

in the church yard.

However, should the weather be inclement, please remain seated until the Recessional Music has ceased. This is integral to the liturgy of the Organ Mass and therefore applause is not appropriate. Once concluded, leave the Parish Church of St Mary & St Giles via the Parish Hall; and at All Saints via the south door.

**Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son;
endless is the vict'ry Thou o'er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes where Thy body lay.**

*Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son;
endless is the vict'ry Thou o'er death hast won.*

**Lo, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb.
Lovingly He greets us, scatters fear and gloom;
let His church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
for the Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting.**

**No more we doubt Thee, glorious Prince of life!!
Life is nought 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. .**

Reflection after Mass:

Lord, this Eucharist is a sacrament of love; it recalls and reveals again that love you lived out in word and deed during your life. You gave yourself and you continue to give yourself without reserve. You invite us to persevere in our efforts to understand and to care for others with a love like yours, to follow the way of perfect love by trying to go out to those who come our way, with a love which seeks to break down barriers.

THIS WEEK'S PARISH DIARY

TODAY: 9:30am 11:15am <i>Intention:</i>	THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER PARISH MASS at <i>St Mary & St Giles</i> * Family Mass at <i>All Saints</i> * <i>The Parish</i>
Tuesday 10:30am <i>Intention:</i>	The English Martyrs Mass at <i>All Saints</i> <i>For the Unity of The Church</i>
Wednesday 6:00pm 6:45pm <i>Intention:</i>	Feria Mass at <i>St Mary & St Giles</i> Rector available in the Parish Hall for the arrangement of the Occasional Offices and other Parish Business <i>The Unemployed</i>
Friday 12:00noon <i>Intention:</i>	Feria The Regina Caeli & Mass at <i>St Mary & St Giles</i> <i>The Faithful Departed</i>
Next Sunday: 9:30am 11:15am <i>Intention:</i>	THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER PARISH MASS at <i>St Mary & St Giles</i> Family Mass at <i>All Saints</i> * <i>The Parish</i>

PARISH NOTICES

Parish Communication: As from Saturday 1st May I shall be closing the Parish WhatsApp Group and have instead set up a Parish Group on a highly recommended, secure App called 'Signal,' which is available free of charge to any smartphone

During the Current Works at St Mary & St Giles: as many of you may have noticed last Sunday, due to the Parish Office and the Sacristy undergoing repairs the contents of those two rooms have been temporarily placed in the Parish Hall. This means that the Wednesday evening slot when the Rector is available for Parish Business will take place in the Parish Hall. Many thanks to all those who helped last Sunday with moving the altar frontal chest to the rear of the nave. It will remain in that position, as this will allow the PCC, when funds permit, to complete the desk work to the east wall of the Parish Office; comprising two taller units for the parish photocopier - with paper kept above it - and the handbells trolley to be stored. The Parish Office will then gradually become the office from which Parish Administration takes place.

Omnia Christus est nobis!

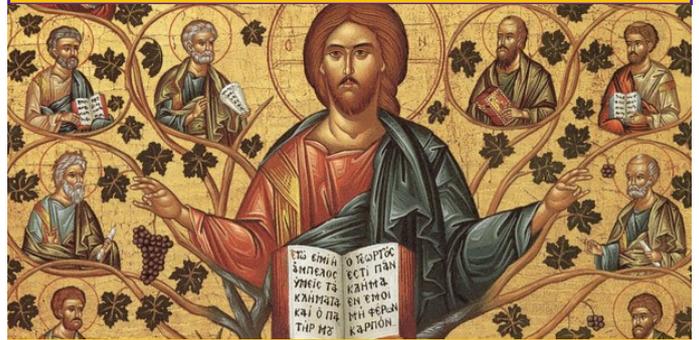
To us Christ is all!



**St Mary & St Giles with All Saints,
Parish of Stony Stratford with Calverton**

**THE FIFTH SUNDAY
OF EASTER**

2nd May AD 2021



Welcome to the Parish Church where, after the example of the early church, we celebrate the Eucharist: the "apostles teaching and fellowship, the breaking of bread and the prayers" (Acts 2:42)

Having the ordinary comforts of life and the possession of some of this world's goods is not wrong or anti-Christian, but the temptation is to get more and more of these comforts and riches, and the point is soon reached where this becomes the only purpose in life. When this sad stage is arrived at, God and our future life are forgotten; this world becomes our idol and our prison. The temptations which the agents of evil put in Christ's way are also multiplied today. The communications media are now very technically improved and perfected and can be, and sometimes are, a means for good. Unfortunately, more frequently, they are the channels of bad example. The evil deeds of some have more "news value" than their good deeds. And it is so much easier to follow the bad example! Permissiveness, rejection of authority, glorification of unlawful sexual indulgence, drug addiction, and other such crimes are placed before the minds and the eyes of the youth of today, and are unfortunately copied by far too many.

