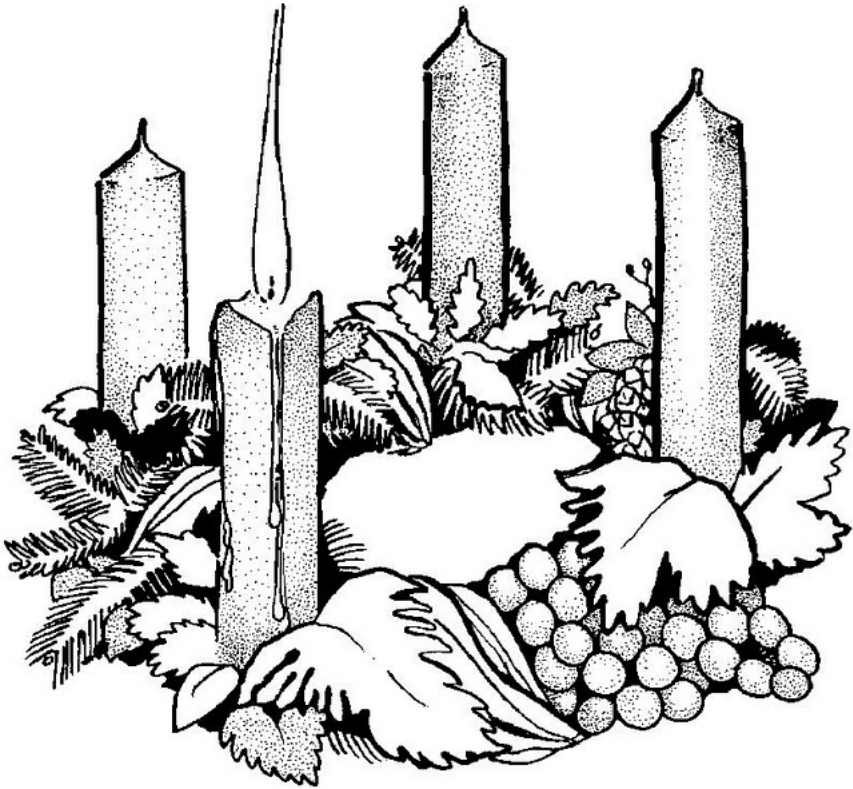


All Saints Parish Church  
Kingston upon Thames



Holy Communion  
Advent

# Advent ('coming')

Advent is a season of preparation, a time of waiting, when we look for the coming of Jesus, remembered at Christmas time as born among us, to be one like us, living – and suffering – as we do. Traditionally, it is a season of sobriety and penitence, not unlike Lent, a period of time before a great festival where we are encouraged to look at ourselves honestly and recognise the ways in which our lives are less than they might be. Though that can be demanding, the constant promise to us is of the mercy, forgiveness and love of God who understands our frailties and always believes in us. It is a time of year when the days are shortest and the nights are long. But the promise is that light will come, to shine in our darkness and show us the way.

You are very welcome to All Saints today. At certain times in the service, the choir sings on behalf of the congregation; this allows us to think more deeply about our relationship with God in our lives, through meditating on the words and music chosen for the day. The words that they sing can be found either in this service book or in the pew sheet. If the choir is not present, the congregation will sing the Kyrie, Sanctus, Benedictus and Agnus Dei. The setting is number 541 in the hymn book.

Children are very welcome here and, if they want to, they can take part in the children's activities that happen behind the altar at the east end of the church and in the small chapel nearby. Towards the end of the first hymn they come forward to the altar where they collect reminders of God's presence in our lives – a cross, a candle and the Bible – to take to their activities elsewhere. We all come back together at the end of the service for Communion.

The words **in bold** are said by everyone.

# We gather together

*Before the hymn, silence is kept.*

*If there is an introit (sung by the choir), please remain seated.*

*Stand for the hymn.*

## Hymn

*During the last verse of the hymn, children come forward to the altar, if they wish, where they will help with the lighting of the Advent wreath before going to their activities.*

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

**All      Amen.**

*The minister and people greet each other.*

The Lord be with you.

**All      and also with you.**

**All      Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you,  
and worthily magnify your holy name;  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

# Prayers of Penitence

Our Lord Jesus Christ said:

The first commandment is this: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.'

The second is this: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

*The minister invites everyone to recall their shortcomings.*

*After a few moments we say together the prayer of confession.*

**Most merciful God,  
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
we confess that we have sinned  
in thought, word and deed.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart.  
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.  
In your mercy  
forgive what we have been,  
help us to amend what we are,  
and direct what we shall be;  
that we may do justly,  
love mercy,  
and walk humbly with you, our God.  
Amen.**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All Amen. Lord have mercy.**

*The Choir sings the Kyrie:*

Kyrie eleison.  
Christe eleison.  
Kyrie eleison.

*Lord, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy.*

## The Collect

*We say together the special prayer for this Sunday. This can be found on the front of the day's service sheet.*

*Sit.*

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# We hear God's Word

## Readings from the Old and New Testament

*Stand.*

## Hymn

## Gospel Reading

*The Gospel reading is announced:*

Alleluia, alleluia.

Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,  
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

**All Alleluia.**

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to N.

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

*At the end of the reading:*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Sit.*

# Sermon

*Silence may be kept.*

*Stand. If there are baptisms, please turn to page 11.*

## The Creed

**All      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.**

*Sit or kneel.*

## Prayers for the World, our Community and Ourselves

*During the prayers this or another response may be used:*

Lord, in your mercy

**All      hear our prayer.**

*And at the end:*

Merciful Father,

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

*Silence may be kept.*

# We share holy Bread and Wine

*Stand*

## The Peace

*The minister introduces the peace.*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**All      and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

## Hymn

*During which a collection is taken for the work of our church, and with it, the bread and wine for Communion are brought to the altar.*

## Preparation of the Table

As the grain once scattered in the fields and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside are now reunited on this table in bread and wine, so, Lord, may your whole Church soon be gathered together from the corners of the earth into your kingdom.

**All      Amen.**



# The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here.

**All His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

**All We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All It is right to give thanks and praise.**

*The priest says the first part of the eucharistic prayer, after which the Choir sings:*

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus,

Dominus Deus Sabaoth.

Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua.

Hosanna in excelsis!

[Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini.

Hosanna in excelsis!]

*Holy, holy, holy,*

*Lord God of hosts.*

*Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.*

*Glory be to thee, O Lord most high!*

*[Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.*

*Hosanna in the highest!]*

Lord God, you are the most holy one, enthroned in splendour and light yet, in the coming of your Son Jesus Christ, you reveal the power of your love made perfect in our human weakness.

Embracing our humanity, Jesus showed us the way of salvation; loving us to the end, he gave himself to death for us; dying for his own, he set us free from the bonds of sin, that we might rise and reign with him in glory.

On the night he gave up himself for us all he 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.

Therefore we proclaim the death that he suffered on the cross, we celebrate his resurrection, his bursting from the tomb, we rejoice that he reigns at your right hand on high and we long for his coming in glory.

As we recall the one, perfect sacrifice of our redemption, Father, by your Holy Spirit let these gifts of your creation be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ; form us into the likeness of Christ and make us a perfect offering in your sight.

Look with favour on your people and in your mercy hear the cry of our hearts. Bless the earth, heal the sick, let the oppressed go free and fill your Church with power from on high.

Gather your people from the ends of the earth to feast with [*N and*] all your saints at the table in your kingdom, where the new creation is brought to perfection in 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.

**All      Amen.**

# The Lord's Prayer

*Sit or kneel.*

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**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.**

# Breaking of the Bread

*The priest breaks the consecrated bread.*

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.**

*Silence may be kept.*

# Giving of Communion

*The priest invites everyone to receive 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 he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

*Everyone is welcome to come to the altar to receive communion or a blessing. The sidespeople will direct you.*

*The Choir sings*

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.  
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.  
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem.

*O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
have mercy upon us.*

*O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
have mercy upon us.*

*O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
grant us thy peace.*

## Prayer after Communion

*The priest prays the post communion prayer and then we say together:*

**All      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.**

Notices

Hymn

# We go out into the World

## Blessing

*The minister says:*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**All      In the name of Christ.  
            Amen.**

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## An Order for Holy Baptism

Faith is the gift of God to his people. In baptism the Lord is adding to our number those whom he is calling. People of God, will you welcome *these children/candidates* and uphold *them* in *their* new life in Christ?

**All      With the help of God, we will.**

Parents and godparents, the Church receives *these children/people* with joy. Today we are trusting God for *their* growth in faith. Will you pray for *them*, draw *them* by your example into the community of faith and walk with *them* in the way of Christ?

**Parents & Godparents      With the help of God, we will.**

In baptism *these children/candidates* begin *their* journey in faith. You speak for *them* today. Will you care for *them*, and help *them* to take *their* place within the life and worship of Christ's Church?

**Parents & Godparents      With the help of God, we will.**

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 turn to Christ?

**Parents & Godparents      I turn to Christ.**

Do you repent of your sins?

**Parents & Godparents      I repent of my sins.**

Do you renounce evil?

**Parents & Godparents      I renounce evil.**

Let us affirm, together with these who are being baptised, our common faith:

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

**All      I believe and trust in God.**

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

**All      I believe and trust in God.**

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

**All      I believe and trust in God.**

This is the faith of the church.

**All      This is our faith. We believe and trust in one God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

*The priest asks for God's blessing on the water and then says:*

Praise God who made heaven and earth

**All      Who keeps his promise for ever.**

*The priest then baptises the child/candidate:*

N, I baptise you in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**All Amen**

I sign you with the sign of the cross. Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified but fight valiantly under his banner against sin and the devil, and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.

**All Amen**

Receive this light of Christ. God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness and has given us a place with the saints in light.

**All Shine as a light in the world to the glory of God the Father.**

May God who has received you by Baptism into his church, pour upon you the riches of his grace, that within the company of Christ's pilgrim people you may daily be renewed by his anointing Spirit, and come to the inheritance of the saints in glory.

**All We welcome you into the fellowship of faith; we are children together of the same heavenly Father; we welcome you.**

*The service continues with the prayers on page 6.*

