



St John the Evangelist, Dee Why

HOLY FAMILY

27 December 2020

THE HOLY EUCHARIST



Please turn off mobile phones.

If at home, please participate in the [streamed service](#) for this Sunday, using [this order of service](#).

PROCESSIONAL HYMN *NEH 37*

1 The great God of heaven
is come down to earth,
His mother a Virgin,
and sinless his birth;
The Father eternal
his Father alone:
He sleeps in the manger;
he reigns on the throne:

*Then let us adore him,
and praise his great love:
To save us poor sinners
he came from above.*

2 A babe on the breast of
a maiden he lies,
Yet sits with the Father
on high in the skies;
Before him their faces
the seraphim hide,
While Joseph stands waiting,
unscared, by his side:

3 Lo! here is Emmanuel,
here is the Child,
The Son that was promised
to Mary so mild;
Whose power and dominion
shall ever increase,
The Prince that shall rule o'er
a kingdom of peace:

4 The Wonderful Counsellor,
boundless in might,
The Father's own image,
the beam of his light;
Behold him now wearing

the likeness of man,
Weak, helpless, and speechless,
in measure a span:

5 O wonder of wonders,
which none can unfold:
The Ancient of days is
an hour or two old;
The Maker of all things
is made of the earth,
Man is worshipped by angels,
and God comes to birth:

Henry Ramsden Bramley 1833–1917

INTRODUCTORY RITES

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

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Priest may introduce the Liturgy.

PENITENTIAL RITE

This prayer of preparation may be said.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Deacon invites the people to recall their sins.

Merciful God, our maker and our judge, we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, and in what we have failed to do: we have not loved you with our whole heart, we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves; we repent and are sorry for all our sins. Father, forgive us. Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Priest pronounces the Absolution.

KYRIE ELEISON

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS *SIT when sung by cantors*

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

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.

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. Amen.

THE COLLECT

(Readers please wait until the Collect is concluded)

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE FIRST READING *Genesis 15:1-6, 21:1-3* *SIT*

A reading from the book of Genesis

The word of the Lord was spoken to Abram in a vision, 'Have no fear, Abram, I am your shield; your reward will be very great.'

'My Lord,' Abram replied 'what do you intend to give me? I go childless...' Then Abram said, 'See, you have given me no descendants; some man of my household will be my heir.' And then this word of the Lord was spoken to him, 'He shall not be your heir; your heir shall be of your own flesh and blood.' Then taking him outside he said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified.

The Lord dealt kindly with Sarah as he had said, and did what he had promised. So Sarah conceived and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the time God had promised. Abraham named the son born to him Isaac, the son to whom Sarah had given birth.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Ps 104:1-6,8-9 R̥ vv. 7,8*

R̥ The Lord remembers his covenant for ever

1 Give thanks to the Lord, tell his name,
make known his deeds among the peoples.
O sing to him, sing his praise;
tell all his wonderful works!

R̥ The Lord remembers his covenant for ever

2 Be proud of his holy name,
let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice.
Consider the Lord and his strength;
constantly seek his face.

R̥ The Lord remembers his covenant for ever

3 Remember the wonders he has done,
his miracles, the judgements he spoke.
O children of Abraham, his servant,
O sons of the Jacob he chose.

R̥ The Lord remembers his covenant for ever

4 He remembers his covenant for ever,
his promise for a thousand generations,
the covenant he made with Abraham,
the oath he swore to Isaac.

THE SECOND READING *Hebrews 11:8,11-12,17-19*

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a country that was the inheritance given to him and his descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was going. It was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who had made the promise would be faithful to it. Because of this, there came from one man, and one who was already as good as dead himself, more descendants than could be counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the seashore.

It was by faith that Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac. He offered to sacrifice his only son even though the promises had been made to him and he had been told: *It is through Isaac that your name will be carried on.* He was confident that God had the power even to raise the dead; and so, figuratively speaking, he was given back Isaac from the dead.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE ALLELUIA VERSE

STAND

Alleluia, Alleluia!

In the past God spoke to our fathers through the prophets; now he speaks to us through his Son.

Alleluia!

THE HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 2:22-40*

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke

✠ Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord, — observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: *Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord* — and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.

Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel’s comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God; and he said:

‘Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace, just as you promised;

because my eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared for all the nations to see, a light to enlighten the pagans

and the glory of your people Israel.’

As the child’s father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him, Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, ‘You see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is rejected — and a sword will pierce your own soul too — so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid bare.’

