

**THE EUCHARIST DURING  
EASTER**



**HOLY TRINITY CHURCH  
GUILDFORD**

# Welcome to Holy Trinity Church

## **Holy Communion during the Easter Season**

There is a special feel to celebrating the Eucharist, or service of Holy Communion, in Easter-tide. This season lasts for seven weeks from Easter Sunday. During this time, we remember that the risen Christ continued to appear to his disciples, showing them that he truly was alive, in a trustworthy but new way. His appearances then stopped, which we now mark by the day of Jesus' Ascension. The Easter season closes as the next season begins on the day of Pentecost, when we recall that God's Spirit is given to the Church in a new and vibrant way.

## **The Journey to Emmaus**

One key story of the risen Jesus appearing to his friends comes in the journey to Emmaus (Luke Chapter 24). The disciples knew that Jesus' tomb was empty but they could not make sense of what had happened. The risen Jesus, as yet unrecognised, comes alongside them as they are walking away from Jerusalem, and listens to their concerns. He then shows them why he had to suffer and die, and how this is the gateway to new life. Finally, he makes himself known to them by breaking bread, an action that we repeat in each Eucharist.

## **Really present**

Time and again Jesus wanted to show his friends that, after death, he really was present for them. This was not as a resuscitated body, but as fully alive. This phrase, *the real presence*, has been applied over the centuries to the Communion service, saying that Jesus is now and each time really present in the bread and wine. In this service, we trust you too will find Christ's real presence.

# The Eucharist during Easter

Welcome

*A hymn is sung*

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

Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
*All* **He is risen indeed, Alleluia!**

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.**

Come now,  
turn aside for a while from  
your daily employment,  
escape for a moment from  
the tumult of your thoughts.

Put aside your weighty cares,  
Let your burdensome distractions wait,  
Free yourself for God  
And rest awhile in her.

Enter the inner chamber of your soul,  
Shut out everything except God  
And that which can help you in seeking her,  
And when you have shut the door, seek her.

Now my whole heart, say to God,  
'I seek your face,  
God, it is your face I seek.'

*Anselm (1033-1109)*

Do not be afraid to throw yourself on God  
the one who will not draw back and let you fall.  
Put your worries aside and throw yourself  
on Christ, who will welcome you and heal you.

*St Augustine (354-430)*

## Confession and Absolution

Jesus Christ, risen and triumphant master,  
we come to you in sorrow for our sins,  
and confess to you our weakness and unbelief.

We have lived by our own strength,  
and not by the power of your resurrection.  
In your mercy, forgive us.

*All* **Christ, hear us and help us.**

We have lived by the light of our own eyes,  
as faithless and not believing.  
In your mercy, forgive us.

*All* **Christ, hear us and help us.**

We have lived for this world alone,  
and doubted our home in heaven.  
In your mercy, forgive us.

*All* **Christ, hear us and help us.**

All-loving God,  
who in Jesus Christ has given us  
a kingdom that cannot be destroyed,  
forgive you your sins,  
open your eyes to God's truth,  
strengthen you to do God's will,  
and give you the joy of the kingdom,  
through Jesus Christ our risen Saviour.

*All* **Amen.**

Thanks be to you, my Lord Jesus Christ  
for all the benefits which you have won for me,  
and for all the pains and insults you have borne for me.  
O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother,  
may I know you more clearly,  
love you more dearly  
and follow you more nearly,  
day by day. Amen.

*St Richard of Chichester (1197-1253)*

Glory be to God for dappled things –  
For skies of couple-colour as a brinded cow;  
For rose-moles all in stipple upon trout that swim;  
Fresh-firecoal chestnut-falls; finches' wings;  
Landscape plotted and pieced – fold, fallow, and plough;  
And all trades, their gear and tackle trim.  
All things counter, original, spare, strange;  
Whatever is fickle, freckled (who knows how?)  
With swift, slow; sweet, sour; adazzle, dim;  
He fathers-forth whose beauty is past change:  
Praise him.

*Gerard Manley Hopkins (1844-1889)*

# Hymn

*Intro*

*f* 1. Glo - ry in the high - est to the God of heav'n!

7  
Peace to all your peo - ple through the earth be giv'n: Migh - ty God and Fa - ther,

13  
thanks and praise we bring, sing - ing al - le - lu - ias to our heav'n - ly King.

