

## THURSDAY 6 APRIL

*Maundy Thursday*

### FIRST READING – *Exodus 12.2-3,5a,6-8,11-14*

A reading from the book of Exodus.

You are to call this month

the first month  
of the year.

On the tenth day  
of this month,

each family, each household,  
is to take a lamb,  
a year-old male, without blemish.

On the fourteenth day,  
each household  
is to slaughter the lamb  
at sunset.

With the blood of the lamb,  
you are to mark the door-frame of the house  
where you will eat.

That same night,  
you are to roast the lamb  
over a fire,

and eat it  
with bitter herbs,  
and bread without yeast.

You are to eat it hurriedly,  
with your belt fastened  
and your shoes on your feet.

That night will be the Passover of the Lord -  
for I will pass through the land of Egypt that night,  
and I will strike down  
every first-born male  
in the land of Egypt,  
both people and animals.

Against all the gods of Egypt,  
I will bring judgement -  
for I am the Lord.

But when I see the blood of the lamb  
on the houses where you live,  
I will pass over you,  
and no plague will destroy you,  
even as I strike  
the land of Egypt.

And then,  
you are to keep this day  
as a day of remembrance,  
a festival to the Lord for ever,  
through every generation.  
This is the word of the Lord.

### SECOND READING – *Revelation 5.5a,6a,7-13*

A reading from the book of Revelation.

Looking like

a lamb that has been slain,  
and is alive again,

the one who is

the Lion of Judah, and the root of David,  
took the scroll

from the one who was seated on the throne.

The four living creatures, and the twenty-four elders,  
holding musical instruments,  
and golden bowls of incense  
(which are the prayers of the saints),

fell down before the Lamb,  
and sang: 'You are worthy,  
for you were slain,

and by your blood  
you have restored to God  
a people to serve  
as a royal priesthood on earth  
from every nation, tribe, and language.'

Then I heard thousands of angels,  
all around the throne,  
with the living creatures, and the elders,  
singing in full voice: 'Worthy  
is the Lamb that was slain,  
to receive  
all wisdom and power,  
all honour and glory and praise!'

Then I heard every creature  
in heaven and on earth,  
and under the earth, and in the sea,  
singing to the one who was seated on the throne,  
and to the Lamb, 'Blessing and honour  
and glory and power,  
be yours for ever and ever!'

This is the word of the Lord.

### GOSPEL – *John 1.23,26b-27,29*

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to John.

John the Baptist said,

'I am the voice of the one  
crying out in the wilderness,  
"Make straight the way of the Lord,"  
as the prophet Isaiah has said.

But amongst you  
stands one you do not know,  
the one who is coming after me.

I am not worthy  
even to be his servant.'

The next day,

John saw Jesus coming towards him,  
and declared,

'Here is the Lamb of God  
who takes away  
the sin of the world!'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.