

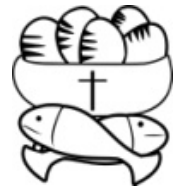


# The Parish of Colindale

## Parish Mass and Baptism

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> December 2021

### Saint Stephen the First Martyr



Today we welcome Jidenna Ethan Obianagha to the family of God's Church through the sacrament of Holy Baptism.

COVID precautions: Please wear a face covering unless you are exempt, and use the hand sanitiser provided. Extra ventilation will be in place. Holy Communion will be given in one kind (the consecrated Bread). Free lateral flow test kits are available in Church.

At the entrance of the ministers, please stand.

**Carol** (Complete Anglican Hymns 242)

Good King Wenceslas looked out  
On the Feast of Stephen  
When the snow lay round about  
Deep and crisp and even  
Brightly shone the moon that night  
Though the frost was cruel  
When a poor man came in sight  
Gathering winter fuel.

'Hither, page, and stand by me,  
If thou know'st it, telling  
Yonder peasant, who is he?  
Where and what his dwelling?'  
'Sire, he lives a good league hence,  
Underneath the mountain  
Right against the forest fence  
By Saint Agnes fountain.'

'Bring me flesh and bring me wine  
Bring me pine logs hither  
Thou and I shall see him dine  
When we bear them thither.'  
Page and monarch, forth they went  
Forth they went together  
Through the rude winds wild lament  
And the bitter weather

'Sire, the night is darker now  
And the wind blows stronger  
Fails my heart, I know not how  
I can go no longer.'

'Mark my footsteps, good my page  
Tread thou in them boldly  
Thou shall find the winters rage  
Freeze thy blood less coldly.'

In his masters step he trod  
Where the snow lay dented  
Heat was in the very sod  
Which the Saint had printed  
Therefore, Christians all, be sure  
Wealth or rank possessing  
Ye, who now will bless the poor  
Shall yourselves find blessing.

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

All: Amen.

Priest: The Lord be with you

All: And also with you

*The Priest introduces the celebration.*

#### **PRAYERS OF PENITENCE**

*The Priest invites all to confess their sins:*

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 absolution.*

**KYRIE AND GLORIA:**

Lord, have mercy  
Lord, have mercy  
Christ, have mercy  
Christ, have mercy  
Lord, have mercy  
Lord, have mercy

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 sin 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**

Priest: Let us pray.

Gracious Father,  
who gave the first martyr Stephen  
grace to pray for those  
who took up stones against him:  
grant that in all our sufferings for the truth  
we may learn to love even our enemies  
and to seek forgiveness for those  
who desire our hurt,  
looking up to heaven to him  
who was crucified for us,

Jesus Christ, our mediator and advocate,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

All: Amen.

**THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**Old Testament Reading**  
**2 Chronicles 24.20–24**

A reading from the second book of  
Chronicles.

The spirit of God took possession of  
Zechariah son of the priest Jehoiada;  
he stood above the people and said to them,  
'Thus says God: Why do you transgress the  
commandments of the Lord, so that you  
cannot prosper? Because you have forsaken  
the Lord, he has also forsaken you.'

But they conspired against him, and by  
command of the king they stoned him to  
death in the court of the house of the Lord.  
King Joash did not remember the kindness  
that Jehoiada, Zechariah's father, had shown  
him, but killed his son. As he was dying, he  
said, 'May the Lord see and avenge!'  
At the end of the year the army of Aram  
came up against Joash. They came to Judah  
and Jerusalem, and destroyed all the officials  
of the people from among them, and sent all  
the booty they took to the king of  
Damascus. Although the army of Aram had  
come with few men, the Lord delivered into  
their hand a very great army, because they  
had abandoned the Lord, the God of their  
ancestors. Thus they executed judgement  
on Joash.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

## **Psalm 119.161–168**

### **Response:**

**Our help is in the name of the Lord.**

Rulers have persecuted me without a cause,  
but my heart stands in awe of your word.  
I am as glad because of your promise  
as one who finds great spoils. **R**

As for lies, I hate and abhor them,  
but your law is my love.  
Seven times a day do I praise you,  
because of your righteous judgements. **R**

Great peace have they who love your law;  
for them there is no stumbling block.  
I have hoped for your salvation, O Lord, and  
I have fulfilled your commandments. **R**

I have kept your decrees  
and I have loved them deeply.  
I have kept your commandments and  
decrees, for all my ways are before you. **R**

### **New Testament Reading**

#### **Acts 7.51–60**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Stephen said to the high priest and the council: 'You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you are forever opposing the Holy Spirit, just as your ancestors used to do. Which of the prophets did your ancestors not persecute? They killed those who foretold the coming of the Righteous One, and now you have become his betrayers and murderers. You are the ones that received the law as ordained by angels, and yet you have not kept it.'

When they heard these things, they became enraged and ground their teeth at Stephen. Stephen, filled with the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. 'Look,' he said, 'I see the heavens opened

and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!' But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul.