2. Jesus Christ is risen, God the Mother's Son:  
with the Holy Spirit, you are God alone!  
Lamb once killed for sinners, all our guilt to bear,  
show us now your mercy, now receive our prayer.
3. Christ the world's true Saviour, high and holy one,  
seated now and reigning from heaven's throne:  
Lord and God, we praise you; highest heaven adores:  
with the Holy Spirit, all the praise be yours.

*Christopher Idle (b.1938)*  
*Music: 'Camberwell' J M Brierly (b.1932)*

I asked for Peace –  
My sins arose,  
And bound me close,  
I could not find release.

I asked for Truth –  
My doubts came in,  
And with their din  
They wearied all my youth.

I asked for Love –  
My lovers failed,  
And griefs assailed  
Around, beneath, above.

I asked for thee –  
And thou didst come  
To take me home  
Within thy heart to be.

*Digby Mackworth Dolben (1848-1867)*

## The Collect

Let us pray.

*Silence is kept.*

*The Collect of the day is said, after which:*

*All*    **Amen.**

*All sit for the readings.*

## First Reading

*At the end the reader says:*

For this reading from God's word:

*All*    **Thanks be to God.**

## Second Reading

*At the end the reader says:*

For this reading from God's word:

*All*    **Thanks be to God.**

*A hymn is sung.*

## *Truth*

For some, Truth is fortress, square and strong,  
in which, once entered, safety lies.

Only like-minded people dwell there, none disturb  
the calm and certain sureties of belief.

Outside, the world pursues its way, its noise and  
clamour offering small attractions to those  
whose knowledge keeps them safe beyond the  
drawbridge of conviction. If any try to breach the  
bastions of tradition, they are repelled with  
boiling scorn, Truth is impregnable.

For others, Truth is both journey and  
discovery, a way which leads and  
urges without rest.

No castle for retreat, but  
camps, where fellow pilgrims join  
to take refreshment in each other's  
company. Assorted in experience, they  
enrich, enlighten, challenge and  
go on to further exploration.

Travelling light. Knowing that in this life  
all is provisional; seeking fulfilment,  
the end and explanation of the quest.

*Ann Lewin*

## Gospel Reading

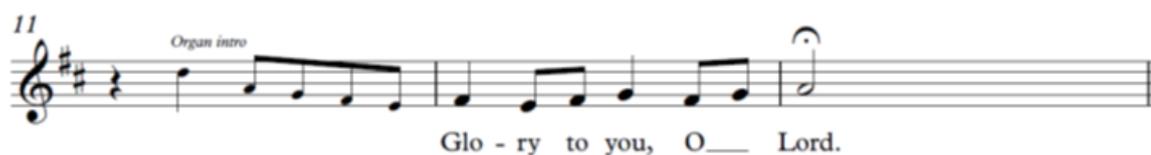
*All remain standing and turn to face the Gospel reader.*

Alleluia, alleluia.

I am the first and the last, says the Christ, and the living one;  
I was dead, and behold I am alive for evermore.

**All Alleluia.**

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



*At the end of the Gospel, the reader says:*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



## The Sermon

*After the sermon, silence may be kept.*

I believe that you created me:  
let not the work of your hands be despised.  
I believe that I am after your image and likeness:  
let not your own likeness be defaced.  
I believe that you saved me by your blood:  
let not the price of ransom be squandered.  
I believe that you proclaimed me a Christian in your name:  
let not your namesake be scorned.  
I believe that you hallowed me in rebirth:  
let not that consecration be despoiled.  
I believe that you engrafted me into the cultivated olive-tree:  
let not the limb of your mystical body be cut out.

*Lancelot Andrewes (1555-1626)*

You pray in your distress and in your need;  
would that you might pray also in the fullness of your joy  
and in your days of abundance.  
For what is prayer but the expansion of yourselves into the living ether.  
And if you cannot but weep when your soul summons you to prayer,  
it should spur you again and yet again, though weeping,  
until you shall come laughing.  
When you pray you rise to meet in the air those  
who are praying at that very hour,  
and whom save in prayer you may not meet.

*from 'The Prophet' by Kahlil Gibran (1883-1931)*

## Affirmation of Faith

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

*All stand.*

**All    Though Christ was divine,  
he did not cling to equality with God,  
but made himself nothing.  
Taking the form of a slave,  
he was born as a human.  
He humbled himself  
and was obedient to death,  
even death on the cross.  
Therefore God has raised Christ on high,  
and given him the name above every name:  
that at the name of Jesus  
every knee shall bow,  
and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God. Amen.**

## Prayers of Intercession

In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ,  
let us pray to God, who hears our prayers.

