

St Peter's Church, Streatham – Advent 4 2024

You are welcome at St Peter's – whether this is your first time in church, or your 1000th. Everything you need is in this booklet – please join in the **bold**. If you would like a gluten-free wafer at communion, please let a welcomer know before mass begins.

Dec 22 Advent 4	8am: Said Mass 10.30am: Parish Mass 6.30pm: Nine Lessons and Carols
Mon-Wed	NO Morning Prayer
Tues 24 Christmas Eve	3pm Children's Activities 4pm Family Crib Service 11pm Midnight Mass
Wed 25 Christmas Day	10.30am Mass of Christmas Day
Dec 28 Christmas I	10.30am: Parish Mass NB No 8am or Evensong

PRAYER CYCLE: to add/remove people, please contact Fr Steffan In our **Diocese** for all hospitals, hospices, their chaplaincies, staff and patients, & in the wider **Anglican Communion** for the Church of Uganda.

In our **parish**, that we may grow in numbers, grow in the deepening of our faith, and grow in service to our community.

Birthdays: Stevie Bailey (check sheet for others)

The Sick: Neil, Judy, Indy, Chad, Helen, Natasha, Arlette, Tyrone, Brian, Imogen, Paula, Bridget, Gabriel, Valerie, Richard, Norman, Patsy, Claude.

The Elderly & Housebound: Vera, Rupert, Godfrey, Sylvia, Cleo.

The Recently Departed: Marjorie Edwards, Germaine; **and whose Year's Mind occurs at this time:** Dick Gaster, Joseph Dapaah

Fr Steffan Mathias, Vicar	frsteffanmathias@gmail.com Fr Steffan's day off is Friday	
Fr Ben Vertannes, Assistant Curate	frbenvertannes@gmail.com Fr Ben's day off/study day are Fri/Sat	078 2154 0262

Stuck at home/hospital?

Please be in touch and the clergy would be happy to visit or pray.

New home? Fresh start?

We would be delighted to come round for a house blessing.

*Speak to Fr Ben to be added to our email list, or to request a visit.
stpeters-streatham.org. Facebook & Twitter: @StPetersSW16*

Please do join us for refreshments after the service – we love meeting new people! Refreshments are normally by the statue of Mary.

*One of the clergy can help introduce you to people
– please ask if we can be of help.*

Upcoming Dates for your Diary



Nine Lessons & Carols

Followed by Mulled Wine
and Raffle Draw



Children's Christmas

With Activities 3-4pm
and Crib service at 4-4.30pm



Midnight Mass

Come and join us as we celebrate
Jesus' Birth



Christmas Day Mass

Family Service with
Carols & Crib Scene

PARISH MASS – ORDER OF SERVICE

*As the bell rings, the Altar party enters. Please stand, if you are able.
The choir sing the traditional Advent Prose, taken from verses of Isaiah,
calling down God to bring peace and healing on earth:*

Drop down, ye heavens, from above,
and let the skies pour down righteousness.

Comfort ye, comfort ye my people,
my salvation shall not tarry:
I have blotted out as a thick cloud
thy transgressions: Fear not, for I will save thee:

For I am the Lord thy God,
the Holy One of Israel, thy Redeemer.

Drop down, ye heavens, from above,
and let the skies pour down righteousness.

Then we all sing:

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!
Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice;
tender to me the promise of his word;
in God my Savior shall my heart rejoice.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his Name!
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
his mercy sure, from age to age to same;
his holy Name--the Lord, the Mighty One.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might!
Powers and dominions lay their glory by.
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word!
Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
to children's children and for evermore!

GREETING AND WELCOME

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

The Lord be with you: **And also with you**

The priest introduces the mass.

During the lighting of the Advent candle, the choir sing:

Blessed are you, Sovereign Lord, merciful and gentle;
to you be praise and glory for ever!

Your light has shone in our darkened world
through the child-bearing of blessed Mary;
grant that we who have seen your glory
may daily be renewed in your image
and prepared like her for the coming of your Son,
who is the Lord and Saviour of all.

Blessed be God for ever.

Then we are called to confession:

When the Lord comes, he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness, and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Therefore in the light of Christ let us confess our sins. Silence, then:

Almighty God, **our heavenly Father,**
we have sinned against you and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.

