

The Parish Church of St Matthew  
Northampton

# Mass

*on the Wednesday of the Second Week  
in Ordinary Time, Year One*



*Jesus healed a man with a withered hand*

*Live streamed from the Vicarage  
during the Coronavirus Pandemic*

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2021

7.30 pm

## Order of Service

### ¶ The Gathering

*A quiet time is observed before Mass*

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

All the earth shall bow down before you, O God,  
and shall sing to you, shall sing to your name, O Most High!

### The Greeting

**All** The Lord of glory be with you  
**and also with you.**

*The service is introduced*

### Prayers of Penitence

Rejoicing in the light of Christ made manifest in our world,  
let us acknowledge all that in us prefers darkness to light.

*A period of silent reflection*

## Confession

**All**      **Most merciful God,**  
**Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,**  
**we confess that we have sinned**  
**in thought, word and deed.**  
**We have not loved you with our whole heart.**  
**We have not loved our neighbour as ourselves.**  
**In your mercy forgive what we have been,**  
**help us to amend what we are,**  
**and direct what we shall be;**  
**that we may do justly,**  
**love mercy,**  
**and walk humbly with you, our God.**  
**Amen.**

## Absolution

May the God of love and power  
forgive you † and free you from your sins,  
heal and strengthen you by his Spirit,  
and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord.

**All**      **Amen.**

## Kyries

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

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

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

## Absolution

May the Father of all mercies  
cleanse † you from your sins,  
and restore you in his image  
to the praise and glory of his name,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All**           **Amen.**

## The Collect

Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God,  
who govern all things, both in heaven and on earth,  
mercifully hear the pleading of your people  
and bestow your peace on our times.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

**All**           **Amen.**

## ¶ The Liturgy of the Word

### First Reading                    Hebrews 7:1-3, 15-17

Reader            A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

This ‘King Melchizedek of Salem, priest of the Most High God, met Abraham as he was returning from defeating the kings and blessed him’; and to him Abraham apportioned ‘one-tenth of everything’. His name, in the first place, means ‘king of righteousness’; next he is also king of Salem, that is, ‘king of peace’. Without father, without mother, without genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but resembling the Son of God, he remains a priest for ever.

It is even more obvious when another priest arises, resembling Melchizedek, one who has become a priest, not through a legal requirement concerning physical descent,

but through the power of an indestructible life. For it is attested of him, ‘You are a priest for ever, according to the order of Melchizedek.’

This is the word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 27:1-5**

The Lord said to my lord, ‘Sit at my right hand,  
until I make your enemies your footstool.’

May the Lord stretch forth the sceptre of your power;  
rule from Zion in the midst of your enemies.

**All The Lord is king and has put on glorious apparel.**

‘Noble are you on this day of your birth;  
on the holy mountain, from the womb of the dawn  
the dew of your new birth is upon you.’

**All The Lord is king and has put on glorious apparel.**

The Lord has sworn and will not retract:  
‘You are a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.’

**All The Lord is king and has put on glorious apparel.**

**Holy Gospel**

Mark 3:1-6

**Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia.

The word of God is something alive and active;  
it can judge secret emotions and thoughts.

**All Alleluia.**

The Lord be with you

**All and also with you.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

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

Again he entered the synagogue, and a man was there who had a withered hand. They watched him to see whether he would cure him on the sabbath, so that they might accuse him. And he said to the man who had the withered hand, ‘Come forward.’ Then he said to them, ‘Is it lawful to do good or to do harm on the sabbath, to save life or to kill?’ But they were silent. He looked around at them with anger; he was grieved at their hardness of heart and said to the man, ‘Stretch out your hand.’ He stretched it out, and his hand was restored. The Pharisees went out and immediately conspired with the Herodians against him, how to destroy him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

## Prayers of the Faithful

Let us pray that Christ may be seen in the life of the Church.

*After each petition*

Jesus, Lord of the Church,  
**in your mercy hear us.**

*After the final petition*

God of mercy,  
**All you know us and love us  
and hear our prayer:  
keep us in the eternal fellowship  
of Jesus Christ our Saviour.  
Amen.**

# ¶ The Liturgy of the Sacrament

## Sign of Peace

Christ came and proclaimed the Gospel,  
peace to those who are far off  
and peace to those who are near.

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

As you are able, let us offer one another a sign of Christ's peace.

## The Offertory

*The altar is prepared*

## Invitation to Prayer

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.**

## Prayer over the Gifts

O Lord, grant we pray  
that we may participate worthily in these mysteries,  
for whenever the memorial of this sacrifice is celebrated  
the work of our redemption is accomplished.  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All** **Amen.**

## The Eucharistic Prayer

**All** 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.**

It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy,  
at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise,  
holy Father, heavenly King, almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

And now we give you thanks  
because you have revealed your eternal plan of salvation,  
and have shown your Son Jesus Christ  
to be the light of the nations.

Therefore with angels and archangels,  
and with all the company of heaven,  
we proclaim your great and glorious name,  
for ever praising you and saying:

**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.**

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.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:  
**All**  
**Dying you destroyed our death,**  
**rising you restored our life:**  
**Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

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.

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.**

*The Blessed Sacrament is elevated and bells are rung*

## The Lord's Prayer

Believing the promises of God,  
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.**

## Breaking of the Bread

The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.  
**All We being many are one body,  
for we all share in the one bread.**  
Into one body we were all baptized,  
**All and one Spirit was given us all to drink.**

## Agnus Dei

**All Jesus, Lamb of God,  
have mercy on us.**  
**Jesus, bearer of our sins,  
have mercy on us.**  
**Jesus, redeemer of the world,  
grant us peace.**

## Invitation to Communion

Behold 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 you,  
but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

*The Priest receives Holy Communion*

## Giving of Communion

We have come to know and to believe in the love that God has for us.

### Spiritual Communion – *for those at home*

*It is an ancient practice of the Church that, when you are prevented from attending the Holy Eucharist, people are invited to express, in the words of St Thomas Aquinas, “an ardent desire to receive Jesus in the Holy Sacrament and a loving embrace as though we had already received Him.” Therefore, during this time you are invited to pray this prayer, which may be said as often as you desire:*

#### Act of Reception

**All      In union, blessed Jesus,  
with the faithful gathered at every altar of your Church  
where your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day,**

*(and remembering particularly my own parish ...)*

**I long to offer you praise and thanksgiving,  
for creation and all the blessings of this life,  
for the redemption won for us by your life, death,  
and resurrection,  
for the means of grace and the hope of glory.**

*(and particularly for the blessings given me ...)*

**I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament,  
and, since I cannot at this time receive communion,  
I pray you to come into my heart.  
I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart,  
my soul, and my mind.  
Let nothing separate me from you;  
let me serve you in this life until, by your grace,  
I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace.  
Amen.**

## Prayer after Communion

Let us pray:

O Lord, may the working of your power increase in us  
so that, renewed by these heavenly sacraments,  
we may be prepared by your gift  
for receiving what they promise.  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All Amen.**

## ¶ Sending Out

The Lord of glory be with you  
**All and also with you.**

## The Blessing

May Christ draw you to humility and worship,  
and bring you to see God at work;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son †, and the Holy Spirit,  
be upon you and remain with you always.

**All Amen.**

## The Dismissal

Go out into the world in peace,  
**All to walk in God's light,**  
**to rejoice in God's love**  
**and to reflect God's glory. Amen.**