

# St Mary's Church, Walkley



**The Church on the Road:**  
*Inclusive, Eucharistic, a safe place to be with God*

*O Sapientia*

*O Adonai*

*O Radix Jesse*

*O Clavis David*

*O Oriens*

*O Rex Gentium*

*O Emmanuel*

## The 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

### 20<sup>th</sup> December 2020

#### Welcome to St Mary's Church, Walkley

There are some changes to our usual way of worship. It may feel a bit like it does at St Mary's during Lent.

- There won't be any hymns during the service. Later on we might be able to have a cantor singing some of the liturgy, for example the Gloria.
- There won't be a Gospel procession. Instead, the president (the priest leading the service) will read the Gospel from the front of the altar.
- We won't be able to share the Peace in the usual way. Instead, we will remain seated and wave, nod or bow to each other.

## The Gathering

*President* Jesus said,  
'Anyone who does what my Father in heaven wants is my brother or  
sister or mother.'

*All* **Amen. Come soon, Lord Jesus!**

*President* God our Father,  
the angel Gabriel told the Virgin Mary  
that she was to be the mother of your Son.  
Though Mary was afraid,  
she responded to your call with joy.  
Help us, whom you call to serve you,  
to share like her in your great work  
of bringing to our world your love and healing.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ,  
the light who is coming into the world.

*All* **Amen.**

*The fourth candle is lit.*

*President* Reveal among us the light of your presence  
*All* **that we may behold your power and glory.**

*We sit.*

## The Confession and Absolution

*President* When the Lord comes,  
he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness,  
and will disclose the purposes of the heart.  
Therefore in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

1 Corinthians 4.5

*We keep a time of silence.*

*President* Heavenly Father,  
you exalted the humble and meek:  
give us humble and contrite hearts.  
Lord, have mercy.

*All* **Lord, have mercy.**

*President* Lord Jesus,  
you grew towards birth in the Virgin's womb:  
be planted also in our hearts and lives.  
Christ, have mercy.

*All* **Christ, have mercy.**

*President* Holy Spirit,  
you overshadowed Mary,  
that she might become the God-bearer:  
fill us with your heavenly gifts.  
Lord, have mercy.

*All* **Lord, have mercy.**

*President* May the God of love  
bring us back to himself,  
forgive us our sins,  
and assure us of his eternal love  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

### **The Collect**

*President* Let us pray:

God our redeemer,  
who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary  
to be the mother of your Son:  
grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour,  
so we may be ready to greet him  
when he comes again as our judge;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

*All* **Amen.**

*We sit.*

## **The Reading: 2 Samuel 7. 1 - 11, 16**

A reading from the Second Book of Samuel.

Now when the king was settled in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent.' Nathan said to the king, 'Go, do all that you have in mind; for the Lord is with you.'

But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, 'Why have you not built me a house of cedar?' Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure for ever before me; your throne shall be established for ever.

*Reader* This is the word of the Lord.  
*All* **Thanks be to God.**

*We stand.*

## The Gospel Reading: Luke 1. 26 - 38

*President* Alleluia, alleluia.

Mary said: 'I am the servant of the Lord,  
let it be with me according to your word.'

*All* **Alleluia.**

*President* Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

*All* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.' Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

*President* This is the Gospel of the Lord.

*All* **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*We sit.*

## The Sermon

*We stand.*

## The Creed

*President* Let us declare our faith in God,

*All*        **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.**

*We sit or kneel.*

## The Prayers of Intercession

*Intercessor* Lord, in your mercy:  
*All* **Hear our prayer.**

*Or another response is used.*

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

*We stand.*

## The Liturgy of the Sacrament

### The Peace

*President* Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.

*President* The peace of the Lord be always with you  
*All* **and also with you.**

*President* Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*We remain in our seats, sharing the peace through waves to those  
around us as the altar is prepared.*

### The Prayer over the gifts

*President* As the grain once scattered in the fields  
and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside  
are now reunited on this table in bread and wine,  
so, Lord, may your whole Church soon be gathered together  
from the corners of the earth  
into your kingdom.  
*All* **Amen.**

## The Eucharistic Prayer

*President* The Lord is here.