We are truly sorry 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 grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name. Amen.

Then the choir sing:

Lord have mercy Kyrie Eleison
Christ have mercy Christe Eleison
Lord have mercy Kyrie Eleison

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.**

OPENING PRAYER FOR THIS SUNDAY

Let us pray. *Silence, then:*

God our redeemer,
who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary
to be the mother of your Son:
grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour,
so we may be ready to greet him
when he comes again as our judge;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Please sit for the 1ST READING A reading from the Prophet Micah (5:2-5a)

You, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old,
from ancient days.

Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labour has brought forth;
then the rest of his kindred shall return
to the people of Israel.

And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord,
in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.
And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth;
and he shall be the one of peace.

This is the word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God**

2ND READING A reading from the letter to the Hebrews (10.5–10)

⁵Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said,
‘Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,
but a body you have prepared for me;
⁶ in burnt-offerings and sin-offerings
you have taken no pleasure.

⁷ Then I said, “See, God, I have come to do your will, O God”
(in the scroll of the book it is written of me).’

⁸When he said above, ‘You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt-offerings and sin-offerings’ (these are offered according to the law), ⁹then he added, ‘See, I have come to do your will.’ He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. ¹⁰And it is by God’s will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as the music starts for the GOSPEL reading (accounts of Jesus’ life and teaching) & face the procession as it moves to the centre of church.

Alleluia! **Alleluia!** The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel, a name which means “God is with us”.

Alleluia!

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

Hear the Gospel ✠ of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord. (l.39–45 [46–55])

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, ⁴⁰where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit ⁴²and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. ⁴³And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? ⁴⁴For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. ⁴⁵And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.' And Mary said,
 'My soul magnifies the Lord,
⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,
⁴⁸ for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant.
 Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
⁴⁹ for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
 and holy is his name.
⁵⁰ His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.
 ⁵¹ He has shown strength with his arm;
 he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.
⁵² He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,
 and lifted up the lowly;
 ⁵³ he has filled the hungry with good things,
 and sent the rich away empty.
⁵⁴ He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy,
 ⁵⁵ according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
 to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.'

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

SERMON, *then silence for reflection.*

Then, we stand for THE CREED:

**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,
[All bow for] *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.**

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

please feel free to sit or kneel

After each prayer, the leader may say:

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

After praying for the dead, they may say:

✠ Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord:

and let light perpetual shine upon them.

Then: 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.

The priest ends the prayers: ...Jesus Christ: Amen

THE PEACE:

In the tender mercy of our God, the dayspring from on high shall break upon us, to give light to those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

The Peace of the Lord be always with you:

and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

We turn to our neighbour and say 'peace be with you', or shake hands

OFFERTORY: *The gifts of bread and wine are brought forward. During the hymn, a collection is taken: you are welcome to make a donation or, if you would like, you can use a card reader at the back of the church.*

1 SING we of the blessed Mother
who received the angels word,
And obedient to his summons
bore in love the infant Lord;
Sing we of the Joys of Mary
at whose breast that child was fed
Who is Son of God eternal
and the everlasting Bread.

2 Sing we, too, of Mary's sorrows,
of the sword that pierced her through,
When beneath the cross of Jesus
she his weight of suffering knew,
Looked upon her Son and Saviour
reigning from the awful tree,
Saw the price of man's redemption
paid to set the sinner free.

3 Sing again the joys of Mary
when she saw the risen Lord,
And in prayer with Christ's apostles,
waited on his promised word:
From on high the blazing glory
of the Spirit's presence came,
Heavenly breath of God's own being,
Tokened in the wind and flame.

4 Sing the chiefest joy of Mary
when on earth her work was done,
And the Lord of all creation
brought her to his heavenly home:
Virgin Mother, Mary blessed,
Raised on high and crowned with grace,
May thy Son, the world's redeemer,
Grant us all to see his face.

