



[Please stand if you are able]

The Greeting and Welcome

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Opening Responses

O God, who called all life into being,
the earth, sea and sky are yours.

Your presence is all around us;
every atom is full of your energy.

Your Spirit enlivens all who walk the earth.

***With you we yearn for justice to be done,
for creation to be free from threat,
for the hungry to be fed,
for captives to be released,
for your kingdom of peace to come on earth.***

Hymn No. 78 Thanks and Praise (Ebenezer (Ton-y-botel))

Jesus, tempted in the desert,
lonely, hungry, filled with dread:
'Use your power,' the tempter tells him;
'turn these barren rocks to bread!'

'Not alone by bread', he answers,
'can the human heart be filled.
Only by the Word that calls us
is our deepest hunger stilled!'

Jesus, tempted at the temple,
high above its ancient wall:
'Throw yourself from lofty turret;
angels wait to break your fall!'
Jesus shuns such empty marvels,
feats that fickle crowds request:
'God, whose grace protects,
preserves us,
We must never vainly test.'

Jesus, tempted on the mountain
by the lure of vast domain;
'Fall before me! Be my servant!
Glory, fame you're sure to gain!'
Jesus sees the dazzling vision,
turns his eyes another way:
'God alone deserves our homage!
God alone will I obey!'

When we face temptation's power,
lonely, struggling, filling with dread,
Christ, who knew the tempter's hour,
come and be our living bread.
By your grace, protect, preserve us
lest we fall, your trust betray.
Yours, above all other voices,
be the Word, we hear, obey.

[Please kneel or sit]

The Penitence

O God, gladly we live and move and
have our being in you.

Yet always in the midst of creation's glory,
we see sin's shadow and feel death's darkness.

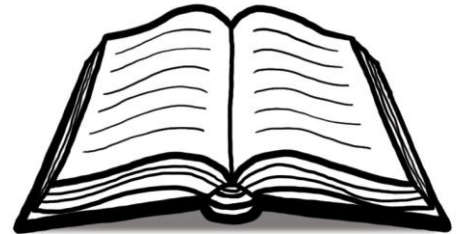
It is around us in the earth, sea and sky, in the abuse of matter.
It is beside us in the broken, the hungry and the poor,
in the betrayal of one another;
and often, deep within us,
in a striving against your Spirit.

*O Trinity of Love,
forgive us that we may forgive one another,
heal us that we may become people of healing,
and renew us that we may be makers of peace. Amen.*

The Collect of the Second Sunday of Lent

Almighty God,
you show to those who are in error the light of your truth
that they may return to the way of righteousness:
grant to all those who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion,
that they may reject those things that are contrary to their profession,
and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same;
through our Lord Jesus Christ.
Amen

The following collect may be said daily in Lent:
**Almighty and everlasting God,
you hate nothing that you have made
and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent:
create and make in us new and contrite hearts
that we, worthily lamenting our sins
and acknowledging our wretchedness,
may receive from you, the God of all mercy,
perfect remission and forgiveness;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen**



[Please sit]

The Old Testament Reading - Genesis 17: 1-7, 15-16

The first reading is from the book of Genesis, chapter 17, beginning at verse 1.

17 When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, 'I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. ²And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous.' ³Then Abram fell on his

face; and God said to him, ⁴As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁵No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁶I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. ⁷I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.

15 God said to Abraham, 'As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. ¹⁶I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.'

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

[Please stand if you are able]

Psalm 91 - Hymn No. 173 Thanks and Praise (On Eagles' Wings)

[Verse 1 and Chorus]

You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,
who abide in his shadow for life,
say to the Lord, "My refuge,
my rock in whom I trust."

*And he will raise you up on eagles' wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,*

*make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of his hand.*

[Please sit]

The New Testament Reading - Mark 8: 31-38

The second reading is from the gospel according to Saint Mark, chapter 8, beginning at verse 31.

31 Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.'

34 He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be

ashamed when he comes in the glory
of his Father with the holy angels.'

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

[Please stand if you are able]

**Rest of Hymn No. 173 Thanks and
Praise (On Eagles' Wings)**

[Verses 2 and 3 and Chorus]

Snares of the fowler will never
capture you,
and famine will bring you no fear;
under his wings your refuge,
with faithfulness your shield.

*And he will raise you up on eagles'
wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of his hand.*

For to his angels he's given a
command,
to guard you in all of your ways;
upon their hands they will bear you
up,
lest you dash your foot against a
stone.

