

LITURGY FOR THE CONCLUSION OF THE MAUNDY THURSDAY VIGIL

The priest kneels before the Altar of Repose, and reads the following passage of Scripture from the Gospel according to Saint Luke.

And he came out, and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples followed him. And when he came to the place he said to them, "Pray that you may not enter into temptation." And he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, and knelt down and prayed, "Father, if thou art willing, remove this cup from me; nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done." And when he rose from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping for sorrow, and he said to them, "Why do you sleep? Rise and pray that you may not enter into temptation." While he was still speaking, there came a crowd, and the man called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He drew near to Jesus to kiss him; but Jesus said to him, "Judas, would you betray the Son of man with a kiss?" And when those who were about him saw what would follow, they said, "Lord, shall we strike with the sword?" And one of them struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his right ear. But Jesus said, "No more of this!" And he touched his ear and healed him. Then Jesus said to the chief priests and officers of the temple and elders, who had come out against him, "Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs? When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness." Then they seized him and led him away.

A period of silence follows the reading.

The priest then sings the Tantum Ergo, a 13th century hymn written by Saint Thomas Aquinas.

Therefore we, before him bending,
This great Sacrament revere;
Types and shadows have their ending, For the newer rite is here;
Faith, our outward sense befriending, Makes our inward vision clear.

Glory let us give, and blessing
To the Father and the Son,
Honour, might and praise addressing, While eternal ages run;
Ever too his love confessing,
Who from Both with Both is One. **Amen.**

A period of silence follows.

Priest Let us pray.

O God, who under a wonderful sacrament hast left unto us a memorial of thy passion: grant us, we beseech thee, so to venerate the sacred mysteries of thy Body and Blood; that we may ever perceive within ourselves the fruit of thy redemption. Who livest and reignest, world without end. **Amen.**

A period of silence follows.

Priest Let us pray.

Grant, O most merciful Lord, that we thy unworthy servants may be so strengthened by the grace of this holy Sacrament that we may be ever ready to watch and pray with Thee in this life and in the next to behold Thee face to face, all for Thy mercy's sake. **Amen.**

The consecrated hosts are reverently consumed.