

**St Mary-at-Finchley  
Parish Eucharist  
10am  
Baptism of Christ  
12<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

**The Gathering**

**Stand** A hymn is sung as the choir, servers and clergy enter

**Processional Hymn** 171 God is our strength

*Please use the hymn book*

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

**Amen.**

**The Greeting**

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

**Kneel**

**Prayers of Penitence**

Because God was merciful,

he saved us through the water of rebirth  
and the renewing power of the Holy Spirit.  
But through sin we have fallen away from our baptism.  
Let us return to the Lord and renew our faith in his promises  
by confessing our sins in penitence.

**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.**

May God who loved the world so much  
that he sent his Son to be our Saviour  
forgive us our sins  
and make us holy to serve him in the world,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### **Gloria in Excelsis** (*Poston Mass*)

**Gloria, gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo,  
Glory, glory, glory be to thee,  
And peace to his people here on earth.  
Laudamus te, benedicimus te, adoramus te,  
We praise thee, we bless thee, we adore thee,  
We glorify thee, glorificamus, glorify thee, glorificamus,  
We give thee thanks for thy great glory.  
Domine Deus, Rex caelestis,  
Deus Pater omnipotens,  
Only Son of the Father, Jesus Christ,  
Thou who takest away the sins of the world,**

**Have mercy on us,  
Thou who takest away the sins of the world,  
Receive our prayer,  
Thou who art at the right hand of the Father  
Have mercy on us,  
Solus sanctus, quoniam tu solus sanctus,  
Thou alone art the Lord,  
Thou alone most high, Jesus Christ,  
With the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

## **The Collect**

Let us pray

Eternal Father,  
who at the baptism of Jesus  
revealed him to be your Son,  
anointing him with the Holy Spirit:  
grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit,  
that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children;  
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.**

## **The Liturgy of the Word**

### **Readings**

Sit

**A reading from the prophet Isaiah (43. 1 - 7)**

But now thus says the Lord,

he who created you, O Jacob,  
he who formed you, O Israel:  
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;  
I have called you by name, you are mine.  
When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;  
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;  
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,  
and the flame shall not consume you.  
For I am the Lord your God,  
the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour.  
I give Egypt as your ransom,  
Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.  
Because you are precious in my sight,  
and honoured, and I love you,  
I give people in return for you,  
nations in exchange for your life.  
Do not fear, for I am with you;  
I will bring your offspring from the east,  
and from the west I will gather you;  
I will say to the north, 'Give them up',  
and to the south, 'Do not withhold';  
bring my sons from far away  
and my daughters from the end of the earth—  
everyone who is called by my name,  
whom I created for my glory,  
whom I formed and made.'

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm 29**

**May the Lord bless his people with peace.**

Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings,  
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.  
Ascribe to the Lord the glory of his name;  
worship the Lord in holy splendour.

**May the Lord bless his people with peace.**

The voice of the Lord is over the waters;  
the God of glory thunders,  
the Lord, over mighty waters.

The voice of the Lord is powerful;  
the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.

**May the Lord bless his people with peace.**

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars;  
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon.

He makes Lebanon skip like a calf,  
and Sirion like a young wild ox.

**May the Lord bless his people with peace.**

The voice of the Lord flashes forth flames of fire.

The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness;  
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

**May the Lord bless his people with peace.**

The voice of the Lord causes the oaks to whirl,  
and strips the forest bare;  
and in his temple all say, 'Glory!'

**May the Lord bless his people with peace.**

The Lord sits enthroned over the flood;  
the Lord sits enthroned as king for ever.

May the Lord give strength to his people!

May the Lord bless his people with peace!

## **A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (8.14-17)**

Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel Reading**

Alleluia, alleluia.

This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.

**Alleluia.**

The Lord be with you

**And also with you**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (3.15-17, 21-22)

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sit**

*The Rector*

**Sermon**

*Water is brought*

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe: you bring waters out of the stony rock. For with you is the well of life, and in your light shall we see light.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

*The water is poured out with these words:*

The springs of water were made holy when Christ appeared on earth. Draw water from the wells of salvation; for, by his baptism, Christ our God has made the whole creation one.

*Prayer over the water*

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.**

Drown sin in the waters of judgement, 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.**

## **Renewal of Baptismal Vows**

*The Paschal Candle is lit*

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 turn to Christ?

**I turn to Christ.**

Do you repent of your sins?

**I repent of my sins.**

Do you renounce evil?

**I renounce evil.**

May almighty God who has given you the desire to follow Christ give you the strength to continue in the way.

Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess the faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

**I believe 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 to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

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

Almighty God, we thank you for our fellowship in the household of faith with all who have been baptized into your name. Keep us faithful to our baptism, and so make us ready for that day when the whole creation shall be made perfect in your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith, that you may be rooted and grounded in love and bring forth the fruit of the Spirit.

**Amen.**

*The water may be sprinkled over the people*

***Kneel***

**Prayers of Intercession**

In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ,  
let us pray to the Father.