*And he will raise you up on eagles'
wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of his hand,
and hold you, hold you, in the palm of
his hand.*

The Sermon

[Please stand, if you are able]

Affirmation of Faith

Let us confess the faith of the
Church.

***We believe in God in whom is
power and compassion.***

***We believe in the creator
who gave birth to the universe,
who set solar systems dancing in
space,
who shaped molecules and
mountains,
and who conceived beauty beyond
our imagining.***

***God's power topples tyrants,
and brings down walls of
separation;
God's love embodies the tenderness
of a mother and father,
encouraging and caring for each of
us.***

***We believe in Jesus,
who was born in obscurity in an
occupied land;
a human being,
vulnerable to hunger, thirst,
persecution and grief.
He understood the power of love
and confronted the powers of evil,
he spoke the truth with courage
and clarity,***

forgave his enemies and changed lives.

In his living, dying and rising again he showed love strong enough to save the world.

We believe in the Holy Spirit who sustains, comforts and empowers us, who opens the scriptures, opens our minds, and illuminates earth's darkness. Amen.

Peace is Flowing (Pie Jesu by Lloyd Webber)

*Peace is flowing like a river,
Flowing out through you and me,
Spreading out into the desert,
Setting all the captives free,
Setting all the captives free.*

Love is flowing...

Faith is flowing...

Hope is flowing...

[Please sit or kneel]

Intercessions

The Lord's Prayer

[Please stand if you are able]

The collection will be received during the singing

of this hymn. We recognise that many people give online and via Standing Order, and do not put any collection in the basket. If you wish to donate to the church online or electronically, the treasurers would be happy to give you the required details.

Hymn No. 595 (Creator God)

*Safe in the shadow of the Lord
beneath his hand and power,
I trust in him,
I trust in him,
my fortress and my tower.*

*My hope is set on God alone
though Satan spreads his snare;
I trust in him,
I trust in him,
to keep me in his care.*

*From fears and phantoms of the
night,
from foes about my way,
I trust in him,
I trust in him,
by darkness and by day.*

*His holy angels keep my feet
secure from every stone;
I trust in him,
I trust in him,
and unafraid go on.*

*Strong in the everlasting Name,
and in my Father's care,
I trust in him,
I trust in him,
who hears and answers prayer.*

*Safe in the shadow of the Lord,
possessed by love divine,
I trust in him,*

I trust in him,
and meet his love with mine.

The Blessing

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, that we may abound in hope, in the power of the Holy Spirit, and the blessing of God almighty, The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us, this day and for evermore. **Amen.**

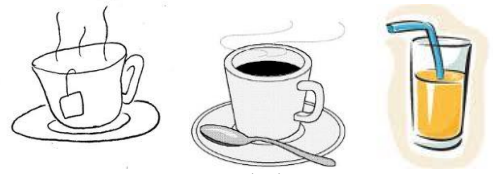
The Closing Responses

May the God of Peace inspire us, may the God of Justice empower us, and may the God of Hope encourage us, so that we go in the power of the Spirit.

Go, in the power of the Spirit.
Go, and do not try to separate politics and prayer.
Go, not to escape, but to engage with God's world.
Go, to live hopefully, as people of the resurrection.
Amen.

In the interests of trying to keep all who come to our churches safe, please take away this service sheet and any other items that you may have brought with you or used in church this morning. Thank you.

Stay well and stay safe.



Tea/Coffee/Juice

You are warmly invited to tea/coffee/juice in the South Transept after the 11.00 Service in St Philip and St James' Church.

FORTHCOMING SERVICES

Wednesday 28th February 2024

10.30 Midweek Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

Sunday 3rd March 2024

8.30 Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

9.30 Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

11.00 Holy Communion in St Philip and St James' Church (live-streamed)

Wednesday 6th March 2024

10.30 Midweek Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

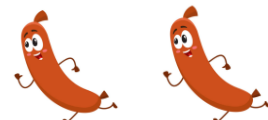
Sunday 10th March 2024

8.30 Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

9.30 Morning Prayer in St Thomas' Church

11.00 Morning Prayer in St Philip and St James' Church (live-streamed)

18.30 Sausage Service in St Philip and St James' Church, followed by sausages and wedges



Wednesday 13th March 2024

10.30 Midweek Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

Sunday 17th March 2024 – St Patrick's Day

8.30 Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

9.30 Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

11.00 Holy Communion in St Philip and St James' Church (live-streamed)

Wednesday 20th March 2024

10.30 Midweek Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

**Sunday 24th March 2024 – Palm Sunday**

8.30 Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

10.30 United Daffodil Service in St Philip and St James' Church (live-streamed)

followed by Daffodil Coffee Morning and Bring-and-Buy in St Philip and St James' Parish Centre.

