

ST GEORGE
BICKLEY



***THE ORDER FOR
THE VIGIL AND FIRST MASS OF EASTER***

SATURDAY 30th MARCH 2024 7.00pm

Parish Priest

Fr Henry Everett

frhenry@yahoo.co.uk

Welcome to St George's! This booklet contains all the material you will need for today's celebration of Mass. We hope you will find this service easy to follow, but please also do not be afraid to ask if you are unsure what to do at any point. The building is fitted with an Induction Loop - sit away from the pillars for best results!

Families with small children are very welcome to make use of the carpeted area at the back of church, where you will find books, crayons and soft toys. There are two further play stations in the side aisles.

A toilet is at the back of church behind the screen. After Mass, refreshments will be served in the Hall. Please join us! **Before the Vigil, please try to maintain an atmosphere of quiet prayer.**

Please gather outside the porch before the start of the Vigil, where the new fire of Easter has been prepared. The clergy and servers arrive at the fire, and the priest greets the people, singing,

Priest In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People **Amen.**

Priest The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Priest Dear brothers and sisters, on this most sacred night in which our Lord Jesus Christ passed over from death to life, the Church calls upon her sons and daughters, scattered throughout the world, to come together to watch and pray. If we keep the memorial of the Lord's paschal solemnity in this way, listening to his word and celebrating his mysteries, then we shall have the sure hope of sharing his triumph over death and living with him in God.

Then the Priest blesses the fire, saying

Priest Let us pray. O God, who through your Son bestowed upon the faithful the fire of your glory, sanctify ✠ this new fire, we pray, and grant that, by these paschal celebrations, we may be so inflamed with heavenly desires, that with minds made pure we may attain festivities of unending splendour.
Through Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

After the blessing of the new fire, the paschal candle is brought to the Priest, who uses a solemn formula of words to bless it, before lighting it from the fire,

Priest May the light of Christ rising in glory dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds.

At the door of the church, the Deacon lifts the candle high, and sings,

Deacon The light of Christ

People **Thanks be to God**

Then all process into church, pausing twice more to repeat the acclamation. Candles are lit in sequence as the procession moves forward.

When all have taken their places (standing) in church, the Deacon censes the Paschal Candle, and then the Exsultet (Easter Proclamation) is sung by a Cantor, which includes this dialogue,

Cantor Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up to the Lord**

Cantor Les us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*After the Exsultet, the people sing, **Amen**. Please then sit and extinguish candles.*

Priest Dear brothers and sisters, now that we have begun our solemn Vigil, let us listen with quiet hearts to the Word of God. Let us meditate on how God in times past saved his people and in these, the last days has sent us his Son as our Redeemer. Let us pray that our God may complete this paschal work of salvation by the fullness of redemption.

Four Vigil readings are read, each followed by a psalm. After the psalm, all stand when the priest sings, 'Let us pray' & prays the Collect. Then all sit once more for the next reading.

First reading

Genesis 1.1-2.2

A reading from the book Genesis.

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was a formless void, there was darkness over the deep, and God's spirit hovered over the water. God said, 'Let there be light', and there was light. God saw that light was good, and God divided light from darkness. God called light 'day', and darkness he called 'night.' Evening came and morning came: the first day.

God said, 'Let there be a vault in the waters to divide the waters in two.' And so it was. God made the vault, and it divided the waters above the vault from the waters under the vault. God called the vault 'heaven.' Evening came and morning came: the second day.

God said, 'Let the waters under heaven come together into a single mass, and let dry land appear.' And so it was. God called the dry land 'earth' and the mass of waters 'seas', and God saw that it was good. God said, 'Let the earth produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants, and fruit trees bearing fruit with their seed inside, on the earth.' And so it was. The earth produced vegetation: plants bearing seed in their several kinds, and trees bearing fruit with their seed inside in their several kinds. God saw that it was good. Evening came and morning came: the third day.

God said, 'Let there be lights in the vault of heaven to divide day from night, and let them indicate festivals, days and years. Let them be lights in the vault of heaven to shine on the earth.' And so it was. God made the two great lights: the greater light to govern the day, the smaller light to govern the night, and the stars. God set them in the vault of heaven to shine on the earth, to govern the day and the night and to divide light from darkness. God saw that it was good. Evening came and morning came: the fourth day.

