

The Parish Church of St Luke the Evangelist, Milber



The Holy Eucharist 5th Sunday of Eastertide



Service Led by Fr Nick Debney, Vicar of St Luke's

Welcome to our Parish Mass on this the 5th Sunday of Eastertide. In this service we remember with thanksgiving the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ –and the giving of himself to us today under the forms of bread and wine, which are for us his body and blood.

The Eucharist is the Church's principal act of worship; it looks backwards in remembrance, as we recall how, on the eve of his passion and death our Lord commanded us to celebrate it until he comes in glory.

It is the means by which Jesus shares his life with us now, as he binds us to himself in the precious gifts of his body and blood.

It invites us to look forward to our future life with God in the Kingdom of heaven, which scripture describes as being like a great banquet to which all are invited.

Through this celebration we glimpse something of the awe, majesty and mystery of God's eternal presence; and also something of the love, fellowship and friendship which binds us together as the pilgrim people of God as we seek his will for our lives.

In forefront of this Eucharist stands the Easter Candle, lit at the Easter Vigil just before dawn on Easter day as the sign of the light of the risen Christ banishing the darkness of sin and death. It reminds us that Christ has won the victory, for He has risen as He said. His triumph is the promise of our redemption, and so we rejoice in hope. "We are an Easter people, and alleluia is our song!" *St Augustine of Hippo 350-430*

A huge "Thank you!" to the lovely Robert Osmond for recording the organ music and for his kind permission for us to use it this morning.

Opening Hymn

*Refrain: Alleluia, Alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord,
Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to His name.*

1. Jesus is Lord of all the earth.
He is the King of creation. *Refrain.*
2. Spread the good news o'er all the earth.
Jesus has died and has risen. *Refrain.*
3. We have been crucified with Christ.
Now we shall live forever. *Refrain.*
4. God has proclaimed the just reward:
Life for us all, alleluia! *Refrain.*
5. Come, let us praise the living God,
Joyfully sing to our Saviour. *Refrain.*

The Order of the Eucharist

The Gathering

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

All Amen.

Fr Nick greets us in the name of Christ

The Lord be with you

All and also with you.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

All He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Prayers of Penitence

Fr Nick introduces the Eucharist and invites us to confess our sins as we prepare for the celebration.

Christ our Passover lamb has been sacrificed for us.

Let us therefore rejoice by putting away all malice and evil
and confessing our sins with a sincere and true heart.

Like Mary at the empty tomb, we fail to grasp the wonder of your presence.

Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

Like the disciples behind locked doors, we are afraid to be seen as your followers.

Christ, have mercy.

All Christ, have mercy.

Like Thomas in the upper room, we are slow to believe.

Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

May the God of love and power forgive us and free us from our sins,
heal and strengthen us by his Spirit, and raise us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

We say the Gloria in Excelsis

All 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

Fr Nick introduces the Collect (opening prayer) with the words 'Let us pray.' The Collect is said and we all respond

All Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading Acts 6: 1-7

At the end the reader says

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Response: May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you

Second Reading I Peter 2: 4-9

At the end the reader says

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia; Jesus said: "I am the way, the Truth and the Life.

No one can come to the Father except through me."

All Alleluia

Gospel

The Lord be with you

All and also with you.

A ✠ reading from the Holy Gospel according to John
Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end the priest says:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Homily

The Nicene Creed

All We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic
and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

At the end of each petition the reader says:

Lord, in your mercy

All hear our prayer.

After the petition for the departed the reader says:

Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord.

All And let light perpetual shine upon them.

This prayer celebrating the role of Mary in the birth of Jesus Christ is used:

All Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee;
Blessed art thou among women,
And blessed is the fruit of thy womb Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Fr Nick concludes the intercessions with a final prayer, to which we respond

All Amen.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

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 Lord. Alleluia.

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

The Preparation of the Gifts

The following prayers at the preparation of the altar are used.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:
through your goodness we have this bread to offer,
which earth has given and human hands have made.
It will become for us the bread of life.

All Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:
through your goodness we have this wine to offer,
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.
It will become for us our spiritual drink.

All Blessed be God for ever.

Invitation to Prayer

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

**All 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 Holy Church.**

Fr Nick says the Prayer over the Gifts, we reply

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.

Fr Nick says the preface of the prayer, which praises God for his mighty acts.

At the end of which we say:

**All Holy, holy, holy, Lord.
God of power and might,
Heav'n 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.**

Fr Nick now recalls the Last Supper and calls the Holy Spirit to come upon the gifts of bread and wine, that they may become for us the body and blood of Christ.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**All Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.**

As the Eucharistic Prayer continues we recall the death and resurrection of Christ, and offer our prayer to the Father. As the prayer reaches its conclusion we give our bold acclamation

All Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

*Rejoicing in God's new creation,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us*

**All 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.**

Agnus Dei

All Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

Invitation to Communion

This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Happy are those who are called to his supper.

**All Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
But only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

Act of Spiritual Communion

(to be said as Fr Nick Receives Communion on behalf of all those gathered)

All 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.

During Communion we will listen to Bread of Life Written by CJM and Performed by Millie Day

Prayer After Communion

Fr Nick introduces the prayer with the words 'Let us pray.' The prayer is said, and we respond

All Amen.

The Blessing and Dismissal

The Lord be with you

All and also with you.

The God of peace,
who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ,
that great shepherd of the sheep,
make you perfect in every good work to do his will;
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 peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia

All Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia

Final Hymn

1. **Thine be the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;
Endless is the victory, thou o'er death hast won;
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
Kept the folded grave clothes where Thy body lay.**

*Refrain: Thine be the glory, risen conquering Son,
Endless is the victory, thou o'er death hast won.*

2. **Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
Lovingly He greets us, scatters fear and gloom;
Let the church with gladness, hymns of triumph sing;
For her Lord now liveth, death hath lost its sting. Refrain**

3. **No more we doubt Thee, glorious Prince of life;
Life is naught without Thee; aid us in our strife;
Make us more than conquerors, through Thy deathless love:
Bring us safe through Jordan to Thy home above. Refrain**

The Regina Coeli may is sung as we honour Mary the mother of Jesus.

**Joy to thee O Queen of heaven, alleluia;
He whom thou wast meet to bear, alleluia;
As he promised hath arisen, alleluia;
Pour for us to God thy prayer, alleluia.**

Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.

All For the Lord is risen indeed, alleluia.

Let us pray:

O God, who by the resurrection of Your Son our Lord Jesus Christ has given joy to the whole world: grant, we beseech thee, that through His Mother, the Virgin Mary, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.