

## HOLY FAMILY

On the Sunday after Christmas Day we celebrate the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. This family and household Jesus spent 30 of his 33 earthly years in Nazareth.

Some spiritual writers have called these the 'hidden years', because there is so little written about them in the Gospel narratives.

However, they reveal the holiness of ordinary life and show us how it becomes extraordinary for those baptised into Christ.

From the very earliest times of Christianity, the Christian family has rightly been called a domestic church. In our own Christian family we can learn the way of selfless love in the School of Nazareth. It is a school of prayer where we learn to listen, to meditate, to penetrate the deepest meaning of the Incarnation, of God-with-us.

Mary and Joseph are our examples on how we meditate on these mysteries.

We can learn the meaning and mystery of this beautiful Feast and apply it to our own family life - the path to holiness is found in living our ordinary family life with the Lord Jesus at the centre of it all.

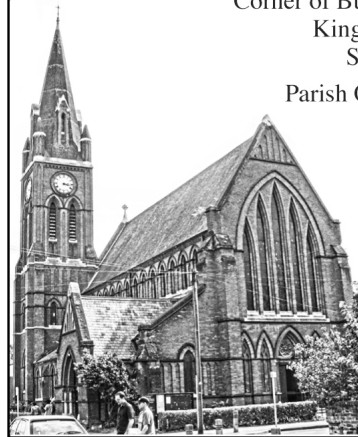
Family is where progress in the Christian life, the way of ordinary holiness, can find its raw material. Whether we choose to respond to grace - and develop the eyes to see, ears to hear, and hearts to accept the hidden invitations to learn to love beneath the surface of that daily stuff - is all wrapped up in the mystery of human freedom. Our choices not only affect the world around us, they make us become the people we will become.

O God,  
who were pleased to give us  
the shining example of the Holy Family,  
graciously grant that we may imitate them  
in practising the virtues of family life  
and in the bonds of charity,  
and so, in the joy of your house,  
delight one day in eternal rewards.  
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.  
Amen.

## St Luke's Parish Church Kingston upon Thames

Corner of Burton Road & Gibbon Road  
Kingston upon Thames,  
Surrey KT2 6AB

Parish Office : 020 8974 8079



## The Feast of the Holy Family

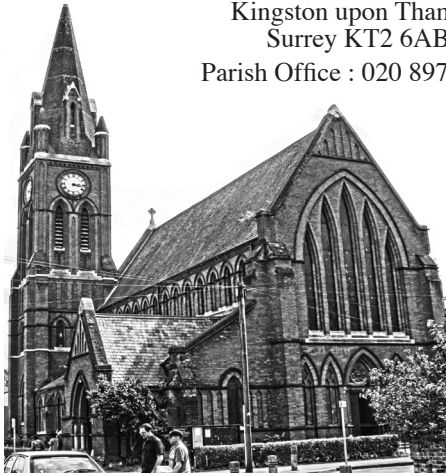
Sunday 31st December 2023



'In the mystery of the Word made flesh  
a new light of your glory has shone  
upon the eyes of our mind,  
so that . . . we recognize in him  
God made visible . . .'  
(Christmastide Preface))

# St Luke's Parish Church Kingston upon Thames

Corner of Burton Road & Gibbon Road  
Kingston upon Thames,  
Surrey KT2 6AB  
Parish Office : 020 8974 8079



We welcome you to St Luke's Kingston, a traditional Forward in Faith parish under the jurisdiction of the Bishop of Fulham the Rt Rev'd Jonathan Baker. His website is: <http://www.bishopoffulham.org.uk>.

As a community we are dedicated to making the love of Christ known through excellence in worship and active care and concern for others.

St Luke's Church is kept open most days during the daylight hours for prayer and meditation.

