



THE BENEFICE of PONTEFRACT

# ST GILES'

with ST MARY'S



The Third Sunday of Epiphany  
21<sup>st</sup> January 2024 - 10.15 a.m.

We welcome you to this celebration of Parish Mass  
for the Third Sunday of Epiphany.

Today's setting for mass is Lourdes and A Kilcreggan Mass

People of all denominations who are in good standing with their own church  
are welcome to come and receive communion. If you wish to receive a  
blessing, please come to the altar carrying this order of service.

Please let clergy or a churchwarden know at the beginning of the service if  
you need a gluten-free host.

5 minutes before the service begins, a bell will ring to signal that a period of quiet  
reflection is kept during which you may wish to use this prayer.

**Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you,  
and worthily magnify your holy name;  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen**

A bell is rung to begin our worship.

### Parish Giving

It costs us at least £2,000 per week to carry out our ministry, mission and basic maintenance of this lovely building. One off cash donations can be made in the box in reception just by the entrance door into church. Contactless payments can be made using our free-standing contactless giving machine located in church. It is also possible to donate using our QR code which links to a safe and secure 'Give a little' payment portal which is compliant with GDPR, PCI & PCI-DSS.

1. Open your phone camera 2. Scan the QR code 3. Click the link displayed 4. Donate



# The Gathering

## Introit Hymn (490)

***Judge eternal, throned in splendour,  
Lord of lords and King of kings,  
With your living fire of judgment  
Purge this realm of bitter things;  
Solace all its wide dominion  
With the healing of thy wings.***

***Still the weary folk are pining  
For the hour that brings release,  
And the city's crowded clangour  
Cries aloud for sin to cease,  
And the homesteads and the woodlands  
Plead in silence for their peace.***

***Crown, O God, thine own endeavour;  
Cleave our darkness with thy sword;  
Feed the faithless and the hungry  
With the richness of thy word:  
Cleanse the body of this nation  
Through the glory of the Lord.***



Henry Scott Holland

†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.**

*Words of welcome or introduction may be said*

## Invitation to confession

Our Lord Jesus Christ says,

‘A new commandment I give you,  
that you love one another as I have loved you.’

Let us confess to almighty God  
our failure to accept his love and to share it with others.

Lord Jesus, in your love you invite us to be your friends:

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, in your joy you choose us to go out and bear fruit:

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, in your power you send us to be your faithful witnesses:

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

*The president says*

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 (Lourdes)

**Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo.**

**Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo.**

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.

**Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo.**

**Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo.**

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,

Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take away the sins of the world:

have mercy on us;

you are seated at the right hand of the Father:

receive our prayer.

**Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo.**

**Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo.**

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.

**Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo.**

**Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo.**

**The Collect** for the Third Sunday of Epiphany.

Let us pray.

*Silence is kept.*

Almighty God,

whose Son revealed in signs and miracles

the wonder of your saving presence:

renew your people with your heavenly grace,

and in all our weakness

sustain us by your mighty power;

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

## First Reading

Revelation 19. 6 - 10

A reading from the book of Revelation

I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the sound of many waters and like the sound of mighty thunder-peals, crying out,

'Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns. Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready; to her it has been granted to be clothed with fine linen, bright and pure' – for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints.

And the angel said to me, 'Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.' And he said to me, 'These are true words of God.' Then I fell down at his feet to worship him, but he said to me, 'You must not do that! I am a fellow-servant with you and your comrades who hold the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.'