God said, 'Let the waters teem with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth within the vault of heaven.' And so it was. God created great sea-serpents and every kind of living creature with which the waters teem, and every kind of winged creature. God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, 'Be fruitful, multiply, and fill the waters of the seas; and let the birds multiply upon the earth.' Evening came and morning came: the fifth day.

God said, 'Let the earth produce every kind of living creature: cattle, reptiles, and every kind of wild beast.' And so it was. God made every kind of wild beast, every kind of cattle, and every kind of land reptile. God saw that it was good. God said, 'Let us make man in our own image, in the likeness of ourselves, and let them be masters of the fish of the sea, the birds of heaven, the cattle, all the wild beasts and all the reptiles that crawl upon the earth.' God created man in the image of himself, in the image of God he created him, male and female he created them. God blessed them, saying to them, 'Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth and conquer it. Be masters of the fish of the sea, the birds of heaven and all living animals on the earth.' God said, 'See, I give you all the seed-bearing plants that are upon the whole earth, and all the trees with seed-bearing fruit; this shall be your food. To all wild beasts, all birds of heaven and all living reptiles on the earth I give all the foliage of plants for food.' And so it was. God saw all he had made, and indeed it was very good. Evening came and morning came: the sixth day.

Thus heaven and earth were completed with all their array. On the seventh day God completed the work he had been doing. He rested on the seventh day after all the work he had been doing.

Reader This is the word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

First Psalm *Psalm 103*

Choir Send forth your Spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.

People **Send forth your Spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.**

This response is then used between the verses of the psalm, as sung by the choir. The same happens with each responsorial psalm.

First Collect

Priest Almighty ever-living God, who are wonderful in the ordering of all your works, may those you have redeemed understand that there exists nothing more marvellous than the world's creation in the beginning except that, at the end of the ages, Christ our Passover has been sacrificed. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

People **Amen.**

Second reading

Genesis 22. 1-18

A reading from the book Genesis.

God put Abraham to the test. 'Abraham, Abraham' he called. 'Here I am' he replied. 'Take your son,' God said 'your only child Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him as a burnt offering, on a mountain I will point out to you.' Rising early next morning Abraham saddled his ass and took with him two of his servants and his son Isaac. He chopped wood for the burnt offering and started on his journey to the place God had pointed out to him. On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance. Then Abraham said to his servants, 'Stay here with the donkey. The boy and I will go over there; we will worship and come back to you.' Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering, loaded it on Isaac, and carried in his own hands the fire and the knife. Then the two of them set out together. Isaac spoke to his father Abraham, 'Father' he said. 'Yes, my son' he replied. 'Look,' he said 'here are the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?' Abraham answered, 'My son, God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering.' Then the two of them went on together. When they arrived at the place God had pointed out to him, Abraham built an altar there, and arranged the wood. Then he bound his son Isaac and put him on the altar on top of the wood. Abraham stretched out his hand and seized the knife

to kill his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven. 'Abraham, Abraham' he said. 'I am here' he replied. 'Do not raise your hand against the boy' the angel said. 'Do not harm him, for now I know you fear God. You have not refused me your son, your only son.' Then looking up, Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham took the ram and offered it as a burnt-offering in place of his son. Abraham called this place 'The Lord Provides', and hence the saying today: *On the mountain the Lord provides*. The angel of the Lord called Abraham a second time from heaven. 'I swear by my own self – it is the Lord who speaks – because you have done this, because you have not refused me your son, your only son, I will shower blessings on you, I will make your descendants as many as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants shall gain possession of the gates of their enemies. All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants, as a reward for your obedience.'

Reader This is the word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Second Psalm

Psalm 15

Choir Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you.

People **Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you.**

Second Collect

Priest O God, supreme Father of the faithful, who increase the children of your promise by pouring out the grace of adoption throughout the whole world and who through the Paschal Mystery make your servant Abraham father of nations, as once you swore, grant, we pray, that your peoples may enter worthily into the grace to which you call them. Through Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

Third reading

Exodus 14.15-15.1

A reading from the book Exodus.