It can be hard to swim against the current; and much easier to be carried along without effort by the rushing tide, but the thoughtless and ease-seeking swimmer will end in grief. Our Lord exhorts us to abide in him, as is the branch to the vine, if we hope to bear fruit worthy of heaven. He promises us that if we remain closely united to him, he will be ever ready to answer our requests, and to heed all our prayers. The sincere prayer today of everyone who is trying to lead a Christian life is for the grace to overcome the allurements of the world, the flesh and the devil. Let us take courage, then. Christ has promised to remain beside us during life if only we stay close to him. While we remain healthy branches of the vine, Christ, we will be on the road to heaven. Our daily tasks, our work as well as our prayer, our recreation as well as our rest, our joys as well as our sorrows, will give glory to God and prove that we are worthy to be called disciples of Christ.



INFORMATION



Safeguarding: Our Parish Churches have adopted and follow the Diocese of Oxford's recommended policies for the safeguarding of children, young people and vulnerable adults. Details of these policies and of our Safeguarding Officers are available on the noticeboards inside each Parish Church. Should you have any safeguarding concerns then please see one of them.

Restrictions During the Current Pandemic:

Unfortunately, we are required to observe the following restrictions:

- ◆ **FACE MASKS: MUST BE WORN** by all attending worship as required by Law, apart from the Priest and any Lay Ministers assisting him. **N.B. IF YOU CANNOT WEAR A MASK FOR MEDICAL REASONS YOU MUST WEAR A FACE SHIELD.**
- ◆ Only 3 or 4 **Church Bells** are permitted to be rung, because ringing chambers are not large enough for distancing requirements when a full team is present. The Tower Captain and Assistant must keep a record of who is present to ring on what dates and ensure that distancing is maintained on the staircase. Bell ringing practice is not permitted.
- ◆ **Entry and exit** to our Parish Churches - entry via the West (Tower) Door and exit via the Parish Hall at St Mary & St Giles - entry via the South Porch and exit via the West (Tower) Door at All Saints
- ◆ There cannot be an **social gathering** in either of our Parish Churches before or after Mass - brief social intercourse may take place in the churchyards before or after Mass.
- ◆ 'Shared' **Mass cards** are not permitted. Please do not take a copy for someone else - either retain it for your devotions at home, or place it in the bin provided at the exit points in both churches.
- ◆ Until further notice all **communal singing**, singing rehearsals and concerts are prohibited in all places of worship. It is now possible to have a small choir and Organ Music played - a recessional hymn may be sung within in the churchyard.
- ◆ **Collections:** Cash donations and envelopes must be placed either in the large plinth donations box at St Mary & St Giles, or in the bowl by the south porch door at All Saints. We are not allowed to pass a collection plate/bag to one another.
- ◆ **'The Peace'** may not be shared physically. We may however join our own hands and bow to each other at The Peace, whilst saying the customary greeting.
- ◆ **When going forward to receive Holy Communion** - at St Mary & St Giles please approach centre of the altar rail in single file via the main aisle, observing a two metre distance, and return to your place via the side aisle. At All Saints: again single file two metres apart but keeping to the south porch side of the main aisle on approaching the altar rail and returning to your place on the vestry side. N.B. in both churches Holy Communion must be received whilst standing and please extend your arms as far as you are able. Textile kneelers and cushions have had to be removed.
- ◆ **'Receiving Holy Communion'** is in one kind, i.e. The Host. This must be received in the palms of our hands - not on the tongue.
- ◆ **Please maintain a two metre distance** from each other on approaching the altar rails and on leaving our churches after Mass.
- ◆ **Lavatory Facilities.** Strict hand-hygiene must be observed and hand-dryers only used. In the lavatory at each church there is a spray sanitiser and single use sanitising wipes for each user to wipe the seat, flush-handle, water taps, sink and door handle. Used wipes should be placed in the waste baskets provided.