*All kneel.*

To pray is to place oneself in the silent presence of the Eternal Beyond, the God of Truth and Love, and to let the flow of communication between that and one's truest self clarify the distorted vision, purify the motives, countervail the pressures and set one free from dependence upon any other power except the care for others which holds on, trusting, hoping, and enduring, until in the long term it wins through.

O Hidden Life, vibrant in every atom,  
O Hidden Light, shining in every creature,  
O Hidden Love, embracing all in oneness.  
May all who feel themselves as one with Thee  
Know they are therefore one with every other.

*Annie Besant (1847-1933)*

*The prayers usually include these concerns:*

- ❖ *The Church of Christ*
- ❖ *Creation, human society, the Sovereign and those in authority*
- ❖ *The local community*
- ❖ *Those who suffer*

*This response may be used:*

Lord, in your mercy,  
*All* **hear our prayer.**

*At the end of the prayers, silence is kept for private prayers.*

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

*All stand.*

## The Peace

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said,  
'Peace be with you'  
Then were they glad when they saw the Christ. Alleluia.

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

*All may exchange a sign of peace.*

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life:  
Such a Way, as gives us breath:  
Such a Truth, as ends all strife:  
And such a Life, as killeth death.

Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength:  
Such a Light, as shows a feast:  
Such a Feast, as mends in length:  
Such a Strength, as makes his guest.

Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart:  
Such a Joy, as none can move:  
Such a Love, as none can part:  
Such a Heart, as joyes in love.

*George Herbert (1593-1633)*

## Offertory Hymn

*During this hymn a collection will be taken for the ministry of this parish and the charities we support. This, with the names of those in our Regular Financial Giving Scheme, is presented at the altar.*

*The altar is prepared as bread and wine are placed upon it.*

Be present, be present,  
Lord Jesus Christ,  
our risen high priest;  
make yourself known in the breaking of bread.

*All*    **Amen.**

## The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you.

*All*    **and also with you.**

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.**

Come Lord Jesus, in the fullness of your grace,  
and dwell in the hearts of us your servants;  
that adoring you by faith  
we may with joy receive you,  
and may with love and thankfulness abide in you,  
our Guide, our Bread of pilgrims,  
our Comrade by the way.

*E D Sedding (1836-1868)*

The seed is Christ's, the harvest his:  
may we be stored within God's barn.  
The sea is Christ's, the fish are hers:  
may we be caught within God's net.  
From birth to age, from age to death,  
enfold us, Christ, within your arms.  
Until the end, the great re-birth,  
Christ, be our joy in Paradise.

*Trad. Irish, tr. James Quinn (1819-1881)*

Blessed are you, O God,  
 our light and our salvation;  
 to you be glory and praise for ever.  
 From the beginning you have created all things  
 and all your works echo the silent music of your praise.  
 In the fullness of time you made us in your image,  
 the crown of all creation.

You give us breath and speech, that with angels and  
 archangels and all the powers of heaven  
 we may find a voice to sing your praise:

*organ intro*

*ff* Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord. AL - LE - LU - IA!

7  
 God of earth and pow'r and might, AL - LE - LU - IA! Heav'n and earth are

12  
 glo - ry filled. AL - LE - LU - IA! Ho - sa - na in the

16  
 high - est hea - ven. AL - LE - LU - IA!

*All kneel or sit.*

How wonderful the work of your hands, O God.  
 As a mother tenderly gathers her children,  
 you embraced a people as your own.  
 When they turned away and rebelled  
 your love remained steadfast.

*A Prayer for Abundant Life*

O God

Where hearts are fearful and confined:

Grant freedom and daring.

Where anxiety is infectious and widening:

Grant peace and reassurance.

Where impossibilities close every door and window:

Grant imagination and resistance.

Where distrust shapes every understanding:

Grant healing and transformation.

Where spirits are daunted and dimmed:

Grant soaring wings and strengthened dreams.

*Marion Best*

Enter then into the joy of your Master ...

Let all enjoy the banquet of faith ...

Let no one weep for their sins: forgiveness is risen from the tomb.

