

# The Stratfield Mortimer Benefice of

St Saviour  
Mortimer West End

St Mary and St John  
Stratfield Mortimer

St John the Baptist  
Padworth

St Mary's Church of England School

St John's Church of England School

Diocese of Oxford



## The Parish Eucharist *for* Corpus Christi Sunday

*The Day of Thanksgiving for the Institution of Holy Communion*

**2<sup>nd</sup> June 2024 at 10.00 a.m. at St John's church, Mortimer.**

**Online at Zoom:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6931233940>

Welcome to this Feast of Corpus Christi, this day when the Church gives thanks for Christ's institution of that 'holy memorial' - known variously as the Eucharist, the Lord's Supper, the Breaking of the Bread, Holy Communion and Holy Mass - where Christians gather to remember Christ and celebrate his presence in the breaking of bread.

When on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> July 1969 the Apollo 11 lunar module landed on to the Moon's surface, in an area called the Sea of Tranquillity, astronaut Neil Armstrong stepped out and said, *'That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind.'* Perhaps fewer of us remember a story about how his fellow astronaut Buzz Aldrin took aboard the spacecraft a pyx given him by his pastor containing Eucharistic bread. The story tells how Buzz Aldrin broadcast to Earth asking his listeners to reflect on the events of that day and join him in a short thanksgiving. Then, blacking out the broadcast for a few moments of privacy, he read, *'I am the vine and you are the branches. He who abides in me, and I in him, bears much fruit.'* Then, silently, Buzz gave thanks for all the work that had gone into that great journey, took the piece of Eucharistic bread and made his 'holy communion.' Then he climbed down the steps of the lunar module to join Neil Armstrong on the Moon. Buzz Aldrin's simple Moon communion was his way of remembering that there is 'one' who is present with us whatever, whenever, wherever and, of course, it was his hope that we would remember that our lives and actions too can reflect that same faith, hope and love whenever we are ready to give of our time, talents and treasure to 'give thanks,' find 'communion' and to 'share our bread / our blessings.'

The Eucharist teaches us, of course, to remember ourselves the importance of acts of sacrificial love in drawing people together into unity/community and of the bonds that can result. One of the early Fathers of the Church reminds us in his own poetic style that, as for Christians the Eucharistic bread is the 'Body of Christ,' so communicant Christians who partake of that bread become, in a way, themselves part of the 'Body of Christ.' And just as so many grains of wheat are ground together to make the bread and so many grapes are crushed together to make the wine, so we are 'unified' in Christ in order to become part of his loving sacrifice for the world - his bread for the world. We can see that Christ chose these everyday elements to teach us how to find union with him and with one another and to show us how we can allow the Holy Spirit to transform us through 'ordinary things' into being members together of Christ, that we ourselves might become 'bread' for the world. The image of the Church always portrays Christ, of course, as the head and all of us together as members of his body. In other words the Church is comprised of those who are at one in his mission and ministry. And, of course, part of that which unites us - in 'Christ's Mystical Body' - is our willingness to join in the sacrifice of our time, talents and treasure in his service for the good of all, which is symbolized by our sharing in the same bread and the same cup. Hence, today we celebrate and give thanks for Christ's institution of that Holy Communion which strengthens our sense of unity and love and which builds community.

There's a story about a paratrooper in World War II who got his parachute entangled in a tree and couldn't get down. He was afraid that he had dropped behind enemy lines and would be killed. Then two men in civilian clothes came by and so the paratrooper called out, 'Can you tell me where I am?' 'Indeed, we can,' said one, 'You are up a tree.' There was a pause, and then the paratrooper asked, 'Are you guys academics?' 'Yes,' came the reply, 'but how could you tell?' The paratrooper replied, 'I guessed because what you say is true, but it doesn't help me to get out of this tree does it?' Likewise, whilst the Eucharist is central to Christian faith, it may not be helpful to others, of course, unless they experience its effects through our lives.

Happy Corpus Christi and God bless,  
Paul

# THE PARISH EUCHARIST FOR CORPUS CHRISTI SUNDAY

A warm welcome to the Sunday Parish Eucharist.

An induction loop is provided. To use, please turn your hearing aid to T.

