



St Mary
the Virgin



Ninth Sunday after Trinity

The Eucharist

Sunday August 2nd 2026

10.45am

Welcome to Saint Mary's Church in the Parish of Witney.

We are an inclusive church embracing a hospitable Christianity.

Everyone is welcome at this service. If you usually receive communion please join us – or please come forward to receive a blessing.

If you are interested in becoming a part of what is happening through the church please speak to one of the welcomers afterwards. We also have Welcome Packs available with more information – please ask!

The Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) is a simple and secure way for churches to receive regular donations. It is an established service for managing Direct Debit donations, designed to support churches to fund their mission and ministry. Talk to one of the church wardens to find out more or for help signing up, or pick up a leaflet at the North door.

This service is live-streamed. If you do not want to appear on the stream please speak to the Welcomers or Duty Wardens.

As the sacristy bell sounds all stand

The Procession

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven,
To his feet thy tribute bring;
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
Who like me his praise should sing?
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise the everlasting King.

Praise him for his grace and favour
To our fathers in distress;
Praise him still the same as ever,
Slow to chide, and swift to bless:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Glorious in his faithfulness.

Father-like, he tends and spares us,
Well our feeble frame he knows;
In his hands he gently bears us,
Rescues us from all our foes:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Widely as his mercy flows.

Angels, help us to adore him;
Ye behold him face to face;
Sun and moon, bow down before him,
Dwellers all in time and space:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise with us the God of grace.

Words: H. F. Lyte, 1793-1847
Music: John Goss, 1800-1880

The Greeting

In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All Amen.

The Lord be with you
All and also with you.

The service is introduced.

Prayers of Penitence

The priest invites us to confession in these or similar words.

God so loved the world
that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ
to save us from our sins,
to be our advocate in heaven,
and to bring us to eternal life.
Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith,
firmly resolved to keep God's commandments
and to live in love and peace with all.

Silence is kept.

**All Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,**

**who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name.
Amen.**

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.

Gloria in Excelsis

We sing together:

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his 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

Let us pray:

Almighty God,
who sent your Holy Spirit
to be the life and light of your Church:
open our hearts to the riches of your grace,
that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit
in love and joy and peace;
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.

All Amen

The Liturgy of the Word

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah (*Isaiah 55.1-5*)

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy?

Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live.

I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

Be thou my guardian and my guide,
and hear me when I call;
let not my slippery footsteps slide,
and hold me lest I fall.

The world, the flesh, and Satan dwell
around the path I tread;
O save me from the snares of hell,
thou quickener of the dead.

And if I tempted am to sin,
and outward things are strong,
do thou, O Lord, keep watch within,
and save my soul from wrong.

Still let me ever watch and pray,
and feel that I am frail;
that if the tempter cross my way,
yet he may not prevail.

Words: Isaac Williams, 1802–1865
Music: Isaac Smith, 1734–1805

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans (*Romans 9.1-5*).

I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit— I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh. They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

We stand and face the reader as the book of the Gospel as is carried amongst us.

The organ plays over, then we sing twice:



The Lord be with you

All and also with you.

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

All Glory to you, O Lord.

Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, 'This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.' Jesus said to them, 'They need not go away; you give them something to eat.' They replied, 'We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.' And he said, 'Bring them here to me.' Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

We sit

The Sermon

The Creed

Let us declare before God the faith of the Church:

**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.**

Intercessions

In the power of the Spirit, and in union with Christ
let us pray to the Father.

The Intercessor may use the response

Lord in your mercy
All Hear our prayer.

And at the end:

Merciful Father,
**All Accept these prayers
For the sake of your Son
Our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen**

All stand

The Peace

Blessed are the peacemakers:
they shall be called children of God.
We meet in the name of Christ and share his peace.
The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

The Offertory Hymn

We stand as the Offertory Hymn is sung and the gifts of bread and wine are placed upon the Altar.

You can give to the work of the Church by signing up to the Parish Giving Scheme, or by using these bank details - Witney PCC, Sort Code 20-97-48, Account Number 00971626.

There is also a card reader by the North Door,

All that we bring to the altar is a gift from God, and our offering back to God is a sign of the offering of our lives in the Lord's service.

Alleluya, sing to Jesus, his the sceptre, his the throne;
Alleluya, his the triumph, has the victory alone:
Hark the songs of peaceful Sion thunder like a mighty flood,
Jesus out of every nation hath redeemed us by his blood.

Alleluya, not as orphans are we left I sorrow now;
Alleluya, he is near us, Faith believes, nor questions how;
Through the cloud from sight received him when the forty days
were o'er,
Shall our hearts forget his promise, 'I am with you evermore'?

Alleluya, Bread of Angels, thou on earth our food, our stay;
Alleluya, here the sinful flee to thee from day to day;

Intercessor, friend of sinners, Earth's redeemer, plead for me,
Where the songs of all the sinless sweep across the crystal sea.