Let no one fear death: the Saviour's death has set us free ...

Christ is risen and life has prevailed!

*St John Chrysostom (347-407)*

From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour, born of Mary,  
to be the living bread,  
in whom all our hungers are satisfied.

Christ offered his life for sinners,  
and with a love stronger than death  
he opened wide his arms on the cross.

On the night before he died,  
he came to supper with his friends  
and, taking bread, he gave you thanks.  
He broke it and gave it to them, saying:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,  
he gave you thanks, 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.



Gracious God, we plead with confidence  
his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross;  
we remember his dying and rising in glory,  
and we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand.

*Go and Tell*

Morning is coming to the garden  
the rising sunbeams brighten the horizons  
daffodils, crocuses, jasmines,  
life celebrated in all its colours.

Grief is touched by beauty  
Sadness is comforted by new beginnings...  
And the stone was rolled away  
And the crocuses were blooming  
And the perfume of the day  
Was hope and joy.  
Baskets in their hands, good news in their hearts  
The women rushed back.  
They had so much to share.  
Life-changing reality  
Needs to be told, spread, celebrated.

*Iris Askola*

Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you  
these gifts of your creation;  
may they be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence,  
form us in the likeness of Christ,  
and build us into a living temple to your glory.

Remember, God, your Church in every land.  
Reveal our unity, guard our faith,  
and preserve us in peace.

Bring us at the last with all the saints  
to the vision of that eternal splendour  
for which you have created us;  
through Jesus Christ,  
by whom, with whom, and in whom,  
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,  
we worship you, God almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

The musical notation consists of two staves in 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in a simple, hymn-like style. The lyrics are: *f* Bless - ing and ho - nour and glo - ry and pow'r be  
The second staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The melody continues from the first staff. The lyrics are: yours for... e - ver and e - ver. A - men  
The word 'Amen' is written with a long horizontal line underneath it, indicating a long note or a sustained sound.

*Silence is kept.*

Who can separate their faith from their actions,  
or their belief from their occupations?  
Who can spread their hours before them, saying,  
“This is for God and this for myself;  
This for my soul and this other for my body”?  
Your daily life is your temple and your religion.  
Whenever you enter it you take with you your all.  
Take the plough and the forge and the mallet and the lute,  
The things you have fashioned in necessity or for delight.  
For in reverie you cannot rise above your achievements  
nor fall lower than your failures.  
And if you would know God, be not therefore a solver of riddles.  
Rather look about you and you shall see God playing with your children.  
And look into space; you shall see God walking in the cloud,  
outstretching arms in the lightning and descending in rain.  
You shall see God smiling in flowers,  
then rising and waving hands in trees.

*From 'The Prophet' by Kahlil Gibran (1883-1931)*

## The Lord's Prayer

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.**

## The Breaking of the Bread

*The priest breaks the consecrated bread.*

Every time we eat this bread  
and drink this cup,  
*All* **we proclaim Christ's death  
until he comes.**

The moment of the rose and the moment of the yew-tree  
Are of equal duration. A people without history  
Is not redeemed from time, for history is a pattern  
Of timeless moments. So, while the light fails  
On a winter's afternoon, in a secluded chapel  
History is now and England.

With the drawing of this Love and the voice of this Calling

We shall not cease from exploration  
And the end of all our exploring  
Will be to arrive where we started  
And know the place for the first time.

*From 'Little Gidding' by T S Eliot (1888-1965)*

The woods are lovely, dark and deep,  
But I have promises to keep,  
And miles to go before I sleep,  
And miles to go before I sleep.

*From 'Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening'  
by Robert Frost (1874-1963)*

# Giving of Communion

Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

*All* **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

*All* **Most merciful Lord,  
your love compels us to come in.  
Our hands were unclean,  
our hearts were unprepared;  
we were not fit  
even to eat the crumbs from under your table.  
But you, Lord, are the God of our salvation,  
and share your bread with sinners.  
So cleanse and feed us  
with the precious body and blood of your Son,  
that he may live in us and we in him;  
and that we, with the whole company of Christ,  
may sit and eat in your kingdom.  
Amen.**

The musical score is written for piano in 4/4 time. It begins with an *Intro* section. The first system includes the lyrics: *p* Lamb of God, *mf* you take a-way our *pp*. The second system includes: sin. Have mer - cy, Have mer - cy on us. (repeat) 3rd time Grant us your peace, O grant us your peace. The score features various dynamics and articulation marks, including slurs and accents.

