

St Mary-at-Finchley

Parish Eucharist with Holy Baptism

14th April 2024

The Gathering

Processional Hymn 45 At the Lamb's high feast we sing

At the Lamb's high feast we sing
praise to our victorious King,
who hath washed us in the tide
flowing from his pierced side;
praise we him, whose love divine
gives his sacred Blood for wine,
gives his Body for the feast,
Christ the victim, Christ the priest.

Where the Paschal blood is poured,
death's dark angel sheathes his sword;
Israel's hosts triumphant go
through the wave that drowns the foe.
Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed,
Paschal victim, Paschal bread;
with sincerity and love
eat we manna from above.

Mighty victim from above,
conqu'ring by the pow'r of love;
thou hast conquered in the fight,
thou hast brought us life and light:
now no more can death appal,
now no more the grave entral;
thou hast opened paradise,
and in thee thy saints shall rise.

Easter triumph, Easter joy,
nothing now can this destroy;
from sin's power do thou set free
souls newborn, O Lord, in thee.
Hymns of glory and of praise,
Risen Lord, to thee we raise;
Holy Father, praise to thee,
with the Spirit, ever be.

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

The Greeting

Alleluia! Christ is risen
He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

The service is introduced

Gloria in Excelsis

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 Father,
who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples
with the sight of the risen Lord:
give us such knowledge of his presence with us,
that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life
and serve you continually in righteousness and truth;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

Readings

Sit

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (3. 12 - 19)

When Peter saw it, he addressed the people, 'You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

'And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out,

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 4

Let the light of your face shine on us, O Lord.

Answer me when I call, O God of my right!

You gave me room when I was in distress.

Be gracious to me, and hear my prayer.

Let the light of your face shine on us, O Lord.

How long, you people, shall my honour suffer shame?

How long will you love vain words, and seek after lies?

But know that the Lord has set apart the faithful for himself;
the Lord hears when I call to him.

Let the light of your face shine on us, O Lord.

When you are disturbed, do not sin;

ponder it on your beds, and be silent.

Offer right sacrifices,

and put your trust in the Lord.

Let the light of your face shine on us, O Lord.

There are many who say, 'O that we might see some good!

Let the light of your face shine on us, O Lord!'

Let the light of your face shine on us, O Lord.

You have put gladness in my heart

more than when their grain and wine abound.

I will both lie down and sleep in peace;

for you alone, O Lord, make me lie down in safety.

Let the light of your face shine on us, O Lord.

A reading from the first letter of John (3. 1 - 7)

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin.

No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

Alleluia, alleluia.

I am the first and the last, says the Lord, and the living one;

I was dead, and behold I am alive for evermore.

Alleluia!

The Lord be with you
And also with you

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (24. 36b - 48)
Glory to you, O Lord.

While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, 'Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.' And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.' Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

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

Sit
Sermon – Nigel Wildish

Following the sermon everyone is encouraged to follow the servers, the clergy and the candidates to the font for the baptism

Presentation of the candidates

The president then says to those being baptised

Faith is the gift of God to his people.

In baptism the Lord is adding to our number those whom he is calling.

People of God, will you welcome *this child* and uphold her in her new life in Christ?

With the help of God, we will.

The president then says to the parents and godparents

Parents and godparents, the Church receives *this child* with joy. Today we are trusting God for *her* growth in faith. Will you pray for her, draw her by your example into the community of faith and walk with *her* in the way of Christ?

With the help of God, we will.

In baptism *this child* begins her journey in faith. You speak for her today. Will you care for her, and help *her* to take *her* place within the life and worship of Christ's Church?

With the help of God, we will.

Decision

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light. To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him. Therefore I ask:

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?

I reject them.

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

I renounce them.

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?

I repent of them.

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

I turn to Christ.

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

I submit to Christ.

Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?

I come to Christ.

Signing with the Cross

The president makes the sign of the cross on the forehead of each candidate, saying

Christ claims you for his own.
Receive the sign of his cross.

The president invites sponsors to sign the candidates with the cross.

Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.

**Fight valiantly as a disciple of Christ
against sin, the world and the devil,
and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.**

May almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness,
restore in you the image of his glory,
and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ. **Amen.**

Prayer over the water

The president stands before the water of baptism and says

Praise God who made heaven and earth,
who keeps his promise for ever.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

Father, for your gift of water in creation,
we give you thanks and praise.

For your Spirit, sweeping over the waters,
bringing light and life,
we give you thanks and praise.

For your Son Jesus Christ our Lord,
baptized in the river Jordan,
we give you thanks and praise.

For your new creation,
brought to birth by water and the Spirit,
we give you thanks and praise.

For your grace bestowed upon us your children,
washing away our sins,
we give you thanks and praise.

Father, accept our sacrifice of praise; may your holy and life-giving Spirit
move upon these waters.
Lord, receive our prayer.