The Lord said to Moses, 'Why do you cry to me so? Tell the sons of Israel to march on. For yourself, raise your staff and stretch out your hand over the sea and part it for the sons of Israel to walk through the sea on dry ground. I for my part will make the heart of the Egyptians so stubborn that they will follow them. So shall I win myself glory at the expense of Pharaoh, of all his army, his chariots, his horsemen. And when I have won glory for myself, at the expense of Pharaoh and his chariots and his army, the Egyptians will learn that I am the Lord.' Then the angel of God, who marched at the front of the army of Israel, changed station and moved to their rear. The pillar of cloud changed station

from the front to the rear of them, and remained there. It came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel. The cloud was dark, and the night passed without the armies drawing any closer the whole night long. Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove back the sea with a strong easterly wind all night, and he made dry land of the sea. The waters parted and the sons of Israel went on dry ground right into the sea, walls of water to right and to left of them. The Egyptians gave chase: after them they went, right into the sea, all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots, and his horsemen. In the morning watch, the Lord looked down on the army of the Egyptians from the pillar of fire and of cloud, and threw the army into confusion. He so clogged their chariot wheels that they could scarcely make headway. 'Let us flee from the Israelites,' the Egyptians cried. 'The Lord is fighting for them against the Egyptians!' 'Stretch out your hand over the sea,' the Lord said to Moses, 'that the waters may flow back on the Egyptians and their chariots and their horsemen.' Moses stretched out his hand over the sea and, as day broke, the sea returned to its bed. The fleeing Egyptians marched right into it, and the Lord overthrew the Egyptians in the very middle of the sea. The returning waters overwhelmed the chariots and the horsemen of Pharaoh's whole army, which had followed the Israelites into the sea; not a single one of them was left. But the sons of Israel had marched through the sea on dry ground, walls of water to right and to left of them. That day, the Lord rescued Israel from the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians lying dead on the shore. Israel witnessed the great act that the Lord had performed against the Egyptians, and the people venerated the Lord; they put their faith in the Lord and in Moses, his servant. It was then that Moses and the sons of Israel sang this song in honour of the Lord:

Third Canticle

Exodus 15

Choir I will sing to the Lord, glorious his triumph.

People **I will sing to the Lord, glorious his triumph.**

Third Collect

Priest O God, who by the light of the New Testament have unlocked the meaning of wonders worked in former times, so that the Red Sea prefigures the sacred font and the nation delivered from slavery foreshadows the Christian people, grant, we pray, that all nations, obtaining the privilege of Israel by merit of faith, may be reborn by partaking of your Spirit.

People **Amen.**

Fourth reading

Ezekiel 36.16-28

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel.

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: ‘Son of man, the members of the House of Israel used to live in their own land, but they defiled it by their conduct and actions. I then discharged my fury at them because of the blood they shed in their land and the idols with which they defiled it. I scattered them among the nations and dispersed them in foreign countries. I sentenced them as their conduct and actions deserved. And now they have profaned my holy name among the nations where they have gone, so that people say of them, “These are the people of the Lord; they have been exiled from his land.” ‘But I have been concerned about my holy name, which the House of Israel has profaned among the nations where they have gone. ‘And so, say to the House of Israel, “The Lord says this: I am not doing this for your sake, House of Israel, but for the sake of my holy name, which you have profaned among the nations where you have gone. I mean to display the holiness of my great name, which has been profaned among the nations, which you have profaned among them. And the nations will learn that I am the Lord – it is the Lord who speaks – when I display my holiness for your sake before their eyes. Then I am going to take you from among the nations and gather you together from all the foreign countries, and bring you home to your own land. “I shall pour clean water over you and you will be cleansed; I shall cleanse you of all your defilement and all your idols. I shall give you a new heart, and put a new spirit in you; I shall remove the heart of stone from your bodies and give you a heart of flesh instead. I shall put my spirit in you, and make you keep my laws and sincerely respect my observances. You will live in the land which I gave your ancestors. You shall be my people and I will be your God.”’

Reader This is the word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Fourth Psalm

Psalm 41

Choir Like the deer that yearns for running streams, so my soul is yearning for you, my God.

