

The Parish Church of St. Paul, Wokingham



Parish Mass for the 4th Sunday after Trinity

with the Rev'd Cara Smart presiding at her first Eucharist
after being ordained as priest at Reading Minster, by the grace of God

During the Eucharist we

- ❖ gather together as one family
- ❖ say sorry for our sins and receive God's forgiveness
- ❖ proclaim and respond to the word of God
- ❖ remember before God the Church and the world
- ❖ share in the peace of Christ
- ❖ pray the Eucharistic Prayer
- ❖ receive communion
- ❖ depart with the blessing of God, to live lives to his glory.

The Gathering

Opening Hymn

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

The Lord be with you:
and also with you.

Words of welcome and introduction follow, including the reading of the Priestly Declarations by the church wardens. These are the same declarations Bishop Olivia read at the Ordination of Priests service yesterday.

We hear them now as a reminder of our shared calling as followers of Christ, and of the promises Cara and all those ordained priest have made for love of God and of the Church, and of God's Easter people and God's fragile world.

Priests are called to be servants and shepherds among the people to whom they are sent. With their Bishop and fellow ministers, they are to proclaim the word of the Lord and to watch for the signs of God's new creation. They are to be messengers, watchmen and stewards of the Lord; they are to teach and to admonish, to feed and provide for his family, to search for his children in the wilderness of this world's temptations, and to guide them through its confusions, that they may be saved through Christ for ever. Formed by the word, they are to call their hearers to repentance and to declare in Christ's name the absolution and forgiveness of their sins.

With all God's people, they are to tell the story of God's love. They are to baptize new disciples in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and to walk with them in the way of Christ, nurturing them in the faith.

They are to unfold the Scriptures, to preach the word in season and out of season, and to declare the mighty acts of God. They are to preside at the Lord's table and lead his people in worship, offering with them a spiritual sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. They are to bless the people in God's name. They are to resist evil, support the weak, defend the poor, and intercede for all in need. They are to minister to the sick and prepare the dying for their death. Guided by the Spirit, they are to discern and foster the gifts of all God's people, that the whole Church may be built up in unity and faith.

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.**

Prayers of Penitence

Silence is kept as we recall our shortcomings and our need of God's grace.

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ to save us from our sins, to be our advocate in heaven, and to bring us to eternal life.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God's commandments and to live in love and peace with all.

**Most merciful God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

Kyrie, *from the Mass of Villerville by Chris Merchant*

Lord, have mercy: Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy: Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy: Lord, have mercy.

The Absolution, *God's promise of forgiveness*

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,

have mercy on you,

+ pardon and deliver you from all your sins,

confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,

and keep you in life eternal;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Gloria in Excelsis: *a song of praise to God
for his wonderful goodness, from the Mass of Villerville*

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, *the prayer of the day*

The Lord be with you: **and also with you.**
Let us pray.

O God, the protector of all who trust in you,
without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy:
increase and multiply upon us your mercy;
that with you as our ruler and guide
we may so pass through things temporal
that we lose not our hold on things eternal;
grant this, heavenly Father,
for our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
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

The Reading: 2 Corinthians 8.7 - end

At the end of the reading:

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel: Mark 5.21 - end

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

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end of the Gospel reading:

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

The Sermon, *in which we explore God's message for us today*

The Creed, *an affirmation of our faith*

Let us declare our faith in God.

We believe in God the Father,

from whom every family

in heaven and on earth is named.

We believe in God the Son,

who lives in our hearts through faith,

and fills us with his love.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit,

who strengthens us

with power from on high.

We believe in one God;

Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Prayers

At the end of each section, this response may be used:

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

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

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace *of Christ*

God is love, and those who live in love live in God
and God lives in them.

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

*During the peace we hold out Christ's peace to one another,
picturing the whole people of God gathered together in this moment.*

*Do please put your message in the comment box on YouTube,
or text a friend, whether you are in Church or at home.*

The Preparation of the Altar

With this bread that we bring **we shall remember Jesus.**

With this wine that we bring **we shall remember Jesus.**

Bread for his body, wine for his blood,
gifts from God to his table we bring.

We shall remember Jesus.

Pray, my brothers and sisters,
that our sacrifice 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.**

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

The Eucharistic Prayer (D)

The Lord be with you:
and also with you.