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Alleluia

## Gospel Reading

John 2. 1 - 11

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

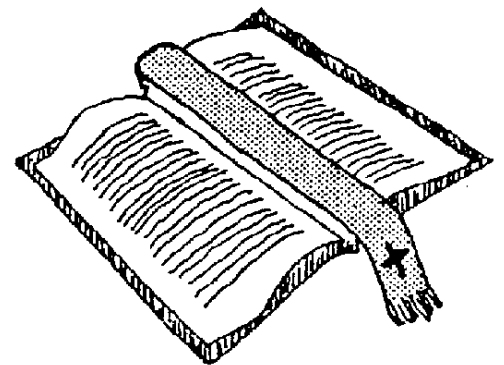
Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

There was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' And Jesus said to her, 'Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.' His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' Now standing there were six stone water-jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, 'Fill the jars with water.' And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, 'Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.' So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, 'Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.' Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Sermon



# The Apostles' Creed

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

**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.**

**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.**

# A Prayer for the Benefice

**Faithful God,**

**During this vacancy, fill us with vision and joy  
and keep us faithful in prayer, word and worship.**

**Guard and grow our church as we serve you together.**

**Help us to share responsibility, grow in faith,  
love one another, care for those in need,  
reach out to others, and welcome newcomers and visitors.**

**Sustain those in interim leadership,  
and bless Ian, our next Vicar, as he prepares to join us.**

**Ever-living God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
may we see your kingdom come here in Pontefract,  
to the glory of your name.**

**Amen.**



# Prayers of Intercession

Let us worship the Saviour with joy  
and make our prayer to our heavenly Father.

*After each prayer:*                    Lord, in your mercy  
**hear our prayer.**

*We pray for those for whom prayers have been requested:*

Joe; Beryl; Marion; Richard; Brenda; Victoria; Terry; Joe & Mark; Janis Gallagher;  
Mary Sambrooks; Linda Sambrooks; Bill Bradley; Brian Ward; Cath Godridge;  
Rhys Williams; Angela Hyomes; Owen Murray; David Murray; Andrew Leach;  
Janet Hickling; Jenny Attwood (Priest); Margaret Kidger; Christine Campbell;  
Barry Sowerby.

*We pray for those who have recently died:*

*Those whose year's mind falls at this time*

Wallace Jeffery; Arthur Mercer; Robert Cooper; Stanley Firth; Kathleen  
Fearnside; James Leo Lemmon; Ann Veronica Sanderson.

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

*St Giles 3:16 Return.*

# The Liturgy of the Sacrament

## The Peace

Let the peace of God,  
which surpasses all understanding,  
guard our hearts and our minds  
in Christ Jesus.

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.*

## Preparation of the Altar

### Offertory Hymn (56)

**Songs of thankfulness and praise,  
Jesus, Lord, to Thee we raise,  
manifested by the star  
to the sages from afar;  
branch of royal David's stem  
in Thy birth at Bethlehem;  
anthems be to Thee addressed,  
God in Man made manifest.**

**Manifest at Jordan's stream,  
Prophet, Priest and King supreme;  
and at Cana, wedding guest,  
in Thy Godhead manifest;  
manifest in power divine,  
changing water into wine;  
anthems be to Thee 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 Thee addressed,  
God in Man made manifest.**

**Sun and moon shall darkened be,  
stars shall fall, the heavens 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;  
Thou by all wilt be confessed,  
God in Man made manifest.**

**Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord,  
mirrored in Thy holy Word;  
may we imitate Thee now,  
and be pure, as pure art Thou;  
that we like to Thee may be  
at Thy great Epiphany;  
and may praise Thee, ever blest,  
God in Man made manifest.**

Christopher Wordsworth

## Taking of the Bread and Wine

Lord, hear the prayers of your people  
as we celebrate this memorial of our salvation.  
May this sacrament of your love  
unite us more closely to you and to each other.  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## Prayer over the Gifts

Pray, my brothers and sisters that this 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 church.**

# The Eucharistic Prayer

*Please be seated.*

The Lord is here.

**His Spirit is with us.**

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.**

Father, all-powerful and ever-living God,  
we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

By him, your only Son,  
who restored to us peace through the blood of his cross,  
you willed to reconcile all creatures.

In him you have led us to the knowledge of your truth,  
that bound together by one faith and one baptism  
we might become his body.

Through him you have given your Holy Spirit to all peoples  
to work marvels by innumerable gifts  
and an abundant variety of graces.