People **Like the deer that yearns for running streams, so my soul is yearning for you, my God.**

Fourth Collect

Priest O God of unchanging power and eternal light, look with favour on the wondrous mystery of the whole Church and serenely accomplish the work of human salvation, which you planned from all eternity; may the whole world know and see that what was cast down is raised up, what had become old is made new, and all

things are restored to integrity through Christ, just as by him they came into being. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

People **Amen.**

Remain standing after the fourth Collect: the lights of the church are lit, and the Gloria sung (to the Lourdes setting),

Choir Gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo! (x 2)

People **Gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo!** (x 2)

(This refrain is repeated after each verse of the Gloria.)

The priest prays the Collect for the Day,

Priest Let us pray. O God, who make this most sacred night radiant with the glory of the Lord's Resurrection, stir up in your Church a spirit of adoption, so that, renewed in body and mind, we may render you undivided service. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People **Amen.**

Please sit for the New Testament Reading

Romans 6. 3-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans.

When we were baptised in Christ Jesus we were baptised in his death; in other words, when we were baptised we went into the tomb with him and joined him in death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the Father's glory, we too might live a new life. If in union with Christ we have imitated his death, we shall also imitate him in his resurrection. We must realise that our former selves have been crucified with him to destroy this sinful body and to free us from the slavery of sin. When a Christian dies, of course, he has finished with sin. But we believe that having died with Christ we shall return to life with him: Christ, as we know, having been raised from the dead will never die again. Death has no power over him any more. When he died, he died, once for all, to sin, so his life now is life with God; and in that way, you too must consider yourselves to be dead to sin but alive for God in Christ Jesus.

Reader This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand. The cantor solemnly intones the Alleluia three times.

The Psalm follows. During the psalm the peoples' candles are lit.

PSALM 117

Choir Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

People **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**
Choir Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
for his love has no end.
Let the sons of Israel say, 'His love has no end.'

People **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**
Choir The Lord's right hand has triumphed;
his right hand raised me up.
I shall not die, I shall live
and recount his deeds.

People **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**
Choir The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes.

People **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

Deacon The Lord be with you

People **And also with you.**

Deacon A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

People **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Mark 16; 1-7

Deacon When the sabbath was over, Mary of Magdala, Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices with which to go and anoint him. And very early in the morning on the first day of the week they went to the tomb, just as the sun was rising. They had been saying to one another, 'Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?' But when they looked they could see that the stone – which was very big – had already been rolled back. On entering the tomb they saw a young man in a white robe seated on the right-hand side, and they were struck with amazement. But he said to them, 'There is no need for alarm. You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified: he has risen, he is not here. See, here is the place where they laid him. But you must go and tell his disciples and Peter, "He is going before you to Galilee; it is there you will see him, just as he told you."'

Deacon This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please sit to listen to the homily, by Fr Paul, extinguishing your candles.

After the homily, stand as the candles are lit again, and for the

procession to the font, led by the Deacon carrying the Paschal Candle, during which the Litany is sung,

<i>Choir</i>	Lord, have mercy	<i>People</i>	Lord, have mercy
<i>Choir</i>	Christ, have mercy	<i>People</i>	Christ, have mercy
<i>Choir</i>	Lord, have mercy	<i>People</i>	Lord, have mercy
<i>Choir</i>	Holy Mary, Mother of God,	<i>People</i>	pray for us
.....			
<i>Choir</i>	All holy men and women, saints of God	<i>People</i>	pray for us
<i>Choir</i>	Lord, be merciful	<i>People</i>	Lord, deliver us, we pray.
.....			
<i>Choir</i>	By the outpouring of the Holy Spirit	<i>People</i>	Lord, deliver us, we pray.
<i>Choir</i>	Be merciful to us sinners,	<i>People</i>	Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer.
<i>Choir</i>	Make this font holy by your grace for the new birth of your children.	<i>People</i>	Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer.
<i>Choir</i>	Jesus, Son of the living God	<i>People</i>	Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer.
<i>Choir</i>	Christ, hear us	<i>People</i>	Christ, hear us
<i>Choir</i>	Christ, graciously hear us.	<i>People</i>	Christ, graciously hear us.