All of these restrictions, whilst not what we would wish for, do not detract from the fact that we are able to receive the Lord in his Blessed Sacrament.

Please take this Service Sheet home with you and use as part of your devotions during the week.

Reflection before Mass: In this liturgy, we gather together to remember that, as disciples of the Lord, we are called to reflect the union between Father and Son in our own relationships as community and as Church. The image of vine and branches suggests that the Lord's life abides in us and sustains us. Let us open ourselves to a deeper appreciation of who we are in Christ as we celebrate this Eucharist together.

(STAND) THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Organ Introit: 'Master Tallis' Testament - Herbert Howells

As the Sacristy Bell is rung we STAND; and the priest and ministers enter the Sanctuary the Cantor sings the **Antiphon:**

O sing unto the Lord * a new song, alleluia; because marvellous deeds have been done by the Lord, alleluia; in the sight of the heathen hath he openly showed his righteousness, alleluia, alleluia.

Ps. With his own right hand and with his holy arm * hath he gotten himself the victory.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost * as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

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

The priest greets the people

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
And also with you.

ple come forward to receive the Blessed Sacrament.

I am the true vine, and ye are the branches. He who remaineth in me, and I in him, beareth much fruit, alleluia, alleluia.

1. Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel *
Thou that leadest Joseph like a flock.
2. Thou that dwellest between cherubim *
do now shine forth.
3. Before Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh *
Stir up thy strength, come and save us.

Organ Voluntary during the Distribution of Holy Communion: 'Rhosymedre' - Ralph Vaughan Williams

It is customary to kneel throughout the distribution of Holy Communion except when going forward to receive the Blessed Sacrament and upon returning to your place.

Prayer after Communion (STAND)

Let us pray.

And all pray in silence with the Priest for a while, unless the silence has just been observed.

Graciously be present to your people, we pray, O Lord, and lead those you have imbued with heavenly mysteries to pass from former ways to newness of life. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

All then pray:

**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.**

(STAND) THE CONCLUDING RITE

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Bow down for the blessing.

God the Father, by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead, strengthen you to walk with him in his risen life; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, and the Son ✠, and the Holy Spirit come down upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ., alleluia, alleluia.
Thanks be to God, alleluia, alleluia.

THE REGINA CAELI

Traditionally in the morning, at noon, and in the evening in memory of the Resurrection of the Son of God, the faithful say the following prayers, during Eastertide:

**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!**

V/. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.
R/. For the Lord is risen indeed, alleluia.

Let us pray.

O God who by the resurrection of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, didst vouchsafe to bring joy to the whole world. Grant that through his Mother, the Virgin Mary, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Recessional: 'Fugue in G Minor' - Marcel Dupré

The Organist improvises a recessional voluntary while the congregation leaves the Parish Church to sing the final hymn

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts,
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.**

The priest continues the Eucharistic Prayer of thanksgiving, recalling the command of Jesus Christ, 'Do this in memory of me.'

Priest: The mystery of faith:

**All: Save us, Saviour of the world,
for by your Cross and Resurrection
you have set us free.**

The Eucharistic Prayer continues with the priest interceding for the Church, the world, all those present at this celebration, and the Faithful Departed. At the Doxology at the end of the Eucharistic Prayer all join in the Great Amen.

Priest:for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

THE COMMUNION RITE

The Lord's Prayer

The priest introduces the Lord's Prayer.

(STAND)

**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.**

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and for ever.

Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles: Peace I leave you, my peace I give you, look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will. Who live and reign for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

The Agnus Dei

(KNEEL)

**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.**

The priest shows the consecrated Host to the people, saying:

Behold the Lamb of God,
behold him who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called
to the supper of the Lamb.

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

The Communion Antiphon is sung by the Cantor and the peo-

Penitential Rite

(STAND)

The priest invites the people to call to mind their sins and repent of them.

**Father eternal, giver of light and grace,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour,
in what we have thought,
in what we have said and done,
through ignorance, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We have wounded your love,
and marred your image in us.
We are sorry and ashamed,
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past;
and lead us out from darkness
to walk as children of light. Amen.**

The priest pronounces the general absolution

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon 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.**

The Kyries:

Kyrie, eleison.

Kyrie, eleison.

Christe, eleison.

Christe, eleison.

Kyrie, eleison.

Kyrie, eleison.

The Gloria in excelsis is said:

**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

Let us pray.