*All* **His Spirit is with us.**

*President* Lift up your hearts.

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

*President* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

*President* It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise,  
almighty God and everlasting Father,  
through Jesus Christ your Son.

He is the one foretold by all the prophets,  
whom the Virgin Mother bore with love beyond all telling.

John the Baptist was his herald  
and made him known when at last he came.

In his love Christ fills us with joy  
as we prepare to celebrate his birth,  
so that when he comes again he may find us watching in prayer,  
our hearts filled with wonder and praise.

And so, with angels and archangels,  
and with all the company of heaven,  
we proclaim your glory,  
and join in their unending hymn of praise:

*All* **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.**

*President* Accept our praises, heavenly Father,  
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
and as we follow his example and obey his command,  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit  
these gifts of bread and wine  
may be to us his body and his blood;



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.

Therefore, heavenly Father,  
we remember his offering of himself  
made once for all upon the cross;  
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;  
we look for the coming of your kingdom,  
and with this bread and this cup  
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

*President* Great is the mystery of faith:

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

*President* Accept through him, our great high priest,  
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,  
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts  
in the presence of your divine majesty,  
renew us by your Spirit,  
inspire us with your love  
and unite us in the body of your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,  
we worship you, Father almighty,  
in songs of everlasting praise:

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

*We sit or kneel.*

## **The Lord's Prayer**

*President* Awaiting his coming in glory,  
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

*All*        **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.**

## **The Breaking of the Bread**

*President* Every time we eat this bread  
and drink this cup,

*All*        **we proclaim the Lord's death  
until he comes.**

## **The Giving of Communion**

*President* Draw near with faith.  
Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ  
which he gave for you,  
and his blood which he shed for you.  
Eat and drink  
in remembrance that he died for you,  
and feed on him in your hearts  
by faith with thanksgiving.

*The president will give instructions on how to come forward for communion and on returning to our seats. All are welcome to come to front for the bread or a blessing. If you would like a blessing please keep your arms folded across your chest at you approach the front. Sanitising stations are available at the front of church to use before receiving.*

## **The Prayer after Communion**

*President* Let us pray.

Heavenly Father,  
who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary  
to be the mother of the promised saviour:  
fill us your servants with your grace,  
that in all things we may embrace your holy will  
and with her rejoice in your salvation;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

*All* **Faithful God,**  
**in baptism you have adopted us as your children,**  
**made us members of the body of Christ**  
**and chosen us as inheritors of your kingdom:**  
**we thank you that in this Eucharist**  
**you renew your promises within us,**  
**empower us by your Spirit to witness and to serve,**  
**and send us out as disciples of your Son,**  
**Jesus Christ our Lord.**  
**Amen.**

*We stand.*

## The Blessing

*President* May God the Father,  
who loved the world so much that he sent his only Son,  
give you grace to prepare for life eternal.

*All* **Amen.**

*President* May God the Son,  
who comes to us as redeemer and judge,  
reveal to you the path from darkness to light.

*All* **Amen.**

*President* May God the Holy Spirit,  
by whose working the Virgin Mary conceived the Christ,  
help you bear the fruits of holiness.

*All* **Amen.**

*President* And the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

*All* **Amen.**

## The Dismissal

*President* As we await our coming Saviour,  
go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

**Why not....?** Join our **Online Coffee Hour** to chat with other parishioners,  
**Sundays 12-1pm. More info:** [stmaryswalkley.co.uk/opt-in-to-hear-from-st-marys/](http://stmaryswalkley.co.uk/opt-in-to-hear-from-st-marys/)

[Click here to come straight to the Online Coffee Room \(open from 12 till 1pm\)](#) – or enter code “irw xxzq bvy” in the [free Google Meet app](#)

**Online Christingle, 4pm Christmas Eve:** Pick up a free **DIY Christingle kit** from **12-2pm on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup>** – you can **reserve kits in advance** to help us order the right number of oranges: <http://tiny.cc/KitMeOut>

**Book for Christmas Services (free):**  
<http://tiny.cc/MidnightMass>    <http://tiny.cc/ChristmasMorning>