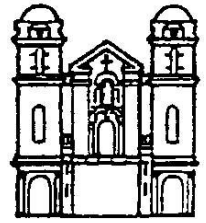


The Church of St James the Greater
Leicester



Kindling of the New Fire and Easter Dawn Service 2023

We gather in silence.

After a while the Easter fire is lit, whilst the following prayer is said:

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, to you be glory and praise for ever.
Your steadfast love extends to the heavens and your faithfulness never ceases.
Illuminate our hearts with your wisdom and strengthen our lives with your
word, for you are the fountain of life; in your light we see true light.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God for ever.

As we await the risen Christ, let us hear the record of God's saving deeds in
history, recalling how he saved his people in ages past and in the fullness of time
sent his Son to be our Redeemer; and let us pray that through this Easter
celebration God may bring to perfection in each of us the saving work he has
begun.

Reading: Genesis 7:1-5, 11-18, 8:6-19, 9:8-13 – Noah and the flood

In baptism we died to sin.

In Christ we are raised to life

Reading: Genesis 22:1-18 – Abraham and Isaac

God so loved the world

That he gave his only Son.

Reading: 14:10-15:1 – Crossing the Red Sea

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast.

Silence

A light is lit from the fire.

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

Jesus Christ is risen from the dead.

Alleluia

He has defeated the powers of death.

Alleluia

Jesus turns our sorrow into dancing.

Alleluia

He has the words of eternal life.

Alleluia

The light is taken into church.

The Pascal candle is marked as these words are said:

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 forever.
Amen.

The Pascal candle is kindled.

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

The light of Christ
Thanks be to God.

The procession moves further into church

The light of Christ
Thanks be to God.

The procession continues to the chancel steps

The light of Christ
Thanks be to God.

The Exultet is sung.

The Lord be with you
And also with you
Lift up your hearts
We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God
It is right to give thanks and praise.

The prayer of thanksgiving continues, concluding with,
...Christ lives and reigns for ever and ever!
Amen.

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

Gospel reading: Mark 16:1-8

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Mark
This is the Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you O Christ

Hymn 205 Jesus Christ is Risen today

The Renewal of Baptismal Vows

Do you turn to Christ?
I turn to Christ.

Do you repent of your sins?
I repent of my sins.

Do you renounce evil?
I renounce evil.

Praise God who made heaven and earth,
Who keeps his promise for ever.

The Statement of Faith

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, who made the world?

I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ, who took our human nature, died for us and rose again?

I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in his Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God?

I believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith.

**We believe and trust in on God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

The Peace

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, "Peace be with you." Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia.

Alleluia. The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

The Dismissal

Alleluia, Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

He has given us new life and hope by raising Jesus from the dead.

God has claimed us as his own.

He has brought us out of darkness.

He has made us light to the world.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.