



Face Masks

The government guidelines still require us to wear a face mask in church, covering your mouth and nose. It has been indicated that this will be reviewed at the end of February. Those who are leading/reading at the service may remove their face covering whilst they are leading/reading.

Social Distancing

The government has announced that social-distancing is no longer required, however, a number of people have indicated that they would still like to have a little space. There is always plenty of space at the front of the church!!! I would ask people to respect others' need for space.

Contact Tracing

We are no longer required get the contact details of attendees.

Singing

We are allowed to sing again! Now, that is a delight! No longer will you have to listen to my solo efforts!

Greeting

God, who loves each person individually,
be with you.
and also with you.

Opening Responses

Christ is like a single body which has many parts.

It is still one body, even though it is made up of different parts.

Therefore the foot cannot say:

I am not part of the body.

Nor can the ear say:

I am not part of the body.

The eye cannot say to the hand:

I don't need you.

Nor can the head say to the feet:

I don't need you.

If one part of the body suffers,
all other parts suffer.

If one part of the body is praised,
all parts share its happiness.

All of you are Christ's body:

Each one of us is a part of it.

Silence

Lord, we come with our individual personalities and traits;
our strengths and our weaknesses;
our foibles and our talents;

the things that make us loveable,
and the things in us that drive others
crazy!

We come, different and diverse,
sometimes pulling in opposite
directions, yet you gather us together
into the one family of God; the Body
of Christ.

Loud talkers and silent worriers,
glad-handers and lonely wallflowers:
***God gathers us together to be the
bearers of wonder and joy, of hope
and healing.***

Bystanders with hands shoved into
our pockets,
scaredy-cats whose feet are frozen in
place:

***Jesus calls us to carry grace to
outsiders,
to walk with all those left behind.***

Kids who never offer answers in class,
bashful folks whose tongues get tied
in knots:

***The Spirit anoints us to speak up
for the voiceless,
to partner with the poor to discover
their gifts.***

Hymn No. 352 (GTWAGH)

Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One;
give thanks because he's given
Jesus Christ, his Son.

Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One;
give thanks because he's given
Jesus Christ, his Son.

And now let the weak say 'I am
strong'.

Let the poor say 'I am rich',
because of what the Lord has done
for us.

And now let the weak say 'I am
strong'.

Let the poor say 'I am rich',
because of what the Lord has done
for us.

Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One;
give thanks because he's given
Jesus Christ, his Son.

Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One;
give thanks because he's given
Jesus Christ, his Son.

And now let the weak say 'I am
strong'.

Let the poor say 'I am rich',
because of what the Lord has done
for us.

And now let the weak say 'I am
strong'.

Let the poor say 'I am rich',
because of what the Lord has done
for us.

Give thanks.

The Introduction to Baptism

Our Lord Jesus Christ has told us that to enter the kingdom of heaven we must be born again of water and the Spirit, and he has given us baptism as the sign and seal of this new birth. Here we are washed by the Holy Spirit and made clean. Here we are clothed with Christ, dying to sin that we may live his risen life. As children of God, we have a new dignity and God calls us to fullness of life.



The Penitence

[Please kneel or sit]

O God our Creator, we thank you for the gift of this precious child Polly; pure and innocent. We now turn to you, to ask you to take from us those things that on our lives' journeys, have tarnished our purity and shattered our innocence.

[Silence as we bring to mind those things for which we desire God's forgiveness.]

Almighty God,

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

The Collect of the 3rd Sunday after the Epiphany

Almighty God, whose Son revealed in signs and miracles the wonder of your saving presence: renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by your mighty power; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

The First Reading - 1 Corinthians 12: 12-31

The first reading is from the first epistle to the Corinthians, chapter 12, beginning at verse 12.

12 For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one

body, so it is with Christ. ¹³For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

¹⁴Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵If the foot were to say, 'Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶And if the ear were to say, 'Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰As it is, there are many members, yet one body. ²¹The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I have no need of you', nor again the head to the feet, 'I have no need of you.' ²²On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³and those members of the body that we think less honourable we clothe with greater honour, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; ²⁴whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honour to

the inferior member, ²⁵that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it.

²⁷Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. ²⁸And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. ²⁹Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? ³¹But strive for the greater gifts.

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.



Hymn No. 518 (Bind us together)

[Chorus and Verse 1]

*Bind us together, Lord,
bind us together
with cords that cannot be broken.
Bind us together, Lord,
bind us together,
O bind us together with love.*

There is only one God.
There is only one King.
There is only one body;
that is why we sing:

(Please sit)

The Second Reading - Mark 10: 13-16

The second reading is from the gospel according to Mark, chapter 10, beginning at verse 13.

