

CHARLTON
ST LUKE AND ST THOMAS

Good Friday



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND



WELCOME

Everyone is welcome at St Luke's and St Thomas's for the celebration of our parish Eucharist. Here we

- gather and prepare to worship God
- confess the ways in which we have let God down
- receive God's forgiveness
- listen to Scripture and to God's word being broken open for us
- affirm what we believe
- pray for the church, the world, our community, those in need and the departed
- share Christ's Peace and make our offerings
- celebrate Holy Communion
- receive the bread and wine
- lift our voices to offer praise and thanksgiving
- pause in silence and stillness where God's presence is often felt most powerfully
- receive the blessing and are sent out to love and serve God

We hope that everyone who comes will encounter God here and leave with a desire to walk faithfully with Jesus, guided by the Spirit.

Children and young people are very precious to God and we are striving to reflect that truth in our church communities. In both our churches there are special arrangements for children. Please ask if you want to know more.

We want those taking part in our service to reflect our church communities. If you would like to read, sing, intercede, be a welcomer or serve at the altar, then please make that known to one of the clergy.

Jesus's love knows no bounds, and he has asked us to share the Good News outside our church circles. We want to grow our congregations; that means all of us having a 'culture of invitation' – being prepared to speak well of our church family and invite others to 'come and see'. St Luke's and St Thomas's are committed to all those who don't know God's great love for them – this is why we have a Mission Action Plan. More details about our vision, our mission, our values and priorities can be found in church.

GOOD FRIDAY

The Good Friday liturgy is characterised by the veneration of the cross and by there being no celebration of the Eucharist. Instead, the consecrated bread remaining from the Maundy Thursday Eucharist is given. It is traditional for the altar to be completely bare until covered by a fair linen cloth for the Liturgy of the Sacrament. The church remains stripped of all decoration. It continues bare and empty through the following day, which is a day without a liturgy. Silence and desolation are the best way to recall that the Son of God is dead. But within the silence there will grow a sense of peace and completion, and then rising excitement as the Easter celebration draws near.

The liturgical colour is red.

LITURGY OF GOOD FRIDAY

The Gathering

*The ministers enter in silence.
All may kneel for a time of silent prayer.*

The Collect

All stand.

President Almighty Father,
look with mercy on this your family,
for which our Lord Jesus Christ
was content to be betrayed
and given up into the hands of sinners
and to suffer death upon the cross;
who is alive and glorified with you and the
Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
All **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

Please sit.

Old Testament Reading

At the end of the reading ...

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

3

Silence is kept.

New Testament Reading

At the end of the reading ...

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

Silence is kept.

Please stand.

Gradual Hymn

The Passion Reading

Read by many voices (John 18.1 – end of 19).

Reader The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John.

At the end of the reading ...

Reader This is the Passion of the Lord.

No response is made. Silence is kept.

Sermon

After the sermon, silence is kept.

4

The Proclamation of the Cross

*A veiled wooden cross is brought into the church.
The procession stops three times, and the following
response is sung.*

Minister Behold the wood of the cross,
on which hung the Saviour of the world.
All **Come, let us worship.**

*After the final station, there is a period of silence
during which members of the congregation may come
forward to kneel before the cross in prayer and, if they
wish, kissing it. During this the following is sung.*

Faithful cross, above all other,
One and only noble tree,
None in foliage, none in blossom,
None in fruit thy peer may be;
Sweet the wood, and sweet the iron,
And thy load, most sweet is he.

Bend, o lofty tree, thy branches,
Thy too rigid sinews bend;
And awhile the stubborn hardness,
Which thy birth bestowed, suspend;
And the limbs of heaven's high monarch
Gently on thine arms extend.

Faithful cross, above all other,
One and only noble tree,
None in foliage, none in blossom,
None in fruit thy peer may be;
Sweet the wood and sweet the iron,
And thy load most sweet is he.

Thou alone wast counted worthy
This world's ransom to sustain,
That a shipwrecked race for ever
Might a port of refuge gain,
Wirth the sacred blood anointed
Of the lamb for sinners slain.

Faithful cross, above all other,
One and only noble tree,
None in foliage, none in blossom,
None in fruit thy peer may be;
Sweet the wood, and sweet the iron,
And thy load, most sweet is he.

Praise and honour to the Father,
Praise and honour to the Son,
Praise and honour to the Spirit,
Ever Three and ever One:
One in might, and One in glory
While eternal ages run. Amen.

PTO

The Prayers of Intercession

President God sent his son into the world,
not to condemn the world, but that
the world might be saved through him.
Therefore we pray to our heavenly Father
for people everywhere
according to their needs.

Intercessor Let us pray for the Church of God
throughout the world:
for unity in faith, in witness and in service,
for bishops and other ministers,
and those whom they serve,
for *N*, our bishop,
and the people of this diocese,
for all Christians in this place,
for those to be baptized, for those who are
mocked and persecuted for their faith,
that God will confirm his Church in faith,
increase it in love, and preserve it in peace.

Silence is kept.

Intercessor Lord, hear us.
All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Intercessor Let us pray for the nations of the world and
their leaders: for Elizabeth our Queen and
the Parliament of this land,
for those who administer the law
and all who serve in public office,
for all who strive for justice and
reconciliation, that by God's help the world
may live in peace and freedom. 7

Silence is kept.

