

# The Parish of St Paul, Wokingham



## All Together Mass for the Feast of the Epiphany

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*{How many times do you hear the three gifts mentioned in the service? Do you know what they mean and represent?}*

### **The Opening Procession**

*The Kings travel through the Church on their journey,  
carrying gold, incense and myrrh.*

**We three kings of Orient are**

Bearing gifts we traverse afar.  
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,  
Following yonder star.

*O star of wonder, star of night,  
Star with royal beauty bright,  
Westward leading, still proceeding,  
Guide us to thy perfect Light.*

Born a king on Bethlehem's plain,  
Gold I bring to crown Him again,  
King forever, ceasing never  
Over us all to reign. *Chorus*

Frankincense to offer have I.  
Incense owns a Deity nigh.  
Prayer and praising, all men raising,  
Worship Him, God on high. *Chorus*

Myrrh is mine: Its bitter perfume  
Breaths a life of gathering gloom.  
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,  
Sealed in the stone-cold tomb. *Chorus*

Glorious now behold Him arise,  
King and God and Sacrifice!  
Heaven sings, 'Alleluia!'  
'Alleluia!' the Earth replies. *Chorus*

# The Gathering

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

I bring you good news of great joy:  
a Saviour has been born to us. Alleluia!  
**For unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given. Alleluia!**

## The Prayers of Penitence

*we say sorry for the things we've done wrong*

The grace of God has dawned on the world with healing for all.  
Though we have grieved him,  
yet he will heal us if we confess our sins  
in penitence and faith.

God be gracious to us and bless us,  
and make your face to shine upon us.  
Lord, have mercy: **Lord, have mercy.**

May your ways be known upon earth,  
your saving health among the nations.  
Christ, have mercy: **Christ, have mercy.**

You, Lord, have made known your salvation,  
and reveal your justice in the sight of the nations.  
Lord, have mercy: **Lord, have mercy.**

## **The Absolution**

### *God's promise of forgiveness*

May God almighty,  
who led the Wise Men to Bethlehem  
and showed them there the face of their fulfilment,  
meet you in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh,  
forgive you your sins,  
and inspire you to lead life to his praise and glory,  
now and always. **Amen.**

## **Gloria in Excelsis**

### *a joyful song of praise to God*

*{Can you join in with the chorus?}*

***Glory to God, glory to God,  
glory to God in the highest!***

**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.  
*Glory to God, glory to God,  
glory to God in the highest!***

**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.**

*Glory to God, glory to God,  
glory to God in the highest!*

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.

*Glory to God, glory to God,  
glory to God in the highest!*

## **The Collect**

*which presents the theme for the day*

Creator of the heavens,  
who led the Magi by a star to worship the Christ-child:  
guide and sustain us, that we may find our journey's end  
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

# **The Liturgy of the Word**

## **Bible Reading**

*At the end, the reader says:*

This is the word of the Lord: **thanks be to God.**

## **The Gospel** *which is read from the Crib*

*{Who else is going to the crib? How can you tell that this is a very  
important bit? Did you see the crib on the way in?}*

Alleluia, alleluia. We have seen his star at its rising  
**and have come to pay him homage. Alleluia!**

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*{Do you know the story we are listening to?}*

*At the end the Deacon says:*

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

## **The Talk**

### **The Creed** *we state what we believe*

Let us declare our faith in God,

Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**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,**

**Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer. Amen.**

## **The Prayers**

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

Arise, shine for your light has come  
and the glory of God has risen upon you.  
The glory and peace of the Lord be always with you:  
**and also with you.**

## We prepare the altar

*{Can you see what the Deacon is doing at the altar?}*

Lord, accept your people's gifts,  
not gold, frankincense or myrrh,  
but hearts and voices raised in praise  
of Jesus Christ, our light and salvation. **Amen.**

## The Eucharistic Prayer (1)

*{can you say 'Holy' and 'Amen' at the right moment?}*

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.**

*Holy, Holy, Holy*

It is always right to give you thanks,  
God our Creator, loving and faithful, holy and strong.  
You made us and the whole universe,  
and filled your world with life.

*Holy, Holy, Holy*

In this Christmastide we thank and praise you  
that you sent your Son to live among us,  
Jesus our Saviour, Mary's child.  
Today we thank and praise you particularly  
because, by the leading of a star,  
you have revealed your only Son to the world  
that in following him we are led from darkness  
into his marvellous light.