## SUNDAY SERVICES

8.00am Said Mass  
10.30am Sung Mass  
5.00pm Evening Prayer

## WEEKDAYS

9.00am Mass Tuesday/ Wednesday/ Thursday & Friday

## THIS WEEK

**MONDAY 1<sup>st</sup> January:** The Holy Mother of God  
*Numbers 6:22-27; Ps 8; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:16-21*

**TUESDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> January:** Feria  
*1 John 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; John 1:19-28*  
9.00am Mass

**WEDNESDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> January:** Feria  
*1 John 2:29-3:6; Ps 98:1,3-6; John 1:29-34*  
9.00am Mass

**THURSDAY 4<sup>th</sup> January:** Feria  
*1 John 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9; John 1:35-42*  
9.00am Mass

**FRIDAY 5<sup>th</sup> January:** Feria  
*1 John 3:11-21; Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5; John 1:43-51*  
9.00am Mass

**SATURDAY 6<sup>th</sup> January:** Feria  
*1 John 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Mark 1:7-11*

### Join Zoom Meeting- Sunday 10.30am

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84180162383?pwd=Q2lYdXFUTW5iaVc4NmdbZ0l4ZlZUT09>

Meeting ID: 841 8016 2383  
Passcode: 499698

## THE PARISH OFFICE

St Luke's Vicarage  
4 Burton Road  
Kingston Upon Thames Surrey KT2 5TE  
Phone: 07592 408419  
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## PARISH CONTACTS

**Vicar:** Fr Martin Hislop SSC  
Phone: 020 8974 8079  
Email: [mghislop55@gmail.com](mailto:mghislop55@gmail.com)

**Administrator (& Hall Bookings):**  
Miss Heather Stone  
Phone: 07592 408419  
E-mail: [parish@stlukeskingston.uk](mailto:parish@stlukeskingston.uk)

**Churchwarden:** Ald. Patrick Codd  
Phone: 020 8286 3319

**Organist & Director of Music:** Mr Chris O'Neill  
Phone: 07974 804545  
E-mail: [music@stlukeskingston.uk](mailto:music@stlukeskingston.uk)

## HEALING PRAYER

We pray for our troubled world. We ask for the power of the Holy Spirit to transform our lives and help others to come to know the love of Christ. We pray for those whose families are shattered by violence and for those who strive for reconciliation, peace and justice.

We pray that the Lord's healing love will comfort and strengthen all those in sickness of mind, body and soul; for Peter Bennett, Tom Hatton, Jason Ridley, Charlotte, James Cooper, Cheryl Ambrose, Marjorie & Philip Ransom, Tony Melville, Lucy, Baby Margo, Claudia and Jean Browning.

Especially we pray for:- Gillian, Patricia Davidge, Susan S, Maundy & Diana Todd, Judith Cartwright, Miles Stainfield, Mary Wallace, Patrick Codd, Fr Christopher Noke, Chrissie, Hilda Nethercott and Editha Hinds.

## THE RECENTLY DEPARTED

Fr David Chislett

## ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH:

TODAY: Violet Whitehouse

MONDAY: Phoebe Donald, Edith Carter, George Clark (Priest), Reg Bailey, Hilda Joy

TUESDAY: Ian Guthrie

WEDNESDAY: Edna Hill, Stanley Perkins

FRIDAY: Mary Fitzgerald, William Gilpin (Bp), Albert Croucher, Christopher Johnson,

SATURDAY: Auberon Isacc, Basil Jackson, Thornton Smith, Maud Penycate



## HELP THE PARISH AS YOU SHOP

Online shopping is increasing and if you use this mode of shopping you can benefit St Luke's at no cost to you!

[www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) has over 4000 shops and sites which will donate to us at no extra cost to yourself, including big name retailers like John Lewis, Argos, M&S.

All you have to do is go through easy fundraising website or App whenever you shop online and then the parish receives a % of your spend as a free donation, at no extra cost to you or the parish.

Hail, hail the Word made flesh,  
The babe, the son of Mary!

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;  
Come, peasant, king, to own him.  
The King of kings salvation brings;  
Let loving hearts enthrone him.  
Raise, raise the song on high,  
The virgin sings her lullaby;  
Joy, joy, for Christ is born,  
The babe, the son of Mary!

