

SHARED MINISTRY IN EXNING AND NORTH NEWMARKET

**MASS OF THE EVE OF THE FEAST OF ST GEORGE,
PATRON OF ENGLAND**



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Greeting

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.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Confession

The saints were faithful unto death and now dwell in the heavenly kingdom for ever. As we celebrate their joy, let us bring to the Lord our sins and weaknesses, and ask for his mercy.

cf. Revelation 2.10

We are often slow to follow the example of Christ.
Lord have mercy. **Lord have mercy.**

We often fail to be known as Christ's disciples.
Christ have mercy. **Christ have mercy.**

We often fail to walk the way of the cross.
Lord have mercy. **Lord have mercy.**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Gloria

**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.**

Collect

Let us pray.

God of hosts, who so kindled the flame of love in the heart of your servant George that he bore witness to the risen Lord by his life and by his death: give us the same faith and power of love that we who rejoice in his triumphs may come to share with him the fullness of the resurrection; 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. **Amen.**

Epistle Reading

A reading from the first book of the Maccabees:

Now the days drew near for Mattathias to die, and he said to his sons: 'Arrogance and scorn have now become strong; it is a time of ruin and furious anger. Now, my children, show zeal for the law, and give your lives for the covenant of our ancestors.

'Remember the deeds of the ancestors, which they did in their generations; and you will receive great honour and an everlasting name. Was not Abraham found faithful when tested, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness? Joseph in the time of his distress kept the commandment, and became lord of Egypt. Phinehas our ancestor, because he was deeply zealous, received the covenant of everlasting priesthood. Joshua, because he fulfilled the command, became a judge in Israel. Caleb, because he testified in the assembly, received an inheritance in the land. David, because he was merciful, inherited the throne of the kingdom for ever. Elijah, because of great zeal for the law, was taken up into heaven. Hananiah, Azariah, and Mishaël believed and were saved from the flame. Daniel, because of his innocence, was delivered from the mouth of the lions.

'And so observe, from generation to generation, that none of those who put their trust in him will lack strength. Do not fear the words of sinners, for their splendour will turn into dung and worms. Today they will be exalted, but tomorrow they will not be found, because they will have returned to the dust, and their plans will have perished. My children, be courageous and grow strong in the law, for by it you will gain honour.

1 Maccabees 2.49-64

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Psalm

R: Alleluia! The Lord has done great things for us.

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,
then were we like those who dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter and our tongue with songs of joy.

Then said they among the nations, 'The Lord has done great things for them.'

The Lord has indeed done great things for us,

and therefore we rejoiced. R

Restore again our fortunes, O Lord, as the river beds of the desert.

Those who sow in tears shall reap with songs of joy.

Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed,

will come back with shouts of joy, bearing their sheaves with them. R *Psalm 126*

Gospel Reading

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Whoever would become my followers,

let them deny themselves, take up their cross, and follow me.

John 15.16

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Lord be with you;

and also with you.

Hear the ✠ Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples, 'If the world hates you, be aware that it hated me before it hated you. If you belonged to the world, the world would love you

as its own. Because you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world – therefore the world hates you. Remember the word that I said to you, “Servants are not greater than their master.” If they persecuted me, they will persecute you; if they kept my word, they will keep yours also. But they will do all these things to you on account of my name, because they do not know him who sent me.’

John 15.18-21

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Address

A short address is given.

Intercessions

Prayers of intercession are offered.

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

Declaration of the Peace

Once we were far off, but now in union with Christ Jesus we have been brought near through the shedding of Christ’s blood, for his is our peace.
Alleluia.

Ephesians 2.13

The peace of the risen Christ be always with you;
and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace. 

All may express a sign of peace.

Prayer over the Offerings

God of faithfulness, your servant George praised you in his death: receive
all we bring before you this day, and give us the strength of will to
proclaim your righteousness and love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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 thanks and praise.

It is indeed right our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give you thanks, almighty and eternal Father, and in these days of Easter to celebrate with joyful hearts the memory of your wonderful works.

For by the mystery of his passion Jesus Christ, your risen Son, has conquered the powers of death and hell and restored in men and women the image of your glory. He has placed them once more in paradise and opened to them the gate of life eternal.

And now we give you thanks that in the witness of your martyr George, who followed Christ even to death, you reveal your power made perfect in our human weakness.

And so, in the joy of this Passover, earth and heaven resound with gladness, while angels and archangels and the powers of all creation sing for ever the hymn of your glory:

Holy, holy, holy Lord,
H 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:
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. Remember, Lord, your Church in every land.
Reveal her unity, guard her faith, and preserve her in peace.

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 the
Blessed Virgin Mary, St Agnes, St Etheldreda, St Martin, St Nicholas, St Philip
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. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

Our Father, ...

Breaking of the Bread

Jesus says, I am the bread of life, whoever eats this bread will live for ever.
Lord, our hearts hunger for you; give us this bread always.

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.
Jesus, Bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.
Jesus, Redeemer of the world, grant us peace.

Invitation to Communion

Jesus is the Lamb of ☩ God that takes away the sin of the world.
J Blessed are those who are called to his supper.
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The priest receives communion. Those participating online may make a spiritual communion using the words:

Lord Jesus Christ, since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,
I ask you to come spiritually into my heart.

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

God our redeemer, whose Church was strengthened by the blood of
your martyr George: so bind us in life and in death to Christ's sacrifice
that our lives, broken and offered with his, may carry his death and proclaim
his resurrection in the world; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

R: **O Lord, save the Queen, and answer us when we call upon you.**

May the Lord hear you in the day of trouble,
the name of the God of Jacob defend you;
Send you help from his sanctuary and strengthen you out of Zion;
Remember all your offerings and accept your burnt sacrifice;
Grant you your heart's desire and fulfil all your mind. R

May we rejoice in your salvation and triumph in the name of our God;
may the Lord perform all your petitions.

Now I know that the Lord will save his anointed;
he will answer him from his holy heaven,
with the mighty strength of his right hand. R

Some put their trust in chariots and some in horses,
but we will call only on the name of the Lord our God.

They are brought down and fallen, but we are risen and stand upright.

O Lord, save the king and answer us when we call upon you. R

Psalm 20

Prayer for the Sovereign and the Nation

Let us pray.

Almighty God, the fountain of all goodness, bless our Sovereign Lady, Queen Elizabeth, and all who are in authority under her; that they may order all things in wisdom and equity, righteousness and peace, to the honour and glory of your name and the good of your Church and people; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, our only Saviour, the Prince of Peace: give us grace seriously to lay to heart the great dangers we are in by our unhappy divisions; take away our hatred and prejudice and whatever else may hinder us from godly union and concord, that, as there is but one body, one Spirit and one hope of our calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of us all, so may we henceforth be all of one heart and of one soul, united in one holy bond of truth and peace, of faith and charity, and may with one mind and one mouth glorify you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Blessing

The Lord be with you;
and also with you.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.
He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the eternal covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!