



The Order for Mass on
the TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY
in ORDINARY TIME

23rd August 2026 at 10.30am

Parish Priest
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Welcome to St George's! This booklet contains all the material you will need for today's celebration of Mass. We hope that you will find this service easy to follow, but please do not be afraid to ask if you are unsure what to do at any point. The building is fitted with an induction loop and you will find the best results away from the pillars.

Families with small children are very welcome to make use of the carpeted play area at the back of church, where you will find books, crayons and soft toys. A toilet is at the back of church, behind the screen. After Mass, please join us in the hall for refreshments. Before Mass, please try to maintain an atmosphere of quiet prayer.

Mass setting: Dom Gregory Murray, New People's Mass.

Please stand when the bell rings, for the procession of the clergy and servers, and to sing hymn REH 567:

**Soldiers of Christ, arise,
And put your armour on,
Strong in the strength which God supplies
Through his eternal Son;**

**Strong in the Lord of Hosts,
And in his mighty power:
Who in the strength of Jesus trusts
Is more than conqueror.**

**Stand then in his great might,
With all his strength endued;
And take, to arm you for the fight,
The panoply of God.**

**Leave no unguarded place,
No weakness of the soul:
Take every virtue, every grace,
And fortify the whole.**

**From strength to strength go on,
Wrestle and fight and pray;
Tread all the powers of darkness down
And win the well-fought day.**

**That, having all things done,
And all your conflicts past,
Ye may o'ercome through Christ alone
And stand entire at last.**

Charles Wesley (1707-88)

The priest sings:

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

People **Amen.**

Priest The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

The priest introduces the Mass, and invites the people to recall and confess their sins:

Priest The Lord is generous and full of compassion: his mercy is over all his works. Trusting in the goodness of God our Creator we turn to him in penitence for our sins.

People **I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-virgin, all the angels and saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.**

Priest May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life,

People **Amen.**

Remain standing to sing the Kyries:

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

We all sing the Gloria.

People **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.**

Then the priest prays the collect:

Priest O God, who cause the minds of the faithful to unite in a single purpose, grant your people to love what you command and to desire what you promise, that, amid the uncertainties of this world, our hearts may be fixed on that place where true gladness is found. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

People **Amen.**

Now sit to listen to the first reading:

Reader A reading from the book of Isaiah. (*Isaiah 22; 15, 19-23*).
Thus says the Lord God of hosts, 'Come, go to this steward, to Shebna, who is over the household, and say to him: "I will thrust you from your office, and you will be pulled down from your station. In that day I will call my servant Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, and I will clothe him with your robe, and will bind your sash on him, and will commit your authority to his hand. And he shall be a

father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the house of Judah. And I will place on his shoulder the key of the house of David. He shall open, and none shall shut; and he shall shut, and none shall open. And I will fasten him like a peg in a secure place, and he will become a throne of honour to his father's house." '

This is the word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 138 follows the reading. Remain seated to sing:

Your love, O Lord, is eternal; discard not the work of your hands.

Your love, O Lord, is eternal; discard not the work of your hands.

I thank you, Lord, with all my heart, you have heard the words of my mouth. In the presence of the angels I will bless you. I will adore before your holy temple.

Your love, O Lord, is eternal; discard not the work of your hands.

I thank you for your faithfulness and love which excel all we ever knew of you. On the day I called, you answered: you increased the strength of my soul.

Your love, O Lord, is eternal; discard not the work of your hands.

The Lord is high yet looks on the lowly and the haughty he knows from afar. Your love, O Lord, is eternal; discard not the work of your hands.

Your love, O Lord, is eternal; discard not the work of your hands.

Remain seated for the second reading:

Reader A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans. (*Romans 11; 33-36*)
O, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgements and how inscrutable his ways! 'For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counsellor?' 'Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?' For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory for ever. Amen.
This is the word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Stand for the gospel acclamation after a brief pause for reflection.

Choir Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
People **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**
Choir You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.
People **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Priest The Lord be with you,
People **And also with you.**
Priest A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew. (*Matthew 16; 13-20*)
People **Glory to you, O Lord.**
Priest At that time: When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter replied, 'You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.' And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. And

I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.' Then he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, O Christ.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Please sit for the Homily from Fr Owen.

All stand to say the Nicene Creed:

People **I believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and
invisible.**
**I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son
of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from
God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten,
not made, consubstantial with the Father, through him
all things were made. For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was
incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our
sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered
death and was buried, and rose again on the third day 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.**
**I 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 adored and glorified, who has
spoken through the prophets. I believe in one holy,
catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for**

the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Please remain standing for the Prayers of Intercession.

Priest In the power of the Spirit, and in union with Christ, let us pray to the Father, whose Word and Wisdom make and sustain and renew all things.

Reader Lord, in your mercy, / Lord, hear us.

People **Hear our prayer. / Lord, graciously hear us.**

At the prayer for the departed,

Reader Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord.

People **and let light perpetual shine upon them.**

When the prayers of the saints are asked,

Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus: Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

In conclusion to the prayers:

Priest Father, you have promised to hear the prayers of those who ask in the name of your Son: grant that what we have asked in faith may be granted to us according to your will. Merciful Father,

People **Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Please sit, as the Choir sing an anthem as bread and wine are brought to the altar.

