



*St Thomas of Canterbury,
the Parish Church for
Brentwood*

All-Age Mass



Fifteenth Sunday after
Trinity

Sunday 13th September 2026

These prayers are suitable as preparation for Mass

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

From the Book of Common Prayer

Almighty and ever-living God, I approach the sacrament of Your only-begotten Son Our Lord Jesus Christ, I come sick to the doctor of life, unclean to the fountain of mercy, blind to the radiance of eternal light, and poor and needy to the Lord of heaven and earth. Lord, in your great generosity, heal my sickness, wash away my defilement, enlighten my blindness, enrich my poverty, and clothe my nakedness. May I receive the bread of angels, the King of kings and Lord of lords, with humble reverence, with the purity and faith, the repentance and love, and the determined purpose that will help to bring me to salvation. May I receive the sacrament of the Lord's Body and Blood, and its reality and power.

Kind God, may I receive the Body of Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, born from the womb of the Virgin Mary, and so be received into His mystical body and numbered among His members. Loving Father, as on my earthly pilgrimage I now receive Your beloved Son under the veil of a sacrament, may I one day see him face to face in glory, who lives and reigns with You for ever. Amen

St Thomas Aquinas

It is our custom to keep a prayerful silence before Mass

STAND when the bell rings. At 10.00, we sing the entrance hymn as the sacred ministers enter, and the altar is censed.

Processional Hymn

NEH 263



All All creatures of our God and King,
Lift up your voice and with us sing
Alleluya, alleluya!
Thou burning sun with golden beam,
Thou silver moon with softer gleam:

Refrain

*O praise him, O praise him
Alleluya, Alleluya, Alleluya!*

Thou rushing wind that art so strong,
Ye clouds that sail in heaven along,
O praise him! Alleluya!
Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice,
Ye lights of evening, find a voice:

Refrain

Thou flowing water, pure and clear,
Make music for thy Lord to hear,
Alleluya, Alleluya!
Thou fire so masterful and bright,
That givest man both warmth and light:

Refrain

Dear mother earth, who day by day
Unfoldest blessings on our way,
O praise him, Alleluya!
The flowers and fruits that in thee grow,
Let them his glory also show:

Refrain

Let all things their Creator bless,
And worship him in humbleness,
O praise him! Alleluya!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, three in One:

Refrain

Words: St Francis of Assisi (1182–1226)

Translated by William H. Draper (1855–1933)

Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958)

The Gathering

We stay STANDING for the gathering, prayers of penitence, Gloria and collect.

✠ 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.

The priest welcomes us and introduces the service.

Prayers of Penitence.

God be gracious to us and bless us, and make your face shine upon us:
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

May your ways be known on the earth, your saving power among the nations:

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

You, Lord, have made known your salvation, and reveal your justice in the sight of the nations:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

Amen.

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 sins 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

The Celebrant introduces a period of silent prayer with the words 'Let us pray':

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; 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

We SIT for the first readings.

Genesis 50:15–21

A reading from the Book of Genesis.

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, 'What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?' So they approached Joseph, saying, 'Your father gave this instruction before he died, "Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you." Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father.' Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, 'We are here as your slaves.' But Joseph said to them, 'Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.' In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans.

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarrelling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgement on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgement on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honour of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honour of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honour of the Lord and give thanks to God. We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why do you pass judgement on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgement seat of God. For it is written, 'As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God.' So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

We STAND to greet the gospel.

Gospel Reading

David Rooke adapted from Plainchant



Alleluia, alleluia, (alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.)

We do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Alleluia, (alleluia, alleluia.)

The Lord be with you

And also with you.

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

Matthew 18:21-35

Then Peter came and said to him, ‘Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?’ Jesus said to him, ‘Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. ‘For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, “Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.” And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, “Pay what you owe.” Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, “Have patience with me, and I will pay you.” But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he should pay the debt. When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, “You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?” And in anger his lord

handed him over to be tortured until he should pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

(Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.)

The Sermon

We SIT for the sermon.

The Affirmation of Faith

Let us declare our faith in God.