13 People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. ¹⁴But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. ¹⁵Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.' ¹⁶And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.



Hymn No. 518 (Bind us together)

[Chorus and Verse 2]

*Bind us together, Lord,
bind us together
with cords that cannot be broken.
Bind us together, Lord,
bind us together,
O bind us together with love.*

Made for the glory of God,
purchased by his precious Son.
Born with the right to be free,
for Jesus the vict'ry has won.

The Sermon

The Presentation

We welcome this child who comes to be baptized. I invite her sponsors to present her now.

Sponsors:

We present Polly Susan Craig to be baptized.

Parents and godparents, will you accept the responsibilities placed upon you in bringing Polly Susan for baptism and answer on her behalf? By your own prayers and example, by your teaching and love, will you encourage her in the life and faith of the Christian Community?

With the help of God, we will.

In baptism this child begins her journey of faith.
You speak for her today.
Will you care for her and help her to take her place within the life and worship of Christ's Church?

With the help of God, we will.

The Decision

In baptism, God calls us from darkness to his marvellous light. To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him.

Therefore I ask:

Do you turn to Christ?

I do.

Do you then renounce the devil and all his works?

I do, by God's help.

Will you obey and serve Christ?

I will, by God's help.

The priest says to the whole congregation:
You have heard these our brothers and sisters respond to Christ.
Will you support them in this calling?

The congregation answers:
We will support them.

Hymn No. 518 (Bind us together)

[Chorus and Verse 3]

*Bind us together, Lord,
bind us together
with cords that cannot be broken.
Bind us together, Lord,
bind us together,
O bind us together with love.*

*We are the fam'ly of God.
We are the promise divine.
We are God's chosen desire.
We are the glorious new wine.*

The Baptism

The priest, Polly Susan, her family and godparents gather at the font and the priest begins the thanksgiving prayer.



Praise God who made heaven and earth.

Who keeps his promise for ever.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

[Shortened version of the Blessing of the Water]

We thank you, almighty God, for the gift of water to sustain, refresh and cleanse all life, and we thank you for the water of baptism.

Now sanctify this water that, by the power of your Holy Spirit, she may be cleansed from sin and born again.

Renewed in your image, may she walk by the light of faith and continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Lord; to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be all honour and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The priest asks the parents and godparents:

Do you believe and accept the Christian faith into which Polly Susan is to be baptized?

I do.

The priest addresses the whole congregation:

Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess, together with these candidates the faith of the Church.

[Using a shortened version of the Apostle's Creed in question-and-answer form.]

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son?

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life. Amen.

The priest baptizes by pouring water over Polly Susan saying:

Polly Susan, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The priest makes the sign of the cross on the forehead of Polly Susan, saying:

Christ claims you for his own. Receive the sign of the cross.

Live as a disciple of Christ, fight the good fight, finish the race, keep the faith.

Confess Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, look for his coming in glory.

May almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness, restore in you the image of his glory, and lead

you in the light and obedience of Christ. **Amen.**

The priest continues:

God has called you into his Church.

The congregation joins the priest, saying:

We therefore receive and welcome you as a member with us of the body of Christ, as a child of the one heavenly Father, and as an inheritor of the kingdom of God.

Presentation of Bible and Candle

The Churchwardens, on behalf of the parish, present Polly with a Children's Bible and a lit candle. The Bible is to help her to learn more about God and his Son Jesus Christ and to grow in her faith, and the candle symbolises the light of Christ, which has been passed down through the centuries and which is today extended to Polly, that she may shine forth the light of Christ throughout her life.



Hymn No. 303 (Londonderry Air)

Lord of the Church, we pray for our renewing:

Christ over all, our undivided aim.

Fire of the Spirit, burn for our ending,

wind of the Spirit, fan the living flame!

We turn to Christ amid our fear and failing,

the will that lacks the courage to be free,

the weary labours, all but unavailing, to bring us nearer what a church should be.

Lord of the Church, we seek a Father's blessing,

a true repentance and a faith restored,

a swift obedience and a new possessing,

filled with the Holy Spirit of the Lord!

We turn to Christ from all our restless striving,

unnumbered voices with a single prayer:

the living water for our soul's reviving, in Christ to live, and love and serve and care.

Lord of the Church, we long for our uniting,

true to one calling, by one vision stirred;

one cross proclaiming and one creed reciting,

one in the truth of Jesus and his word!

