

The Christian Story

- ◆ John's Gospel has the story of Jesus washing his disciples' feet before a special meal.
- ◆ During the Last Supper Jesus has with his disciples he teaches them to remember him as they break bread and drink wine together. The disciples do not understand this until several days later.
- ◆ Judas slips away from the group to betray Jesus. Jesus and the other disciples spend the night in the garden of Gethsemane where Jesus prays alone and in agony, anticipating coming events.
- ◆ Jesus arrested. The disciples run away. First trial.

The Beliefs

- ◆ Jesus as servant and king
- ◆ The institution of the Eucharist at the command of Jesus
- ◆ Jesus as the "Bread of Life" and the "True Vine"
- ◆ Jesus knew what was to happen to him, and went willingly to his death, knowing that the salvation of mankind depended upon his obedience

Maundy Thursday

Matthew chapter 26 verses 17-30, Mark chapter 14 verses 12-26, Luke chapter 22 verses 7-38, John chapter 13 verse 1 - chapter 17 verse 26
"Maundy" comes from "mandatum" or "commandment" as this is when Jesus gave the commandment he should be remembered in bread and wine

The Customs

- ◆ Priests renew their priestly vows in a service of the Blessing of the Oils, when the bishop blesses new oil for them to use throughout the year (e.g. in baptisms).
- ◆ Distribution of Maundy Money by the monarch
- ◆ In some churches twelve representative members of the congregation will have their feet washed by the priest, in imitation of Jesus, and as a symbol of humility.
- ◆ All Eucharists / Holy Communion are founded on the Last Supper. After the Maundy Thursday Eucharist the altars are stripped and left bare. In some churches Christians may remain to keep a vigil of prayer until midnight (or even all night) as if in Gethsemane.

The Christian Experience

- ◆ Humility
- ◆ Serve one another
- ◆ Love
- ◆ Prayer
- ◆ Fellowship in Christ
- ◆ Doing one's duty / standing up for what you believe in
- ◆ Choices