Gluten free wafers are available for those who need them. Please inform one of the vergers who will pass the information on to the clergy.

**Online:** If you are not able to come to St John's you are warmly invited to share in the Parish's Christmas Day Eucharist online. And may God bless and renew us as we join together to worship. **Thank you.**

**THIS 'HOLY MEMORIAL'** is known by various names: 1) **'The Eucharist'** - which means 'Thanksgiving' - because Jesus offered himself in love; 2) **'The Lord's Supper'** - or 'Breaking of the Bread' - because we celebrate it as a shared meal; 3) **'Holy Communion,'** - because we become one with Christ by receiving him; and 4) **'Holy Mass'** - holy sending - because it gives us a mission: to go in peace to serve the Lord.

**The 'objectives' of the Eucharist:** The community gathers for the public celebration of the Eucharist in order to worship God; ask his forgiveness for sins; thank him for blessings received; listen to his voice in the Scriptures; present the needs of the world and our own needs too; offer our lives to him and his loving service; gain spiritual nourishment and recharge our weakened spiritual batteries by sharing life with him in Holy Communion. The simple structure of the Eucharistic celebration is organized around achieving these goals.

## THE GATHERING HYMN - Tune: St Helen.



Christians, lift your hearts and voices,  
let your praises be outpoured;  
come with joy and exultation  
to the table of the Lord;  
come believing, come expectant,  
in obedience to his word.

See, presiding at his table,  
Jesus Christ our great High Priest;  
where he summons all his people,  
none is greatest, none is least;  
graciously he bids them welcome  
to the eucharistic feast.

Lord, we offer in thanksgiving  
life and work for you to bless;  
yet unworthy is the offering,  
marred by pride and carelessness;  
so, Lord, pardon our transgressions,  
plant in us true holiness.

On the evening of his passion  
Jesus gave the wine and bread,  
so that all who love and serve him  
shall for evermore be fed.  
Taste and see the Lord is gracious,  
feed upon the living bread.

## THE GATHERING

Priest           + In the name of God - the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.  
All               Amen.

## THE GREETING - Words of Welcome and Introduction.

*Now the greeting proclaims the presence of the Lord with us.*

*The Penitential Rite, the Gloria and the Opening Prayer follow. The purpose of these preliminary rites is to help the people, gathered for the celebration of the Eucharist, to join with each other as a worshipping community, and to prepare to listen to the Word of God and to celebrate the Eucharist - the Great Thanksgiving.*

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Priest           The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
                    the love of God,  
                    and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit  
                    be with you.  
All               **And also with you.**

*The priest may introduce the Eucharist.*

## THE PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

*The Invitation to Confession - we call to mind our sins that we may repent of them / turn from them and ask forgiveness of God and each other.*

Priest           My brothers and sisters,  
                    as we prepare to celebrate the mystery of God's love,  
                    revealed to us in Word and Sacrament,  
                    let us call to mind our sins.

*A pause for quiet reflection follows.*

All               **I confess to almighty God,  
                    and to you, my brothers and sisters,  
                    that I have sinned through my own fault,  
                    in my thoughts and in my words,  
                    in what I have done and in what I have failed to do.**

*The Absolution*

All               + Almighty God, have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.  
All               **Amen.**

## THE GLORIA

**Glory to God, glory to God,  
glory to the Father!  
Glory to God, glory to God,  
glory to the Father!  
    *To God be glory forever!  
    To God be glory forever!  
    Alleluia, Amen!  
    Alleluia, Amen!  
    Alleluia, Amen!***

**Glory to God, glory to God,  
glory to Christ Jesus!  
Glory to God, glory to God,  
glory to Christ Jesus!  
    *To God be glory forever!  
    To God be glory forever!  
    Alleluia, Amen!  
    Alleluia, Amen!  
    Alleluia, Amen!***

**Glory to God, glory to God,  
glory to the Spirit!  
Glory to God, glory to God,  
glory to the Spirit!  
To God be glory forever!  
To God be glory forever!  
Alleluia, Amen!  
Alleluia, Amen!  
Alleluia, Amen!**

## **THE COLLECT**

**Priest** Let us pray.

*Together we spend a few moments in silence, realising, and giving thanks, that we are in the presence of God our Father to whom we make our prayers. The prayer 'collects' our thoughts.*

Lord Jesus Christ,  
we thank you that in this wonderful sacrament  
you have given us the memorial of your passion:  
grant us so to reverence the sacred mysteries  
of your body and blood  
that we may know within ourselves  
and show forth in our lives  
the fruits of your redemption;  
for you are alive and reign with the Father  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**All** Amen.

