



## MAUNDY THURSDAY

Reading: John 13 1-17  
John 13: 34-35

'Jesus rose from the table, took off his outer garment, and tied a towel round his waist. Then he poured some water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet..... '

'I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another'

It's Maundy\* Thursday.

Today Christians recall how Jesus assumed the role of servant as he washed his disciple's feet. Just at the point when he might have 'thrown in the towel' Jesus took a towel to perform a menial but deeply symbolic task.

Peter was reluctant to accept what was needed. However, there are circumstances in which we must learn to allow others to 'do' for us. Perhaps, for you, this is such a time.

Whilst washing our hands today (regularly and for at least twenty seconds!) we might think of Jesus stooping to wash his follower's feet. Our hands can be used to serve others and to express kindness. Small things can mean much.

A teacher who volunteered to have her feet washed during a Maundy Thursday school assembly brought additional surprise and meaning to the occasion.

Letters written on each of her toes spelled out 'GOD IS LOVE!'

The new commandment given by Jesus invites us to discover how to make that truth real, even in stressful and testing times.

*Then let us learn how to serve  
And in our lives enthrone him,  
Each other's needs to prefer,  
For it is Christ we're serving*

*(lines from Graham Kendrick's  
'The Servant King' SF272)*

\*Maundy comes from the Latin word 'mandatum' meaning commandment