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*Priest:* Bring those you refresh with this heavenly  
Sacrament, most merciful Father, to imitate constantly  
the example of the Holy Family, so that, after the trials  
of this world, we may share their company for ever.

Through Christ our Lord.

*All:* Amen

## CONCLUDING RITE

### BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

*Priest:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* And with your spirit.

*Priest:* Go in peace to love and serve the lord.

*People:* Thanks be to God

### FINAL HYMN

39. Unto us a boy is born!

Unto us a boy is born!  
King of all creation,  
Came he to a world forlorn,  
The Lord of every nation.

Cradled in a stall was he  
With sleepy cows and asses;  
But the very beasts could see  
That he all men surpasses.

Herod then with fear was filled:  
'A prince,' he said, 'in Jewry!'  
And all the little boys he killed  
At Bethlem in his fury.

Now may Mary's son, who came  
So long ago to love us,  
Lead us all with hearts aflame  
Unto the joys above us.

Omega and Alpha he!  
Let the organ thunder,  
While the choir with peals of glee  
Doth rend the air asunder.

### THE ANGELUS

*It is our custom, before we go home, to make this traditional  
memorial of the Incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ:*

v. The Angel of the Lord brought tidings unto Mary.

R. And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.

*All:* 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.

v. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.

R. Be it unto me according to thy word. *All:* Hail, Mary . . .

v. And the Word became flesh.

R. And dwelt among us. *All:* Hail, Mary . . .

v. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

*The priest prays the Collect. The people respond: Amen.*

### ORGAN MUSIC

Hymnus A Solis ortus Cardine – J Titelouze

# Holy Family

## INTRODUCTORY RITES

### ORGAN MUSIC

Prelude on O Little One Sweet – M Fischer

### ENTRANCE HYMN

34. Once in royal David's city

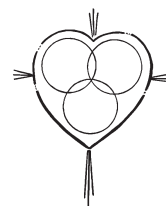
Once in royal David's city  
Stood a lowly cattle shed,  
Where a mother laid her baby  
In a manger for his bed:  
Mary was that Mother mild,  
Jesus Christ her little Child.

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.

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.

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.

Not in that poor lowly stable,  
With the oxen standing by,  
We shall we 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.



### ANTIPHON *Luke 2:16*

The shepherds went in haste, and found Mary and Joseph  
and the Infant lying in a manger.

### GREETING

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

*All:* Amen.

*Priest:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* And with your spirit.

*The celebrant introduces the Mass*

### PENITENTIAL ACT

*The Priest asks the people to acknowledge their sins.*

*After a pause for silence:*

*All:* 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;

*And, striking their breast, they say:*

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.

## KYRIE ELEISON

*Choir:* **Kyrie eleison.** (Lord, have mercy.)  
**Kyrie eleison.** (Lord, have mercy.)  
**Christe eleison.** (Christ, have mercy.)  
**Christe eleison.** (Christ, have mercy.)  
**Kyrie eleison.** (Lord, have mercy.)  
**Kyrie eleison.** (Lord, have mercy.)

## GLORIA

*All:* **Glory to God in the highest,  
 and on earth peace to people of good will.  
 We praise you, we bless you,  
 we adore you, we glorify you,  
 we give you thanks for your great glory,  
 Lord God, heavenly King,  
 O God, almighty Father.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only begotten Son,  
 Lord God, Lamb of God,  
 Son of the Father,  
 you take away the sins of the world:  
 have mercy on us;  
 you take away the sins of the world:  
 receive our prayer;  
 you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
 have mercy on us.**

**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.**

## COLLECT

*Priest:* O God, who was pleased to give us the shining example of the Holy Family, graciously grant that we may imitate them in practicing the virtues of family life and in the bonds of charity, and so, in the joy of your house, delight one day in eternal rewards. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

*All:* **Amen**

*The people SIT*

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

### THE FIRST READING *Ecclesiasticus 3:2-6, 12-14 (ESV)*

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus.