We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.

We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on high.

We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Prayers of Intercession – Universal Prayers

We SIT or KNEEL for the prayers of intercession.

After each petition, we respond:

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Or

Lord hear us, Lord graciously hear us.

The intercessor may conclude the prayer for the faithful departed with;

Rest eternal grant to them O Lord
And let light perpetual shine upon them.

May they rest in peace.
Amen.

The prayers may conclude with a collect to which all respond:
Amen.

Or, by us saying together.

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

The Peace

We STAND as the Celebrant introduces the Peace:

Blessed are the peacemakers: they shall be called children of God.
We meet in the name of Christ and share his peace.

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Let us offer one another the sign of peace.

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

The Offertory

A collection is taken at this celebration. If you don't have cash or are not part of our planned giving scheme and would like to support the ministry costs of St Thomas' please scan the QR code on the back of the chair in front of you, to be taken to the online donations page where you can easily donate to support the work of St Thomas' and complete the details allowing the reclamation of Gift Aid on your donation. We sing the offertory hymn

The Offertory Hymn



All Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there is hatred let me bring your love;
Where there is injury your pardon, Lord;
And where there's doubt true faith in you.

Refrain

*Oh, Master grant that I may never seek
So much to be consoled as to console;
To be understood as to understand;
To be loved as to love with all my soul.*

Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there's despair in life let me bring hope;
Where there is darkness, only light;
And where there's sadness, ever joy.

Refrain

Make me a channel of your peace.
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
In giving to all men that we receive;
And in dying that we're born to eternal life.

Words: Attributed to St Francis of Assisi, (1181-1226)

Music: Sebastian Temple (1928-1997)

The Preparation of the Altar

*We stay **STANDING** after all have been censed, the Priest says;*

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.

Look with favour on our supplications, O Lord, and in your kindness accept these, your servants' offerings, that what each has offered to the honour of your name may serve the salvation of all. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Preface

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.

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

From sunrise to sunset this day is holy,
for Christ has risen from the tomb
and scattered the darkness of death
with light that will not fade.

This day the risen Lord walks with your gathered people,
unfolds for us your word,
and makes himself known in the breaking of the bread.

And though the night will overtake this day
you summon us to live in endless light,
the never-ceasing sabbath of the Lord.

And so, with choirs of angels
and with all the heavenly host,
we proclaim your glory
and join their unending song of praise:

We remain STANDING as we say the Sanctus and the Benedictus:

Holy, most holy, all holy the Lord, in power and wisdom for
ever adored. The earth and the heavens are full of your love;
our joyful hosannas re-echo above.

✠ Blessèd, most blessèd, all blessèd is he whose life makes us
whole, and whose death sets us free: who comes in the name of
the Father of light, let endless hosannas resound in the height.

We KNEEL after the Sanctus and Benedictus.

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness; grant that by the power
of your Holy Spirit, and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and
wine may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you
thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me. ✠

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave
it to them, saying:

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. ✠

After the consecration, the following acclamation is said:

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross, his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world; rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, we bring before you this bread and this cup and we thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup, so that we, in the company of the Blessed Virgin Mary, St Joseph her spouse, St Thomas of Canterbury and all the saints, may praise and glorify you for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever. Amen

COMMUNION RITE

As our Saviour taught and commanded us, we are bold to 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.

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.

The choir sings the Agnus Dei:

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
grant us peace.

The Celebrant invites the people to communion.

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.

Please follow the direction of the celebrant and sidespersons to come forward and receive communion. Those who are confirmed are welcome to make their communion at our celebration today. Otherwise, please come forward for a blessing with your hands crossed across your chest. The response after receiving a blessing is Amen.

Anthem

The Choir sings – ‘View me, Lord’– by Richard Lloyd

Post Communion

The priest says the post-communion prayer:

Keep, O Lord, your Church, with your perpetual mercy; and, because without you our human frailty cannot but fall, keep us ever by your help from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Banns and Notices

We sit while any Banns of Marriage are published, and brief notices are given out. We STAND for the Blessing and dismissal.