Gathering us together in unity,  
your Spirit dwells in the hearts of all your children,  
filling the whole Church with his presence  
and guiding it with wisdom from above.

And so, with steadfast love,  
we proclaim your glory  
and join with hosts of angels  
in their triumphant hymn of praise:

## Sanctus & Benedictus

**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 Our Lady, Giles 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.**

## The Lord's Prayer

Seeking God's grace in our lives, 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 the Bread

*The president breaks the consecrated bread.*

We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.

**God here among us,  
light in the midst of us,  
bring us to light and life.**

## Agnus Dei

**Jesus, Lamb of God,  
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins,  
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, redeemer of the world,  
give us your peace.**

## Giving of Communion

*The president says the invitation to communion.*

Draw near with faith.

Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ  
which he gave for you,  
and his blood which he shed for you.

Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you,  
and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

**Amen.**

*The clergy and people receive communion.*

## Organ Voluntary

### Hymn (499)

**Thy kingdom come, O God!  
Thy rule, O Christ begin!  
Break with Thine iron rod  
the tyrannies of sin!**

**Where is Thy reign of peace,  
and purity and love?  
When shall all hatred cease,  
as in the realms above?**

**When comes the promised time  
that war shall be no more,  
and lust, oppression, crime  
shall flee Thy face before?**

**We pray Thee, Lord, arise,  
and come in Thy great might;  
revive our longing eyes,  
which languish for Thy sight.**

**O'er lands both near and far  
thick darkness broodeth yet:  
arise, O Morning Star,  
arise, and never set!**

Lewis Hensley

## Choir Anthem

*The carol of the star - Tertius Noble*

## Prayer after Communion

*Silence is kept.*

Let us pray.

**Almighty Father, whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ  
is the light of the world:**

**may your people,  
illumined by your word and sacraments,  
shine with the radiance of his glory,  
that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed  
to the ends of the earth;  
for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.**

**Amen.**

*Notices are given*



# The Blessing and Dismissal

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

The Lord Jesus Christ,  
Son of the living God,  
teach you to walk in his way more trustfully,  
to accept his truth more faithfully,  
and to share his life more lovingly;  
that by the power of the Holy Spirit  
you may come as one family to the kingdom of the Father.  
And the blessing ...

## Hymn

***And can it be that I should gain  
an int'rest in the Saviour's blood?  
Died He for me, who caused His pain?  
For me, who Him to death pursued?  
Amazing love! How can it be  
that Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?  
Amazing love! How can it be  
that Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?***

***'Tis mystery all! The Immortal dies!  
Who can explore His strange design?  
In vain the firstborn seraph tries  
to sound the depths of love Divine!  
'Tis mercy all! Let earth adore,  
let angel minds inquire no more.  
'Tis mercy all! Let earth adore,  
let angel minds inquire no more.***

**He left His Father's throne above,  
so free, so infinite His grace;  
emptied Himself of all but love,  
and bled for Adam's helpless race.**

**'Tis mercy all, immense and free;  
for, O my God, it found out me.**

**'Tis mercy all, immense and free;  
for, O my God, it found out me.**

**Long my imprisoned spirit lay  
fast bound in sin and nature's night;  
Thine eye diffused a quickening ray,  
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;  
my chains fell off, my heart was free,  
I rose, went forth, and followed Thee.  
My chains fell off, my heart was free,  
I rose, went forth, and followed Thee.**

**No condemnation now I dread;  
Jesus, and all in Him, is mine!  
Alive in Him, my living Head,  
and clothed in righteousness Divine.  
Bold I approach the eternal throne,  
and claim the crown, through Christ my own.  
Bold I approach the eternal throne,  
and claim the crown, through Christ my own.**

Charles Wesley

**Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
In the name of Christ. Amen.**

*The clergy and people depart.*

Organ Voluntary

Today's service sheet is sponsored in loving memory of

**Harold Vine,**  
22 January 1909 - 9 October 1997.

Forever loved.

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