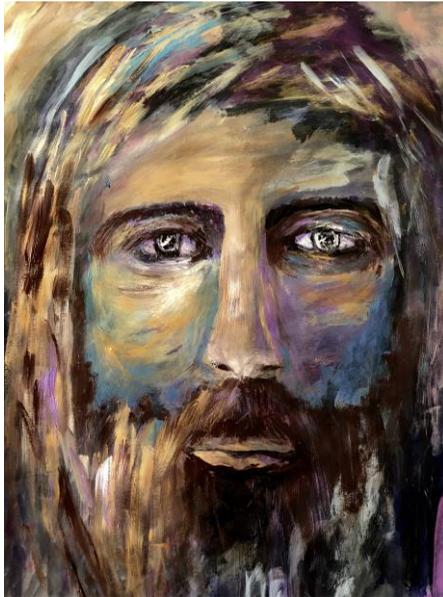


The Parish Church of St Matthew  
Northampton

# Mass

on the Wednesday in the Second Week of Lent



*'Broken but not divided'*

*Christ: Painting: Ronald Patrick Raab CSC, 2017*

Live streamed from the Vicarage  
during the Coronavirus Pandemic

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021  
7.30 pm



## ¶ A Corporate Preparation for Mass

*The Priest enters in silence, genuflects, and kneels facing the altar*

*After a period of silent recollection ...*

**All** I will go to the altar of God  
**to the God of my joy and gladness.**

Give judgement for me, O God,  
and defend my cause against an ungodly people:  
deliver me from the deceitful and the wicked.  
**All** **For you are the God of my refuge;**  
**why have you cast me from you,**  
**and why go I so heavily, while the enemy oppresses me?**

O send out your light and your truth, that they may lead me:  
and bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling.  
**All** **That I may go to the altar of God,**  
**to the God of my joy and gladness;**  
**and on the lyre I will give thanks to you, O God my God.**

Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul,  
and why are you so disquieted within me?  
**All** **O put your trust in God;**  
**for I will yet give him thanks,**  
**who is the help of my countenance, and my God.**

I will go to the altar of God.  
**All** **To the God of my joy and gladness.**

# Order of Service

## ¶ The Gathering

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

Forsake me not, O Lord; be not far from me, O my God.  
Make haste to help me, O Lord of my salvation.

## The Greeting

The Lord our redeemer be with you  
**All**     **and also with you.**

*The service is introduced*

## Prayers of Penitence

Compassion and forgiveness belong to the Lord our God,  
    though we have rebelled against him.  
let us then renounce our willfulness and ask his mercy  
by confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

*A period of silent reflection*

## Confession

*All*      **Almighty God,  
long-suffering and of great goodness:  
I confess to you,  
I confess with my whole heart  
my neglect and forgetfulness of your commandments,  
my wrong doing, thinking, and speaking;  
the hurts I have done to others,  
and the good I have left undone.  
O God, forgive me,  
for I have sinned against you;  
and raise me to newness of life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

## Kyries

Lord, remember not our past sins;  
let your compassion be swift to meet us:  
Lord, have mercy.

*All*      **Lord, have mercy.**

We have been brought very low;  
help us, O God, our Saviour, for the glory of your name:  
Christ, have mercy.

*All*      **Christ, have mercy.**

Deliver us and forgive us our sins, for your name's sake:  
Lord, have mercy.

*All*      **Lord, have mercy.**

## Absolution

May almighty God,  
who sent his Son into the world to save sinners,  
bring you pardon † and peace, now and for ever.

*All*      **Amen.**

## The Collect

Let us pray.

O Lord, keep your family schooled always in good works,  
and so comfort them with your protection here  
as to lead them graciously to gifts on high.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

**All**      **Amen.**

## ¶ The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading                  Jeremiah 18:18-20

*Reader*              A reading from the prophet Jeremiah.

Then they said, 'Come, let us make plots against Jeremiah—for instruction shall not perish from the priest, nor counsel from the wise, nor the word from the prophet. Come, let us bring charges against him, and let us not heed any of his words.'

Give heed to me, O Lord,  
and listen to what my adversaries say!  
Is evil a recompense for good?  
Yet they have dug a pit for my life.  
Remember how I stood before you  
to speak good for them,  
to turn away your wrath from them.

