heavens,
and was seated at the right hand of thy Majesty,
he poured forth upon thy holy Church
thy life-giving Spirit; that, by his glorious power,
the joy of the everlasting Gospel
might be made known unto all the world.

Therefore with Angels, and Archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we laud and magnify thy glorious Name,
evermore praising thee, and saying:

The choir sings

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of hosts,
heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee,
O Lord most high.

All sit or kneel

Holy indeed are you Almighty Father eternal Sovereign, who in all your gifts and works manifests your holiness to all humanity. Holy is your Only Begotten Son Jesus Christ, through whom you did order the universe. And Holy is your ever blessed Spirit who reveals all things, even the deep things of you O God. Just as you yourself are holy, so also you created us in your own image that we might live in holy fellowship.

And when we disobeyed your commandments, you did not abandon us but you guided us as a merciful Father; you revealed yourself to us through the Sages, the Law and the Prophets, and through your redeeming acts in history, and when the time was ripe, you came among us through your Son Jesus, whom you sent into the world to share our human nature in order that the Lord Jesus might revive your own image in us.

**Generous God, Jesus loves us
and sacrificed himself for us
and heralded the new life
in breaking bread with companions.**

On the very night that he was betrayed to suffer death upon the cross for us, the Lord Jesus took bread and when he had given thanks to you Almighty Father, he broke it and gave it to his disciples saying:

Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same manner after supper, he took the cup also, and after giving thanks, he gave it to them saying:

Drink, all of you from this,
for this is my blood of the new covenant
which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

The Lord Jesus Christ is Saviour

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

And so Father, we present this bread and cup in communion with your whole church, in fellowship with Blessed Mary, St. Thomas and all the saints, and in union with all creation we celebrate your Son's death and victory; giving thanks for all that Christ has done for us; for preparing us for all that lies ahead,

we receive the benefits of Christ's life, death, resurrection and session in glory, and we eagerly await the heavenly banquet after Christ's coming again.

And we entreat you most merciful God to hear us and send your All Holy Spirit on us and on these your gifts, that they being blessed and hallowed by that life giving power, may be for us the Body and Blood of your most dearly loved Son, to the end that we receiving the same may be sanctified and filled with your grace and heavenly blessing.

Accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; make us one body in Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom and with whom and in whom in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honour and glory be to you Almighty Father, world without end.

All sing: **Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

The bread which we break
is it not a sharing in the body of Christ?

**We being many are one bread,
one body for we all partake of the one bread.**

Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we now pray

All sing

Our Father,

**which art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
in earth as it is in heaven.**

Give us this day our daily bread.

**And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive them 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 celebrant continues

The peace of the Lord be always with you

And also with you.

The gifts of God for the people of God

The choir sings

Benedictus

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Deep Silence

The choir sings

Agnus Dei

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world
Have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world
Have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world
Grant us thy peace.

Giving of Communion

*The celebrant invites the people to receive the Holy Communion,
saying*

Draw near with faith and take this Holy Sacrament to your
comfort.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

*All sit. If you receive communion in your own church, you are
welcome to do so here.*

Remain seated or kneeling to sing

Communion Hymn



**Jesu, our hope, our heart's desire,
thy work of grace we sing;
Redeemer of the world art thou,
its Maker and its King.**

**How vast the mercy and the love
which laid our sins on thee,
and led thee to a cruel death,
to set thy people free!**

**But now the bonds of death are burst,
the ransom has been paid;
and thou art on thy Father's throne,
in glorious robes arrayed.**

**O may thy mighty love prevail
our sinful souls to spare;
O may we stand around thy throne,
and see thy glory there.**

**Jesu, our only joy be thou,
as thou our prize wilt be;
in thee be all our glory now
and through eternity.**

**All praise to thee who art gone up
triumphantly to heaven;
all praise to God the Father's name,
and Holy Ghost be given.**

Words: Latin 18c.
Tr. John Chandler (1806–76)

Tune: REDHEAD No. 66
Richard Redhead (1820–1901)

All kneel or remain seated

Prayers after Communion

The celebrant says,

Give thanks to the Lord for God is gracious.
God's mercy endures forever.

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations; And remember,
I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Matthew 28.19,20

**Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the Body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through Christ we offer you ourselves
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live
and work to your praise and glory.
Amen.**

Remain kneeling or seated

The Dismissal

Blessing

The Spirit of truth lead you into all truth,
give you grace to confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,
and strengthen you to proclaim the word and works of God;
And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

All stand

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

Recessional Hymn



**Christ triumphant, ever reigning,
Saviour, Master, King!
Lord of heaven, our lives sustaining,
hear us as we sing:**

***Yours the glory and the crown,
the high renown, the eternal name.***

**Word incarnate, truth revealing,
Son of Man on earth!
power and majesty concealing
by your humble birth:**

All lower voices:

**Suffering servant, scorned, ill-treated,
victim crucified!
death is through the cross defeated,
sinners justified:**

All upper voices:

**Priestly king, enthroned for ever
high in heaven above!
sin and death and hell shall never
stifle hymns of love:**

**So, our hearts and voices raising
through the ages long,
ceaselessly upon you gazing,
this shall be our song:**

Words: Michael Saward (1932–2015)

Tune: Guiting Power
John Barnard (b. 1948)
Descant: John Barnard

*Remain standing as the choir moves out, then sit.
You are invited to be seated for the playing of the organ voluntary
or you may leave quietly at this point.*

Notices

You are all invited to a time of fellowship on the Chapel steps soon after this service.

14th June 2026

The Annual General Meeting of the Chapel



Material from Common Worship is included in this service and is copyright © The Archbishops' Council. The text for the day is by The Revd. Ally Barrett is the Associate Vicar at Great St Mary's, Cambridge. The Mass Setting is by Harold Darke. Hymns are taken from the College Hymnal. The Bible passages are read from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible (Anglicised edition).