While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.' Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, 'Lord, do not hold this sin against them.' When he had said this, he died.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

### **Gospel Acclamation**

Cantor: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

All: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Cantor: The one who endures to the end  
will be saved,  
Says the Lord

All: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

### **Gospel - Matthew 10.17–22**

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Priest: Hear the Gospel of our Lord  
Jesus Christ according to  
Matthew.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to the twelve:

'Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put

to death; and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved.'

Priest: This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
All: Praise to you, O Christ.

## **SERMON**

### **THE LITURGY OF BAPTISM**

*The candidate for baptism, his parents and godparents come to the front of the church.*

*The priest addresses the whole congregation:*

Faith is the gift of God to his people. In baptism the Lord is adding to our number those whom he is calling.

People of God, will you welcome Ethan and uphold him in his new life in Christ?

**All: With the help of God, we will.**

*The priest addresses the parents and godparents:*

Parents and godparents, the Church receives Ethan with joy. Today we are trusting God for his growth in faith.

Will you pray for him, draw him by your example into the community of faith and walk with him in the way of Christ?

**Parents and Godparents:**

**With the help of God, we will.**

In baptism Ethan begins his journey in faith. You speak for him today. Will you care for him, and help him to take his place within the life and worship of Christ's Church?

**Parents and Godparents:**

**With the help of God, we will.**

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:

Priest: Do you turn to Christ?

**Parents and Godparents:**  
**I turn to Christ.**

Priest: Do you repent of your sins?

**Parents and Godparents:**  
**I repent of my sins.**

Priest: Do you renounce evil?

**Parents and Godparents:**  
**I renounce evil.**

### **SIGNING WITH THE CROSS**

*The priest makes the sign of the cross on the forehead of the candidate with the Oil of Catechumens.*

Priest: Christ claims you for his own. Receive the sign of his cross. Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.

**All: Fight valiantly as a disciple of Christ against sin, the world and the devil, and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.**

Priest: May almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness, restore in you the image of his glory, and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ. Amen.

*The priest, candidate, parents and godparents make their way to the font.*

### **PRAYER OVER THE WATER**

Priest: Praise God who made heaven and earth,

**All: Who keeps his promise for ever.**

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give thanks and praise.**

*The Priest blesses the water of the font*

## **THE PROFESSION OF FAITH**

*The Priest addresses the whole congregation*

**Priest:** Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess with this candidate the faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

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

**Priest:** Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

**All:** 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.

**Priest:** Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

**All:** 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.

## **THE BAPTISM**

*The priest pours water three times over the head of the candidate, saying:*

Jidenna Ethan, I baptise you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*The priest anoints the newly baptised with the Oil of Chrism.*

May God, who has received you by baptism into his Church, pour upon you the riches of his grace, that within the company of Christ's pilgrim people you may daily be renewed by his anointing Spirit and come to the inheritance of the saints in glory. Amen.

## **COMMISSION**

*The baptism party return to the front of the Church. The priest says to the newly baptised:*

Ethan, today God had touched you with his love and given you a place among his people. God promises to be with you in joy and in sorrow, to be your guide in life, and to bring you safely to heaven.

In baptism God invites you on a life-long journey. Together with all God's people you must explore the way of Jesus and grow in friendship with God, in love for his people, and in serving others.

With us you will listen to the word of God and receive the gifts of God.

## **WELCOME**

**Priest:** There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism; by one Spirit we are all baptised into one body.

**All:** We welcome you into the fellowship of faith; We are children of the same heavenly Father; we welcome you.

## **THE GIVING OF A LIGHTED CANDLE**

*The priest gives Ethan a candle lit from the Paschal Candle, as a sign of the light of Christ.*

**Priest:** God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness and has given us a place with the saints in light. You have received the light of Christ; walk in this light all the days of your life.

**All:** Shine as a light in the world to  
the glory of God the Father.

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*These responses may be used:*

**Reader:** Lord, in your mercy.

**All:** Hear our prayer.  
(or)

**Reader:** Lord, hear us.

**All:** Lord, graciously hear us.

**THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT**

**THE PEACE**

**Priest:** The peace of the Lord be  
always with you.

**All:** And also with you.

**Hymn** (*Complete Anglican Hymns 267*)

Hark! the sound of holy voices,  
chanting at the crystal sea:  
Alleluia, alleluia,  
alleluia, Lord, to thee:  
multitude, which none can number,  
like the stars in glory stands,  
clothed in white apparel, holding  
palms of vict'ry in their hands.

Patriarch and holy prophet,  
who prepared the way of Christ,  
king, apostle, saint, confessor,  
martyr and evangelist,  
saintly maiden, godly matron,  
widows who have watched in prayer,  
joined in holy concert, singing  
to the Lord of all, are there.

