

SHARED MINISTRY IN EXNING AND NORTH NEWMARKET
MASS OF THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
SUNDAY 20 DECEMBER 2020



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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.

Confession

A voice cries out in the wilderness,
'Make straight the way of the Lord.'
So let us listen, and turn to the Lord in penitence and faith.

Lord Jesus, you came to gather the nations
into the peace of your kingdom:
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

You come in word and sacrament
to strengthen us in holiness:
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

You will come in glory
with salvation for your people:
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.**

Collect

God our redeemer,
who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary
to be the mother of your Son:
grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour,
so we may be ready to greet him
when he comes again as our judge;

who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First Reading

²⁵ Now to God^[m] who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages ²⁶ but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith— ²⁷ to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom^[n] be the glory forever! Amen.

This is the word of the LORD

All: Thanks be to God

Romans 16.25-

end

Gradual Psalm

I will sing of your steadfast love, O LORD,^[a] forever;
with my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.
² I declare that your steadfast love is established forever;
your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.
³ You said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one,
I have sworn to my servant David:
⁴ 'I will establish your descendants forever,
and build your throne for all generations.'" *Selah*
⁵ Let the heavens praise your wonders, O LORD,
your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones.
⁶ For who in the skies can be compared to the LORD?
Who among the heavenly beings is like the LORD,
⁷ a God feared in the council of the holy ones,
great and awesome^[b] above all that are around him?
⁸ O LORD God of hosts,
who is as mighty as you, O LORD?
Your faithfulness surrounds you.

Psalm 89.1-8

Alleluia, alleluia.

Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

cf Isaiah 40.3–5

The Lord be with you;

Hear the ✠ Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you."^[a] ²⁹But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?"^[a] ³⁵The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born^[a] will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Luke 1:26-38

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Address

A short address is given.

Creed

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

Prayers of intercession are offered.

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

The Peace

Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord.
Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.
The peace of the Lord 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

As the grain once scattered in the fields
and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside
are now reunited on this table in bread and wine,
so, Lord, may your whole Church soon be gathered together
from the corners of the earth
into your kingdom.

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 and good to give you thanks and praise,
almighty God and everlasting Father,
through Jesus Christ your Son.

He is the one foretold by all the prophets,
whom the Virgin Mother bore with love beyond all telling.

John the Baptist was his herald
and made him known when at last he came.

In his love Christ fills us with joy
as we prepare to celebrate his birth,
so that when he comes again he may find us watching in prayer,
our hearts filled with wonder and praise.

And so, with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your glory,
and join in their unending hymn of praise:

saying:

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:
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

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

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

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.
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.**

The Holy Communion at this time is received in the form of the bread only.

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray. Heavenly Father,
who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary
to be the mother of the promised saviour:
fill us your servants with your grace,

that in all things we may embrace your holy will
and with her rejoice in your salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Blessing

The Lord be with you;
and also with you.

May God the Father,
who loved the world so much that he sent his only Son,
give you grace to prepare for life eternal.

Amen.

May God the Son,
who comes to us as redeemer and judge,
reveal to you the path from darkness to light.

Amen.

May God the Holy Spirit,
by whose working the Virgin Mary conceived the Christ,
help you bear the fruits of holiness.

Amen.

and the blessing ...

Amen.

Dismissal

Go in the peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

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