



St Mary's Parish Church, Ross-on-Wye

Sung Eucharist

Sundays in Advent



Please return this booklet for future use.

Everyone is welcome to worship at St Mary's. If you are new here, or a visitor, and would like to know more, please stay for coffee after the service so that we can get to know you better.

The weekly newsletter gives more detail on the specifics of this service and about what is going on in our churches.

As a Christian community, striving to be faithful followers of Jesus, we are here to love God in our lives and worship, and to love and serve our neighbours.

The musical setting for our Eucharist changes from week to week and you'll find the details on the weekly newsletter. A copy of the music is available from one of the welcomers by the door. Please ask if that would be helpful.

- At various points in the service people are invited to stand. However, if you prefer to remain seated, please don't feel embarrassed to do so.
- This service is being live streamed to YouTube and recorded. Unless you are told otherwise, only the area at the front from where the service is led is usually in shot. However if you wish to be assured that you will remain off camera please sit further back in the nave. You will find all streamed services from our website.
- Gluten-free wafers are available, please let one of the welcomers know at the door if you would like to receive one.

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The Gathering

Welcome & Notices

*Before the service, the president offers words of welcome and gives any notices. More about what's going on in and around St Mary's will be found on our website, rossparishes.uk and Facebook page **St Mary's Church Ross-on-Wye**.*

The Advent Prose

During Advent our service begins as the choir sings a different verse of the Advent Prose, each of these is taken from the Book of Isaiah and begins and ends with the plainsong response:

Drop down ye heavens from above:
and let the skies pour down righteousness.

After that we stand to sing the:

Introit Hymn

Details of all hymns will be found in the weekly newsletter. Please note that we omit starred verses in hymns unless otherwise announced. During the hymn the clergy and choir enter.

The Greeting

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

The Lord be with you
All and also with you.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

On each of the Sundays during Advent, and on Christmas Day, we light a new candle in our Advent wreath. We use prayers that reflect our weekly Advent theme.

Prayer of Preparation

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

When the Lord comes,
he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness,
and will disclose the purposes of the heart.
Therefore, in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

cf 1 Corinthians 4.5

We sit for the confession

All Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,

through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name. Amen.

The Kyrie

During Advent we do not sing the Gloria, instead the choir now leads us in singing the Kyrie.

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

The Absolution

Almighty God,
who in Jesus Christ has given us
a kingdom that cannot be destroyed,
forgive us our sins,
open our eyes to God's truth,
strengthen us to do God's will
and give us the joy of his kingdom,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen

The Collect

*This is the special prayer for the day and can be found on the newsletter. We all respond: **Amen***

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Please sit for the first reading which is taken from the Old or New Testament. The reading ends with the response:

This is the word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God

Gradual Hymn or Canticle

We stand to sing the hymn (or sit as the choir sings a canticle) to introduce the Gospel. Details are on the newsletter. The Gospel procession moves to the top of the nave symbolising the coming of God into our world.

The Gospel

We remain standing to hear the Gospel – a reading from the life of Christ - which more than anything inspires our living.

Alleluia, alleluia.

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

cf Isaiah 40.3–5

All Alleluia.

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

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

After the response the Gospel procession returns, as the organ plays, and we sit for:

The Sermon

The Creed

We stand to join in with the words of the historic Nicene 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.

Prayers of Intercession

We sit or kneel for the prayers.

In joyful expectation of his coming to our aid we pray to Jesus.

Come to your Church as Lord and judge.

We pray for ...

Help us to live in the light of your coming
and give us a longing for your kingdom.

Maranatha:

All Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come to your world as King of the nations.

We pray for ...

Before you rulers will stand in silence.

Maranatha:

All Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come to the suffering as Saviour and comforter.

We pray for ...

Break into our lives,

where we struggle with sickness and distress,

and set us free to serve you for ever.

Maranatha:

All Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come to us as shepherd and guardian of our souls.

We remember ...

Give us with all the faithful departed

a share in your victory over evil and death.

Maranatha:

All Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come from heaven, Lord Jesus, with power and great glory.

Lift us up to meet you,

that with [N and] all your saints and angels

we may live and reign with you in your new creation.

Maranatha:

All Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Silence is kept.

Come, Lord Jesus, do not delay;

give new courage to your people,

who trust in your love.

By your coming, raise us to share in the joy of your kingdom

on earth as in heaven,

where you live and reign with the Father and the Spirit,
one God for ever and ever.

All Amen.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

The president introduces the Peace:

In the tender mercy of our God,
the dayspring from on high shall break upon us,
to give light to those who dwell in darkness
and in the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

cf Luke 1.78,79

The peace of the Lord be always with you:

All and also with you.

We exchange a sign of peace. If you are joining us online, you might like to use the chat to do this.

The Preparation of the Table

As this bread was scattered
and then gathered and made one,
so may your Church be gathered into your kingdom.

