



Prayers and Readings for Holy Communion Services

Registered Charity 1132975

03 January 2021

Epiphany

The Collect – (priest only)

O God,
who by the leading of a star
manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth:
mercifully grant that we,
who know you now by faith,
may at last behold your glory face to face;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

First Reading

Isaiah 60.1-6

¹Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.
²For darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will
appear over you.
³Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the
brightness of your dawn.
⁴Lift up your eyes and look around;
they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from far away,
and your daughters shall be carried
on their nurses' arms.
⁵Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought
to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.
⁶A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.
They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall
proclaim the praise of the LORD.

Gospel

Matthew 2.1-12

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, ²'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.' ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" ⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.' ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Post communion – (priest only)

Lord God,
the bright splendour whom the nations seek:
may we who with the wise men have been drawn by
your light discern the glory of your presence in your
Son, the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord.



Prayers and Readings for Holy Communion Services

Registered Charity 1132975

10 January 2021

Baptism of Christ

The Collect – (priest only)

Eternal Father,
who at the baptism of Jesus revealed him to be
your Son, anointing him with the Holy Spirit:
grant to us, who are born again by water and
the Spirit,
that we may be faithful to our calling as your
adopted children;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

First Reading

Genesis 1.1-5

¹In the beginning when God created the
heavens and the earth, ²the earth was a
formless void and darkness covered the face of
the deep, while a wind from God swept over
the face of the waters. ³Then God said, ‘Let
there be light’; and there was light. ⁴And God
saw that the light was good; and God separated
the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the
light Day, and the darkness he called Night.
And there was evening and there was morning,
the first day.

Gospel

Mark 1.4-11

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness,
proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the
forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole
Judean countryside and all the people of
Jerusalem were going out to him, and were
baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing
their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel’s
hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and
he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed,
‘The one who is more powerful than I is
coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop
down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have
baptized you with water; but he will baptize
you with the Holy Spirit.’

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of
Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.
¹⁰And just as he was coming up out of the
water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the
Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a
voice came from heaven, ‘You are my Son, the
Beloved; with you I am well pleased.’

Post communion – (priest only)

Lord of all time and eternity,
you opened the heavens and revealed yourself
as Father
in the baptism of Jesus your beloved Son:
by the power of your Spirit
complete the heavenly work of our rebirth
through the waters of the new creation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



Prayers and Readings for Holy Communion Services

Registered Charity 1132975

17 January 2021

Second Sunday of Epiphany

The Collect – (priest only)

Almighty God, in Christ you make all things new: transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

First Reading

1 Samuel 3.1-10

¹Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

²At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; ³the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. ⁴Then the LORD called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' and he said, 'Here I am!' ⁵and ran to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' But he said, 'I did not call; lie down again.' So he went and lay down. ⁶The LORD called again, 'Samuel!' Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' But he said, 'I did not call, my son; lie down again.' ⁷Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. ⁸The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. ⁹Therefore Eli said to Samuel, 'Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, "Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening."' So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

¹⁰Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, 'Samuel! Samuel!' And Samuel said, 'Speak, for your servant is listening.' ¹¹Then the LORD said to Samuel, 'See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle.

Gospel

John 1.43-51

⁴³The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, 'Follow me.' ⁴⁴Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵Philip found Nathanael and said to him, 'We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth.' ⁴⁶Nathanael said to him, 'Can anything good come out of Nazareth?' Philip said to him, 'Come and see.' ⁴⁷When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, 'Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!' ⁴⁸Nathanael asked him, 'Where did you come to know me?' Jesus answered, 'I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.' ⁴⁹Nathanael replied, 'Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!' ⁵⁰Jesus answered, 'Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.' ⁵¹And he said to him, 'Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.'

Post communion – (priest only)

God of glory, you nourish us with your Word who is the bread of life:
fill us with your Holy Spirit
that through us the light of your glory may shine
in all the world.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.