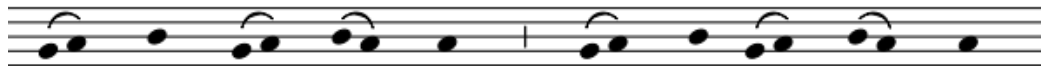
PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS AT THE ALTAR

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

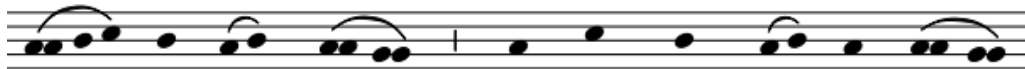
**May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the
praise and glory of his name, for our good, and the good
of all his Church.**

Look upon us in mercy not in judgement; draw us from hatred to love;
make the frailty of our praise a dwelling place for your glory.
Though Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE EUCHARIST – HOLY COMMUNION



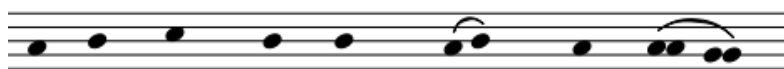
The Lord be with you **R.** and al-so with you.



Lift up your hearts. **R. We lift them to the Lord.**



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is right to give thanks and praise.

The priest praises God for his acts, and then we join with the angels in their song of praise, as the choir sing (in English or Latin):

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.

The priest, recalling the last supper of Jesus and his disciples, prays that the bread and wine may become the body and blood of Christ.

After elevating the host and chalice, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Great is the mystery of faith:

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

The priest then prays for the church and the world, and the gift of God's spirit, ending as the priest elevates the gifts...



for ev-er and ev-er. **A-men.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER



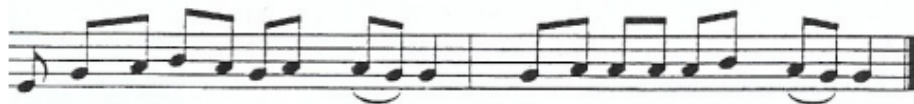
Our Fa - ther, who art in hea - ven, Hal - low - ed be thy name. Thy king - dom come;



thy will be done, on earth as it is in hea - ven. Give us this day our dai - ly bread,



and for - give us our tres - pas - ses, as we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst us,



and lead us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us from e - vil.

Deliver us, Lord, from every evil, and grant us peace in our day.
In your mercy keep us free from sin and protect us from all anxiety as
we wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever.**

As the host (body of Christ) is broken, the choir sings (in English or Latin):
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.

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

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

RECEIVING OF COMMUNION

*Please come forward to receive communion after the choir.
Christians of any denomination are welcome to receive communion.*

If you would like a blessing, ask as you approach, or cross your arms over your chest, and this will be given – or feel free to stay in your pew.

The choir sings a motet: The Angel Gabriel (trad. arr. Poyser)

Then we sing:

1 Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
Born to set thy people free,
From our fears and sins release us,
Let us find our rest in thee.

2 Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth thou art,
Dear desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.

3 Born thy people to deliver,
Born a child and yet a king,
Born to reign in us for ever,
Now thy gracious kingdom bring.

4 By Thine own eternal Spirit,
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By thine all-sufficient merit
Raise us to thy glorious throne.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Please stand.

Heavenly Father,
who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary
to be the mother of the promised saviour:
fill us your servants with your grace,
that in all things we may embrace your holy will
and with her rejoice in your salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

THE BLESSING

The Lord be with you

And also with you

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you, scatter the darkness from before your path, and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

Go in the peace of Christ: **Thanks be to God.**

We then sing:

LO! he comes with clouds descending,
Once for favoured sinners slain;
Thousand thousand saints attending
Swell the triumph of his train:
Alleluya! Alleluya! Alleluya!
God appears, on earth to reign.

Every eye shall now behold him
Robed in dreadful majesty;
Those who set at nought and sold him,
Pierced and nailed him to the tree,
Deeply wailing, Deeply wailing, Deeply wailing
Shall the true Messiah see.

Those dear tokens of his passion
Still his dazzling body bears,
Cause of endless exultation
To his ransomed worshippers:
With what rapture, With what rapture,
With what rapture
Gaze we on those glorious scars!

Yea, Amen! let all adore thee,
High on thine eternal throne;
Saviour, take the power and glory:
Claim the kingdom for thine own:
O come quickly! O come quickly!
O come quickly!
Alleluya! Come, Lord, come!