At the font, the priest says,

Priest Dearly beloved, let us humbly invoke upon this font the grace of God the almighty Father, that those who from it are born anew may be numbered among the children of adoption in Christ.

The priest blesses the font with the Paschal candle. All sing the acclamation,

People **Springs of water bless the Lord.
Give him glory and praise for ever.**

The priest addresses those present and invites them to renew their baptismal promises,

Priest Dear brothers and sisters, through the Paschal Mystery we have been buried with Christ in Baptism, so that we may walk with him in newness of life. And so, now that our Lenten observance is concluded, let us renew the promises of Holy Baptism. In baptism God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light. To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him. Therefore I ask:

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?
People **I reject them.**

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?
People **I renounce them.**

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?
People **I repent of them.**

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?
People **I turn to Christ.**

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?
People **I submit to Christ.**

Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth, and the life?
People **I come to Christ.**

Priest Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess the faith of the Church.
Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

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

Priest Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

People **believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, 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 to judge the living and the dead.**

Priest Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

People **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.**

The priest sprinkles the people with blessed water, as the choir sings Vidi Aquam. Then all return to their places, extinguishing their candles, as the organ sounds.

Priest Almighty God, we thank you for our fellowship in the household of faith with all who have been baptized in your name. Keep us faithful to our baptism, and so make us ready for that day when the whole creation shall be made perfect in your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

People **Amen.**

Priest May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith, that you may be rooted and grounded in love and bring forth the fruit of the Spirit.

Amen.

Please remain standing for the Intercessions.

Priest Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, has made us alive for God, now and always. In his most sacred name, let us pray that his glorious triumph over sin and death will be ours in answer to these prayers.

Reader Lord, in your mercy

People **Hear our prayer.**

Priest Wonderful in our eyes, O God, is the resurrection of your beloved Son. Answer our prayers for the sake of him who underwent the torment of the cross but now reigns as the King of glory. Merciful Father.

People **Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Please sit. Bread and wine are brought to the altar during which the choir sings "This Joyful Eastertide" arranged by Charles Wood.

Then stand to sing the Offertory Hymn (NEH 103),

Alleluya! Alleluya!

Hearts to heaven and voices raise;

Sing to God a hymn of gladness,

Sing to God a hymn of praise;

He who on the Cross a victim

For the world's salvation bled,

Jesus Christ, the King of glory,

Now is risen from the dead.

Christ is risen, Christ the first-fruits

Of the holy harvest field,

Which will all its full abundance

At his second coming yield;

Then the golden ears of harvest

Will their heads before him wave,

Ripened by his glorious sunshine

From the furrows of the grave.

Christ is risen, we are risen;
Shed upon us heavenly grace,
Rain, and dew, and gleams of glory
From the brightness of thy face;
That we, Lord, with hearts in heaven
Here on earth may fruitful be,
And by angel-hands be gathered,
And be ever safe with thee.

Alleluya! Alleluya!
Glory be to God on high;
To the Father, and the Saviour,
Who has gained the victory;
Glory to the Holy Spirit,
Fount of love and sanctity;
Alleluya! Alleluya!
To the Triune Majesty.

C Wordsworth (1807-85)

Then the priest says,

Priest Pray, brethren, that my sacrifice and yours may be
acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

People **May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for
the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and
the good of all his holy Church.**

Priest Accept, we ask, O Lord, the prayers of your people with the
sacrificial offerings, that what has begun in the paschal
mysteries may, by the working of your power, bring us to the
healing of eternity. Through Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

Priest The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Priest Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*The Priest prays the Preface to the Eucharistic Prayer, and then all
sing the Sanctus and Benedictus, during which the people's candles
are relit,*

People **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might!**
Choir Full of your glory are heav'n and earth,
God of pow'r and might.

People **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might!**
Choir Blessed is he who comes to us
in the name of the Lord.

People **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might!**
Choir Hosanna in the highest!

People **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might!**

*Please kneel. The Eucharistic Prayer continues, until the Memorial
Acclamation,*

Priest Great is the mystery of Faith.

People **Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
Endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won!**

The Eucharistic Prayer concludes, and all sing,

Priest Through him and with him and in him,

People **Amen!**

Priest in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

People **Amen!**

Priest all glory and honour is yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever.