There was a prophetess also, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well on in years. Her days of girlhood over, she had been married for seven years before becoming a widow. She was now eighty-four years old and never left the Temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayer. She

came by just at that moment and began to praise God; and she spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem.

When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God’s favour was with him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

HOMILY

SIT

PROFESSION OF FAITH

STAND

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, *(all bow:)* was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human. 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.

THE PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Lord, hear our prayer, hear our prayer.

Lord, hear our prayer, hear our prayer.

At the conclusion:

Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers. **Grant that what we have asked in faith we may by your grace receive, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE GREETING OF PEACE

We are the Body of Christ.

His Spirit is with us.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

All exchange the greeting of peace.

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PREPARATION OF THE ALTAR AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY HYMN

NEH 40

- 1 **What child is this, who, laid to rest
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds worship and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring him praise
The Babe, the son of Mary.**
- 2 **Why lies he in such mean estate,
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Come, have no fear, God's son is here,
His love all loves exceeding:
Nails, spear, shall pierce him through,
The cross be borne for me, for you:
Hail, hail, the Saviour comes,
The Babe, the son of Mary.**
- 3 **So bring him incense, gold and myrrh,
All tongues and peoples own him,
The King of kings salvation brings,
Let every heart enthrone him:
Raise, raise your song on high
While Mary sings a lullaby,
Joy, joy, for Christ is born,
The Babe, the son of Mary.**

W. Chatterton Dix 1837–98 and others

Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

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 holy Church.

The Priest then says the Prayer over the Gifts

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 our thanks and praise.

The Priest continues with the Preface, after which is sung:

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.

KNEEL

The Priest continues with the Prayer of Consecration.

After the Words of Institution, when he has replaced the chalice on the altar and genuflected, the Priest says:

The mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

The Priest concludes the Eucharistic Prayer with these words:

. . . in songs of never-ending praise:

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

COMMUNION RITE

The Priest invites all to join in the Lord's Prayer.

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.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

As he begins to break the Bread, the Priest says:

We who are many are one body,

for we all share in the one Bread.

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.

The Priest then invites the people to Communion:

Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sin of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

Those who are to receive Holy Communion or a Blessing come forward. At home, please make an act of spiritual communion.

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

CONCLUDING RITE

STAND

The Priest says the Post-Communion prayer

Father, we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice through Jesus Christ our Lord. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Priest gives the blessing and all respond: Amen.

Go in the peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

FINAL HYMN

NEH 34

- 1 **ONCE in royal David's city
Stood a lowly cattle shed.
Where a mother laid her baby
In a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.**
- 2 **He came down to earth from heaven
Who is God and Lord of all,
And his shelter was a stable,
And his cradle was a stall;
With the poor and mean and lowly
Lived on earth our Saviour holy.**
- 3 **And through all his wondrous childhood
Day by day, like us he grew,
He was little, weak and helpless,
Tears and smiles like us he knew:
And he feeleth for our sadness,
And he shareth in our gladness.**
- 4 **And our eyes at last shall see him,
Through his own redeeming love,
For that child so dear and gentle
Is our Lord in heaven above;
And he leads his children on
To the place where he is gone.**
- 5 **Not in that poor lowly stable,
With the oxen standing by,
We shall see him; but in heaven,
Set at God's right hand on high;
Where like stars his children crowned
All in white shall wait around.**

Mrs C.F. Alexander 1818–95

Copyright Acknowledgements:

A Prayer Book for Australia, Broughton Books, 1995

The New English Hymnal, Canterbury Press, 1986

Together in Song, HarperCollins 1999

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This Sunday

Solemn Eucharist streamed on our website

(watch at any time after it is uploaded)



FROM THE RECTOR

27 December 2020

Dear Friends,

Once again, we are unable to gather together for worship. For many of us, this has been a difficult and possibly lonely Christmas. Perhaps we can use this experience to express prayerful solidarity with Christians throughout the world who experience persecution or repression because of their faith, who must worship discreetly and in shadows, but who, with us, rejoice at the birth of a Saviour who has redeemed the world. Pray, too, for the many millions still living under severe restrictions in areas of high risk because of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The presentation of Jesus in the temple is not simply the fulfilling of the mosaic law. It shows that, from his childhood, Jesus lived in a family which accepted humbly the religion of their fathers. The greatness of Mary and Joseph is to have generously accepted the mysterious calling of their son, when offering him to the Lord.

Thank you for your kind Christmas wishes, cards, and tokens of your affection to Sandra and me. We look forward to another year of living and ministering among you, hopefully in more normal times!

