**A moment to replace the washing of feet**

At this point in the Mass of the Lord’s Supper, we usually follow the example of Jesus in the Gospel, and wash the feet of a number of people to remind us of his call to give ourselves in service.

In these extraordinary days, we are not able to do this ritual   
of the pouring out of water and washing and drying of feet   
as we would wish:  
*(Water is poured into a bowl and a towel is unfolded for all to see and placed somewhere in the sanctuary,   
but preferably not directly in front of the altar)*

But as we pour this water and unfold this towel,   
let us hold in prayer and give thanks   
for all those in hospitals and care centres and in our homes  
who are pouring out their time, energy, skill,   
tears and compassion, over those who are sick and their families.  
We remember and pray for all the medical staff; nurses and doctors,   
carers, ambulance staff and support teams,  
all who are bathing others in kindness  
and are thus living out Christ’s example of service.  
We particularly think of all those serving at the frontlines of care   
for those with the Coronavirus  
and those keeping our public services going.

For when we ask this evening: “where is God in all this?”   
the words of the liturgy remind us.

***‘Where charity and love are, there is God’.***

*[adapted from an original by Fr Turlough Baxter]*