

The Parish Church of St Giles
with St Mary's, Pontefract

Ash
Wednesday



Wednesday, 17th February 2021

9.30 a.m.

Live Streamed on Facebook from St Giles' Church

Welcome

Once again government restrictions prevent us to from attending worship in person. Below is the service sheet for Ash Wednesday. If you are able, you could use this and join us on Facebook at 9.30 a.m. next Wednesday February 17th to worship together in spirit, if not in body. The link is -

<https://www.facebook.com/stgilespontefract>

I look forward to the day when we can again share Parish Mass together.

May the peace of God which passes all understanding guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Canon June

A period of quiet reflection is kept during which you may wish to use the Prayer of Preparation:

**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

A bell is rung to begin our worship.

The Gathering

Introit Hymn

**Now is the healing time decreed
for sins of heart, of word or deed,
when we in humble fear record
the wrong that we have done the Lord;**

**Who, always merciful and good,
has borne so long our wayward mood,
nor cut us off unsparingly
in our so great iniquity.**

**Therefore with fasting and with prayer,
our secret sorrow we declare;
with all good striving seek His face,
and lowly-hearted plead for grace.**

**Cleanse us, O Lord, from every stain,
help us the gifts of praise to gain,
till with the angels, linked in love,
joyful we tread Thy courts above.**

**We pray Thee, holy Trinity,
one God, unchanging Unity,,
that we from this our abstinence
may reap the fruits of penitence. Amen.**

Latin, before C 12th;
tr. Thomas Alexander Lacey (1853-1931)

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

Amen.

The Greeting

The president greets the people

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

and also with you.

cf 1 Timothy 1.2

Lenten Preparation

Brothers and sisters in Christ, since early days Christians have observed with great devotion the time of our Lord's passion and resurrection and prepared for this by a season of penitence and fasting.

By carefully keeping these days, Christians take to heart the call to repentance and the assurance of forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel, and so grow in faith and in devotion to our Lord.

I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy word.

**Holy God, holy and strong,
holy and immortal, have mercy upon us.**

Invitation to Prayer

Let us pray for grace to keep Lent faithfully.

A period of silent prayer is kept.

Kyrie Eleison

Lord have mercy

Lord have mercy

Christ have mercy

Christ have mercy

Lord have mercy

Lord have mercy

The Collect for Ash Wednesday

Let us pray.

Silence is kept

Almighty and everlasting God,
you hate nothing that you have made
and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent:
create and make in us new and contrite hearts
that we, worthily lamenting our sins
and acknowledging our wretchedness,

may receive from you, the God of all mercy,
perfect remission and forgiveness;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.



The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading 2 Corinthians 5.20b-6.10

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain.

For the Lord says,

‘At an acceptable time I have listened to you,
and on a day of salvation I have helped you.’

See, now is the acceptable time; see,
now is the day of salvation!

We are putting no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labours, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honour and dishonour, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see – we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

John 8.1-11

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

The Lord is a great God, O that today you would listen to his voice.

Harden not your hearts.

cf Psalm 95.3, 8

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

The Lord be with you

and also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. Early in the morning he came again to the temple. All the people came to him and he sat down and began to teach them. The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery; and making her stand before all of them, they said to him, 'Teacher, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery. Now in the law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?' They said this to test him, so that they might have some charge to bring against him. Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground. When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, 'Let anyone among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her.' And once again he bent down and wrote on the ground. When they heard it, they went away, one by one, beginning with the elders; and Jesus was left alone with the woman standing before him. Jesus straightened up and said to her, 'Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?' She said, 'No one, sir.' And Jesus said, 'Neither do I condemn you. Go your way, and from now on do not sin again.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Homily

Prayers of Intercession

After each prayer: Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

At the end: Merciful Father
**accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

The Liturgy of Penitence

Let us now call to mind our sin and the infinite mercy of God.

God the Father,
have mercy upon us.

God the Son,
have mercy upon us.

God the Holy Spirit,
have mercy upon us.

Holy, blessed and glorious Trinity,
have mercy upon us.

From all evil and mischief;
from pride, vanity, and hypocrisy;
from envy, hatred, and malice;
and from all evil intent,
good Lord, deliver us.

From sloth, worldliness and love of money;
from hardness of heart
and contempt for your word and your laws,
good Lord, deliver us.

From sins of body and mind;
from the deceits of the world, the flesh and the devil,
good Lord, deliver us.

In all times of sorrow;
in all times of joy;
in the hour of death,
and at the day of judgement,
good Lord, deliver us.

By the mystery of your holy incarnation;
by your birth, childhood and obedience;
by your baptism, fasting and temptation,
good Lord, deliver us.

By your ministry in word and work;
by your mighty acts of power;
and by your preaching of the kingdom,
good Lord, deliver us.

By your agony and trial;
by your cross and passion;
and by your precious death and burial,
good Lord, deliver us.

By your mighty resurrection;
by your glorious ascension;
and by your sending of the Holy Spirit,
good Lord, deliver us.

Give us true repentance;
forgive us our sins of negligence and ignorance
and our deliberate sins;

and grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit
to amend our lives according to your holy word.

**Holy God,
holy and strong,
holy and immortal,
have mercy upon us.**

Silence is kept.

Make our hearts clean, O God;
and renew a right spirit within us.

