

PARISH CHURCH OF  
**St. Mary the Virgin**  
SAFFRON WALDEN

*Maundy Thursday*  
*Holy Communion*  
*1<sup>st</sup> April 2021*

HYMN 4

*A new commandment I give unto you:  
that you love one another as I have loved you,  
that you love one another as I have loved you.*

By this shall all know that you are my disciples  
if you have love one for another. *(Repeat)*

You are my friends if you do what I command you.  
Without my help you can do nothing. *(Repeat)*

*A new commandment I give unto you:  
that you love one another as I have loved you,  
that you love one another as I have loved you.*

I am the true vine, my Father is the gard'ner.  
Abide in me: I will be with you. *(Repeat)*

True love is patient, not arrogant nor boastful;  
love bears all things, love is eternal. *(Repeat)*

HYMN 579

O thou, who at thy Eucharist didst pray  
that all thy Church might be for ever one,  
grant us at ev'ry eucharist to say,  
with longing heart and soul, 'Thy will be done.'  
O may we all one bread, one body be,  
through this blest sacrament of unity.

For all thy Church, O Lord, we intercede;  
make thou our sad divisions soon to cease;  
draw us the nearer each to each, we plead,  
by drawing all to thee, O Prince of Peace:  
thus may we all one bread, one body be,  
through this blest sacrament of unity.

We pray thee too for wand'ers from thy fold;  
O bring them back, good Shepherd of the sheep,  
back to the faith which saints believed of old,  
back to the Church which still that faith doth keep:  
soon may we all one bread, one body be,  
through this blest sacrament of unity.

So, Lord, at length when sacraments shall cease,  
may we be one with all thy Church above,  
one with thy saints in one unbroken peace,  
one with thy saints in one unbounded love:  
more blessed still, in peace and love to be  
one with the Trinity in unity.

**Epistle:** *1 Corinthians 11.23-26*

Beloved: I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, 'This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.'

In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.' For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**Gospel:** *John 13.1-17,31b-35*

It was just before the Passover Feast. Jesus knew that the time had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he now showed them the full extent of his love.

The evening meal was being served, and the devil had already prompted Judas Iscariot, son of Simon, to betray Jesus. Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel round his waist. After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped round him.

He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" Jesus replied, "You do not realise now what I am doing, but later you will understand." "No," said Peter, "you shall never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no part with me." "Then, Lord," Simon Peter replied, "not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!"

Jesus answered, "A person who has had a bath needs only to wash his feet; his whole body is clean. And you are clean, though not every one of you." For he knew who was going to betray him, and that was why he said not everyone was clean.

When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. "Do you understand what I have done for you?" he asked them. "You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord', and rightly so, for that is what I am. Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. I tell you the truth, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.

"Now is the Son of Man glorified and God is glorified in him. If God is glorified in him, God will glorify the Son in himself, and will glorify him at once.

"My children, I will be with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so I tell you now: Where I am going, you cannot come.

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."