Holy Week**Monday 25th March**

20.00 Evening Service in St Thomas' Church

Tuesday 26th March 2024

20.00 Evening Service in St Philip and St James' Church

Wednesday 27th March 2024

10.30 Midweek Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

20.00 Evening Service in St Thomas' Church

Thursday 28th March 2024 - Maundy Thursday

20.00 The Last Supper – Holy Communion in St Philip and St James' Church

Friday 29th March 2024 – Good Friday

14.00 Meditation on the Cross in St Thomas' Church

20.00 Ecumenical Prayers at the Cross in St Philip and St James' Church

**Sunday 31st March 2024 –
Easter Day**

8.30 Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

9.30 Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

11.00 Holy Communion in St Philip and St James' Church (live-streamed)

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

Tuesday afternoon—3.30pm—4.10pm

In the Canon Osborne Barr Room of St Philip and St James' Parish Centre

Contact Irene on 087-2755423

irene.reid1052@gmail.com

**MOUNT MERRION
SELECT VESTRY MEETING
MONDAY 26TH FEBRUARY 2024
19.30 HOURS VIA ZOOM**

**BOOTERSTOWN AND
CARYSFORT
SELECT VESTRY
THURSDAY 21ST MARCH 2024
19.30 HOURS
IN THE PARISH ROOM (BACK
ROOM) OF ST PHILIP AND ST
JAMES' PARISH CENTRE**



Confirmation Class for teenagers

**Next class is on Wednesday 28th
February 2024 at 18.30
St Philip and St James' Church**

**Confirmation and Enquirers
Class for adults is on
Wednesday 28th February 2024
at 20.15 hours on Zoom**



Sunday Clubs

Our Sunday Clubs have had very enjoyable gatherings over the past few months.

St Philip and St James' Sunday will meet on the following dates:

Sunday 10th March 2024

Sunday 28th April 2024

Sunday 12th May 2024

St Thomas' Sunday Club will meet on the following dates:

Sunday 3rd March 2024

Sunday 21st April 2024

Sunday 12th May 2024

All children who are toilet-trained are welcome!



Daffodil Service and Daffodil Coffee Morning with Bring-and-Buy

Sunday 24th March 2024

8.30 United Service of Holy
Communion - St Thomas'
Church

**10.30 United Family
Service for Daffodil Day -
St Philip and St James'
Church**

*followed by Daffodil Coffee Morning
with Bring-and-Buy in St Philip and
St James' Parish Centre*

At this Service, we will pray for those who are undergoing treatment for cancer, and for all who are involved in the healing and care of people with cancer; and for those who are undertaking research into the treatment and cure of cancer. We are going to give thanks for the recovery of those who have survived cancer and remember those who have died from cancer.

Tea/coffee will be served after the service in the South Transept of the church in aid of the Irish Cancer Society, and there will also be a Bring and Buy Stall in aid of the Irish Cancer Society.



Lenten Challenge

Gillian is off again!

**She is walking at least 5km
every day of Lent 2024.**

**Wednesday 14th February –
Saturday 30th March 2024**

Lent is the season for examining ourselves and seeing how we can more fully reflect the life and love of Christ and his commandment to us to love our neighbour as ourselves. That means respecting and caring for others and for ourselves.

Therefore, again, this Lent, I am encouraging people to take up something that gives you a focus each day and that benefits you physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually.

This year, I am walking each day for my physical, mental, emotional and spiritual wellbeing and for the victims of the conflict between

Palestine and Israel.
(channelled through the Bishops' Appeal to Christian Aid who are working on the ground with local agencies), and to assist with the re-building of Al-Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza which was founded and is managed by the Anglican Diocese of Jerusalem (which covers Jordan, Palestine, Lebanon, Syria and Israel). It is the only Christian hospital in the Gaza strip and the only cancer hospital in Gaza. It normally treats approximately 45,000 patients a year. Al-Ahli Hospital in Gaza welcomes all people regardless of their faith or background.

You can make a donation by
online banking to

**Boosterstown and Mount
Merrion Account**

IBAN: IE30IPBS99062932796541

BIC: IPBSIE2D