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: grant that, as by your grace going before us you put into our minds good desires, so by your continual help we may bring them to good effect; through Jesus Christ our risen Lord, 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 (SIT)

The First Reading

Acts of the Apostles 9:26-31

(New Testament Page 108 in the Bibles) tells how the recent convert Saul won the confidence of the Christians whom he had formerly persecuted. When he began to preach to his fellow-Jews he incurred their anger and they tried to kill him.

The Responsorial Psalm

(from Psalm 22)

R/. You, Lord, are my praise in the great assembly.

My vows I will pay before those who fear him.
The poor shall eat and shall have their fill.
They shall praise the Lord, those who seek him.
May their hearts live for ever and ever! ®

All the earth shall remember and return to the Lord,
all families of the nations worship before him.
They shall worship him, all the mighty of the earth;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust. ®

And my soul shall live for him, my children serve him.
They shall tell of the Lord to generations yet to come,
declare his faithfulness to peoples yet unborn:
'These things the Lord has done.' ®

The Second Reading

1 John 3: 18-24

(New Testament Page 202 in the Bibles) reminds us that Christianity makes demands on us. We cannot claim to have true faith in Jesus and true unity with his Father unless we keep the commandments.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Abide in me, and I in you, says the Lord; he who abides in me bears much fruit. **Alleluia!**

The Gospel

John 15: 1-8

(New Testament Page 93 in the Bibles) the image of the vine and the branches illustrates the depth and intimacy of our union with Christ. Those who are united to him must bring forth the fruit of good works.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

As the Gospel is announced the people respond:

✠ ✠ ✠ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

At the conclusion of the Gospel Reading:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The Homily

The Apostles' Creed

(STAND)

**I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand
of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.**

The Prayer of the Faithful

(STAND)

Celebrant: My brothers and sisters, the Lord is the vine and we are the branches. Let us pray that we, with all Christians, may abide in him, to the glory of the Father....

Intercessor: That the unity which comes from Christ the true

vine may draw all Christians to be one flock with one shepherd...

V/. Lord, in your mercy

R/. **Hear our prayer.**

That the peace which God gives us may spread through nations involved in warfare, terrorism or inner turmoil....

For our Parish and for the strengthening of our common life that, with Easter joy and hope, the forgiving love of the Spirit may free us from fear and guilt, that we may confidently proclaim his Gospel...

That the hope which comes from the risen Lord may strengthen those who are suffering in mind, body or spirit... Malcolm, Shirley, Cecilia, Christel, Joan Carrigan, Margaret DeSousa, Richard Desousa, Ronnie DeSousa, Rene Hazlewood, Fr Joseph, Lilith, Lorna, Sr Janet, James, Peter, Rosie, Susie, Dee, Stacey, Isa, Wendy, Janet, Adam Viard, Eric, Jasmine, Davida Wiseman...and for all those whom we have come here to pray for...

That the faithful departed may remain in Christ for ever, particularly we are asked to pray for the repose of the souls of...all those who have died recently... and for those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time...**2nd** Iris White, Harry Chown, Shirley Cannon, Larry Francis; **3rd** Doreen Cowan; **5th** William Mundy, Annie Morgan; **6th** Walter Hind; **7th** Sarah Godfrey, Richard Wenlock, Fanny Syrratt, Harold West, Harriet Watson; **8th** Emily Rowell, Maud Tapp, Terry Crook... and all) the faithful departed....

✠ Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord.

And let light perpetual shine upon them.

Celebrant: Almighty Father, the risen Lord Jesus dwells in you and he is the perfect mediator of our prayer. Hear us in him, we pray you, for he lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

The Gifts of Bread and Wine are placed upon the altar, as the Cantor sings the **Offertory Antiphon:**

O be joyful in God all ye lands. O be joyful in God all ye lands. O sing praises to the honour of his name; O come hither and hearken, and I will tell you, all ye who fear our God, how much hath been done by the lord, for my very soul, alleluia.

Then priest says the Offertory Prayers to which the people respond: **Blessed be God for ever.**

(STAND) Pray brethren that my sacrifice and yours 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 holy Church.

The priest says the Prayer over the Offerings:

O God, who by the wonderful exchange affected in this sacrifice have made us partakers of the one supreme Godhead, grant, we pray, that, as we have come to know your truth, we may make it ours by a worthy way of life. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

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 him thanks and praise.

The priest sings a Eucharistic Preface appropriate to the celebration, after which all join in the acclamation: (KNEEL)