All Glory to you, O God, for ever.

Wisdom has built her a house;
she has mixed her wine; she has set her table.

All Glory to you, O God, for ever.

The Offertory Hymn

We stand to join in with the Offertory Hymn, details of which will be found on the newsletter. During this hymn a collection is taken. We welcome your offering. If you prefer to give digitally please scan the QR code, visit rossparishes.uk/giving or use the contactless card reader by the north door. If you are a regular member of our community, we encourage you to consider the Parish Giving Scheme. Full details at rossparishes.uk/giving



The Eucharistic Prayer

This long prayer, containing many elements, is the very heart of our Eucharist. In it we all pray that the Real Presence of Christ may be present in form of bread and wine, and that by partaking in this remembrance of Christ we may be spiritually united with God.

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.

From the First Sunday of Advent until 16 December

It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise,
almighty God and everlasting Father,
through Jesus Christ your Son.

For when he humbled himself to come among us in human flesh,
he fulfilled the plan you formed before the foundation of the world
to open for us the way of salvation.

Confident that your promise will be fulfilled,
we now watch for the day
when Christ our Lord will come again in glory.
And so we join our voices with angels and archangels
and with all the company of heaven
to proclaim your glory
for ever praising you and saying:

Or from 17 December until Christmas Eve

It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise,
almighty God and everlasting Father,
through Jesus Christ your Son.
He is the one foretold by all the prophets,
whom the Virgin Mother bore with love beyond all telling.
John the Baptist was his herald
and made him known when at last he came.
In his love Christ fills us with joy
as we prepare to celebrate his birth,
so that when he comes again he may find us watching in prayer,
our hearts filled with wonder and praise.
And so, with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your glory,
and join in 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.**

We continue with Eucharistic Prayer C

All glory be to you, our heavenly Father,
who, in your tender mercy,
gave your only Son our Saviour Jesus Christ
to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption;
who made there by his one oblation of himself once offered
a full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice, oblation and satisfaction
for the sins of the whole world;
he instituted, and in his holy gospel commanded us to continue,
a perpetual memory of his precious death until he comes again.
Hear us, merciful Father, we humbly pray,
and grant that, by the power of your Holy Spirit,
we receiving these gifts of your creation, this bread and this wine,
according to your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution,
in remembrance of his death and passion,
may be partakers of his most blessed body and 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, Lord and heavenly Father,
in remembrance of the precious death and passion,
the mighty resurrection and glorious ascension
of your dear Son Jesus Christ,
we offer you through him this our sacrifice of praise
and thanksgiving.

Grant that by his merits and death,
and through faith in his blood,
we and all your Church may receive forgiveness of our sins
and all other benefits of his passion.

Although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins,
to offer you any sacrifice,
yet we pray that you will accept this
the duty and service that we owe.

Do not weigh our merits, but pardon our offences,
and fill us all who share in this holy communion
with your grace and heavenly blessing;
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.

All Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

We sit to say the words that Jesus taught us to pray.

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

All Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

The president 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 share in one bread.

Spiritual Communion

This prayer offers those who are taking part in our service online the opportunity to make a spiritual communion so that in communion we are united, as one Christian family with our Lord.

All Come into my heart, Lord Jesus.

May all that is you flow into me.

May your body and blood be my food and drink.

May your passion and death be my strength and life.

Jesus, with you by my side enough has been given.

May the shelter I seek be the shadow of your cross.

Let me not run from the love which you offer

but hold me safe from the forces of evil.

On each of my dyings shed your light and your love.

Keep calling to me until that day comes

when with your saints, I may praise you for ever.

Amen.

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.

Giving of Communion

The president gives words of 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.

Everyone is invited to take communion at St Mary's. If you'd like to know more about being confirmed, please talk to one of the welcomers or a member of the ministry team after the service.

During the communion, music appropriate to the theme of the service is sung by the choir or played by the organist. Please see the newsletter for details.

Prayer after Communion

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.

The Post Communion Hymn

We stand to join in with the Hymn, details of which will be found on the newsletter.

The Blessing & Dismissal

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you,
scatter the darkness from before your path,
and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory;

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

All Amen.

With love and compassion,

All come, Lord Jesus.

With judgement and mercy,

All come, Lord Jesus.

In power and glory,

All come, Lord Jesus.

In wisdom and truth,

All come, Lord Jesus.

Please remain standing as the choir, clergy and servers leave and the organ plays.

Thank you for being with us today. May the faith, the hope and the love of Christ inspire and guide your life in the week ahead.

Please join us for coffee, which usually follows this service on the south side of the church. If you are visiting us or are new here, please take the opportunity to talk with the ministry team, a welcomer, or any regular members of our congregation.

Please return this order of service to the welcome desk as you leave so that we can use it again.