Blessing and dismissal

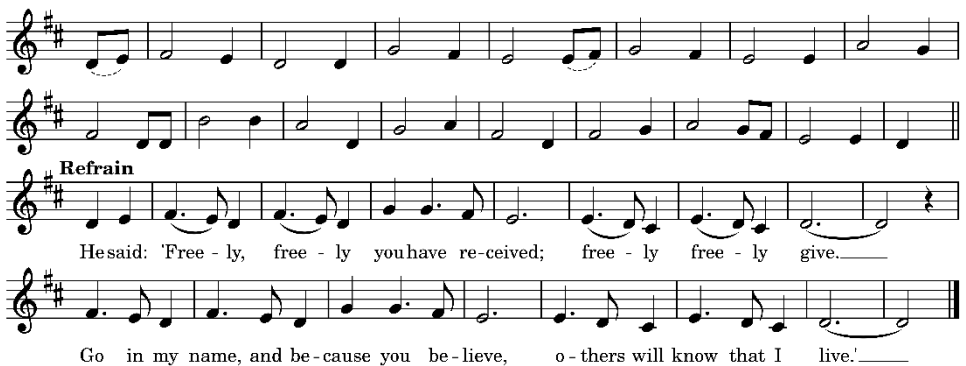
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Christ, who has nourished us with himself the living bread, make you one in praise and love, and raise you up at the last day; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, ✠ the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

The Mass is ended, go in the peace of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

The sacred ministers leave during the final hymn.

Recessional Hymn



Refrain

He said: 'Free - ly, free - ly you have re-ceived; free - ly free - ly give.____

Go in my name, and be-cause you be-lieve, o - thers will know that I live.'____

All God forgave my sin in Jesus' name.
I've been born again in Jesus' name.
And in Jesus' name I come to you
To share his love as he told me to.

He said 'Freely, freely you have received; freely,
freely give.

Go in my name, and because you believe others
will know that I live.

All pow'r is giv'n in Jesus' name,
in earth and heav'n in Jesus name.
And in Jesus' name I come to you
To share his pow'r as he told me to.

He said 'Freely, freely you have received; freely,
freely give.

Go in my name, and because you believe others
will know that I live.

God gives us life in Jesus' name,
he lives in us in Jesus' name.
And in Jesus' name I come to you
To share his peace as he told me to

Words & Music: Carol Owens (1931–2012)

Organ Voluntary: Festival Toccata - *Fletcher*
(*Played by Isabella Patrick, Junior Organ Scholar*)

*A warm invitation to stay for refreshments after the 10.00 Sung Mass.
Doughnuts, coffee and squash are available at the back of the church.*

Private Devotions during Communion or after Mass

We do not presume to come to this thy table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy table. But thou art the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy: grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

From the Book of Common Prayer

ALMIGHTY God, Father of all mercies, we thine unworthy servants do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all men; [*particularly to those who desire now to offer up their praises and thanksgivings for thy late mercies vouchsafed unto them.] We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful, and that we shew forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives; by giving up ourselves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost be all honour and glory, world without end. Amen.

**This to be said when any that have been prayed for desire to return praise.*

From the Book of Common Prayer

Soul of Christ, sanctify me
body of Christ, save me
blood of Christ, inebriate me
water from Christ's side, wash me
passion of Christ, strengthen me.

O good Jesus, hear me
within thy wounds hide me.
Suffer me not to be separated from thee.
From the malicious enemy defend me.
In the hour of my death call me and bid me come unto thee that I may
praise thee with thy saints and with thy angels for ever and ever. Amen

Hail holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, our life, our sweetness and our hope!
To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve; to thee do we send up
our sighs, mourning and weeping in this vale of tears. Turn then, O most
gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy towards us, and after this our exile,
show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O
sweet Virgin Mary.

The Salve Regina

Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England, material from which is included in this service, is copyright © The Archbishops' Council 2000. Hymns are reproduced under CCLI No 570618