This is the word of the Lord.

**All**      **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 31:4-5 & 14-18

Take me out of the net  
that they have laid secretly for me,  
for you are my strength.  
Into your hands I commend my spirit,  
for you have redeemed me, O Lord God of truth.

**All Lord, let me not be confounded for I have called upon you.**

But my trust is in you, O Lord.  
I have said, 'You are my God.  
'My times are in your hand;  
deliver me from the hand of my enemies,  
and from those who persecute me.  
'Make your face to shine upon your servant,  
and save me for your mercy's sake.'

**All Lord, let me not be confounded for I have called upon you.**

Lord, let me not be confounded  
for I have called upon you;  
but let the wicked be put to shame;  
let them be silent in the grave.  
Let the lying lips be put to silence  
that speak against the righteous  
with arrogance, disdain and contempt.

**All Lord, let me not be confounded for I have called upon you.**

## Holy Gospel

Matthew 20:17-28

### Acclamation

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.  
Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life;  
you have the message of eternal life.

**All Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

**All**           The Lord our redeemer be with you  
**and also with you.**

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

While Jesus was going up to Jerusalem, he took the twelve disciples aside by themselves, and said to them on the way, 'See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests and scribes, and they will condemn him to death; then they will hand him over to the Gentiles to be mocked and flogged and crucified; and on the third day he will be raised.'

Then the mother of the sons of Zebedee came to him with her sons, and kneeling before him, she asked a favour of him. And he said to her, 'What do you want?' She said to him, 'Declare that these two sons of mine will sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your kingdom.' But Jesus answered, 'You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink?' They said to him, 'We are able.' He said to them, 'You will indeed drink my cup, but to sit at my right hand and at my left, this is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared by my Father.'

When the ten heard it, they were angry with the two brothers. But Jesus called them to him and said, 'You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. It will not be so among you; but whoever wishes to be great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be your slave; just as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.'

**All**           This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Reflection

*A brief word about this evening's readings*

## Prayers of the Faithful

We pray to the Lord for courage to give up other things  
and to give ourselves to him this Lent.

*After each petition*

Lord, meet us in the silence.  
**All Give us strength and hear our prayer.**

*After the final petition*

God our Father,  
in your love and goodness  
you have taught us to come close to you in penitence  
with prayer, fasting and generosity;  
accept our Lenten discipline,  
and when we fall by our weakness,  
raise us up by your unfailing mercy;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All Amen.**

## ¶ The Liturgy of the Sacrament

### Sign of Peace

Since we are justified by faith,  
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who has given us access to his grace.

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

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

## The Offertory

*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

Lord, look with favour on the sacrificial gifts we offer you,  
and by this holy exchange  
undo the bonds of our sins.  
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, it is our duty and our joy,  
at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise,  
holy Father, heavenly King, almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

And now we give you thanks  
because you give us the spirit of discipline,  
that we may triumph over evil and grow in grace,  
as we prepare to celebrate the paschal mystery  
with mind and heart renewed.

Therefore with angels and archangels,  
and with all the company of heaven,  
we proclaim your great and glorious name,  
for ever praising you and saying:

**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.

Christ is the bread of life:

**All** **When we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus,  
until you come in glory.**

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 ask our Father to forgive our sins  
and bring us to forgive those who sin against 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

No one shall live on bread alone:  
**All**      **The word of God is life for all.**  
By the word of God were the heavens made:  
**All**      **The word of God is life for all.**  
Speak the word, Lord, and we shall be healed:  
**All**      **The word of God is life for all.**

## 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

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.

## Giving of Communion

The Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve,  
and to give his life as a ransom for many.

## 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:

**All**      **God of our pilgrimage,  
you have fed with your holy word  
and we look forward to the day when we may together  
receive you in the sacrament of the eucharist.  
Refresh and sustain us  
as we go forward on our Lenten journey,  
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

## ¶ Sending Out

*All* The Lord our redeemer be with you  
**and also with you.**

## The Blessing

God, who from the death of sin raised you to new life in Christ,  
keep you from falling and set you in the presence of his glory;  
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

*All* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**In the name of Christ. Amen.**