Alleluya, King eternal, thee the Lord of Lords we own;
Alleluya, born of Mary, earth thy footstool, heaven thy throne:
Thou within me the veil hast entered robed in flesh, our great
High Priest;
Thou on earth both Priest and Victim in the Eucharistic Feast.

Words: W.CHATTERTON DIX, 1837-98

Music: HYFRYDOL

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you
All And also with you
Lift up your hearts
All We lift them to the Lord
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God
All It is right to give thanks and praise

Father, we give you thanks and praise
through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, your living Word,
through whom you have created all things;
who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our Saviour.
By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh;
as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin,
he lived on earth and went about among us;
he opened wide his arms for us on the cross;
he put an end to death by dying for us;
and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life;
so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.
Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and singing:

**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.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

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.

Great is the mystery of faith
**All Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;

rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.
As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of Mary the Mother of God,
and all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever.

All Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Rejoicing in God's new creation, 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

The Priest breaks the consecrated host

We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

**All Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

Agnus Dei

**All 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 peace.**

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
Happy 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.**

*All who are used to receiving Communion are welcome to do so here
– please make your way to the altar as directed by the Sidesperson.*

*If you do not wish to receive Communion, you are warmly invited to
come forward for a blessing – please approach the president carrying
this booklet. Gluten free wafers are available on request.*

The Communion Hymn

I am the bread of life,
Those who come to me shall not hunger,
Those who believe in me shall not thirst
No one can come to me
Unless the Father draw them.

Refrain

And I will raise him up,
And I will raise him up
And I will raise him up
On the last day

The bread that I will give
Is my flesh for the life of the world
And those who eat of this bread
They shall live forever
They shall live forever. *Refrain.*

I am the resurrection,
I am the life,
If you believe in me,
Even though you die,
You shall live forever. *Refrain.*

Yes, Lord, I believe
That you are the Christ,
The Son of God,
Who has come
Into the World. *Refrain.*

Words and Music: Suzanne Toolan

Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray:

Holy Father,
who gathered us here around the table of your Son
to share this meal with the whole household of God:
in that new world where you reveal the fullness of your peace,
gather people of every race and language
to share in the eternal banquet of Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen

**All Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out
in the power of your Spirit
to live and work
to your praise and glory.
Amen.**

Prayers at the End of a Ministry

The Priest invites Julia Bee to come forward

Today we mark a turning point in our life together, as the
ministry of Julia as Anna Chaplain comes to an end.

We are the Body of Christ:

All each of us is a member of it.

There is one ministry of Christ:

All in this ministry we all share.

There are different ways of serving God:
All it is the same Lord whom we serve.

Julia responded to God's call to serve as Anna Chaplain in this Benefice. In love and praise, we give thanks for her offering of herself within the life of our churches.

Let us pray:

We praise and thank you, Almighty God,
for Julia as she lays down this ministry.
As we release her from her service
as Anna Chaplain, and as she continues
to serve as authorised funeral minister,
we entrust her to your loving care,
knowing that you are always with us
as our faithful companion on the Way.
Shelter and protect Julia from all harm and anxiety.
Grant her the courage to meet the future,
and grace to let go into new life;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

'See, I make all things new,' says the Lord.

Gracious God,
as we turn this corner in our life together,
we pray that you will continue to renew us all
in your grace.
Pour out the gifts + of your Spirit on Julia
and on the whole of your Church:

**All As we all journey on,
may we continue in your service,
steadfast in faith,
unwavering in hope,
and united in your love:**

**for the life of the world,
and to the glory of your name.
Amen.**

Prayer for New Deputy Wardens

The priest invites the new Deputy Wardens to come forward

Deputy Churchwardens are appointed to support the Churchwardens in their duties. At St. Mary's, we have appointed four Deputy Wardens to serve this year.

Ashley, Helen, Linden, and Andy, will you commit yourselves to serve as Deputy Wardens, assisting the Clergy and Churchwardens in their duties and enabling our mission and ministry in this place?

With the help of God, I will.

People of God, will you support your new Deputy Wardens in their roles and ministries?

All With the help of God, we will.

Let us pray:

Almighty God, we thank you for your servants who have offered themselves for the ministry of Deputy Warden in this church. Bless + them in their work, that your will might be done in this place, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

All Amen

The Notices

The Blessing

Please stand for the Blessing

The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

The peace of God,
which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds
in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord;
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

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All In the name of Christ, Amen.

The Recessional Hymn

“Great is Thy faithfulness,” O God my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.
“Great is Thy faithfulness!” “Great is Thy faithfulness!”
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided—
“Great is Thy faithfulness,” Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above,
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.
“Great is Thy faithfulness!”...

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!
"Great is Thy faithfulness!..."

Words: Thomas Chisholm, 1866–1960

Music: W.M. Runyan, 1870–1957

Let us bless the Lord
All Thanks be to God.

Everyone is welcome to stay for coffee after the Eucharist.



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