

# ST MARY'S HOLY COMMUNION 5 December 2021

## **GREETING**

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

## **HYMN:**

**Hark the glad sound!** The Saviour comes,  
The Saviour promised long;  
Let every heart prepare a throne,  
And every voice a song.

He comes the prisoners to release,  
In Satan's bondage held;  
The gates of brass before Him burst, The iron fetters yield.

He comes the broken heart to bind,  
The bleeding soul to cure,  
And with the treasures of His grace  
To enrich the humble poor.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,  
Thy welcome shall proclaim;  
And heaven's eternal arches ring With Thy beloved name  
:

**CONFESION: invitation**  
Father eternal, giver of light and grace,  
**we have sinned against you and against our neighbour, in what we have thought, in what we have said and done,**  
**through ignorance, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault.**  
**We have wounded your love and marred your image in us.**  
**We are sorry and ashamed and repent of all our sins.**  
**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past and lead us out from darkness to walk as children of light. Amen.**

## **ABSOLUTION**

## **COLLECT: Advent 2**

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power  
and come among us,  
and with great might succour us;  
that whereas, through our sins and wickedness  
we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set

before us,  
your bountiful grace and mercy  
may speedily help and deliver  
us;  
through Jesus Christ your Son  
our Lord,  
to whom with you and the Holy  
Spirit,  
be honour and glory, now and  
for ever.

**READING:**  
**Philippians 1 v3-11**

<sup>3</sup> I thank my God every time I remember you. <sup>4</sup> In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy <sup>5</sup> because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, <sup>6</sup> being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

<sup>7</sup> It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart and, whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God's grace with me. <sup>8</sup> God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus.

<sup>9</sup> And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, <sup>10</sup> so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, <sup>11</sup> filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God.

**GRADUAL**

**Seek ye the Lord all ye people**

**GOSPEL: read by president:**  
**Luke 3 v 1 -6**

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar—when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and Traconitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene— <sup>2</sup> during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. <sup>3</sup> He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>4</sup> As it is written in the

book of the words of Isaiah the prophet:

"A voice of one calling in the wilderness,

'Prepare the way for the Lord,  
make straight paths for him.

**5** Every valley shall be filled in,  
every mountain and hill made low.

The crooked roads shall become straight,

the rough ways smooth.

**6** And all people will see God's salvation."

This is the Gospel of the Lord  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**ADDRESS:** Tim Ward

**APOSTLES CREED**

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,**  
**creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**  
**born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,**  
**was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;**

**he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.**

**Amen.**

**INTERCESSIONS:**

**THE PEACE:** *Introduction, then*  
The peace of the Lord be  
always with you:  
**And also with you.**

**OFFERTORY HYMN:**  
**Faithful Shepherd, feed me**

In the pastures green;  
Faithful Shepherd, lead me  
Where Thy steps are seen.

Hold me fast, and guide me  
In the narrow way;  
So, with Thee beside me,  
I shall never stray.

Daily bring me nearer

To the heav'ly shore;  
Make my faith grow clearer,  
May I love Thee more.

Hallow every pleasure,  
Every gift and pain;  
Be Thyself my treasure,  
Though none else I gain.

Day by day prepare me  
As Thou seest best,  
Then let angels bear me  
To Thy promised rest.

### **THANKSGIVING PRAYER**

The Lord is here:

**his Spirit is with us**

Lift up your hearts:

**we lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the

Lord our God:

**it is right to give him  
thanks and praise.**

Father, we give you thanks and  
praise through your beloved  
Son Jesus Christ, your living  
Word,  
through whom you have  
created all things; who was sent  
by you in your great goodness  
to be our Saviour.

By the power of the Holy Spirit  
he took flesh; as your Son, born  
of the blessed Virgin, he lived  
on earth and went about  
among us;

he opened wide his arms for us  
on the cross; he put an end to  
death by dying for us; and  
revealed the resurrection by  
rising to new life; so he fulfilled  
your will and won for you a holy  
people.

Therefore with angels and  
archangels, and with all the  
company of heaven, we  
proclaim your great and  
glorious name,  
for ever praising you and  
*saying:*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of  
your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the  
source of all holiness;  
grant that by the power of your  
Holy Spirit,  
and according to your holy will,  
these gifts of bread and wine  
may be to us the body and  
blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;  
who, in the same night that he  
was betrayed,  
took bread and gave you  
thanks;  
he broke it and gave it to his  
disciples, saying:  
Take, eat; this is my body

which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks;  
he gave it to them, saying:  
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.

Great is the mystery of faith:  
**Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross, his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world; rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, we bring before you this bread and this cup and we thank you for counting us worthy

to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup, so that we, in the company of all the saints, may praise and glorify you for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER:**  
**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 forever.**

**Amen.**

**BREAKING OF THE BREAD:**

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

***INVITATION to 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 Christ died for you, and  
feed on him in your hearts by  
faith with thanksgiving.

***POST-COMMUNION:***

**Father of all we give you  
thanks and praise, that  
when we were still far off  
you met us in your Son  
and brought us home.**

**Dying and living, he  
declared your love, gave us  
grace, and opened the gate  
of glory.**

**May we who share Christ's  
body live his risen life;  
we who drink his cup bring  
life to others;  
we whom the Spirit lights  
give light to the world.  
Keep us firm in the hope  
you have set before us,**

**so we and all your children  
shall be free,  
and the whole earth live to  
praise your name;  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

***BLESSING***

***HYMN:***

**The Lord will come and not  
be slow,**

His footsteps cannot err;  
Before Him righteousness shall  
go,  
His royal harbinger.

Truth from the earth, like to a  
flower,  
Shall bud and blossom then;  
And justice, from her heavenly  
bower,  
Look down on mortal men.

Surely to such as do him fear  
Salvation is at hand!  
And glory shall ere long appear  
To dwell within our land.

Rise, God, judge thou the earth  
in might,  
This wicked earth redress;  
For thou art he who shalt by  
right  
The nations all possess.

The nations all whom thou hast  
made  
Shall come, and all shall frame  
To bow them low before thee,  
Lord,  
And glorify thy Name.

For great thou art, and wonders  
great  
By Thy strong hand are done:  
Thou in Thy everlasting seat  
Remainest God alone.

***DISMISSAL:***

Go in peace to love serve the  
Lord

**In the name of Christ.**

**Amen.**

