**The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Parish of Welwyn,**

**Welwyn Team, Diocese of St Albans**

**THE FEAST OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

**PATRONAL FESTIVAL**

**SUNDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER 2025**

**8am Said Eucharist**

**9.30am Parish Eucharist with Junior Church**

**(Common Worship Order 1)**

***Welcome! If you are new to this church please introduce yourself to one of the clergy and take a newcomers’ leaflet.***

***There is an induction loop for those with hearing aids.***

*All children or indeed adults, regular and visitors, are*

*welcome to Junior Church*

**THE SERVICE BEGINS HERE:**

*Please stand to sing* ***HYMN:***

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 Saviour shall my heart rejoice.

2 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 the same;

His holy name, the Lord, the Mighty One.

3 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.

4 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.

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

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father

and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

and also with you.

*The deacon introduces the confession*

**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.**

*The priest pronounces God's forgiveness*

*‘What are we thinking about today?’*

*– then Junior Church leaves for Church House*

*****We remain standing to sing:*

***Glory, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest x2***

**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.**

***Glory, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest x2***

**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.**

***Glory, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest x2***

**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.**

***Glory, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest x2* Amen.**

*We remain standing for the collect:*

Let us pray:

Almighty God,  
who looked upon the lowliness of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
and chose her to be the mother of your only Son:  
grant that we who are redeemed by his blood  
may share with her in the glory of your eternal kingdom;  
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.**

****

*We sit to listen to this Sunday’s bible readings.*

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah (61.10,11)

(read by )

10I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. 11For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Galatians (4:4-7)

(read by Jane Rowland)

**4**But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, **5**in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. **6**And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, ‘Abba! Father!’ **7**So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand to sing the* ***HYMN:***

**

THE Lord whom earth and sea and sky

Adore and praise and magnify,

Who o'er their threefold fabric reigns,

The Virgin's spotless womb contains.

2. And he whose will is ever done

By moon and seas, by stars and sun,

Is borne upon a maiden's breast,

Whom God's foreseeing grace possessed.

3. How blessed that Mother, in whose shrine

The very Word of God divine,

The maker of the earth and sky,

Was pleased in fleshly form to lie.

4. Blessed in the message Gabriel brought,

Blessed in the work the Spirit wrought

Blessed evermore, who brought to birth

The long-desired of all the earth.

5. O Jesu, Virgin-born to thee

Eternal praise and glory be,

Whom with the Father we adore

And Holy Spirit, evermore. Amen.

*Please remain standing and face the gospel:*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (1:46-55)

**Glor**y to you, O Lord.

Mary said: 46‘My soul magnifies the Lord, 47and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, 48for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; 49for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. 50His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. 51He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. 52He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; 53he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. 54He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, 55according 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.

*Please sit for the* **Sermon**: The Rev’d Edward Caredale

*Please stand to affirm our faith in the words of the Nicene 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,  
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.**

*Please sit or kneel for the intercessions:*

***Sick:****Joan Gould, Pauline Lebeau, Graeme Emery, Robin Marson, Vickie Harris, Shem Biran, Mary Beard, Ann Gurney, Elizabeth Holloway, Lurlene Champagnie,  Penny Swain, Joyce Davis, John Wray, Georgina Laval,  Glynis Johnstone, Rod and Pip Dowdell, Matthew Codd, David Wilsher, Anne Symonds, Peter Branchflower, Patricia Brattle, Brian White, Margaret Paterson, Kath Meredith, Beth Bates*

***Departed:****Joyce Jackson*

*We use the response*

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

And at the end

Merciful Father,

accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,

our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

*Please stand for The Peace, which the priest introduces with a sentence from Scripture*

The peace of the Lord be always with you

and also with you.

******

*We share the peace with our neighbours*

*We sing the HYMN:*

FOR Mary, mother of the Lord

God's holy name be praised,

Who first the Son of God adored

As on her child she gazed.

2. The angel Gabriel brought the word

She should Christ's mother be;

Our Lady, handmaid of the Lord,

Made answer willingly.

3. The heavenly call she thus obeyed,

And so God's will was done;

The second Eve love's answer made

Which our redemption won.

4. She gave her body for God's shrine,

Her heart to piercing pain,

And knew the cost of love divine

When Jesus Christ was slain.

5. Dear Mary, from your lowliness

And home in Galilee,

There comes a joy and holiness

To every family.

6. Hail, Mary, you are full of grace,

Above all women blest;

Blessed in your Son, whom your embrace

In birth and death confessed.

***Please support the work of our church if you are able***

*we’re entirely dependent on donations from parishioners and visitors to support this church and its work in the community.*

***We have a new Giving Station by the church door for card donations, or you can give by phone using the QR code.***

*If you would like to consider regular giving (monthly, quarterly or annually) we are members of the Parish Giving Scheme*

*(go to parishgiving.co.uk and search for Welwyn St Mary).*

*Cash or cheque donations may be placed in the offertory plate as you leave the church (in a yellow envelope if you would like us to gift aid your donation) – we are not passing the plate around during this period of pandemic. Thank you.*

*Qr code

Description automatically generated*

*During the hymn the altar is prepared.*

*The priest gives thanks over the bread and over the wine, the people respond:*

**Blessed be God for ever**

**The Eucharistic Prayer**

Please remain standing throughout the prayer, but sit if you need to

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

**I**t is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy…

… for ever praising you and singing:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, x2

God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna, hosanna in the highest. x2

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. x2

Hosanna, hosanna in the highest. x2

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness; …

…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.

Great is 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, …

… all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,  
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*Please kneel or sit*

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,

your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation

but deliver us from evil.   
For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours

now and for 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.

*We sing:*

**Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world**

**Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world**

**Have mercy, have mercy on us, have mercy (x2)**

**Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world;**

**grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace**

Jesus is 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 move for communion following the direction of the stewards. All are welcome to come to the rail. Baptised Christians are welcome to receive the bread and the wine, all others are welcome to come for a blessing (please indicate this by crossing your arms and bowing your head).*

*During communion the choir sing the anthem ‘Ave Maria’ by Dubra*

*And then we sing the* ***HYMN***

HER virgin eyes saw God incarnate born,

When she to Bethl'em came that happy morn;

How high her raptures then began to swell,

None but her own omniscient son can tell.

2. As Eve when she her fontal sin reviewed,

Wept for herself and all she should include,

Blest Mary, with man's Saviour in embrace,

Joyed for herself and for all human race.

3. All saints are by her son's dear influence blest,

She kept the very fountain at her breast:

The son adored and nursed by the sweet maid

A thousandfold of love for love repaid.

4. Heaven with transcendent joys her entrance graced,

Next to his throne her son his Mother placed;

And here below, now she's of heaven possessed,

All generations are to call her blest.

*We pray together:*

**God most high,**

**whose handmaid bore the Word made flesh:**

**we thank you that in this sacrament of our redemption**

**you visit us with your Holy Spirit**

**and overshadow us by your power;**

**strengthen us to walk with Mary the joyful path of obedience**

**and so to bring forth the fruits of holiness;**

**through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*We sit as the notices and banns of marriage are announced.*



*Then we stand to sing the* ***HYMN:***

SING we of the blessèd Mother

Who received the angel's 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 high on Calvary's 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,

Manifest through 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 your Son, the world's redeemer,

Grant us all to see his face.

*The priest says the blessing ending:*

…be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

Go in the peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

The ministers and people depart.

The organist plays a voluntary.

All are welcome to stay for refreshments in Church House.

Please take this booklet with you.

**NOTICES**