

# WELCOME

Good morning/ evening, and welcome to St Mary's Parish.

Even after his death and resurrection Jesus' work is not finished. In this gospel Jesus promises to ask the Father for an Advocate for us, not to leave us orphans, to love us, and to reveal himself to us. Neither is our work finished: we are to receive his promise and live in its hope.

Please say "hello" to those next to you, and if you do not know those seated near you, introduce yourself and say "hello."

We now keep in mind our sick brothers and sisters, especially those in our newsletter.

Our presider this morning/evening is -

Please join us as we begin with the Processional Hymn.

## First Reading

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17 (JB)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

**They laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.**

Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result there was great rejoicing in that town.

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Responsorial Psalm

Ps 65:1-7, 16, 20 (JB)

**R.** Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

Cry out with joy to God all the earth,

O sing to the glory of his name.

O render him glorious praise.

Say to God: 'How tremendous your deeds! **R.**

'Before you all the earth shall bow;

shall sing to you, sing to your name!'

Come and see the works of God,

tremendous his deeds among men. **R.**

He turned the sea into dry land,

they passed through the river dry-shod.

Let our joy then be in him;

he rules for ever by his might. **R.**

Come and hear, all who fear God.

I will tell what he did for my soul:

Blessed be God who did not reject my prayer

nor withhold his love from me. **R.**

## Second Reading

1 Peter 3:15-18 (JB)

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

**In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.**

Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear conscience, so that those who slander you when you are living a good life in Christ may be proved wrong in the accusations that they bring. And if it is the will of God that you should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong.

Why, Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation

John 14:23 (JB)

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words,  
and my Father will love them and we will come to them.

Alleluia!

## Gospel

John 14:15-21 (JB)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

**I shall ask the Father and he will give you another Advocate.**

Jesus said to his disciples:

'If you love me you will keep my commandments.

I shall ask the Father,

and he will give you another Advocate

to be with you for ever,

that Spirit of truth

whom the world can never receive

since it neither sees nor knows him;

but you know him,

because he is with you, he is in you.

I will not leave your orphans;

I will come back to you.

In a short time the world will no longer see me;

but you will see me,

because I live and you will live.

On that day

you will understand that I am in my Father

and you in me and I in you.

Anybody who receives my commandments and keeps them

will be one who loves me;

and anybody who loves me will be loved by my Father,

and I shall love him and show myself to him.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## General Intercessions

**Celebrant:** With confidence we bring our prayers to the Christ who has suffered death for our sins and has risen from the dead for our glory.

**Reader:**

1. Let us pray for the leaders of the Church may creatively and courageously proclaim the resurrection of the Lord and his presence among us **(Pause)** We pray to the Lord.
2. Let us pray for the leaders of nations work together to bring an end to war, oppression, poverty and hunger, **(Pause)** We pray to the Lord.
3. Let us pray for the members of this community may continue to grow in faith, hope and love, **(Pause)** We pray to the Lord.
4. Let us pray for the Holy Spirit, our Advocate, may empower us to pray and work for world peace and justice to all, **(Pause)** We pray to the Lord.
5. Let us pray for the aged and the ill, may receive the help they need, **(Pause)** We pray to the Lord.
6. Let us pray for those who have passed into eternal life, and those whose anniversary of death occurs at this time. We also pray for those who have no one to remember them in their prayers. May they find eternal rest and comfort within God's own life and love. *Together we pray* (All) Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord! And let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen. **(Pause)** We pray to the Lord.

**Celebrant:** God of glory and Lord of life, bless us, protect us, and prosper the works of our hands. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.