Merciful Father,  
**accept these prayers  
for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

*The Liturgy of the Sacrament*

***Stand***

**The Peace**

God has made us one in Christ. He has set his seal upon us, and as a pledge of what is to come has given the Spirit to dwell in our hearts.  
Alleluia!

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*All may exchange a sign of peace.*

**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.*

## **Offertory Hymn 111 Do not be afraid**

*Do not be afraid,  
For I have redeemed you.  
I have called you by your name;  
You are mine.*

When you walk through the waters I'll be with you,  
You will never sink beneath the waves.

When the fire is burning all around you,  
You will never be consumed by the flames.

When the fear of loneliness is looming,  
Then remember I am at your side.

When you dwell in the exile of a stranger,  
Remember you are precious in my eyes.

You are mine, O my child; I am your father,  
And I love you with a perfect love.

## **Prayer over the gifts**

Open the heavens, Lord our God, and send your transforming Spirit on us and on these gifts. May we who are baptized into Christ be ready to share his cup of suffering and strengthened to serve him for ever.

**Amen.**

## ***Stand*                      Eucharistic Prayer (Poston Mass)**

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 truly right and just,  
our duty and our salvation,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
holy Father, almighty and eternal God.  
You celebrated your new gift of baptism  
in signs and wonders at the Jordan.

Your voice was heard from heaven  
to awaken faith in the presence among us  
of your Word made flesh.

Your Spirit was seen as a dove,  
revealing Jesus as your servant,  
and anointing him with the oil of gladness  
to preach the good news to the poor.

Therefore, as we celebrate the union of earth and heaven,  
we rejoice to echo the song of the angels in heaven  
for ever praising you and singing:

**Sanctus, sanctus Dominus, sanctus, Deus,  
Holy, holy, holy one, holy Lord  
Heav'n and earth are full of thy glory, glory be to thee, glory be,  
O my Lord most high, glory be to thee,  
Sanctus, sanctus Dominus, sanctus, Deus,  
Holy, holy, holy one, holy, holy Lord**

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 Mary the God-bearer  
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**

Believing the promises of God, as our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**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**

**Agnus Dei, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world.  
Agnus Dei, Lamb of God, grant us all of your peace.  
Agnus Dei, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world.  
Agnus Dei, Lamb of God, grant us all of your peace.**

## **Giving of Communion**

God's holy gifts  
for God's holy people.  
**Jesus Christ is holy,  
Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.**

*Communicant members of all Christian Churches are welcome to receive Holy Communion in this Church. Anyone is welcome to come forward for to receive a blessing.*

During Communion: Stanford, *O for a closer walk with God*

**Kneel**

**Prayer after Communion**

*Silence is kept.*

*The Post Communion prayer is said.*

Lord of all time and eternity,  
you opened the heavens and revealed yourself as Father  
in the baptism of Jesus your beloved Son:  
by the power of your Spirit  
complete the heavenly work of our rebirth  
through the waters of the new creation;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**God of glory,  
you inspire us with the breath of life  
which brought to birth a new world in Christ.  
May we who are reborn in him  
be transformed by the renewal of our lives,  
that the light of your new creation  
may flood the world with your abundant grace;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## The Notices

**Stand** A hymn is sung

### **Post Communion Hymn** 451 Songs of thankfulness and praise

Songs of thankfulness and praise,  
Jesus, Lord, to you we raise,  
manifested by the star  
to the Magi from afar,  
branch of royal David's stem,  
in your birth at Bethlehem.  
Anthems be to you addressed,  
God in man made manifest.  
Manifest at Jordan's stream,  
Prophet, Priest, and King supreme,  
and at Cana, wedding guest,  
in your Godhead manifest;  
manifest in pow'r divine,  
changing water into wine.  
Anthems be to you addressed,  
God in man made manifest.  
Manifest in making whole  
palsied limbs and fainting soul;  
manifest in valiant fight,  
quelling all the devil's might;  
manifest in gracious will,  
ever bringing good from ill:  
Anthems be to you addressed,  
God in man made manifest.  
Sun and moon shall darkened be,  
stars shall fall, the heav'ns shall flee.  
Christ will then like lightning shine;  
all will see his glorious sign.  
All will then the trumpet hear,  
all will see the judge appear.

You by all will be confessed,  
God in man made manifest.  
Grant us grace to see you, Lord,  
mirrored in your holy Word.  
May our lives and all we do  
imitate and honor you  
that we all like you may be  
at your great epiphany  
and may praise you, ever blest,  
God in man made manifest.

## **The Dismissal**

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

May God the Father,  
who led the wise men by the shining of a star  
to find the Christ, the Light from light,  
lead you in your pilgrimage to find the Lord.

**Amen.**

May God the Son,  
who turned water into wine at the wedding feast at Cana,  
transform your lives and make glad your hearts.

**Amen.**

May God the Holy Spirit,  
who came upon the beloved Son  
at his baptism in the river Jordan,  
pour out his gifts on you  
who have come to the waters of new birth.

**Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

We have come to Christ, the living water.  
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

*The ministers and people depart.*

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Third Edition – December 2006

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