Prayers and Readings for Holy Communion Services

Registered Charity 1132975

24 January 2021

Third Sunday of Epiphany

The Collect – (priest only)

Almighty God,
whose Son revealed in signs and miracles
the wonder of your saving presence:
renew your people with your heavenly grace,
and in all our weakness
sustain us by your mighty power;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

First Reading

Genesis 14.17-20

¹⁷After Abram's return from the defeat of Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him, the king of Sodom went out to meet him at the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley). ¹⁸And King Melchizedek of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was priest of God Most High. ¹⁹He blessed him and said,

'Blessed be Abram by God Most High,
maker of heaven and earth;

²⁰and blessed be God Most High,

who has delivered your enemies into your hand!'

And Abram gave him one-tenth of everything.

Gospel

John 2.1-11

¹On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ²Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. ³When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' ⁴And Jesus said to her, 'Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.' ⁵His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' ⁶Now standing there were six stone water-jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. ⁷Jesus said to them, 'Fill the jars with water.' And they filled them up to the brim. ⁸He said to them, 'Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.' So they took it. ⁹When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, ¹⁰'Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.' ¹¹Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

Post communion – (priest only)

Almighty Father,
whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ is the light of the world:
may your people, illumined by your word and sacraments, shine with the radiance of his glory, that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth;
for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.



Prayers and Readings for Holy Communion Services

Registered Charity 1132975

31 January 2021

Presentation of Christ in the Temple

The Collect – (priest only)

Almighty and ever-living God, clothed in majesty, whose beloved Son was this day presented in the Temple, in substance of our flesh:
grant that we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts, by your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

First Reading

Malachi 3.1-5

Thus says the Lord God: ¹See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight – indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. ²But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; ³he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. ⁴Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

⁵Then I will draw near to you for judgement; I will be swift to bear witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired workers in their wages, the widow, and the orphan, against those who thrust aside the alien, and do not fear me, says the LORD of hosts.

Gospel

Luke 2.22-40

²²When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, Mary and Joseph brought Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord. ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), ²⁴and they

offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.'

²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, ²⁹'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; ³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation, ³¹which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.'

³³And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed – and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

³⁶There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

Post communion – (priest only)

Lord, you fulfilled the hope of Simeon and Anna, who lived to welcome the Messiah: may we, who have received these gifts beyond words, prepare to meet Christ Jesus when he comes to bring us to eternal life; for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.



Prayers and Readings for Holy Communion Services

Registered Charity 1132975

07 February 2021

Second Sunday before Lent

The Collect – (priest only)

Almighty God,
you have created the heavens and the earth
and made us in your own image:
teach us to discern your hand in all your works
and your likeness in all your children;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme
over all things, now and for ever.

First Reading

Proverbs 8.1,22-31

¹Does not wisdom call, and does not understanding
raise her voice?

²²The LORD created me at the beginning of his
work, the first of his acts of long ago.

²³Ages ago I was set up, at the first, before the
beginning of the earth.

²⁴When there were no depths I was brought forth,
when there were no springs abounding with water.

⁵Before the mountains had been shaped,
before the hills, I was brought forth –

²⁶when he had not yet made earth and fields,
or the world's first bits of soil.

²⁷When he established the heavens, I was there,
when he drew a circle on the face of the deep,

²⁸when he made firm the skies above,
when he established the fountains of the deep,

²⁹when he assigned to the sea its limit,
so that the waters might not transgress his
command,

when he marked out the foundations of the earth,

³⁰then I was beside him, like a master worker;
and I was daily his delight, rejoicing before him

always, ³¹rejoicing in his inhabited world
and delighting in the human race.

Gospel

John 1.1-14

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was
with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the
beginning with God. ³All things came into being
through him, and without him not one thing came
into being. ⁴What has come into being in him was
life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The
light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did
not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was
John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light,
so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself
was not the light, but he came to testify to the
light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone,
was coming into the world.

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into
being through him; yet the world did not know
him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own
people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who
received him, who believed in his name, he gave
power to become children of God, ¹³who were
born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of
the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us,
and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a
father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Post communion – (priest only)

God our creator, by your gift the tree of life was
set at the heart of the earthly paradise,
and the bread of life at the heart of your Church:
may we who have been nourished at your table on
earth be transformed by the glory of the Saviour's
cross and enjoy the delights of eternity;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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