People **Amen!**

Please stand for the Lord's Prayer, extinguishing your candles,

Priest At the Saviour's command, and formed by divine
teaching, we dare to say,

People **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

Priest Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil,
graciously grant peace in our days,
that, by the help of your mercy,
we may be always free from sin

and safe from all distress,
as we await the blessed hope
and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

People **For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours
now and for ever.**

Priest Lord Jesus Christ,
who said to your Apostles:
Peace I leave you, my peace I give you,
look not on our sins,
but on the faith of your Church,
and graciously grant her peace and unity
in accordance with your will.
Who live and reign for ever and ever.

People **Amen.**

Priest The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People **And also with you.**

Priest Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

The Agnus Dei is now sung,

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

Please kneel.

Priest Behold the Lamb of God,
behold him who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

People **Lord, I am not worthy
that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

Priest Christ our Passover has been sacrificed; therefore let us keep the
feast with the unleavened bread of purity and truth, alleluia.

*The people come forward to receive Communion. If you have **not** been baptised
and confirmed, please come forward for a blessing instead of Communion,
carrying this Order of Service.*

*After communion the following hymn is sung, for which all remain
seated or kneeling (NEH 102),*

A brighter dawn is breaking,
And earth with praise is waking;
For thou, O King most highest,
The power of death defiest;

And thou hast come victorious,
With risen Body glorious,
Who now for ever livest,
And life abundant givest.

O free the world from blindness,
And fill the world with kindness,
Give sinners resurrection,
Bring striving to perfection;

In sickness give us healing,
In doubt thy clear revealing,
That praise to thee be given
In earth as in thy heaven.

P Dearmer (1867-1936)

Then stand for the Prayer after Communion ,

Priest Pour out on us, O Lord, the Spirit of your love,
and in your kindness make those you have nourished by this
paschal Sacrament one in mind and heart.
Through Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

Remain standing for the Blessing and Dismissal.

Priest The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Priest Bow down for the blessing.
May almighty God bless you through today's Easter
Solemnity and, in his compassion, defend you from
every assault of sin.

People **Amen.**

Priest And may he, who restores you to eternal life in the
Resurrection of his Only Begotten, endow you with the
prize of immortality.

People **Amen.**

Priest Now that the days of the Lord's Passion have drawn to a close, may you who celebrate the gladness of the Paschal Feast come with Christ's help, and exulting in spirit, to those feasts that are celebrated in eternal joy.

People **Amen.**

Priest And may the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you for ever.

People **Amen.**

Deacon Go forth, the Mass is ended, alleluia, alleluia!

People **Thanks be to God, alleluia, alleluia!**

The clergy and servers go to the shrine of Our Lady to sing the Easter anthem to Our Lady, the Regina Caeli,

People **Joy to thee, O Queen of Heaven, alleluia!
He whom thou wast meet to bear, alleluia!
As he promised hath arisen, alleluia!
Pour for us to God thy prayer, alleluia!**

Priest Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia!

People **For the Lord is risen indeed, alleluia!**

Priest Let us pray. O God, who by the resurrection of thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, didst vouchsafe to bring joy to the whole world; grant that, through the prayers of his mother, the Virgin Mary, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life: through the same, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People **Amen.**

As the procession leaves the church we sing the hymn (NEH 120),

**Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
Endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won;
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
Kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.
*Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
Endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.***

**Lo, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
Lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom;
Let the Church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
For her Lord now liveth, death hath lost its sting:**

**No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of Life;
Life is nought without thee: aid us in our strife,
Make us more than conquerors through thy deathless love;
Bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above:**

E Budry (1854-1932) tr R Hoyle (1875-1939)

The organist plays Sonata III by Felix Mendelssohn (1809-47).

Please come through to the Hall for refreshments, and a firework display in the churchyard!

Mass Times this Week

SUNDAY	EASTER DAY	Mass 8.00am.
		Sung Mass 10.30am
Tuesday		Mass 9.30am
Wednesday		Mass 9.30am
Thursday		Mass 9.30am
Friday		Mass 9.30am
Saturday		Mass & Rosary 9.30am

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