## **THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

*The Liturgy of the Word consists of readings from the scriptures; a sermon/homily, which expounds the readings; the Profession of Faith, which is the Creed of God's people; and the Prayer of the Faithful or General Intercessions in which the people of God intercede for all humankind and all creation.*

*In the Liturgy of the Word God speaks to us of redemption and salvation and nourishes us with his 'word.' We are not only listening to past history. The God who speaks to Israel and to the early Church speaks to us today through the power of the Holy Spirit working within us as we listen to him and as he reveals the pattern for our lives. 'The word of God is something alive and active: it cuts like any double edged sword but more finely...it can judge the secret emotions and thoughts' (The Letter to the Hebrews 4:12).*

**THE FIRST READING – 1 CORINTHIANS 11: 23 - 26.** To be read by Roger Jones.

**Reader** A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians.

*The Institution of the Lord's Supper.*

Beloved: I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, 'This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.' For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

*At the end of the reading:*

**Reader** The word of the Lord.

**All** Thanks be to God.

*Now we prepare to hear the Gospel (the Good News) and acknowledge that we are his people and called to be part of his mission to the world inasmuch as we share his message and his life with faith, hope and love.*

## **THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**Cantor** Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

**All** Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

I am the living bread which has come down from heaven, *John 6:51*  
says the Lord.

Anyone who eats of this bread will live for ever.

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

## **THE GOSPEL READING – ST JOHN’S GOSPEL 6: 51 - 58.**

**All**           The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you .**

**All**           Let us hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St John.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to the Jews: ‘I am the living bread which has come down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world.’ Then the Jews started arguing with one another: ‘How can this man give us his flesh to eat?’ they said. Jesus replied: ‘I tell you most solemnly, if you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you will not have life in you. Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood has eternal life, and I shall raise him up on the last day. For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me and I live in him. As I, who am sent by the living Father, myself draw life from the Father, so whoever eats me will draw life from me. This is the bread come down from heaven; not like the bread our ancestors ate: they are dead, but everyone who eats this bread will live for ever.’

*At the end of the Gospel:*

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

## **THE SERMON**

*We are a Eucharistic community - united around word and sacrament. Through the readings God has spoken to his people of his redeeming love and of the nourishment which his Spirit gives. The sermon reflects on our readings and relates them to our Eucharistic celebration and to our ordinary daily life.*

*After the sermon there may be a short period of silent reflection.*

## **THE PROFESSION OF CHRISTIAN FAITH - THE CREED**

*We make the profession of faith in response to the word of God written in the Gospels and spoken in the sermon. We testify that God is our Father who gives us new life through his Son and who calls us together in the power of his Spirit to be a Eucharistic people, a ‘thanksgiving people’, a living community of his abiding self-giving love.*

**All**           **We believe and trust in God the Father who made the world.**  
**We believe and trust in his Son, Jesus Christ, who redeemed the world.**  
**We believe and trust in the Holy Spirit who gives life to the people of God. Amen**

## **THE PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL OR GENERAL INTERCESSION**

*We are invited to pray for all people and for all creation and for the needs of the Church’s mission in bringing Christ’s Gospel to the world. Through baptism we have been made one with Christ, our great high priest, and we share in his prayer before the Father for the needs of the Church’s mission to the world. Our prayer flows from our listening to the Gospel and sermon by which we have been made more aware of our Christian commitment.*

*This Prayer of the Faithful, or General Intercession, is announced and consists of a series of intercessions; we pray for the universal Church and its mission and for our bishop and diocese and for our benefice - our parishes and our two Church schools; for the world, for this United Kingdom, for the King, for our District and Village Councils and local communities, for our families and friends; for the sick and suffering and for all in pain; and we remember those who have died. And in communion with Mary, St John the Evangelist, St John the Baptist and all the Saints of God we entrust one another and all people and all creation to God’s saving love.*