*Holy, Holy, **Holy***

You send your Spirit  
to bring new life to the world,  
and clothe us with power from on high.  
And so we join the angels to celebrate and sing:

**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.**

Father, on the night before he died,  
Jesus shared a meal with his friends.

He took the bread, and thanked you.  
He broke it, and gave it to them, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this to remember me.

After the meal, Jesus took the cup of wine.  
He thanked you, and gave it to them, saying:  
Drink this, all of you.  
This is my blood, the new promise of God's unfailing love.  
Do this to remember me.



Jesus Christ has died. **Jesus Christ has died.**  
Jesus Christ is risen. **Jesus Christ is risen.**  
Jesus Christ will come again. **Jesus Christ will come again.**

Father, as we bring this bread and wine,  
and remember his death and resurrection,  
send your Holy Spirit,  
that we who share these gifts  
may be fed by Christ's body and his blood.

*Amen, Amen, **Amen.***

Pour your Spirit on us that we may love one another,  
work for the healing of the earth,  
and share the good news of Jesus,  
as we wait for his coming in glory.

*Amen, Amen, **Amen.***

For honour and praise belong to you, Father,  
with Jesus your Son, and the Holy Spirit:  
one God, for ever and ever. *Amen, Amen, **Amen.***

## **The Lord's Prayer**

Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us, let us 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.**

## **The Breaking of the Bread**

*The president breaks the consecrated bread.*

We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.

**God here among us, light in the midst of us,  
bring us to light and life.**

## **Agnus Dei**

**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**

Christ is the true bread which has come down from heaven.

**Lord, give us this bread always.**

*Please come forward to receive communion when invited to do so by a Sidesperson. If you usually receive communion in your own church, or have done so in the past, then you are most welcome to receive today. If you would prefer to receive a prayer of blessing please bring this order of service with you. If you need a gluten free wafer please tell the priest.*

## **Prayer after Communion**

**God of glory, you nourish us with your Word  
who is the bread of life:**

**fill us with your Holy Spirit**

**that through us the light of your glory  
may shine in all the world.**

**We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

# The Dismissal

*During the final hymn, the whole congregation follow the Kings and the choir and the altar party to gather around the crib.*

*The Gifts are then offered at the crib:*

*At the offering of gold:*

*(Child)* I bring Gold for a King.

*(Adult)* Blessed are you, Lord our God,  
King of the Universe:

to you be praise and glory for ever!

As gold is tried and purified in the fire,  
so purify our hearts and minds that  
we may be a royal priesthood acceptable  
in the service of your kingdom.

**Blessed be God for ever.**



*At the offering of incense:*

*(Child)* I bring Incense for a Priest.

*(Adult)* Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the Universe:  
to you be praise and glory for ever.

As our prayers rise before you like incense,  
so may we come before you  
with grateful hearts and uplifted hands  
to offer ourselves in your service.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

*At the offering of myrrh:*

*(Child)* I bring Myrrh for the one who will Die.

*(Adult)* Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the Universe:  
to you be praise and glory for ever.

As you give medicine to heal our sickness

and the leaves of the tree of life  
for the healing of the nations,  
so anoint us with your healing power  
that we may be the first-fruits of your new creation.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

*At the offering of our lives:*

*(Child)* We bring ourselves, our resources, our worship and our lives.

*(Adult)* Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the Universe:

to you be praise and glory for ever.

As we have travelled with the Magi

to gaze once more on the face

of our Saviour and Lord, so may we,

inspired and changed by our adventure,

live generous lives

which show the face of Christ to the world.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

## **The Blessing and the Dismissal**

May God the Father,

who led the wise men by the shining of a star

to find the Christ, the Light from light,

lead you also in your pilgrimage to find the Lord. **Amen.**

May God, who has delivered us from the dominion of darkness,

give us a place with the saints in light

in the kingdom of his beloved Son. **Amen.**

May the light of the glorious gospel of Christ

shine in your hearts and fill your lives with his joy and peace. **Amen.**

And the blessing...

We have seen Christ's glory, the glory revealed to all the nations.

Let us then go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**In the name of Christ. Amen.**