Restore through them the beauty of your creation, and bring those who
are baptized to new birth in the family of your Church.
Lord, receive our prayer.

Anoint your children with power from on high, and make them one with
Christ in the freedom of your kingdom.
Lord, receive our prayer.

For all might, majesty, dominion and power are yours,
now and for ever.
Alleluia. Amen.

Profession of faith

Let us affirm, together with these who are being baptized,
our common faith in Jesus Christ.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist?
I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again?

I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world?

I believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith.

**We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

Baptism

The president pours water on each candidate, saying

Philippa Heide, I baptize you
in the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The president says

May God, who has received you by baptism into his Church,
pour upon you the riches of his grace,
that within the company of Christ's pilgrim people
you may daily be renewed by his anointing Spirit,
and come to the inheritance of the saints in glory. **Amen.**

Intercessions – Remain standing for a short time of prayer

Welcome

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism:

N and N, by one Spirit we are all baptized into one body.

**We welcome you into the fellowship of faith;
we are children of the same heavenly Father;
we welcome you.**

The congregation greet the newly baptized.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

Stand

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

The peace of the risen Christ be always with you
and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

Offertory Hymn 158 Glorious things

Glorious things of thee are spoken,
Zion, city of our God;
he, whose word cannot be broken
formed thee for His own abode.
On the Rock of Ages founded
what can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded,
thou may'st smile at all thy foes

See, the streams of living waters,
springing from eternal love,
well supply thy sons and daughters,
and all fear of want remove.
Who can faint, while such a river

ever flows their thirst to assuage?
Grace which, like the Lord, the giver,
never fails from age to age

Round each habitation hov'ring,
see the cloud and fire appear
for a glory and a cov'ring,
showing that the Lord is near.
Thus they march, the pillar leading,
light by night and shade by day,
daily on the manna feeding
which He gives them when they pray.

Saviour, if of Zion's city
I, through grace, a member am,
let the world deride or pity
I will glory in Thy name.
Fading is the worldling's pleasure,
boasted pomp and empty show;
solid joys and lasting treasure
none but Zion's children know

The Offertory

A Hymn is sung as the elements of bread and wine are brought to the altar and the gifts of the people are collected.

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

Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:
through your goodness we have this wine to set before you,
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.

It will become for us the cup of salvation.

Blessed be God for ever.

Eucharistic Prayer 1

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 thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
almighty and eternal Father,
and in these days of Easter
to celebrate with joyful hearts
the memory of your wonderful works.

For by the mystery of his passion

Jesus Christ, your risen Son,

has conquered the powers of death and hell

and restored in men and women the image of your glory.

He has placed them once more in paradise

and opened to them the gate of life eternal.

And so, in the joy of this Passover,

earth and heaven resound with gladness,

while angels and archangels and the powers of all creation

sing for ever the hymn of your glory:

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 praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command,
send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.
On the night before he died he had supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross.
Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection
until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

Lord of all life,
help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.
Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms

and bring us with the Blessed Virgin Mary and all the saints
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,
for ever and ever.

Amen.

***Kneel* The Lord's Prayer**

Rejoicing in God's new creation let us pray as our Saviour taught us

**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.**

Breaking of Bread

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.
**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

Agnus Dei

**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.**

Giving of Communion

Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Communicant members of all Christian Churches are welcome to receive Communion, anyone is welcome to come forward to receive a blessing.

During Communion: 509 This joyful Eastertide

Kneel Prayer after Communion

Silence is kept.

Living God,
your Son made himself known to his disciples
in the breaking of bread:
open the eyes of our faith,
that we may see him in all his redeeming work;
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.
Amen.

**Faithful God,
in baptism you have adopted us as your children,
made us members of the body of Christ
and chosen us as inheritors of your kingdom:
we thank you that in this Eucharist
you renew your promises within us,
empower us by your Spirit to witness and to serve,
and send us out as disciples of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

The Notices

Post Communion Hymn 495 The strife is o'er

The strife is o'er, the battle done;
now is the Victor's triumph won;
O let the song of praise be sung:
Alleluia!

Death's mightiest powers have done their worst;
and Jesus hath his foes dispersed;
Let shouts of holy joy outburst:
Alleluia!

On the third morn he rose again
glorious in majesty to reign;
O let us swell the joyful strain:
Alleluia!

Lord, by the stripes which wounded Thee,
From death's dread sting Thy servants free,
That we may live, and sing to Thee:
Alleluia!

Blessing and Dismissal

The president gives each of the newly baptized a lighted candle, these are lit from the Easter candle.

When all the newly baptized have received a candle, the president says

God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness
and has given us a place with the saints in light.

You have received the light of Christ;
walk in this light all the days of your life.

**Shine as a light in the world
to the glory of God the Father.**

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, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

With the risen life of Christ within you,
go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia

The ministers and people depart.

The picture on the front depicting the new Easter candle is by the artist Steve Erspamer
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