**Priest:** In the power of the Spirit, and in union with Christ Jesus, let us pray to our heavenly Father.

*The deacon or minister continues:*

Heavenly Father, strengthen your Church in the service of Christ that Christians everywhere may show forth the compassion of Christ and gladly offer the Word and Bread of life. Bless Justin our Archbishop, Steven our Bishop, Olivia our area Bishop, and our parishes and schools of St Mary’s and St John’s that we may be equipped for the mission and ministry before us...

Lord, in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, bless and guide Charles our King and give grace to our Government and to our District and Village Councils. We pray for all those who will be involved in campaigning during the next weeks that they may speak and act with grace, truth and respect, and that we may all engage with the issues that matter so much to all of us and to our world. We pray for all in authority that they may govern with justice, wisdom and compassion and seek the common good...

Lord, in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, bless our families and friends and all our relationships that we may serve Christ in one another and love as he loves us...

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, we pray to you for all who hunger for bread and for those who long for peace and for all who are suffering and in pain... May the love of the risen Christ bring comfort and the hope of the resurrection bring peace.

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, we remember before you all who have gone before us... May we be united for ever in the joy of heaven.

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, in communion with Blessed Mary, St John the Evangelist, St John the Baptist and all the saints, we commend all humankind and all creation to your unfailing love.

Priest            Merciful Father,

**All                Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, Our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

### **THE LITURGY OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST**

*At the Last Supper Christ 'took some bread and when he had given thanks, broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying "This is my body which will be given for you; do this in remembrance of me". He did the same with the cup...' (Luke 22:19-20). The Church, joyfully obedient to the Lord's command, celebrates the Eucharist taking care that our 'liturgy' corresponds to the words and actions of Christ: 1) Taking bread and wine - we take our own gifts to the Altar, such as our time and talents and our money for the poor and for ministry. 2) Giving thanks (the meaning of the word Eucharist) - in the Eucharistic Prayer the priest, in the name of us all, says the great hymn of our thanksgiving to God for the whole work of salvation, in which the offerings become the Body and Blood of Christ. 3) The breaking of the one bread is a sign of the unity of the faithful - a sign of the unity which comes through sharing in Christ. 4) And in Holy Communion we receive Christ. In this way, Sunday by Sunday and day by day, the Church tries to carry out what the Lord asked his disciples to do in remembrance of him.*

### **THE PEACE**

*We acknowledge and give thanks for our unity with one another in Jesus Christ our Lord, which his death and resurrection have brought to us. He is the peace between us. The sign of peace echoes Christ's own resurrection greeting to his disciples. Before we share in the same bread we express our love for one another in Christ and pray for peace and unity (cf Luke 1.78,79).*

Priest            We are the body of Christ.  
                      In the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.  
                      Let us then pursue all that makes for peace  
                      and builds up our common life.

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

### **THE OFFERTORY HYMN**

**O thou, who at thy Eucharist didst pray  
                      that all thy church might be for ever one,  
grant us at every Eucharist to say  
                      with longing heart and soul, 'Thy will be done':  
O may we all one bread, one body be,  
through this blest sacrament of unity.**

**For all thy church, O Lord, we intercede;  
                      make thou our sad divisions soon to cease;  
draw us the nearer each to each, we plead,  
                      by drawing all to thee, O Prince of Peace:  
thus may we all one bread, one body be,  
through this blest sacrament of unity.**

We pray thee too for wanderers from thy fold;  
O bring them back, good Shepherd of the sheep,  
back to the faith which saints believed of old,  
back to the church which still that faith doth keep:  
soon may we all one bread, one body be,  
through this blest sacrament of unity.

So, Lord, at length when sacraments shall cease,  
may we be one with all thy church above,  
one with thy saints in one unbroken peace,  
one with thy saints in one unbounded love:  
more blessed still, in peace and love to be  
one with the Trinity in Unity.

