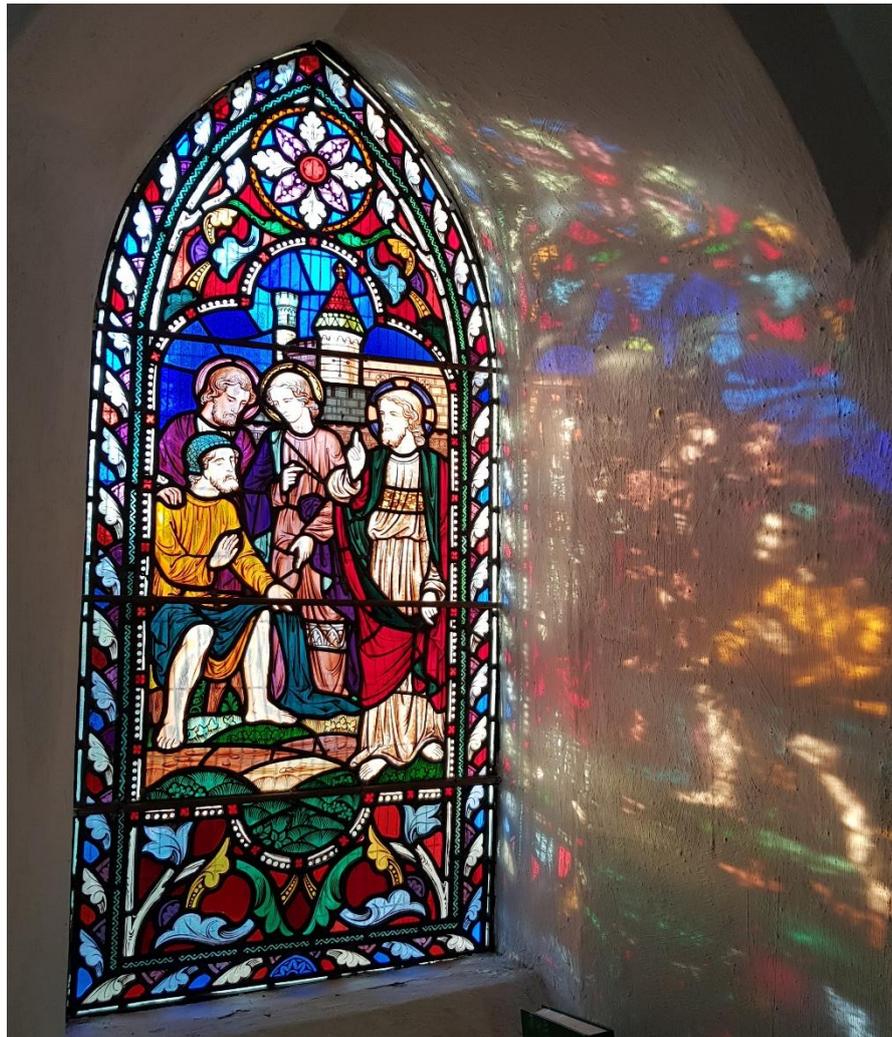


THE PARISH OF LETCHWORTH
ST MARY THE VIRGIN



**THE ORDER OF THE EUCHARIST
IN TRADITIONAL LANGUAGE
DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

Welcome to St Mary's Church.

During these unprecedented times of the Covid-19 pandemic, we come together to seek God's healing and grace.

It is a great joy that after a long period of Eucharistic fast, we are once again able to meet with Our Lord in the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

This booklet has been designed to help you to participate in the Eucharist in its slightly abbreviated form. **Please remember not to leave this service sheet in the pew. As you leave the church, please put it in the box provided at the back so that it can be quarantined for 72 hours and then used again.**

In preparation for the service, you may wish to read
the Comfortable Words:

Hear the words of comfort our Saviour Christ says to all who truly turn to him:
Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden,
and I will give you rest.

Matthew 11.28

God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son,
that whoever believes in him should not perish
but have eternal life.

John 3.16

Hear what Saint Paul says:
This saying is true, and worthy of full acceptance,
that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

1 Timothy 1.15

Hear what Saint John says:
If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father,
Jesus Christ the righteous;
and he is the propitiation for our sins.

1 John 2.1,2

¶ **The Gathering**

Please stand at the priest enters.

The **Entrance Antiphon** may be said.

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

All **Amen.**

The Lord be with you;

All **and with thy spirit.**

*The priest briefly introduces the service, and then we pray in the words of the **Collect for Purity.***

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

The Confession is introduced by the priest in these or some other words:

My brothers and sisters, as we prepare to celebrate the presence of Christ in Word and Sacrament, let us call to mind and confess our sins.

All **Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against thee,
through our own fault, in thought, and word, and deed,
and in what we have left undone.
We are heartily sorry, and repent of all our sins.
For thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may serve thee in newness of life
to the glory of thy name.
Amen.**

Lord have mercy: **Lord, have mercy.**
Christ, have mercy: **Christ, have mercy.**
Lord, have mercy: **Lord, have mercy.**

*Then the priest pronounces the **Absolution:***

May almighty God have mercy upon you,
forgive ✠ you your sins, and bring you to everlasting life.

