

St George
Bickley

The Order for Mass on
The FIFTH SUNDAY of LENT

6th April 2025 at 10.30am

Parish Priest
Fr Henry Everett SSC
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Welcome to St George's! This booklet contains all the material you will need for today's celebration of Mass. We hope that you will find this service easy to follow, but please do not be afraid to ask if you are unsure what to do at any point. The building is fitted with an induction loop and you will find the best results away from the pillars.

Families with small children are very welcome to make use of the carpeted play 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. Before Mass, please try to maintain an atmosphere of quiet prayer. After Mass, please join us in the Hall for refreshments.

Mass setting: Dean and Fry/ Plainsong

Please stand when the bell rings, for the procession of the clergy and servers, and to sing hymn 243:

***Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore his sacred name.***

**Come, let us follow where our captain trod,
Our King victorious, Christ the Son of God.**

**O Lord once lifted on the glorious tree,
As thou hast promised, draw us unto thee.**

**Let every race and every language tell
Of him who saves our souls from death and hell.**

**From farthest regions let them homage bring,
And on his cross adore their Saviour King.**

**Set up thy throne, that earth's despair may cease
Beneath the shadow of its healing peace.**

**For thy blest cross which doth for all atone
Creation's praises rise before thy throne.**

GW Kitchin (1827-1912) & MR Newbolt (1874-1956) altd. ©Hymns A&M Ltd.

The priest sings:

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.**

The priest introduces the Mass and invites us to confess our sins.

Priest God shows his love for us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us. So let us show our love for him by confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

People **I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-virgin, all the angels and saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.**

Priest May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life,

People **Amen.**

We sing the Kyries:

Kyrie eleison. **Kyrie Eleison.**

Christe eleison. **Christe eleison.**

Kyrie eleison. **Kyrie eleison.**

Then the priest prays the collect:

Priest By your help, we beseech you, Lord our God, may we walk eagerly in that same charity with which, out of love for the world, your Son handed himself over to death. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

People **Amen.**

Now *sit* to listen to the first reading:

Reader A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah. (*Isaiah 43; 16-21*)

Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, who brings forth chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: 'Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. The wild beasts will honour me, the jackals and the ostriches, for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, the people whom I formed for myself that they might declare my praise.'

This is the word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 126 follows the reading. Remain seated to sing:



- 1 When the Lord turned again the cap- | tivity ' of | Sion :
then were we | like ' unto | them that | dream.
- 2 Then was our mouth | filled with | laughter :
and our | tongue_ | with_ | joy.
- 3 Then said they a- | mong the | heathen :
The | Lord hath ' done | great things | for them.
- 4 Yea, the Lord hath done great things | for us ' al- | ready :
where- | of_ | we re- | joice.
- 5 Turn our cap- | tivity, ' O | Lord :
as the | rivers | in the | south.

6 They that | sow in | tears :
shall | reap_ | _ in | joy.

7† He that now goeth on his way weeping, and beareth | forth good | seed
:
shall doubtless come again with joy, and | bring his | sheaves_ | with
him.

† = 2nd half of chant

Remain seated for the second reading:

Reader A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians.
(*Philippians 3; 8-14*)

Brothers and Sisters: I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith — that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on towards the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

This is the word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

After a brief pause for reflection, stand for the gospel acclamation.

Choir Praise and honour to you, praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus.

People **Praise and honour to you, praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus.**

Choir Even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, for I am gracious and merciful.

People **Praise and honour to you, praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus.**

Priest The Lord be with you,

People **And also with you.**

Priest A reading from the holy Gospel according to John. (*John 12; 20-33*)

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

Priest At that time: Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. Early in the morning he came again to the temple. All the people came to him, and he sat down and taught them. The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery, and placing her in the midst they said to him, 'Teacher, this woman has been caught in the act of adultery. Now in the Law, Moses commanded us to stone such women. So what do you say?' This they said to test him, that they might have some charge to bring against him. Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground. And as they continued to ask him, he stood up and said to them, 'Let him who is without sin among you be the first to throw a stone at her.' And once more he bent down and wrote on the ground. But when they heard it, they went away one by one, beginning with the older ones, and Jesus was left alone with the woman standing before him. Jesus stood up and said to her, 'Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?' She said, 'No one, Lord.' And Jesus said, 'Neither do I condemn you; go, and from now on sin no more.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

**Praise and honour to you, praise and honour to you,
Lord Jesus.**

Please sit for the Homily from Fr Paul.

All stand to say the Nicene Creed:

People **I believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and
invisible.**

**I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son
of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from
God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten,
not made, consubstantial with the Father, through him
all things were made. For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was
incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our
sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered
death and was buried, and rose again on the third day 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.**

**I 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 adored and glorified, who has
spoken through the prophets. I believe in one holy,
catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for
the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the
resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to
come. Amen.**

Please remain standing for the Prayers of Intercession.

The Priest introduces and concludes the prayers.

Priest **On this day that the Lord has made let us give God the
glory, and let us pray to the Father through his Son who
suffered on the Cross for the world's redemption.**

Reader Lord, in your mercy, / Lord, hear us.

People **Hear our prayer. / Lord, graciously hear us.**

At the prayer for the departed,

Reader Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord.

People **and let light perpetual shine upon them.**

When the prayers of the saints are asked,

Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus: Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

In conclusion to the prayers:

Priest Hold your saving Cross, Lord, before our eyes that we may recognise in it our only salvation. Merciful Father,

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

Please sit, as bread and wine are brought to the altar, and the choir sing: "God so Loved the World" by Sir John Stainer (1840-1901).

