



EASTERTİME

THE PARISH EUCHARIST

Whether you are a visitor for the first time or a regular at St Mary's, we warmly welcome you to this celebration of our PARISH EUCHARIST IN THE SEASON OF EASTER

On most Sundays there is separate provision for children aged 3-11 at the 10am Parish Communion in our Sunday Club.

The Hymns in this service are mostly unannounced. You should receive a weekly pewsheet as you enter the church from a steward. The hymn numbers are found on the weekly pewsheet and on the hymn boards on either side of the altar.

Requests for Prayer: We are happy to mention people by name in the prayers in our services. If you would like prayer for yourself or someone else please use the Intercession Book that is kept in church near the front door for all prayer requests.

Hearing aid/induction loop is in operation and accessed by switching your device to position 'T'.



THE SEASON OF EASTER

The great Fifty Days of Eastertide form a single festival period in which the tone of joy created on Easter Day is sustained through the following seven weeks, and the Church celebrates the gloriously risen Christ.

Early Christians gave the name Pentecost to this whole fifty-day span of rejoicing, which the early Church teacher Tertullian calls 'this most joyful period'. It is sometimes called 'Great Sunday'. The new Easter candle is first lit at dawn on Easter morning and the lit candle stands prominently in church for every Sunday through Eastertide. Alleluias, which are avoided during Lent, appear frequently through Easter season in speech and song. White and gold vestments and decorations emphasize the joy and brightness of the season. Flowers reappear in church after their absence during the penitential season of Lent.

On the fortieth day there has, from the late fourth century, been a particular celebration of Christ's ascension. He commissions his disciples to continue his work, he promises the gift of the Holy Spirit, and then he is no longer among them in the flesh. The Ascension is therefore closely connected with the theme of mission – the sending out of his followers into the world to do the work of God. The arrival of the promised Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost completes and crowns the Easter festival.

THE GATHERING

Please stand as the hymn is announced

THE INTROIT HYMN

- Priest: The Lord be with you
- All: and also with you

THE WELCOME

Priest:Alleluia! Christ is risen;AllHe is risen indeed. Alleluia!

THE PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Priest: Let us pray

Please sit or kneel

All: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

The Deacon introduces the Confession followed by a short silence

All Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you our God. Amen.

God's forgiveness is pronounced

Priest: May the God of love and power forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by his Spirit, and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen**.



We stand to sing or say The Gloria

GLORIA





THE COLLECT *The unique prayer for the day that is printed on the pewsheet*

Priest: Let us pray *The Collect is said and all respond:* **Amen**

Please sit

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The First Reading

A11:

At the end of which may be said: This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

The Gradual Hymn

During this hymn the Gospel Book is processed into the middle of the congregation. We turn to face the reader. Please remain standing.

THE GOSPEL READING

Deacon: Alleluia, alleluia.
I am the first and the last says the Lord, and the living one;
I was dead, and behold I am alive for evermore.
All: Alleluia.
Deacon: The Lord be with you;
All: and also with you.

- Deacon: Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *N*.
- All: Glory to you, O Lord.

Today's Gospel is read. The details are printed on the pewsheet.

At the end:

Deacon: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.



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The Sermon The Nicene Creed

Please stand

All: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God. begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate: he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, The Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Please sit or kneel

These responses may be used:Intercessor:Lord, in your mercyAll:hear our prayer.

And at the end:Intercessor:Merciful Father,All:accept these prayersfor the sake of your Son,our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE ANTHEM

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

Please stand

THE PEACE

The Priest uses a seasonal introduction to the Peace.

Priest: The peace of the Lord be always with you;

All: and also with you.

Deacon: Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace

THE OFFERTORY HYMN

During which a collection will be taken for the mission and ministry of our church. Please use the Gift Aid envelopes.

THE PREPARATION OF THE ALTAR

The gifts of the people are gathered and presented. The altar is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.

- Priest: Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation. In your loving care you spread before us the table of life and give us the cup of salvation to drink. Keep us always in the fold of our Saviour and Shepherd, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- All: Blessed be God forever.

The offertory is presented for a blessing:

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours. All things come from you, and of your own do we give you.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

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

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give thanks and praise.

Priest: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give you thanks, almighty and eternal Father, and in these days of Easter to celebrate with joyful hearts the memory of your wonderful works. For by the mystery of his passion Jesus Christ, your risen Son, has conquered the powers of death and hell and restored in men and women the image of your glory. He has placed them once more in paradise and opened to them the gates of life eternal. And so, in the joy of this Passover, earth and heaven resound with gladness, while angels and archangels and the powers of all creation sing forever the hymn of your glory:



Priest: We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

> On the night before he died he had supper with his friends, and taking bread he praised you.

He broke the bread, gave it to them and said: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you, Do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine. Again he praised you and said: Drink this all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Deacon: Jesus Christ is Lord

All: Lord by your cross and resurrection You have set us free. You are the saviour of the world

Priest: Lord of all life,

help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms and bring us with St. Mary and all the saints to feast at your table in heaven. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

Please sit or kneel

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Deacon: As our Saviour taught us so we pray:

All:Our Father in heaven
hallowed be your name;
your kingdom come,
your will be done on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread;
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil;
for the kingdom,
the power and the glory are yours,
now and for ever.
Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD



The Priest breaks the consecrated bread.

- Priest: We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
- All: Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

AGNUS DEI



Priest: God's holy gifts for God's holy people All: Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

THE GIVING OF COMMUNION

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you. Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

All communicant Christians, from whatever tradition, are welcome to receive communion or a blessing with words.

The priest and people receive the Eucharist. Authorised words are said to each communicant:

The body of Christ. The blood of Christ.

The communicant replies each time: **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Silence is kept.

The Post Communion Collect is read.

All: Almighty God,

We thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

Please stand

FINAL HYMN

THE DISMISSAL

THE PARISH NOTICES

THE BLESSING



- Priest The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
 and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.
- All: Amen.
- Deacon: With the power that raised Jesus from the dead at work within you, go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.
- All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

After the service is over, coffee is served. All are welcome.

Come to this table not because you must but because you may.

Come not because you have all faith but because you have some faith and would like to grow in it.

Come because you love the Lord a little and would like to love him more.

Come because he loves you and wants to give you everything.

Come because all is ready, and we are his Body.





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