All **Amen.**

*On Sundays and festivals, we say the **Gloria in Excelsis**
(omitted in Advent and Lent)*

**Glory be to God on high,
and in earth peace, good will towards men.**

**We praise thee, we bless thee,
we worship thee, we glorify thee,
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,
O Lord God, heavenly King,
God the Father almighty.**

**O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ:
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.**

**Thou that takest away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer.**

**Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,
have mercy upon us.**

**For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord;
thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,
art the Most High, in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.**

Let us pray.

*Silent prayer follows; the **Collect of the Day** is prayed, and we
respond **Amen.***

¶ **The Liturgy of the Word**

We sit. Scripture lessons are read, at the end of each the reader says:

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

*The **Responsorial Psalm** follows the first reading.*

*We stand. The **Gospel Acclamation** follows, and we respond:*
Alleluia!

*during Lent: **Praise be to thee, O Christ, King of eternal glory!***

The Lord be with you.

All **And with thy spirit.**

Hear the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint N.

All **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

At the end: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

*A brief **Sermon** may be preached.*

*On Sundays and festivals, we say the **Apostles Creed**.*

All **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From thence he shall come to judge
the quick and the dead.**

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

We kneel or sit for the Intercessions. The following responses may be used:

Lord hear us: **Lord, graciously hear us. (or)**
Lord in thy mercy: **hear our prayer.**

At the end, we may say:

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

¶ **The Liturgy of the Sacrament**

We stand for the Peace.

Please note that there must be no physical contact during the sharing of the Peace. A friendly nod or a smile is a good alternative.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
All **and with thy spirit.**

We sit. The altar is prepared.

The procession with the gifts is omitted.

Collection *can be left on the plate at the back as you leave the church.*

The Offertory Prayers *may be said:*

Blessed art thou, Lord, God of all creation:
through thy goodness we have this bread to offer,
which earth hath given and human hands have made.
It will become for us the bread of life.

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed art thou, Lord, God of all creation:
through thy goodness we have this wine to offer,
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.
It will become for us the cup of salvation

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

The Invitation to Prayer follows:

Pray, my brothers and sisters, that our sacrifice
may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

All **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 Prayer over the Gifts is said by the priest, and we respond:
Amen.

We stand for the Eucharistic Prayer

All The Lord be with you
and with thy spirit.

Lift up your hearts.

All **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

All **It is meet and right so to do.**

The priest praises God for his mighty acts; after which we respond

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts,
heaven and earth are full of thy glory.**

Glory be to thee, O Lord most high.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

*The priest recalls the Last Supper;
one of the following acclamations is used:*

Great is the mystery of faith:

All **Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.**

Jesus Christ is Lord:

All **O Saviour of the world,**
who by thy cross and precious blood hast redeemed us,
save us, and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.

The prayer continues with the doxology at the end, to which all respond:
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

All **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

All **O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world:**
have mercy upon us. (twice)
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world:
grant us thy peace.

Invitation to Communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

All **Lord, I am not worthy to receive thee,**
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.

The Priest shows the consecrated host to the people and says:
The Body of Christ

All **Amen.**

Then the priest shows the consecrated wine to the people and says:
The Blood of Christ

All **Amen.**

*The priest receives Holy Communion under both kinds using his/her
own Host and Chalice.*

The Communion Antiphon *may be said.*

Giving of Communion

- *Holy Communion will be distributed in one kind only, i.e. the bread, in the hand. Please **sanitise your hands before receiving the Sacrament.***
- *The Sacrament will remain in the ciborium and will only be uncovered immediately before the distribution.*
- *The priest will sanitise the hands before touching the elements and will be wearing a face covering during distribution of the Sacrament.*
- *There is no need to leave the pew. **The Blessed Sacrament will be brought to you by the priest.***
- *Please **extend your hands at “full stretch”** so that there is a good distance between you and the priest. Keep your hands, palms outwards, one on top of the other, extended as flatly as possible.*
- *The Host will be dropped into your hands with **no physical contact.***
- *There will be **no dialogue** between the priest and the communicant.*
- *If you do not wish to receive the Sacrament, please remain seated.*

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

The priest prays the Prayer after Communion, and we respond:
Amen.

All **Almighty God,**
we thank thee for feeding us
with the body and blood of thy Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer thee our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of thy Spirit
to live and work to thy praise and glory.
Amen.

¶ **The Dismissal**

We stand for the Blessing.

The Lord be with you.

All **And with thy spirit.**

The peace of God,
which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds
in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All **In the name of Christ. Amen.**



- *There will be **no refreshments after the service.***
- *Please **remember to put your service sheet in the box provided at the back so that they can be quarantined for 72 hours.***
- *As there is only one door available at St Mary's, please leave in an orderly manner, **one person at the time** to avoid a backlog and to maintain social distancing.*
- *Please **sanitise your hands** as you leave the building.*
- *Upon exiting, **please move away from the doors** to enable others to leave safely.*