Stand to sing hymn 130, as the altar is prepared and the collection is taken. If you want to give by card, there is a card reader at the back of church.

**When I survey the wondrous Cross,
On which the prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.**

**Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
Save in the death of Christ my God;
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his blood.**

**See from his head, his hands, his feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down;
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?**

His dying crimson like a robe,
Spreads o'er his body on the tree;
Then I am dead to all the globe,
And all the globe is dead to me.

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

Isaac Watts (1674-1748)

The Priest says

Priest Pray, brothers and sisters, 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 Hear us, almighty God, and, having instilled in your servants the teachings of the Christian faith, graciously purify them by the working of this sacrifice. Through Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

The Priest sings the opening of the Eucharistic Prayer:

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:

Choir Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power, God of might.

People **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power, God of might.**

Choir Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

People **Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Choir Hosanna in the highest.

People **Hosanna in the highest.**

Choir Blessed is he who comes, he who comes in the name of the Lord.

People **Blessed is he who comes, he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

Choir Hosanna in the highest.

People **Hosanna in the highest.**

Choir Hosanna in the highest.

People **Hosanna in the highest.**

Please kneel. The Eucharistic Prayer continues, until the Words of Institution.

Then all make the Memorial Acclamation:

Priest Great is the mystery of faith.

Choir Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life.

People **Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life.**

Choir Lord Jesus, come in glory.

People **Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Choir Lord Jesus, come!

People **Lord Jesus, come!**

The Priest concludes the Eucharistic Prayer, and all sing:

People **Amen!**

Please stand for the Lord's Prayer.

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 day, 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 always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Deacon Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Now sing the Agnus Dei

People **Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have
mercy on us. (repeated)**

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

Then 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 Has no one condemned you, woman? No one, Lord.
Neither shall I condemn you. From now on, sin no more.

The people come forward to receive Communion. If you have not been baptized and confirmed, please come forward for a blessing instead of Communion, carrying this order of service.

During Communion hymn 112 is sung, all remaining seated or kneeling.

**Cross of Jesus, cross of sorrow,
Where the blood of Christ was shed,
Perfect man on thee was tortured,
Perfect God on thee has bled.**

**Here the King of all the ages,
Throned in light ere worlds could be,
Robed in mortal flesh is dying,
Crucified by sin for me.**

**O mysterious condescending!
O abandonment sublime!
Very God himself is bearing
All the sufferings of time!**

**Evermore for human failure
By his Passion we can plead;
God has borne all mortal anguish,
Surely he will know our need.**

**From the "Holy, holy, holy,
We adore thee, O Most High!"
Down to earth's blaspheming voices,
And the shout of "Crucify!"**

**Cross of Jesus, cross of sorrow,
Where the blood of Christ was shed,
Perfect man on thee was tortured,
Perfect God on thee has bled!**

WJ Sparrow-Simpson (1859-1952) from The Crucifixion, 1887.

All stand for the Post-Communion Prayer:

Priest We pray, almighty God, that we may always be counted among the members of Christ, in whose Body and Blood we have communion. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

People **Amen.**

Please sit for the Notices.

Stand for the Blessing and Dismissal:

Priest The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Priest Bless, O Lord, your people, who long for the gift of your mercy, and grant that what, at your prompting, they desire they may receive by your generous gift. Through Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

Priest And may the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit, come down upon you and remain with you always.

People **Amen.**

Priest Go forth, the Mass is ended.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The clergy and servers go to the shrine of Our Lady for the Angelus:

Priest The angel of the Lord brought tidings to Mary,

People **And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.**

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb,

Jesus. **Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour of our death. Amen.**

Priest Behold the handmaid of the Lord,

People **Be it unto me according to thy word.** Hail Mary...

Priest And the word was made flesh,

People **And dwelt among us.** Hail Mary...

Priest Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

People **That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.**

Priest Let us pray. We beseech you, O Lord, pour your grace into our hearts, so that as we have known the incarnation of your Son Jesus Christ through the message of an angel, so, by his cross and passion, we may be brought to the glory of his resurrection. Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

Remain standing to sing hymn 117 as clergy and servers depart.

**It is a thing most wonderful,
Almost too wonderful to be,
That God's own Son should come from heaven,
And die to save a child like me.**

**And yet I know that it is true:
He chose a poor and humble lot,
And wept, and toiled, and mourned, and died
For love of those who loved him not.**

**But even could I see him die,
I could but see a little part
Of that great love, which, like a fire,
Is always burning in his heart.**

**It is most wonderful to know
His love for me so free and sure;**

**But 'tis more wonderful to see
My love for him so faint and poor.**

**And yet I want to love thee, Lord;
O light the flame within my heart,
And I will love thee more and more,
Until I see thee as thou art.**

William Walsham How (1823-97)

The Organist plays "Voluntary in A Minor" by Matthew Locke (c.1622-1677).

Scripture readings are taken from the English Standard Version, Catholic Edition.

WE MAY USE PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN AT ST GEORGE'S ON OUR WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA. IF YOU PREFER THAT IMAGES OF YOU OR YOUR FAMILY WERE NOT SO USED, PLEASE INFORM A CHURCHWARDEN OR SIDESPERSON.

Collection: we take a collection during the second hymn, towards the cost of providing services and the upkeep of this church. If you are a UK taxpayer please place your offering in one of the envelopes in the pews (completed with your name and address) and place it in the collection plate when it is circulated during the hymn. Pens are in the pews. A card reader to give by contactless payment is available at the back of church. Special thanks if you give by standing order, as this helps us to budget.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS HERE TODAY 4PM.

Scan this QR code to donate to St George's.