### *A Wreath*

A wreath garland of deserved praise,  
Of praise deserved, unto thee I give,  
I give to thee, who knowest all my ways,  
My crooked winding ways, wherein I live,  
Wherein I die, not live: for life is straight,  
Straight as a line, and ever tends to thee,  
To thee, who are more far above deceit,  
Than deceit seems above simplicity.  
Give me simplicity, that I may live,  
So live and like, that I may know thy ways,  
Know them and practise them: then shall I give  
For this poor wreath, give thee a crown of praise.

*George Herbert (1593-1633)*

*The priest and people receive communion.*

*At the distribution the minister says to each communicant:*

The body of Christ keep you in eternal life.  
The blood of Christ keep you in eternal life.

*The communicant responds each time:*

***Amen.***

*During the distribution anthems and hymns may be sung.*

Prayer after Communion

***All*** You have opened to us the scriptures, O Christ,  
and you have made yourself known  
in the breaking of the bread.  
Abide with us, we pray,  
that, blessed by your loving presence,  
we may walk with you  
all the days of our life,  
and at its end behold you  
in the glory of the eternal Trinity,  
one God for ever and ever.  
***Amen.***

*A hymn is sung.*

### *A General Thanksgiving*

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we thine unworthy servants  
do give thee most humble and hearty thanks  
for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all people.  
We bless thee for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for thine inestimable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ,  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies,  
that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful,  
and that we shew forth thy praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives;  
by giving up ourselves to thy service,  
and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost  
be all honour and glory, world without end. Amen.

*From the Book of Common Prayer (1662)*

# The Blessing

The God of peace,  
who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus,  
that great shepherd of the sheep,  
make you perfect in every good work to do God's will,  
working in you that which is well-pleasing in God's sight;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

*All* **Amen.**

*Cantor: Go in the peace of Christ, Al - le - lu - ia!*  
**ALL: Thanks be to God, Al - le - lu - ia!**

2

*Al - le - lu - ia!*  
**Al - le - lu - ia!**

*The ministers and people depart.*



# The Baptism Service during Easter

## Presentation of the Children

*The minister addresses the whole congregation:*

Faith is the gift of God. In baptism Christ is adding to our number those who are being called. People of God, will you welcome *these children* and uphold *them* in *their* new life in Christ?

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

*The minister then says to the parents and godparents:*

Parents and godparents, the Church receives *these children* 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?

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

## The Decision

*The minister addresses the parents and godparents:*

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into a marvellous light. To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him. Therefore I ask:

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?

**I reject them.**

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?  
**I renounce them.**

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?  
**I repent of them.**

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?  
**I turn to Christ.**

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?  
**I submit to Christ.**

Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?  
**I come to Christ.**

## Signing with the Cross

*The minister makes the sign of the cross on the forehead of each child, saying:*

Christ claims you for his own.  
Receive the sign of his cross.

Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.  
*All* **Fight valiantly as a disciple of Christ  
against sin, the world and the devil,  
and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.**

May almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness,  
restore in you the image of God's glory, and lead you in the light  
and obedience of Christ.

*All* **Amen.**

## Prayer over the Water

Praise God who made heaven and earth,  
*All* **who is faithful to the end of time.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*All* **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ was baptised in the river Jordan: we thank you for the gift of water to cleanse us and revive us.

We thank you that through the waters of the Red Sea you led your people out of slavery to freedom in the Promised Land.

We thank you that through the deep waters of death you brought your Son, and raised him to life in triumph.

Bless this water, that your *servants* who *are* washed in it may be made one with Christ in his death and in his resurrection, to be cleansed and delivered from all sin.

Send your Holy Spirit upon *them*,  
bring *them* to new birth in the household of faith,  
and raise *them* with Christ to full and eternal life;  
for all might, majesty, authority, and power are yours,  
now and for ever.

*All* **Amen.**

## Profession of Faith

Let us affirm, together with *these* who are being baptised,  
our common faith in Jesus Christ.

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 the Father.**

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 the Son.**

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 the Spirit.**

This is the faith of the Church.