Intercessor Lord, hear us.
All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Intercessor Let us pray for God's ancient people,
the Jews, the first to hear his word:
for greater understanding between
Christian and Jew, for the removal of our
blindness and bitterness of heart,
that God will grant us grace
to be faithful to his covenant
and to grow in the love of his name.

Silence is kept.

Intercessor Lord, hear us.
All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Intercessor Let us pray for those who do not believe
the Gospel of Christ:
for those who have not heard
the message of salvation,
for all who have lost faith,
for the contemptuous and scornful,
for those who are enemies of Christ
and persecute those who follow him,
for all who deny the faith of Christ crucified,
that God will open their hearts to the truth
and lead them to faith and obedience.

Silence is kept.

Intercessor Lord, hear us.
All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

8

Intercessor Let us pray for all those who suffer:
for those who are deprived and oppressed,
for all who are sick,
for those in darkness,
in doubt and in despair,
in loneliness and in fear,
for prisoners, captives and refugees,
for the victims of false accusations
and violence,
for all at the point of death
and those who watch beside them,
that God in his mercy will sustain them
with the knowledge of his love.

Silence is kept.

Intercessor Lord, hear us.
All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Intercessor Let us commend ourselves
and all God's children to his unfailing love,
and pray for the grace of a holy life,
that, with all who have died
in the peace of Christ,
we may come to the fullness of eternal life
and the joy of the resurrection.

Silence is kept.

Intercessor Lord, hear us.
All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

President O God of unchangeable power
and eternal light,
look favourably on your whole Church,
that wonderful and sacred mystery,
and by the tranquil operation
of your perpetual providence
carry out the work of our salvation:
and let the whole world feel and see
that things which were cast down
are being raised up
and things which had grown old
are being made new
and that all things
are returning to perfection through him
from whom they took their origin,
even Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
All **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The altar is covered with a fair linen cloth on which the Blessed Sacrament, from the altar of repose, is placed in silence.

The Lord's Prayer (overleaf)

Please sit.

The Lord's Prayer

President Standing at the foot of the cross,
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray.

All **Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

Giving of Communion

President Draw near with faith. Receive the body of
our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for
you, and his blood which he shed for you.
Eat and drink in remembrance
that he died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts
by faith with thanksgiving.

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

The president and people receive communion in silence.

The Conclusion

Silence is kept.

President O Lord Jesus Christ,
Son of the living God,
set your Passion, cross and death
between your judgement and our souls,
now and in the hour of our death.
Grant mercy and grace to the living,
rest to the departed,
to your Church peace and concord
and to us sinners forgiveness,
and everlasting life and glory;
for, with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
you are alive and reign,
God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

The ministers and congregation depart in silence.

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ST THOMAS

Thomas, also called 'Didymus', which means 'the twin', was one of the twelve apostles of Jesus according to all four Gospels, but it is in John that his significance is revealed. Thomas is heard encouraging the other disciples to go to Judaea with Jesus, and he asks the question that led Jesus to describe himself as the Way, the Truth and the Life. Probably most famously however, Thomas was the apostle who doubted reports of the resurrection of Jesus, causing Christ to show him the marks in his hands, feet and side. Thomas then proclaims the words that have been described as the great climax to John's Gospel by saying to Jesus: 'My Lord and my God!' Traditionally, Thomas is believed to have travelled widely to preach the Gospel, reaching as far as present-day southern India; indeed, he is often regarded as the patron saint of India. Tradition has it that he was martyred there.

There has been Christian worship at St Thomas's, Old Charlton, since 1850.

ST LUKE

Luke was a dear friend of St Paul, and is mentioned by him three times in his Letters. Paul describes him as 'the beloved physician' and as his only companion in prison. Luke is believed to be the author of two books of the New Testament: the Gospel of Luke and the Acts of the Apostles. Luke's narrative of the life of Christ starts with the Nativity and goes through to his Death and Resurrection. Luke is commonly thought to have been a Gentile. He certainly makes clear that the good news of salvation is for all, regardless of sex, social position or nationality.

Without Luke we would not have the parables of the Good Samaritan, the Rich Farmer, the Prodigal Son, or the Rich Man and Lazarus. Traditionally, Luke wrote his Gospel in Greece and died at the age of 84.

There has been Christian worship on the site of St Luke with Holy Trinity, Charlton, since the early twelfth century.

ST RICHARD

Richard de Wych was born in 1197 and worked hard on his father's estate before going on to study at Oxford, Paris and Italy as a church lawyer. When he returned to England, he eventually became Bishop of Chichester. Richard was seen as a model diocesan bishop, moving round his diocese on foot, visiting and caring for his clergy and people, and being available to all who needed his ministry. He insisted that the sacraments be administered without payment and with a proper dignity. On a recruitment campaign for the Crusades, he fell ill at Dover and died there on 3 April 1253. His mortal remains were moved to Chichester. This famous prayer is attributed to him:

Thanks be to thee, my Lord Jesus Christ
for all the benefits thou hast given me,
for all the pains and insults thou hast borne for me.
O most merciful Redeemer, friend and brother,
may I know thee more clearly, love thee more dearly,
follow thee more nearly. Amen.

There has been Christian worship on the site of St Richard's Church Centre since the late nineteenth century. St Luke's PCC is currently exploring possibilities for developing mission and a new Christian congregation there.