

St Mark and All Saints, Reading

*Whoever you are,
wherever you are on life's journey
you are welcome here.*

The Parish Eucharist for Sunday 5th April 2026

THE GATHERING

*All the words are in this service sheet. Please join in with the words printed in **bold type**.
At the start of the service a bell is rung and the procession enters as we stand to sing the opening hymn.*

ENTRANCE HYMN

**Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!
our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!**

**Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!
who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!**

**But the pains which he endured, Alleluia!
our salvation have procured. Alleluia!
Now above the sky he's King, Alleluia!
where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!**

**Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
praise eternal as God's love. Alleluia!
Praise our God, ye heavenly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!**

THE GREETING

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

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

The priest, welcomes us and introduces the theme of the service.

PRAYER OF PENITENCE

Christ our passover lamb has been sacrificed for us.
Let us therefore rejoice
by putting away all malice and evil
and confessing our sins with a sincere and true heart.

We say together

**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.**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Knowing that we are forgiven for our sins we sing this song of praise to God.

THE GLORIA

During the Gloria bells may be rung to celebrate the joy of Jesus rising from the dead.

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

**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 to God ...

**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 to God ...

**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 to God ...

The priest invites us to pray silently and then prays the collect:

Lord of all life and power,
who through the mighty resurrection of your Son
overcame the old order of sin and death
to make all things new in him:
grant that we, being dead to sin
and alive to you in Jesus Christ,
may reign with him in glory;
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit
be praise and honour, glory and might,
now and in all eternity.

Please sit

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Acts 10.34-43

Peter began to speak to those assembled in the house of Cornelius. 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ – he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN

As we sing the Gospel Book is carried into the midst of the congregation, reflecting God's coming among us in Christ. Please turn to face it.

**This is the Day, this is the day.
That the Lord has made, that the Lord has made.
We will rejoice, we will rejoice,
And be glad in it, and be glad in it.
This is the day that the Lord has made.
We will rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day, this is the day
That the Lord has made.**

**This is the Day, this is the day
when he rose again, when he rose again
We will rejoice, we will rejoice,
And be glad in it, and be glad in it.
This is the Day, when he rose again,
We will rejoice and be glad in it!
This is the Day, this is the day
when he rose again.**

**This is the day, this is the day
when the spirit came, when the Spirit came
We will rejoice, we will rejoice,
And be glad in it, and be glad in it.
This is the day, when the Spirit came
We will rejoice and be glad in it!
This is the Day, this is the day
when the Spirit came.**

THE GOSPEL
John 20.1-18

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia
I am the first and the last, says the Lord,
and the living one;
I was dead, and behold I am alive for evermore.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia
The Lord be with you
And also with you
Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John
Glory to you, O Lord.

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.' Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in

a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' She said to them, 'They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.' When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?' Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.' Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabbouni!' which means Teacher. Jesus said to her, 'Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God."' Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord'; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

THE ADDRESS

THE RENEWAL OF BAPTISM VOWS

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:

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?

I reject them.

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

I renounce them.

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?

I repent of them.

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

I turn to Christ.

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

I submit to Christ.

Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?

I come to Christ.

May almighty God,
who has given you the desire to follow Christ
give you the strength to continue on the way

Amen

My brothers and sisters,
let us ask the Lord our God
to bless this water he has created
which we shall use to recall our baptism.
May he renew us and keep us faithful
to the Spirit we have received .

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
Source of all being and life,
The one for whom we exist?

I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
Who took our human nature,
Died for us and rose again?

I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,
Who gives life to the people of God
And makes Christ known in the world?

I believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith.

**We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

All the people are sprinkled with water as a reminder of their Baptism.

AFFIRMATION OF COMMITMENT

People of God will you continue
in the apostles' teaching and fellowship,
in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers?

With the help of God, I will.

Will you persevere in resisting evil and,
whenever you fall into sin,
repent and return to the Lord?

With the help of God, I will.

Will you proclaim by word and example
the good news of God in Christ?

With the help of God, I will.

Will you seek and serve Christ in all people,
loving your neighbour as yourself?

With the help of God, I will.

Will you acknowledge
Christ's authority over human society,
by prayer for the world and its leaders,

by defending the weak,
and by seeking peace and justice?
With the help of God, I will.

Will you strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth?
With the help of God, I will.

**Almighty God, we thank you
for our fellowship in the household of faith
with all who have been baptized in your name.
Keep us faithful to our baptism,
and so make us ready for that day
when the whole creation
shall be made perfect in your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

May almighty God,
who has given you the desire to follow Christ
give you the strength to continue on the way
Amen

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

Stand

THE PEACE

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples
and said, 'Peace be with you.'
Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia.
The peace of the Lord be always with you.
and also with you.

We greet those around us in the peace of Christ, shaking hands and saying "peace be with you."

After the Peace we return to our pews as we sing the next hymn.

OFFERTORY HYMN

As we sing a collection will be taken for the work of the church, Our church is a charity which relies on your generous gift. Please support our Mission and Ministry and keep our beautiful buildings open by placing your gift in the plate or scan to donate.

**Alleluia, alleluia!
Hearts to heaven and voices raise.
Sing to God a hymn of gladness,
sing to God a hymn of praise.**

He who on the cross a victim
for the world's salvation bled,
Jesus Christ, the King of glory,
now is risen from the dead.