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

## Baptism

*The minister pours water on each child, saying:*

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

*All* **Amen.**

*When all have been baptised, all say together:*

**All** May God, who has received you by baptism into the Church,  
pour upon you plentiful grace,  
that within the company of Christ's pilgrim people  
you may daily be renewed in the power of the Spirit,  
and come to the inheritance of the saints in glory.  
Amen.

## The Welcome and Peace

There is one God, one faith, one baptism:

*N and N*, by one Spirit we are all baptised into one body.

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

*The congregation may greet the newly baptised.*

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples  
and said 'Peace be with you'.

Then were they glad when they saw the Lord.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

**All** and also with you.

*All may exchange a sign of peace.*

*The Eucharist continues on page 17.*

## Prayer after Communion

*Each child who has just been baptised, is given a lighted candle.*

God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness  
and has given us a place with the saints in light.  
You have received the light of Christ;  
walk in this light all the days of your life.

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

*All* **Faithful God,  
in baptism you have adopted us as your children,  
made us members of the body of Christ  
and chosen us as inheritors of your kingdom:  
we thank you that in this Eucharist  
you renew your promises within us;  
empower us now by your Spirit  
and send us out as disciples of your Son,  
Jesus Christ, our saviour and our friend. Amen.**

*A hymn is sung.*

## The Blessing

Eternal God, by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead,  
strengthen you by the power of the life-giving Spirit  
to walk in the paths of righteousness and peace;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be upon you and remain with you always.

*All* **Amen.**

Go in the light and peace of Christ. Alleluia. Alleluia.

*All* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.**



# Approaches to God

This page offers some of the many descriptions of God, that lie at the heart of our relationship with God. Each different response to God gives rise to each part of the Parish Vision.

✘ **God is worthy of praise**

*One angel called to another and said: 'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory'.*

**Isaiah 6.3**

✘ **God is faithful**

*For God alone my soul waits in silence;  
from God comes my salvation.  
God only is my rock and my salvation, my fortress;  
and I shall never be shaken.*

**Psalms 62.1-2**

✘ **God is dedicated**

*We know that all things work together for good for those who love God,  
who are called according to God's gracious purpose.*

**Romans 8.28**

✘ **God calls us to pray**

*Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication  
with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.*

**Philippians 4.6**

✘ **God teaches and guides us**

*God has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord  
require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness and to walk  
humbly with your God?*

**Micah 6.8**

✘ **God reaches out to those on the outside**

*Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying,  
'Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?'  
And I said, 'Here am I; send me!'*

**Isaiah 6.8**

✘ **God's spirit is free and life-giving**

*Jesus said, 'You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you  
to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you  
whatever you ask in my name.'*

**John 15.16**

## A Vision for the Parish of Holy Trinity and St Mary's

The people of Guildford have worshipped God, as revealed through his Son Jesus Christ, in this parish for a thousand years. As their heirs and successors we seek to establish God's Kingdom by offering holy lives and dedicated service. Our two churches were built for the worship of God, for the proclaiming of Christian truth and as places of prayer.

God is faithful, holy and generous. We therefore seek to be a place and people of

- ✘ **Worship** - we will offer regular and varied services of the highest quality that seek to glorify God through beauty, orderliness, and peace and, by faithful and challenging preaching, invite people to respond with all their being.
- ✘ **Faithful Living** - we will stimulate reflection on the will of God for our daily lives, whether at work, at home, or at leisure, so that we may be faithful disciples of Jesus.
- ✘ **Fellowship** - we will encourage people to feel part of a welcoming and caring community that gives and receives practical service, especially in times of need.
- ✘ **Prayer** - we will maintain a community of prayer which listens carefully for the voice of God, which brings before God the needs of the parish and the world, and which supports individuals in their spiritual lives.
- ✘ **Learning** - we will encourage people to develop their understanding of the Christian faith in an honest and thoughtful way, drawing on the best from the Anglican tradition using scripture, reason and tradition.
- ✘ **Public ministry** - we value an active engagement with the wider community in the centre of Guildford as well as those living in our parish, and will seek to interpret the Christian Gospel to these institutions and people.
- ✘ **Connections** - we will celebrate and display signs of God's Spirit at work in Creation, in the arts, in the lives of other churches and charities, and in the church overseas.

In all that we are, we will seek to act from, and to show forth, the joy and love that are given to all God's children.

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Other material has been drawn from worship resources provided by Christian Aid, authorized liturgies from around the Anglican Communion and prayers especially written for this parish.



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