## THE PRESENTATION AND PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

*The peoples' gifts of bread and wine are brought to the altar. The offerings of money is made and promised to support the wider ministry and work of the Church. Taking the Gifts: We give thanks to God for the gifts in the following words.*

### BREAD

Priest 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.**

### WINE

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 the cup of salvation.  
All **Blessed be God for ever.**

### OUR TIME, TALENTS AND TREASURE/MONEY

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have the gifts of our  
time, talents and money to offer. May our offerings of our gifts be a sincere sign of our  
gratitude and our dedication to your service.  
All **Blessed be God for ever.**

*The priest prays quietly: Lord God, we ask you to receive us and be pleased with the sacrifice we offer you with humble, contrite and thankful hearts.*

*The priest washes hands as an act of cleanliness and as an expression of the desire for inward purification, praying quietly: Lord, wash away my iniquity; cleanse me from my sin.*

## PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Priest Pray my brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours 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 Church.**

Priest Amen.

Lord, you sustain us with your love.  
Receive the gifts we bring before you,  
and feed us continually with that bread which satisfies all hunger,  
your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ.

All **Amen.**

## THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

*The Eucharistic Prayer is the centre and high point of the whole Christian celebration. This great prayer of praise and thanksgiving proclaims the wonderful works of God and through it we join ourselves with Christ in praise and thanksgiving to God the Father and in offering ourselves to him in union with Christ's self-offering on the cross. We express our share in the prayer, which is said on behalf of all the people, by listening inwardly and joining in the acclamations (joyful shouts or songs) and the Sanctus (the Holy, Holy, Holy which concludes the preface), the memorial acclamation and the great 'Amen' which concludes our Eucharistic Prayer.*

Priest 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.**

*In the Preface we praise God for his mighty acts:*

And now heavenly Father we give you thanks  
because at the Last Supper,  
as Christ sat at table with his apostles,  
he gave us this memorial of his passion  
to bring us its saving power until the end of time.

In this sacrament you feed your people  
and strengthen us in holiness,  
so that the family of humankind  
may come to walk together in the light of faith  
and in the communion of love.

Therefore we join our voices with the whole company of heaven  
to proclaim the glory of your goodness,  
for ever praising you and singing:

**All**            **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.**

*We pray to the Father for the sending down of the Holy Spirit and recall the Lord's Supper.*

Priest            We thank you, loving Father, because when we turned away  
                         you sent to us your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.  
                         He gave his life for us upon the cross.  
                         He shows us now the way to live.  
                         Send your Holy Spirit that these gifts of bread and wine  
                         may be for us Christ's body and his blood.  
                         On the night before he died, when darkness had fallen, Jesus took bread.  
                         He gave thanks, broke the bread, and shared it with his disciples, saying:  
                         'This is my body, given for you. Do this to remember me.'  
                         After they had eaten he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and shared it with his disciples,  
                         saying:  
                         'This is my blood, poured out for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins.  
                         Do this to remember me.'  
                         So, Father, with this bread and this cup we celebrate his love, his death, his risen life.  
                         As you feed us with these gifts, send your Holy Spirit upon us and change us more and more  
                         to be like Jesus our Saviour.  
                         Help us, Father, to love one another, as we look forward to that day when suffering is ended  
                         and all creation is gathered in your loving arms.  
                         And now with Blessed Mary, St John the Evangelist, St John the Baptist, and all your saints,  
                         we give you glory, through Jesus Christ  
                         and in the strength of your Holy Spirit,  
                         today and for ever and ever.

**All**            **Amen.**



## HOLY COMMUNION

*The communion rite lays strong emphasis on peace, unity and our prayer for forgiveness. We come together to the Lord's table in accordance with the Lord's command, 'Take, eat... take, drink', as a community bound together by the love of God manifest in Christ. We can all be confident in Christ's mercy as we respond to his call to come to his table. Our communal recitation of the Lord's Prayer - the prayer he taught us - prepares us for Holy Communion with our Lord.*

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

*We bless God and pray for our world, our communities and our lives to be shaped by God's will; we pray for daily needs to be met, for forgiveness for wrongdoings, strength to resist temptation and protection from danger.*

