

The Parish Church of St Matthew
Northampton

The Solemnity of
Christ the King



The Parish Mass

live streamed from the Vicarage
during the Coronavirus Pandemic

Sunday 22nd November 2020

10.15 am

Order of Service

¶ The Gathering

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

The Greeting

All Blessed be God.
Blessed be God's kingdom now and for ever.
Amen.

The service is introduced

Prayers of Penitence

Invitation to Confession

Jesus said, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.'
So let us turn away from sin and turn to Christ,
confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

Silence is kept

Confession

All **O King enthroned on high,**
filling the earth with your glory:
holy is your name,
Lord God almighty.
In our sinfulness we cry to you
to take our guilt away,
and to cleanse our lips to speak your word,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Absolution

Almighty God, our eternal Lord and King,
have mercy on you,
pardon † and deliver you from every kind of wrong,
and restore you to new life,
in Jesus Christ our Saviour.

All Amen.

Gloria in Excelsis

**All 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

Let us pray.

Eternal Father,
whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven
that he might rule over all things as Lord and King:
keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit
and in the bond of peace,
and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

¶ The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading Ephesians 1:15-23

Reader A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 95:1-7

O come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us heartily rejoice in the rock of our salvation.
Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving
and be glad in him with psalms.
For the Lord is a great God
and a great king above all gods.

All **Come let us worship and bow down.**

In his hand are the depths of the earth
and the heights of the mountains are his also.
The sea is his, for he made it,
and his hands have moulded the dry land.

All **Come let us worship and bow down.**

Come, let us worship and bow down
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
For he is our God;
we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

All **Come let us worship and bow down.**

Holy Gospel

Matthew 25:31-46

Acclamation

All **Alleluia, alleluia.**

Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord.
Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David.

All **Alleluia.**

All The Lord be with you
and also with you.

All Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." Then he will say to those at his left hand, "You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me." Then they also will answer, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?" Then he will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me." And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

The Homily

The Nicene Creed

Let us declare our faith in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

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.

*All may
bow* *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.

Prayers of the Faithful

Let us with confidence present our prayers and supplications
to the throne of grace.

We pray for all those in positions of power,
that they may govern with wisdom and authority,
serving the needs of their people.

May your reign come;

All **Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for the Church, the sign of your reign,
that it may extend your welcome to people
of every race and background.

May your kingdom come;

All **Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for Christians of every denomination,
that together we may come to understand
the royal priesthood you bestowed on us in baptism.

May your dominion come;

All **Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for those whose commitment to truth
brings them into conflict with earthly powers,
that they may have the courage to endure.

May your rule come;

All **Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for this community of faith,
that attentive to your word
we may always worship in spirit and truth.

For the sick and suffering ...

For those who have died ...

May your reign come;

All **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Eternal Father,
we give thanks to you for all that you do in our lives.
We commend to you all those for whom we have prayed
and ask that you use us and our prayers
to make a difference in their lives
for we ask this in the name of Jesus Christ,
our Saviour and our King.

All **Amen.**

¶ The Liturgy of the Sacrament

Sign of Peace

To crown all things there must be love,
to bind all together and complete the whole.
Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts.

All The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

As we are able, let us offer one another a sign of Christ's peace.

The altar is prepared

Invitation to Prayer

Pray, my brothers and sisters,
that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God,
the almighty Father.

All **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 Church.**

Prayer over the Gifts

O Lord, as we offer you the sacrifice
by which the human race is reconciled to you,
we humble pray that your Son himself
may bestow on all nations the gifts of unity and peace.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God.
For with the oil of gladness
you have anointed Christ the Lord, your only Son,
to be our great high priest and king of all creation.
As priest, he offered himself once for all
upon the altar of the cross
and redeemed the human race
by this perfect sacrifice of peace.
As king he claims dominion over all your creatures,
that he may bring before your infinite majesty
a kingdom of truth and life,
a kingdom of holiness and grace,
a kingdom of justice, love and peace.
And so with angels and archangels
and all the heavenly host,
we proclaim your glory
and join their unending hymn of praise:

All

**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.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,
and as we follow his example and obey his command,
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us his body and his blood;
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.

All

Jesus Christ is Lord:
**Lord, by your cross and resurrection you have set us free.
You are the Saviour of the world.**

Therefore, heavenly Father,
we remember his offering of himself
made once for all upon the cross;
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;
we look for the coming of your kingdom,
and with this bread and this cup
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Accept through him, our great high priest,
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts
in the presence of your divine majesty,
renew us by your Spirit,
inspire us with your love and unite us in the body of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
we worship you, Father almighty,
in songs of everlasting praise:

All **Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever.
Amen.**

The Blessed Sacrament is elevated and bells are rung

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray for the coming of God's kingdom
in the words Jesus gave us.

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

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.**

Agnus Dei

All **Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

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

Invitation to Communion

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

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

Giving of Communion

The Lord sits enthroned as King for evermore.
The Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

Spiritual Communion – for those at home

It is an ancient practice of the Church that, when you are prevented from attending the Holy Eucharist, people are invited to express, in the words of St Thomas Aquinas, “an ardent desire to receive Jesus in the Holy Sacrament and a loving embrace as though we had already received Him.” Therefore, during this time you are invited to pray this prayer, which may be said as often as you desire:

Act of Reception

All **In union, blessed Jesus,
with the faithful gathered at every altar of your Church
where your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day,**

(and remembering particularly my own parish ...)

**I long to offer you praise and thanksgiving,
for creation and all the blessings of this life,
for the redemption won for us by your life, death,
and resurrection,
for the means of grace and the hope of glory.**

(and particularly for the blessings given me ...)

**I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament,
and, since I cannot at this time receive communion,
I pray you to come into my heart.
I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart,
my soul, and my mind.
Let nothing separate me from you;
let me serve you in this life until, by your grace,
I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace.
Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray:

Lord, you give us Christ, the King of creation,
as food for everlasting life.

Help us to live by his gospel
and bring us to the joy of his kingdom,
where he lives and reigns for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

Notices for the Community

¶ Sending Out

All The Lord be with you
 and also with you.

Solemn Blessing

All God the Father,
 who has given to his Son the name above every name,
 strengthen you to proclaim Christ as Lord.
 Amen.

All God the Son,
 who is our great high priest passed into the heavens,
 plead for you at the right hand of the Father.
 Amen.

All God the Holy Spirit,
 who pours out his abundant gifts upon the Church,
 make you faithful servants of Christ our King.
 Amen.

And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son †, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

The Dismissal

The Mass is ended, go in peace.

All **Thanks be to God.**