Stand to sing hymn REH 582, as the altar is prepared and the collection is taken. If you want to give by card, there is a card reader at the back of church.

**Through the night of doubt and sorrow
Onward goes the pilgrim band,**

**Singing songs of expectation,
Marching to the promised land.**

**Clear before us through the darkness
Gleams and burns the guiding light;
Leading forth one holy people,
Stepping fearless through the night.**

**One the light of God's own presence
O'er his ransomed people shed,
Chasing far the gloom and terror,
Brightening all the path we tread;**

**One the object of our journey,
One the faith which never tires,
One the earnest looking forward,
One the hope our God inspires:**

**One the strain that lips of thousands
Lift as from the heart of one;
One the conflict, one the peril,
One the march in God begun;**

**One the gladness of rejoicing
On the far eternal shore,
Where the one almighty Father
Reigns in love for evermore.**

Danish, BS Ingemann (1789-1862) tr Sabine Baring-Gould (1834-1924) altd.

The Priest says

Priest **Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may
be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.**

People **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.**

Priest O Lord, who gained for yourself a people by adoption through the one sacrifice offered once for all, bestow graciously on us, we pray, the gifts of unity and peace in your Church. Through Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

The Priest sings the opening of the Eucharistic Prayer:

Priest The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Priest Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

The Priest prays the Preface to the Eucharistic Prayer, and then all sing the Sanctus and Benedictus:

People **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.**

Please kneel. The Eucharistic Prayer continues, until the Words of Institution. Then all make the Memorial Acclamation:

Priest The mystery of faith.

People **Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your cross and resurrection you have set us free.**

The Priest concludes the Eucharistic Prayer, and all sing:

People **Amen!**

Please stand for the Lord's Prayer.

Priest At the Saviour's command, and formed by divine teaching, we dare to pray,

People **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.**

Priest Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our day, 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.

People **For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and for ever.**

Priest Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your apostles: Peace I leave you, my peace I give you; look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will. Who live and reign for ever and ever.

People **Amen.**

Priest The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Priest Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Now sing the Agnus Dei

People **Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have
mercy on us. (repeated)
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant
us peace.**

Then kneel.

Priest Behold the Lamb of God. Behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

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

Priest **Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, says the Lord, and I will raise him up on the last day.**

The people come forward to receive Communion. If you have not been baptized and confirmed, please come forward for a blessing instead of Communion, carrying this order of service.

During Communion hymn REH 402 is sung, all remaining seated or kneeling.

**Victim Divine, thy grace we claim
While thus thy precious death we show;
Once offered up, a spotless Lamb,
In thy great temple here below,
Thou didst for all mankind atone,
And standest now before the throne.**

**Thou standest in the holiest place,
As now for guilty sinners slain;
Thy blood of sprinkling speaks and prays
All-prevalent for helpless man;
Thy blood is still our ransom found,
And spreads salvation all around.**

**We need not now go up to heaven
To bring the long-sought Saviour down;
Thou art to all already given,
Thou dost e'en now thy banquet crown:
To every faithful soul appear,
And show thy real presence here.**

Charles Wesley (1707-88)

All stand for the Post-Communion Prayer:

Priest Complete within us, O Lord, we pray, the healing work of your mercy and graciously perfect and sustain us, so that in all things we may please you. Through Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

Please sit for the notices.

Then stand for the blessing and dismissal

Priest The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Priest May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

People **Amen.**

Priest Go, in the peace of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The clergy and servers go to the shrine of Our Lady for the Angelus.

Priest The angel of the Lord brought tidings to Mary,

People **And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.**

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Priest Behold the handmaid of the Lord,

People **Be it unto me according to thy word. Hail Mary...**

Priest And the word was made flesh,

People **And dwelt among us. Hail Mary...**

Priest Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

People **That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.**

Priest Let us pray. We beseech you, O Lord, pour your grace into our hearts, so that as we have known the incarnation of

your Son Jesus Christ through the message of an angel,
so, by his cross and passion, we may be brought to the
glory of his resurrection. Through the same Jesus Christ
our Lord.

People **Amen.**

Remain standing to sing hymn REH 550 as clergy and servers depart:

**Oft in danger, oft in woe,
Onward, Christians, onward go;
Bear the toil, maintain the strife,
Strengthened with the bread of life.**

**Onward, Christians, onward go,
Join the war, and face the foe;
Will ye flee in danger's hour?
Know ye not your captain's power?**

**Let your drooping hearts be glad;
March in heavenly armour clad;
Fight, nor think the battle long,
Victory soon shall tune your song.**

**Let not sorrow dim your eye,
Soon shall every tear be dry;
Let not fears your course impede,
Great your strength, if great your need.**

**Onward then in battle move;
More than conquerors ye shall prove;
Though opposed by many a foe,
Christian soldiers, onward go.** *Henry Kirke White (1785-1806) and others.*

The organist plays "Sonata 1", by Paul Hindemith (1895-1963).

Scripture readings are taken from the English Standard Version, Catholic Edition.

Collection: we take a collection during the second hymn, towards the cost of providing services and the upkeep of this church. If you are a UK taxpayer please place your offering in one of the envelopes in the pews (completed with your name and address) and place it in the collection plate when it is circulated during the hymn. Pens are in the pews. A card reader to give by contactless payment is available at the back of church. Special thanks if you give by standing order, as this helps us to budget.

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