For the Lord honours the father in his children, and he confirmed the right of the mother over her sons. Whoever honours his father atones for sins, and whoever glorifies his mother is like one who lays up treasure. Whoever honours his father will be gladdened by his own children, and when he prays he will be heard. Whoever glorifies his father will have long life, and whoever obeys the Lord will refresh his mother.

O son, help your father in his old age, and do not grieve him as long as he lives; even if he is lacking in understanding, show forbearance; in all your strength do not despise him. For kindness to a father will not be forgotten, and against your sins it will be credited to you.

The Word of the Lord.

*All:* **Thanks be to God**

### THE RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Ps 127 (128)*

**R. O blessed are those who fear the Lord,  
 and walk in his ways.**

O blessed are those who fear the Lord  
 and walk in his ways!  
 By the labour of your hands you shall eat.  
 You will be happy and prosper. **R.**

## THE COMMUNION RITE

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

*All:* **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 days,  
 that by the help of your mercy  
 we may always be free from sin  
 and safe from all distress,  
 as we await the blessed hope  
 and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

*All:* **For the kingdom, the power,  
 and the glory are yours, now and forever.**

*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.

*All:* **Amen.**

*Priest:* The peace of the Lord be with you always.

*All:* **And with your spirit.**

## BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*Choir:* Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
 have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
 have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
 grant us peace.

*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.

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

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us

*Holy Communion is now given.*

## COMMUNION ANTHEM

Watts Cradle Song - Bryan Kelly b1934

*The People STAND*

## COMMUNION HYMN

40. What child is this, who, laid to rest

**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 guard and angels sing;  
 Haste, haste to bring him laud,  
 The babe, the son of Mary!**

**Why lies he in such mean estate  
 Where ox and ass are feeding?  
 Good Christian, fear; for sinners here  
 The silent Word is pleading.  
 Nails, spear shall pierce him through,  
 The cross be borne for me, for you;**



Blessed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

*The people KNEEL or SIT*

*Priest:* You are indeed holy, and to be glorified, O God, who love the human race and who always walks with us on the journey of life. Blessed indeed is your son, present in our midst when we are gathered by his love, and when, as once for the disciples, so now for us, he opens the Scriptures and breaks the bread.

Therefore, Father most merciful, we ask that you send forth your Holy Spirit to sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may become for us the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.

On the day before he was to suffer, on the night of the Last Supper, he took bread and said the blessing, broke the bread and gave it to his disciples saying:

TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND EAT OF IT,  
FOR THIS IS MY BODY, WHICH  
IS GIVEN UP FOR YOU.

In a similar way, when supper was ended, he took the chalice gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND DRINK FROM IT,  
FOR THIS IS THE CHALICE OF MY BLOOD,  
THE BLOOD OF THE NEW AND ETERNAL COVENANT,  
WHICH IS POURED OUT FOR YOU AND FOR MANY  
FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS.  
DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME.  
The mystery of faith.

*All:* **We proclaim your death, O Lord,  
and profess your resurrection,  
until you come again.**



*Priest:* Therefore, holy Father, as we celebrate the memorial of Christ your son, our Saviour, whom you led through his Passion and Death on the Cross to the glory of the Resurrection, and whom you have seated at your right hand, we proclaim the work of your love until he comes again and we offer you the Bread of life and the Chalice of blessing.

Look with favour on the oblation of your Church, in which we show the paschal Sacrifice of Christ that has been handed on to us, and grant that, by the power of the Spirit of your love, we may be counted now until the day of eternity among the members of your Son, in whose Body and Blood we have communion.

Lord renew your Church by the light of the Gospel. Strengthen the bond of unity between the faithful and the pastors of your people, together with Jonathan our Bishop, the whole Order of Bishops, that in a world torn by strife your people may shine forth as a prophetic sign of unity and concord.