Alleluia, Christ is risen!
Death at last has met defeat.
See the ancient powers of evil
in confusion and retreat.
Once he died and once was buried;
now he lives forevermore —
Jesus Christ, the world's Redeemer,
whom we worship and adore.

Christ is risen, Christ the first-fruits
of the holy harvest yield,
which will all its full abundance
at his second coming yield.
Then the golden ears of harvest
will their heads before him wave,
ripened by his glorious sunshine
from the furrows of the grave.

Alleluia, alleluia!
Glory be to God on high;
alleluia! to the Saviour,
who has won the victory;
alleluia! to the Spirit,
fount of love and sanctity;
alleluia, alleluia!
to the triune Majesty

When the table is prepared the priest leads the offertory prayers

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:
through your goodness we have this bread
to set before you,
which earth has given and human hands have made.
It will become for us the bread of life.
Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:
through your goodness we have this wine to set before you,
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.
It will become for us the cup of salvation.
Blessed be God for ever.

Generous God, as we gather around your table called and welcomed by Christ we present this
money, symbol of all the gifts you give to us.
use it, use us, in the service of your world

to the glory of your name.
Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

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 thanks and praise.

Almighty God, good Father to us all,
your face is turned towards your world.

In love you gave us Jesus your Son
to rescue us from sin and death.
Your Word goes out to call us home
to the city where angels sing your praise.

We join with them in heaven's song:

**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.**

Father of all, we give you thanks
for every gift that comes from heaven.
To the darkness Jesus came as your light.
With signs of faith and words of hope
he touched untouchables with love and washed the guilty clean.

This is his story.
This is our song: Hosanna in the highest.

The crowds came out to see your Son,
yet at the end they turned on him.
On the night he was betrayed
he came to table with his friends
to celebrate the freedom of your people.

This is his story.
This is our song: Hosanna in the highest.

Jesus blessed you, Father, for the food;
he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said:
This is my body, given for you all.
Jesus then gave thanks for the wine;
he took the cup, gave it and said:
This is my blood, shed for you all

for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this in remembrance of me.

This is his story.

This is our song: Hosanna in the highest.

Therefore, Father, with this bread and this cup
we celebrate the cross
on which he died to set us free.
Defying death he rose again
and is alive with you to plead for us and all the world.

This is his story.

This is our song: Hosanna in the highest.

Send your Spirit on us now
that by these gifts we may feed on Christ
with opened eyes and hearts on fire.
May we and all who share this food
offer ourselves to live for you
and be welcomed at your feast in heaven
where all creation worships you,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. Amen.

We kneel or sit as silence is kept before the Lord's Prayer.

**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 priest breaks the consecrated bread, saying

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 priest invites the people to receive Communion, and says

Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast.

Alleluia.

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 your peace.

COMMUNION HYMN

Love's redeeming work is done;
fought the fight, the battle won:
lo, our Sun's eclipse is o'er,
lo, he sets in blood no more.

Vain the stone, the watch, the seal;
Christ has burst the gates of hell;
death in vain forbids his rise;
Christ has opened paradise.

Lives again our glorious King;
where, O death, is now thy sting?
dying once, he all doth save;
where thy victory, O grave?

Soar we now where Christ has led,
following our exalted Head;
made like him, like him we rise;
ours the cross, the grave, the skies.

Hail the Lord of earth and heaven!
Praise to thee by both be given:
thee we greet triumphant now;
hail, the Resurrection Thou!

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Once communion has been shared we stand when the priest invites us to pray.

*God of gentleness and love
Draw near to us as we draw near to you
Dwell in every heart and conversation
Fashion in us the likeness
of your Son, Jesus Christ.*

*Help us to discern together
all that you are calling us to be
And all that you are calling us to do.
Assist us, by your Spirit, to become
a more contemplative,
more compassionate
and more courageous Church
For the building of your kingdom
and the glory of your Son.
Amen*

NOTICES

We sit to listen to any notices about parish events.

THE DISMISSAL

Stand

The Lord be with you
And also with you

God the Father,
by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead,
strengthen you to walk with him in his risen life;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

THE BLESSING

*As we sing the procession moves to the back of the church.
The Easter Carol is sung and the final dismissal made from the font.*

**Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won;
angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.**

*Thine be the glory,
risen, conquering Son,
endless is the vict'ry
thou o'er death hast won.*

Lo, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom;
let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing.
For her Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting:

CLOSING HYMN

*Thine be the glory,
risen, conquering Son,
endless is the vict'ry
thou o'er death hast won.*

**No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of Life;
life is nought without thee: aid us in our strife,
Make us more than conquerors through thy
deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above:**

Please turn to face The Lady Chapel/statue of our Lady Mary the mother of God as we sing our Easter Carol

EASTER CAROL

**Joy to thee, O Queen of heaven, alleluia!
he whom thou wast meet to bear, alleluia!
as he promised hath arisen, alleluia!
pour for us to God thy prayer. Alleluia!**

Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia!
For the Lord is risen indeed, alleluia!

O God, who by the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ,
have brought joy to the whole world,
grant that with his Mother,
the Blessed Virgin Mary,
we may obtain the joys of everlasting life,
through the same Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Please turn to face the priest for the dismissal

THE DISMISSAL

**With the risen Christ within us,
let us go in the peace of Christ.
Alleluia, Alleluia.**

**Thanks be to God.
Alleluia, Alleluia**