

All Saints Parish Church
Kingston upon Thames



Holy Communion
Christmas & Epiphany

Emmanuel – God with us

Of all the Christian festivals, Christmas is perhaps the most evocative and widely known but, behind it, lies the simple suggestion that we are not alone. That, in a confusing and often painful world, God's life overlaps with ours, releasing energy and insight to help us cope with the realities that we face. From a fragile and vulnerable beginning, meeting our precarious existence head on, comes a life which shows us that when we are compassionate and merciful, when we forgive and forbear, when we love and live with joy in the present moment, then we let the life of God be born in us as it was in Jesus. Fast on its heels comes Epiphany (manifestation, 'showing') where three kings from afar become part of the story to suggest that this insight is not the preserve of a select few only, but for all people, at all times and in all places.

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.

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, any children who would like to, can come forward to the altar 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

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 Gloria. If there is no choir, the words and music for the Gloria can be found on page 17.

Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis.
Laudamus te, benedicimus te,
adoramus te, glorificamus te.
Gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tuam.
Domine Deus, rex caelestis, Deus Pater omnipotens.
Domine Fili unigenite, Jesu Christe.

Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris.
Qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.
Suscipe deprecationem nostram.
Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris, miserere nobis.
Quoniam tu solus sanctus. Tu solus Dominus.
Tu solus altissimus, Jesu Christe.
Cum sancto Spiritu in gloria Dei Patris. Amen.

*Glory be to God on high,
and in earth peace, good will towards men.
We praise thee, we bless thee,
we worship thee, we glorify thee,
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,
O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.
O Lord, the only begotten Son Jesu Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,
have mercy upon us.
For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord;
thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.*

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.*

We hear God's Word

Readings from the Old and New Testament

Stand.

Hymn

Gospel Reading

The Gospel reading is announced:

Alleluia, alleluia.

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

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 13.

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

Word made flesh, life of the world,
in your incarnation you embraced our poverty:
by your Spirit may we share in your riches.

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!]

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.

Great is the mystery of faith:

All **Christ has died:**
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.

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 in your loving arms and bring us with [*N 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.

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 Father of all,
we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off
you met us in your Son and brought us home.
Dying and living, he declared your love,
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;
we who drink his cup bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
so we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord.
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.

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.