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.

Almighty God, good Father to us all,
your face is turned towards your world.
In love you gave us Jesus your Son
to rescue us from sin and death.
Your Word goes out to call us home
to the city where angels sing your praise.
We join with them in heaven's song:

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.*

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

+ Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Father of all, we give you thanks
for every gift that comes from heaven.
To the darkness Jesus came as your light.
With signs of faith and words of hope
he touched untouchables with love
and washed the guilty clean.

This is his story.

This is our song:

Hosanna in the highest.

The crowds came out to see your Son,
yet at the end they turned on him.
On the night he was betrayed
he came to table with his friends
to celebrate the freedom of your people.

This is his story.

This is our song:

Hosanna in the highest.

Jesus blessed you, Father, for the food;
he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said:
This is my body, given for you all.
Jesus then gave thanks for the wine;
he took the cup, gave it and said:
This is my blood, shed for you all
for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this in remembrance of me.

This is our story.

This is our song:

Hosanna in the highest.

Therefore, Father, with this bread and this cup
we celebrate the cross on which he died to set us free.
Defying death he rose again
and is alive with you to plead for us and all the world.
This is our story.

**This is our song:
Hosanna in the highest.**

Send your Spirit on us now
that by these gifts we may feed on Christ
with opened eyes and hearts on fire.
May we and all who share this food
offer ourselves to live for you
and be welcomed at your feast in heaven
where all creation worships you,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit:
**Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, which 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.**

The Fraction

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**Though we are many, we are one body
because we all share in one bread.**

Agnus Dei (Lamb of God)

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.

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.**

Christ is in our midst. **He is and always will be.**

Come to this table, not because you must but because you may,
not because you are strong, but because you are weak.

Come, not because any goodness of your own gives you a right
to come, but because you need mercy and help.

Come, because you love the Lord a little
and would like to love him more.

Come, because he loved you and gave himself for you.

Come and meet the risen Christ, for we are his Body.

If you usually receive communion in your own church, or you have done so in the past, you are most welcome to receive communion on this holy day.

If you would prefer to receive a prayer of blessing, please bring this order of service with you to the front.

If you're at home, please use this time to talk to the Risen Christ. Use this prayer if you find it helpful, and enjoy the music which will be offered at this point in the service as an aid to prayer and worship.

Thanks be to you, Lord, Jesus Christ,
for all the benefits you have given me,
for all the pains and insults you have borne for me.
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,
I ask you to come spiritually into my heart.
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.

Post-Communion Prayer,

we thank God for his love, revealed in this feast

Eternal God,
comfort of the afflicted and healer of the broken,
you have fed us at the table of life and hope:
teach us the ways of gentleness and peace,
that all the world may acknowledge
the kingdom of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**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 Notices and the Banns of Marriage

The Dismissal

The Blessing

we receive the promise of God's presence with us always

May God our creator, whose glory fills the whole of the universe,
send you full of love and grace to proclaim his word. **Amen.**

May God our redeemer, who heals and transforms, send you to
proclaim his Gospel of truth and light. **Amen.**

May God our sustainer, who is our greatest advocate and
comforter, give you joy and peace. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
fill your hearts, and rest upon you and remain with you
this holy day and always. **Amen.**

We go into the world
to walk in God's light,
to rejoice in God's love
and to reflect God's glory. **Amen.**

An organ voluntary is played.

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*Those who are present in Church are then invited to sing the final hymn
in the Churchyard if the weather is kind.
If you're at home, please make a drink and then join in with the Zoom Coffee
or call someone from Church or someone from further away-
have a chat, as you normally would over coffee.
God bless, strengthen and inspire you in the week that lies ahead.*

*If you'd like to find out about everything that is happening in the parish,
please email church.office@spauls.co.uk
and we will happily put you on our regular mailing list.*

*There will be a collection plate and debit card machine as you leave
if you would like to make a donation to support the work of the parish.
You can text a donation to St Paul's to 70450, texting STPAULS5
or STPAULS10 or STPAULS20 to donate that amount of money.
Do please use the handgel as you leave as well.*



***She who was, and is, and is to come,
carry us into this day:***

***sustained by her life-giving waters,
encouraged by her fruitful love,
inspired by the light she kindles.***

Amen.