They have come from tribulation,  
and have washed their robes in blood,  
washed them in the blood of Jesus;  
tried they were, and firm they stood;  
gladly, Lord, with thee they suffered;  
gladly, Lord, with thee they died,  
and by death to life immortal  
they were born and glorified.

Now they reign in heav'nly glory,  
now they walk in golden light,  
now they drink, as from a river,  
holy bliss and infinite;  
love and peace they taste for ever,  
and all truth and knowledge see  
in the beatific vision  
of the blessed Trinity.

God of God, the one-begotten,  
Light of Light, Emmanuel,  
in whose body joined together  
all the saints for ever dwell;  
pour upon us of thy fullness,  
that we may for evermore  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit  
truly worship and adore.

*The bread and wine for the celebration of Mass  
are placed on the altar.*

**Priest:** Pray, brothers and sisters, that  
my sacrifice and yours 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 holy Church.

**Prayer over the Offerings**

*At the end:*

**All: Amen**

**THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

**Priest:** The Lord be with you.

**All:** And also with you.

**Priest:** Lift up your hearts.

**All:** We lift them to the Lord.

**Priest:** Let us give thanks to the Lord  
our God

**All:** It is right to give thanks and  
praise.

*The Priest praises God for his mighty acts and all respond:*

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.

*The Eucharistic prayer continues. Then:*

Priest: Great is the mystery of faith.  
All: Christ has died,  
Christ is risen,  
Christ will come again.

*The prayer continues. At the end:*

Priest: ... for ever and ever.  
All: Amen.

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Priest: Let us pray with confidence as our  
Saviour has taught us.

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.

### **THE BREAKING OF BREAD**

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

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

### **Agnus Dei**

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

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

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

### **INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION**

Priest: Behold the Lamb of God who takes  
away the sin of the world. (*John 1:29*)  
Blessed are those who are called to  
the supper of the Lamb (*Rev. 19:9*)

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

### **Communion Antiphon –**

As they were stoning Stephen, he called out,  
Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.

*All baptised Christians who normally receive  
Holy Communion in their own church are  
welcome to do so here. Holy Communion is  
given in one kind (the consecrated Bread only).*

### **Words of Distribution**

Priest: The Body of Christ  
Response: Amen.

### **Hymn** (*Tune: Dies Dominica, 720*)

The Lord and King of all things  
but yesterday was born;  
and Stephen's glorious offering  
his birth-tide shall adorn:  
no pearls of orient splendour,  
no jewels can he show;  
but with his own true heart's blood  
his shining vestments glow.

Come, ye that love the martyrs,  
and pluck the flowers of song,  
and weave them in a garland,  
for this our suppliant throng;  
and cry, "O thou that shinest

in grace's brightest ray,  
Christ's valiant protomartyr,  
for peace and favour pray!"

Thou first of all confessors,  
of all the deacons crown,  
of every following athlete,  
the glory and renown:  
make supplication, standing  
before Christ's royal throne,  
that he would give the kingdom,  
and for our sins atone!

### **Prayer after Communion**

#### **BLESSING**

Priest:...and the blessing of God Almighty,  
✠ the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

**All: Amen**

#### **DISMISSAL**

Priest: Go in the peace of Christ  
All: Thanks be to God.

### **Hymn (Tune: Regent Square, 225))**

Saint of God, elect and precious,  
Protomartyr Stephen, bright  
With thy love of amplest measure,  
Shining round thee like a light;  
Who to God commendest, dying,  
Them that did thee all despise.

Glitters now the crown above thee,  
Figured in thy honoured name:  
O that we, who truly love thee,  
May have portion in the same;  
In the dreadful day of judgment  
Fearing neither sin nor shame.

Laud to God, and might, and honour,  
Who with flowers of rosy dye  
Crowned thy forehead,  
and hath placed thee

In the starry throne on high:  
He direct us, He protect us,  
From death's sting eternally.

### **ANGELUS (greeting of the Virgin Mary)**

Priest: The Angel of the Lord  
declared unto Mary

**All: And she conceived  
by the Holy Spirit**

Priest: Hail Mary, full of grace,  
The Lord is with Thee;  
Blessed art thou among women,  
and blessed is the fruit of thy  
womb, Jesus.

**All: Holy Mary, Mother of God,  
Pray for us sinners, now  
and at the hour of our death.**

Priest: Behold the handmaid  
of the Lord

**All: Be it unto me  
according to your word.**

*Hail Mary...*

Priest: And the Word was made flesh

**All: And dwelt among us**

*Hail Mary...*

Priest: Pray for us O Holy Mother of  
God

**All: That we may be made worthy  
of the promises of Christ.**

Priest: Let us pray.

We beseech you, O Lord,  
pour your grace into our hearts, that as we  
have known the incarnation of your Son  
Jesus Christ by the message of an angel, so  
by his ✠ cross and passion we may be  
brought to the glory of his resurrection;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.  
**Amen.**

*Please stay for refreshments after Mass.*

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