So lead us on; till toil and trouble ended,

one Church triumphant one new song shall sing,

to praise his glory, risen and ascended,
Christ over all, the everlasting King!

Prayers of the People

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Prayers for Polly Susan and her family

Father, we thank you that Polly Susan has now been born again of water and the Holy Spirit, and has become your own child by adoption, and a member of your Church.

Grant that she may grow in the faith in which she has been baptized;
grant that she herself may confess it when she comes to be confirmed;
grant that she may bear witness to it by a life of service to others;
and that all things belonging to the Spirit may live and grow in her;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Almighty God, bless the home of this child Polly. Bless her mum Hazel, her dad Jonathan, her big sister Elsie, and her godparents Gareth and Andrew. Give such grace and wisdom to all who have the care of her, that by their word and good example they may teach her to know and love you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

*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.
For thine is the kingdom, and the
power, and the glory
for ever and ever. Amen.*

As we come to the blessing, we have a time of quiet:
we give thanks to God for the gift that Polly is...
we ask God's blessing on all those who are a part of Polly's life, all who have helped to make her into the precious little person that she is...
We think of all who are a part of her family.

The Blessing

The God of all grace,
who called you to his eternal glory in Christ Jesus,
establish, strengthen and settle you in the faith;
and the Blessing of God almighty,

the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Due to the Covid-19 restrictions we will be having a retiring collection; there are baskets at the doors of the church in which you may place your collection or envelope. You may wish to donate to the church online or electronically and the treasurers would be happy to give you the required details.

Hymn - My Jesus, My Saviour

My Jesus, my Saviour,
Lord, there is no one like you.
All of my days I want to praise
the wonders of your mighty love.

My comfort, my shelter,
tower of refuge and strength,
let ev'ry breath, all that I am,
never cease to worship you.

Shout to the Lord, all the earth, let
us sing
power and majesty, praise to the King.
Mountains bow down and the seas will
roar at the sound of your name.

I sing for joy at the work of your
hands.
For ever I'll love you, for ever I'll
stand.
Nothing compares to the promise I
have in you.

My Jesus, my Saviour,
Lord, there is no one like you.
All of my days I want to praise
the wonders of your mighty love.

My comfort, my shelter,
tower of refuge and strength,
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never cease to worship you.

Shout to the Lord, all the earth, let
us sing
power and majesty, praise to the King.
Mountains bow down and the seas will
roar at the sound of your name.

I sing for joy at the work of your
hands.
For ever I'll love you, for ever I'll
stand.
Nothing compares to the promise I
have in you.

The Dismissal

God has delivered us from the
domination of darkness and has given
us a place with the saints in light.

Polly, you have received the light of
Christ; walk in this light all the days
of your life.

***Shine as a light in the world to the
glory of God the Father.***

Go in the peace to love and serve the
Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

In the interests of trying to keep all who come to our churches safe, please take away this service sheet and any other items that you may have brought with you or used in church this morning. Thank you.

Stay well and stay safe.

Wednesday 26th January 2022

St Thomas' Church at 10.30

Midweek Holy Communion Service



Bring your own mug for a cuppa afterwards!

Forthcoming Services

There is a meeting of both select vestries on Monday night to progress how we worship in the future, in light of the lifting of the restrictions, announced by An Taoiseach on Friday night.



Confirmation Class

The next Confirmation Classes will be on Saturday 29th January

2022 in St Philip and St James' Church 18.00-18.30 hours and 18.30-19.15 hours

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

via Zoom

Tuesday afternoon—3.30pm—4.10pm

For Zoom details, please contact

Irene on 087-2755423

irene.reid1052@gmail.com

REGISTER OF VESTRYPERSONS

The Register of Vestrypersons is the electoral roll of the Parish, and is updated at the January Select Vestry meetings of our respective parishes.

If you are not on the Register, you are not entitled to vote on parish matters and are not able to hold any office in the parish, or serve on the Select Vestry. Please contact the Churchwardens to be placed on the Register of Vestrypersons.

It is very simple to do, the churchwardens have forms available, and all you have to do is fill in the short, simple form and give it to a churchwarden.

BOOTERSTOWN AND

CARYSFORT

SELECT VESTRY

THURSDAY 27th JANUARY

2022

20.00 HOURS VIA ZOOM

MOUNT MERRION

SELECT VESTRY

MONDAY 31st JANUARY 2022

20.00 HOURS VIA ZOOM