

**Liturgy for Parish Mass on
Fourth Sunday of Advent – 20th December 2020**

The Gathering

In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

WELCOME

Advent Wreath – The Fourth candle is lit
*We have this Advent Ring
to remind us of the coming of Jesus, the Light of the world.*

Blessed are you, sovereign Lord, merciful and gentle:
to you be praise and glory for ever.
Your light has shone in our darkened world
through the child-bearing of blessed Mary;
grant that we who have seen your glory
may daily be renewed in your image
and prepared like her for the coming of your Son,
who is the Lord and Saviour of all.
Blessed be God for ever.

Prayers of Penitence at the Advent Wreath

When the Lord comes,
he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness,
and will disclose the purposes of the heart.
Therefore in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

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 from darkness to walk as children of light.
Amen.

Absolution

May the God of all healing and forgiveness draw you to himself,
and cleanse you from all your sins
that you may behold the glory of his Son,
the Word made flesh,
Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Collect

Let us pray

God our redeemer,
who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary
to be the mother of your Son:
grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour,
so we may be ready to greet him
when he comes again as our judge;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
AMEN

Readings from Holy Scripture

First Reading

The Magnificat

Second Reading

Gradual Hymn

Gospel Reading

Nativity Play

The Creed

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.

Intercessions

The president introduces the prayers of intercession with the following words:

Watchful at all times, let us pray for strength to stand with confidence before our
Maker and Redeemer.

And at the end:

Merciful Father,

accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

In the tender mercy of our God,
the dayspring from on high shall break upon us,
to give light to those who dwell in darkness
and in the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.
Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Offertory hymn

Preparation of the Table

Blessed be God, who enthrones us with Christ in the heavenly realms.
May we feed upon the bread of God and drink the royal wine of heaven.
Blessed be God forever.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts
We lift them to the Lord

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God
It is right to give thanks and praise

It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise,
almighty God and everlasting Father,
through Jesus Christ your Son.
He is the one foretold by all the prophets,
whom the Virgin Mother bore with love beyond all telling.
John the Baptist was his herald
and made him known when at last he came.
In his love Christ fills us with joy
as we prepare to celebrate his birth,
so that when he comes again he may find us watching in prayer,
our hearts filled with wonder and praise.
And so, with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your glory,
and join in their unending hymn of praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

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, gave it to them 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.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:
Dying you destroyed our death,
Rising you restored our life,
Lord Jesus, come in glory.

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 into your loving arms
and bring us with the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Mark, the Holy Innocents,
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.
Amen.

*Awaiting his coming in glory,
Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:*

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.
For thine is the kingdom,
The power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

The president breaks the bread

Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup
We proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world, give us your peace.

Giving of Communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world,
blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you
but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

Prayer after Communion

Heavenly Father,
who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary
to be the mother of the promised saviour:
fill us your servants with your grace,
that in all things we may embrace your holy will
and with her rejoice in your salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

AMEN.

**We thank you Lord,
that you have fed us in this sacrament,
united us with Christ,
and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet prepared for all peoples.**
Amen.

Notices

The Blessing

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

Christ the Son of Righteousness shine upon you,
scatter the darkness from before your path,
and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory;
and the blessing of God almighty,
The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
Be among you and remain with you,
and those you love now and always.
Amen.

The Dismissal

Our Mass is ended and our service to God continues.
As we await our coming Saviour,
go in the peace to Christ.
Thanks be to God. Amen.