With every blessing,

Fr Steven

Parish News

Many thanks to everyone who helped prepare for and took part in the offering of our online Christmas liturgies. Special thanks to the choir, Music Director and servers.

Please pray for our civil leaders, especially our Premier Gladys Berejiklian and Minister for Health and local MP Brad Hazzard, as they oversee the measures to deal with the current Covid-19 crisis on the Northern Beaches.

Christmas Bowl: Assuming we are able to gather once again, please hand in your envelope **next Sunday, the feast of the Epiphany (3 January)** as your gift for Jesus in the poor. *Alternatively, you can send your donation directly to the Christmas Bowl Appeal*

<https://gifts.actforpeace.org.au/collections/christmas-bowl-gifts>

Happy Birthday: Sandra Salmon (28th), Christopher Rynd (30th), Neridah Byrne, Tony Krepler (1st)

Weekly Offerings: Regular weekly giving is vital for the mission and ministry of St John's to continue in the current crisis. A convenient way to do this is to make a direct debit from your bank account weekly or monthly—whatever suits you.

If this is your preference our bank details are: **BSB: 032094** **ACCOUNT: 810026**

St John's Anglican Church acknowledges the traditional custodians of this land and pays respect to all Aboriginal people, and to their families past and present.

HOW TO CONTACT US

Where to find us:	Cnr Avon Road and Oaks Avenue, Dee Why 2099	
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Facebook Page:	https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsAnglicanChurchDeeWhy/	
YouTube Channel:	https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkM2U0AH5wU_N9XNMk3tBzg	

Coronavirus Crisis

No Public Services at St John's

Once again we find ourselves under lockdown and restrictions as a result of the Covid-19 infection cluster on the Northern Beaches.

As a parish in the Catholic Tradition, the celebration of the Eucharist is the central focus of our identity as Christians and our relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ. Not to worship together and to receive the Sacraments of the Church is counter to all we stand for. However, we understand the desire of the Government to maintain safe social distancing at this time.

We must therefore comply with lawful directives and regretfully have cancelled all public services until further notice.

We are continuing to live-stream the **Sunday Mass celebrated at St John's** (without the public) on our website

www.stjohnsdeewhy.org.au,

as well as our parish Facebook page at

<https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsAnglicanChurchDeeWhy>.

We hope you will use this and participate fully in the worship at home, making a Spiritual Communion.

We are once again putting in place processes and strategies that will ensure that our parish family are kept in touch with and cared for during this testing time. Please feel free to contact Father Steven, the office, or any of the clergy, wardens, or ministry team if you have any questions or concerns. We will be making sure in due course that sacramental ministry is available to our people in spite of being unable to meet in public worship.

Please pray for the Archbishop, our civic leaders and the parish.

With every blessing,

Father Steven

THE WEEK AHEAD AT ST JOHN'S

Although we cannot gather for public worship, the Mass is being offered each day (except Tuesdays) by Father Steven, as well as the daily offices of the Church.

You may like to **pray at home** at these times, making a **Spiritual Communion**.

- Mon 28 Dec *HOLY INNOCENTS (Boxing Day Public Holiday)*
10:00am Holy Eucharist
- Tue 29 Dec *S. Thomas Becket*
No service today
- Wed 30 Dec **10:00am Holy Eucharist with Healing Prayers**
5:30-7:30pm Street Mission: Wednesday Night Café (Takeaway only)
- Thu 31 Dec *S. Silverster*
12noon Holy Eucharist
- Fri 1 Jan *MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD (New Year's Day Public Holiday)*
10:00am Holy Eucharist
- 5:30pm No Sacrament of Reconciliation this Friday**
(A priest is normally available in the church for Confessions from 5:30pm to 6:00pm or contact Fr Steven for other times)
- Sat 2 Jan *Ss BASIL THE GREAT AND GREGORY NAZIANZEN*
9:00am Holy Eucharist

- Sun 3 Jan **BAPTISM OF THE LORD**
(If we are once again able to meet, otherwise the same as this Sunday)

8:00am **Holy Eucharist**

10:00am **Family Eucharist with Godly Play**
streamed on our website and Facebook page

6:00pm **Evening Prayer (Vespers) in the chapel**

COMING EVENTS

Sun 10 Jan **Baptism of the Lord**

Tue 2 Feb **Presentation of the Lord (Candlemas) – 12noon Mass**

Sat 6 Feb **Op Shop**

For more information please visit our website www.stjohnsdeewhy.org.au