**Father eternal, giver of light and grace,
we have sinned against you and against our neighbour,
in what we have thought,
in what we have said and done,
through ignorance, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We have wounded your love,
and marred your image in us.
We are sorry and ashamed,
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 lead us out from darkness
to walk as children of light. Amen.**

The priest prays the words of absolution

God our Father,
the strength of all who put their trust in you,
mercifully accept our prayers;
and because, in our weakness,
we can do nothing good without you,
grant us the help of your grace,
that in keeping your commandments
we may please you, both in will and deed;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The 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.

cf Romans 5.1,2

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

Preparation of the Altar

Offertory Hymn

**Father of heaven, whose love profound
a ransom for our souls hath found,
before Thy throne we sinners bend:
to us Thy pardoning love extend.**

**Almighty Son, incarnate Word,
our Prophet, Priest, Redeemer, Lord,
before Thy throne we sinners bend:
to us Thy saving grace extend.**

***Eternal Spirit, by whose breath
the soul is raised from sin and death,
before Thy throne we sinners bend:
to us Thy quickening power extend.***

***Thrice holy! Father, Spirit, Son -
mysterious Godhead, Three in One,
before Thy throne we sinners bend;
grace, pardon, life to us extend. Amen.***

Words: Edward Cooper (1770-1833)

Taking of the Bread and Wine

Risen Lord and Saviour,
present among us with the wealth of your love,
cleanse us from sin and give us the faith
to offer our praise and grow in your grace.
Amen.

Prayer over the Gifts

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

**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.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

Let us pray.

The Lord is here.

His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

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

For in these forty days you lead us into the desert of repentance
that through a pilgrimage of prayer and discipline we may grow in grace
and learn to be your people once again.

Through fasting, prayer and acts of service
you bring us back to your generous heart.

Through study of your holy word
you open our eyes to your presence in the world
and free our hands to welcome others
into the radiant splendour of your love.

As we prepare to celebrate the Easter feast
with joyful hearts and minds
we bless you for your mercy
and join with saints and angels
for ever praising you and singing:

Sanctus & Benedictus

**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.**

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.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

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.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Lord Jesus, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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 president breaks the consecrated bread.

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

Agnus Dei

**Jesus, Lamb of God,
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins,
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, redeemer of the world,
grant us your peace.**

Giving of Communion

The president says the invitation to communion.

Jesus is the Lamb of God
who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

The clergy receive communion.

You may wish to use the following prayer as a spiritual act of communion.

**In union, O Lord with the faithful at every altar of your Church,
where the Holy Eucharist is celebrated, I desire to offer you praise
and thanksgiving. I present to you my soul and body with the
earnest wish that I may always be united to you.**

**And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I ask you to
come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to you, and embrace
you with all the affections of my soul. Let nothing ever separate you
from me.**

May I live and die in your love.

Amen.

Hymn

**ATTENDE: Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us:
for we have sinned against Thee.**

*To Thee, Redeemer, on Thy throne of glory:
lift we our weeping eyes in holy pleadings:
listen, O Jesu, to our supplications.*

Refrain

*O Thou chief Cornerstone, Right Hand of the Father:
Way of Salvation, Gate of Life Celestial:
cleanse Thou our sinful souls from all defilement.*

Refrain

*God, we implore Thee, in Thy glory seated:
bow down and hearken to Thy weeping children:
pity and pardon all our grievous trespasses.*

Refrain

*Sins oft committed now we lay before Thee:
with true contrition, now no more we veil them:
grant us, Redeemer, loving absolution.*

Refrain

*Innocent, captive, taken unresisting:
falsely accused, and for us sinners sentenced,
save us, we pray Thee, Jesu our Redeemer.*

Refrain

Words 10th Century Mozarabic Music Plainsong Mode V

Prayer after Communion

Silence is kept.

Let us pray.

**Almighty God,
you have given your only Son to be for us
both a sacrifice for sin
and also an example of godly life:
give us grace
that we may always most thankfully receive
these his inestimable gifts,
and also daily endeavour to follow the blessed steps of his most
holy life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

The Blessing and Dismissal

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

cf 1 John 4.12

May God the Father,
who does not despise the broken spirit,
give to you a contrite heart.

Amen.

May Christ,
who bore our sins in his body on the tree,
heal you by his wounds.

Amen.

May the Holy Spirit,
who leads us into all truth,
speak to you words of pardon and peace.

Amen.

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

Amen.

cf Psalm 51; Isaiah 53

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

The clergy recess in silence

Hymn

*Forty days and forty nights
Thou wast fasting in the wild;
forty days and forty nights
tempted still, yet undefiled.*

*Sunbeams scorching all the day;
chilly dew-drops nightly shed;
prowling beasts about Thy way;
stones Thy pillow, earth Thy bed.*

*Let us Thine endurance share,
and awhile from joys abstain,
with Thee watching unto prayer,
strong with Thee to suffer pain?*

*And if Satan, vexing sore,
flesh or spirit should assail,
Thou, his vanquisher before
grant we may not faint nor fail.*

*So shall we have peace divine;
holier gladness ours shall be;
round us too shall angels shine,
such as ministered to Thee.*

*Keep, O keep us, Saviour dear,
ever constant by Thy side;
that with Thee we may appear
at the eternal Eastertide.*

George Hunt Smyttan, 1822-18, Francis Pott, 1832-1909



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