

ABINGDON-ON-THAMES

SAID MASS

CHRISTMAS DAY



CHURCH OF ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS

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# THE GATHERING

¶ *The priest and server move to the crib. The choir sing the introit hymn Once in Royal David's City.*

## The Greeting

**Priest** Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

*All* *And also with you.*

## The Blessing of the Crib

Dear friends, as we meet to celebrate the birth of Christ, let us pray that God will bless this crib, that all who worship his Son, born of the Virgin Mary, may come to share his life in glory.

God our Father, on this day  
your Son Jesus Christ was born of the Virgin Mary  
for us and for our salvation:  
bless + this crib,  
which we have prepared to celebrate that holy birth;  
may all who see it be strengthened in faith  
and receive the fullness of life he came to bring,  
who is alive and reigns for ever.

*All* **Amen.**

¶ *The priest and MC move to the Advent wreath.*

¶ *The final candle on the **Advent wreath** is lit. All pray **together**:*

**LORD JESUS,  
Light of light,  
you have come among us.  
Help us who live by your light to shine as lights  
in your world.  
Glory to God in the highest.**

**Priest** The Sun of righteousness has dawned  
with healing in his wings.  
Let us come to the light of Christ,  
confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

God our Father,  
you sent your Son full of grace and truth:  
forgive our failure to receive him.  
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Jesus our Saviour,  
you were born in poverty and laid in a manger:  
forgive our greed and rejection of your ways d.  
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Spirit of love,  
your servant Mary responded joyfully to your call:  
forgive the hardness of our hearts.  
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy**

¶ *The priest then pronounces the absolution.*

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

¶ *The choir sing a setting of the Gloria*

Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

## The Collect

**Priest** Let us pray

Almighty God,  
you have given us your only-begotten Son  
to take our nature upon him  
and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin:  
grant that we, who have been born again  
and made your children by adoption and grace,  
may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

## The Reading

¶ *A portion of Scripture appointed for the day is read. At the end of the reading, the reader may say*

This is the word of the Lord.

*All*      **Thanks be to God.**

## The Gospel Reading

¶ *The choir sing the gradual hymn Hark the herald angels sing.*

¶ *The priest's acclamation heralds the Gospel reading:*

Alleluia, alleluia. The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory.

*All*      **Alleluia.**

¶ *When the Gospel is announced the priest says:*

The Lord be with you.

*All*      **And also with you.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

*All*      **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¶ *At the end of the Gospel:*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

*All*      **Praise to you O Christ.**

## *The Sermon*

### Affirmation of Faith

**Priest**      Do you believe and trust in God the Father,  
source of all being and life,  
the one for whom we exist?

*All*      **We believe and trust in him.**

**Priest** Do you believe and trust in God the Son,  
who took our human nature,  
died for us and rose again?

*All* **We believe and trust in him.**

**Priest** Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,  
who gives life to the people of God  
and makes Christ known to the world?

*All* **We believe and trust in him.**

**Priest** This is the faith of the Church.

*All* **This is our faith.**

**We believe and trust in one God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

## Prayers of Intercession

In peace let us pray to Jesus our Saviour.

Christ, born in a stable,  
give courage to all  
who are homeless.

Jesus, Saviour, **hear our prayer.**

Christ, for whom the angels sang,  
give the song of the kingdom to all who weep.  
Jesus, Saviour, **hear our prayer.**

Christ, worshipped by the shepherds,  
give peace on earth to all who are oppressed.  
Jesus, Saviour, **hear our prayer.**

Christ, before whom the wise men knelt,  
give humility and wisdom to all who govern.  
Jesus, Saviour, **hear our prayer.**

Christ, whose radiance filled a lowly manger,  
give the glory of your resurrection to all who rest in  
you.

Jesus, Saviour, **hear our prayer.**

*¶ We pray together.*

**Jesus, Saviour, child of Mary,  
you know us and love us,  
you share our lives  
and hear our prayer.  
Glory to you for ever. Amen.**

# THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

## The Peace

*¶ The Peace is introduced in these words:*

Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given,  
and his name shall be called the Prince of Peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*All* **And also with you.**

*¶ Please do not share the peace with physical touch, or move closer to those around you. However, please offer one another a sign of peace with a warm smile, nod or bow, and with the words 'peace be with you,' 'the peace of the Lord,' or similar.*



# The Eucharistic Prayer

*All* The Lord be with you  
**And also with you.**

*All* Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

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

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,  
mighty creator, ever-living God.  
We give you thanks and praise for your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
who for love of our fallen race humbled himself,  
and was born of the Virgin Mary  
by the power of your Spirit,  
and lived as one of us.  
In this mystery of the Word made flesh  
you have caused his light to shine in our hearts,  
to give knowledge of your glory in the face of Jesus  
Christ.

In him we see our God made visible  
and so are caught up in the love of the God we  
cannot see.

Therefore with all the angels of heaven  
we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name  
and sing our joyful hymn of praise:

¶ *The choir sing a setting of the Sanctus and Benedictus*

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.

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 [*N and*] 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

**Priest** Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us, as our Saviour Christ has commanded and taught us, we are bold to say,

*All* **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 Breaking of the Bread

¶ *The priest breaks the consecrated bread and says*

**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.**

¶ *The choir will sing a setting of Agnus Dei.*

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer of the world,  
grant us peace.

¶ *The priest invites us to receive Holy Communion.*

**Priest** Christ is the true bread which has come down from heaven.

*All* **Lord, give us this bread always.**

¶ *A prayer for Spiritual Communion*

**Priest** Heavenly Father: as we participate with your people in these holy mysteries, we pray you now to grant to those who seek it your gift of spiritual communion, with trust in your faithfulness and your abiding love, through Jesus Christ Our Lord.

¶ *The priest elevates the ciborium and says:*

**Priest** The Body and Blood of Christ.

*All* **Amen.**

¶ *We then receive Holy Communion SILENTLY in one kind only.*

# Prayer after Communion

¶ *Silence is kept. The priest says:*

**Priest:** Let us pray.

God our Father, whose Word has come among us in the Holy Child of Bethlehem: may the light of faith illumine our hearts and shine in our words and deeds; through him who is Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

**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.**

## The Sending Out

¶ *Announcements and notices for the week are given after which the Choir sing O come all ye faithful (vv 1,2 6&7).*

¶ *The priest says this blessing:*

**Priest** The Lord be with you.

*All* **And also with you.**

May the Father, who has loved the eternal Son from before the foundation of the world, shed that love upon you his children. **Amen.**

May Christ, who by his incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with joy and peace. **Amen.**

May the Holy Spirit, by whose overshadowing Mary became the God-bearer, give you grace to carry the good news of Christ. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty, + the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

¶ *The **priest** dismisses the people with the words,*

**Priest**     Go in peace. Proclaim the Word made flesh.

*All*         **Glory, thanks and praise to God.**