Remember our brothers and sisters who have fallen asleep in the peace of your Christ, and all the dead, whose faith you have known. Admit them to rejoice in the light of your face, and in the resurrection give them the fullness of life.

Grant also to us, when our earthly pilgrimage is done, that we may come to an eternal dwelling place and live with you for ever; there, in communion with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, with the Apostles and Martyrs, with Saint Luke and with all the Saints, we shall praise and exalt you through Jesus Christ, your Son.

Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the holy Spirit, all glory and honour is yours, for ever and ever.

*All:* **Amen.**

*The People STAND*

Your wife like a fruitful vine  
in the heart of your house;  
Your children like shoots of the olive,  
around your table. **R.**

Indeed thus shall be blessed  
the man who fears the Lord.  
May the Lord bless you from Zion  
all the days of your life! **R.**

## THE SECOND READING *Colossians 3:12-21 (ESV)*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians.

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful.

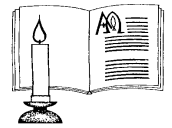
Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives, and do not be harsh with them. Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged.

The Word of the Lord

*All:* **Thanks be to God**



*The People STAND*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Colossians 3:15-16*

*C.* Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

*R.* **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

*C.* May the peace of Christ reign in your hearts;  
Let the message of Christ find a home with you.

*R.* **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

## THE GOSPEL *Luke 2:22-40 (ESV)*

*Priest:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* **And with your spirit.**

*Priest:* A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke

*People:* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

When 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 (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord") and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons."

Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ.

And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said, "Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel."

And his father and his mother marvelled at what was said about him.

And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed."

And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favour of God was upon him.

*Priest:* The Gospel of the Lord.

*All:* **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## **HOMILY** *The people SIT*

*The people STAND*

## **NICENE CREED** *The people STAND*

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,  
begotten 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:

*All bow:* 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.**

## **PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL**

*The people KNEEL or SIT*

*At the end of each bidding, silence is kept, followed by:*  
Lord, hear us.

*People:* **Lord, graciously hear us.**

*At the end of the prayers:*

*People:* **Amen.**



## **THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

*The people STAND*

## **OFFERTORY HYMN**

36. The first Nowell the angel did say

**The first Nowell the angel did say  
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
In fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,  
On a cold winter's night that was so deep:**

*Refrain:*

**Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,  
Born is the King of Israel.**

**They looked up and saw a star,  
Shining in the east, beyond them far:  
And to the earth it gave great light,  
And so it continued both day and night: [Refrain]**

**And by the light of that same star,  
Three Wise Men came from country far;  
To seek for a king was their intent,  
And to follow the star wheresoever it went: [Refrain]**

**This star drew nigh to the north-west;  
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest,  
And there it did both stop and stay  
Right over the place where Jesus lay: [Refrain]**

**Then entered in those Wise Men three,  
Full reverently upon their knee,  
And offered there in his presence  
Both gold and myrrh and frankincense: [Refrain]**

**Then let us all with one accord  
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord,  
That hath made heaven and earth of naught,  
And with his blood mankind hath bought: [Refrain]**

## **INVITATION TO PRAYER**

*Priest:* Pray, brothers and sisters,  
that our sacrifice 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.**

## **PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

*Priest:* We offer you, Lord, the sacrifice of conciliation,  
humbly asking that, through the intercession of the  
Virgin Mother of God and Saint Joseph, you may  
establish our families firmly in your grace and your  
peace. Through Christ our Lord.

*All:* **Amen.**

## **THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

*Priest:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* **And with your spirit.**

*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 and just.**

*Priest:* It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy  
Father, almighty and eternal God. For in the mystery of  
the Word made flesh a new light of your glory has shone  
upon the eyes of our mind, so that, as we recognize in  
him God made visible, we may be caught up through  
him in love of things invisible. And so, with Angels and  
Archangels, with Thrones and Dominions, and with all  
the hosts and Powers of heaven, we sing the hymn of  
your glory, as without end we acclaim:

*Choir:* Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.