Priest 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.**

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*The priest takes the host and breaks it over the cup, praying quietly: 'May this mingling of the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ bring eternal life to us who receive it.' 'Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread' (1 Corinthians 10:17)*

*Christ's gesture of breaking bread with his disciples at the Last Supper gave the Eucharist the name of the 'breaking of bread.'. This gesture signifies that we who share one bread and one cup are made one. The breaking of the Eucharistic bread becomes a sign of unity and charity as the one bread is distributed to the family of God's people.*

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

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

*The priest prepares quietly for Holy Communion. We may all join quietly in this prayer: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, by the will of the Father and the work of the Holy Spirit your death brought life to the world. By your holy body and blood free me from all my sins and from every evil. Keep me faithful to your teaching, and never let me be parted from you. Amen.*

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Priest Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. *cf. John 1: 29*

Blessed 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.**

*The sign of communion is more complete when given under both 'kinds' since then the 'sign' of the eucharistic meal appears more clearly. However, we live in exceptional times when, if you think right, communion may be received in one 'kind.'*

*The priest takes the host, raises it a little and shows it saying: The Body of Christ. And the same with the cup saying: The Blood of Christ. When receiving Holy Communion the response and assent to Christ is:*

**+ Amen.**

## DURING HOLY COMMUNION *the Choir may sing anthems, hymns and songs.*

**Let all mortal flesh keep silence  
and with fear and trembling stand;  
ponder nothing earthly-minded,  
for with blessing in his hand  
Christ our God to earth descendeth,  
our full homage to demand.**

**King of kings, yet born of Mary,  
as of old on earth he stood,  
Lord of lords in human vesture -  
in the body and the blood -  
he will give to all the faithful  
his own self for heavenly food.**

**Rank on rank the host of heaven  
spreads its vanguard on the way,  
as the Light of Light descendeth  
from the realms of endless day,  
that the powers of hell may vanish  
as the darkness clears away.**

**At his feet the six-winged seraph;  
cherubim with sleepless eye  
veil their faces to the Presence,  
as with ceaseless voice they cry,  
Alleluia, alleluia,  
alleluia, Lord most high.**

### **PRAYER AFTER HOLY COMMUNION**

Priest Let us pray.

*The priest invites us all to pray that the Holy Eucharist will have its effect in transforming our lives and bring us all to God's kingdom.  
We pray together silently for a while before the Post Communion prayer.*

We thank you heavenly Father,  
for you have fed us with the bread of heaven  
and quenched our thirst from the true vine:  
hear our prayer that, being grafted into Christ,  
we may grow together in unity  
and feast with him in his kingdom;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All Amen.**

### **THE NOTICES FOR THE COMMUNITY ARE GIVEN.**

### **THE CONCLUDING RITE**

Priest The Lord be with you.

**All And also with you.**

### **THE BLESSING**

Priest May the Father,  
who fed his children with manna in the wilderness,  
strengthen you in your pilgrimage to the Promised Land.

**All Amen.**

May the Son,  
who has nourished us with himself the living bread,  
make you one in praise and love and keep you in eternal life.

**All Amen.**

May the Holy Spirit,  
who leads us into all truth, help you discern the Lord's body  
and empower you to proclaim his Gospel.

**All Amen.**

Priest **+** And the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be upon you and remain with you always.

**All Amen.**

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

**All Thanks be to God.**

## THE RECESSIONAL OR SENDING OUT HYMN

Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,  
pilgrim through this barren land;  
I am weak, but thou art mighty;  
hold me with thy powerful hand:  
Bread of heaven, Bread of heaven,  
feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain  
whence the healing stream doth flow;  
let the fiery cloudy pillar  
lead me all my journey through:  
strong deliverer, strong deliverer  
be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
bid my anxious fears subside;  
death of death, and hell's destruction,  
land me safe on Canaan's side:  
songs and praises, songs and praises  
I will ever give to thee.

Please donate regularly to support the Church's mission and work. *The church here needs your help in order to serve our villages, our diocese, our nation and our world in the future. Our doors were closed due to Covid 19 and with no regular Government or Church of England funding the parish lost significant income. Please see the website to see how to give efficiently. Thank you.*

