

***We are still awaiting further advice from the government regarding what is meant by the continuation of all protective measures for religious worship, so until we receive those details, we are required to continue with such things as social distancing, contact tracing, etc.***

### **Face Masks**

*As per government guidelines, please wear a face covering in church. Those who are leading/reading at the service may remove their face covering whilst they are leading/reading but must observe social-distancing whilst doing so.*

### **Contact Tracing**

*We are obliged to get the contact details of everyone who attends this service. These will only be used in the event of someone attending the service being diagnosed with Covid-19, in which event, they will be passed to the health authorities for Contact Tracing purposes. Please complete the form which is available at the church doors and drop into the box provided. If they are not required for Contact Tracing purposes, they will be destroyed after 28 days.*

### **Singing**

*We are also still awaiting an update on COVID-19 restrictions with regard to congregational singing. Over the past few weeks, there has been some 'musical muttering into masks'! The organist, is going to play the tune of the hymns chosen for this service and I invite you to reflect upon the words which have been included in this service sheet as you listen to the music.*



*[Please stand, if you are able]*

### **The Greeting**

*As the wheel of the year turns, and the clocks 'fall back' one hour, we move towards winter with the nights get longer and the days shorter.*

*The endless summer evenings are far behind us now, and darkness has come in their place.*

*Winds howl, temperatures drop and leaves fall.*

*But even with all that change, you are the same Lord,*

*and your warm and open welcome is unaffected by seasons or*

*temperature, so Lord, we come*

***with open ears to hear your word,***

***with open mouths to sing your***

***praise,***

***with open minds to learn of you.***

*Almighty God,*

*your Son has opened for us a new and living way into your presence.*

*Give us open hearts and constant wills to worship you in spirit and truth;*

*through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

***Amen.***

**Hymn No. 81 (Lord of the years)***[Verses 1-3]*

Lord, for the years your love has kept  
and guided,  
urged and inspired us, cheered us on  
our way,  
sought us and saved us, pardoned and  
provided,  
Lord of the years, we bring our  
thanks today.

Lord, for that word, the word of life  
which fires us,  
speaks to our hearts and sets our  
souls ablaze,  
teaches and trains, rebukes us and  
inspires us,  
Lord of the word, receive your  
people's praise.

Lord, for our land, in this our  
generation,  
spirits oppressed by pleasure, wealth  
and care;  
for young and old, for this and every  
nation,  
Lord of our land, be pleased to hear  
our prayer.

*[Please sit or kneel]***The Penitence**

Father, you are the source of all  
time; yet it neither contains nor  
constrains you.

***We who are time-bound  
confess***

***that often we do not take the  
time,  
or make the time  
to enter into your stillness  
and gaze on you.***

*[Silence]*

***Forgive us  
for all those times  
when the restless pursuit of the  
next thing  
has distracted and deflected us  
from spending time with you.***

*[Silence]*

***Help us to escape the bondage of  
busyness  
and find those moments  
of intersection with eternity,  
when your time and our time come  
together  
and we can grow in our awareness  
of you  
and of your purposes.***

We ask this in the name of Christ -  
the one who came into the world  
to make visible the Time of God.  
***Amen.***



*[Please stand, if you are able]*

### **The Acclamations**

Creator God, we praise you for bright  
crisp mornings,  
for leaves crackling underfoot  
and wisps of cloud in a pale sky.

*We praise you for the night-time  
rain,  
for the wind buffeting the city  
and streetlamps reflected in wet  
pavements.*

We praise you for the season's  
labours,  
for the smell of new-turned earth  
and smoking bonfires.

*We praise you for the season's  
gifts,  
for fruitfulness beyond measure  
and time to reflect and remember.  
Creator God, we praise you.*

### **The Collect of the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday before Advent**

Almighty and eternal God,  
you have kindled the flame of love in  
the hearts of the saints:  
grant to us the same faith and power  
of love,  
that, as we rejoice in their triumphs,  
we may be sustained by their example  
and fellowship;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

### **Hymn No. 81 (Lord of the years)**

*[Verses 4-5]*

Lord, for our world, when we disown  
and doubt him,  
loveless in strength, and comfortless  
in pain;  
hungry and helpless, lost indeed  
without him,  
Lord of the world, we pray that  
Christ may reign.

Lord, for ourselves; in living power  
remake us,  
self on the cross and Christ upon the  
throne;  
past put behind us, for the future  
take us,  
Lord of our lives, to live for Christ  
alone.



*[Please sit]*

### **The Old Testament Reading - Ruth 1: 16-18**

<sup>16</sup>But Ruth said,  
'Do not press me to leave you  
or to turn back from following you!  
Where you go, I will go;  
where you lodge, I will lodge;  
your people shall be my people,

and your God my God.

<sup>17</sup> Where you die, I will die—  
there will I be buried.

May the Lord do thus and so to me,  
and more as well,

if even death parts me from you!

<sup>18</sup> When Naomi saw that she was  
determined to go with her, she said  
no more to her.

This is the Word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

### Hymn No. 515 (A new commandment)

A new commandment I give unto you,  
that you love one another as I have  
loved you,

that you love one another as I have  
loved you.

By this shall all know that you are my  
disciples,

if you have love one to another.

By this shall all know that you are my  
disciples,

if you have love one to another.

### The New Testament Reading - Mark 12: 28-34

<sup>28</sup> One of the scribes came near and  
heard them disputing with one  
another, and seeing that he answered  
them well, he asked him, 'Which  
commandment is the first of  
all?' <sup>29</sup> Jesus answered, 'The first is,

"Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God,  
the Lord is one; <sup>30</sup> you shall love the  
Lord your God with all your heart, and  
with all your soul, and with all your  
mind, and with all your

strength." <sup>31</sup> The second is this, "You  
shall love your neighbour as yourself."

There is no other commandment  
greater than these.' <sup>32</sup> Then the  
scribe said to him, 'You are right,  
Teacher; you have truly said that "he  
is one, and besides him there is no  
other"; <sup>33</sup> and "to love him with all the  
heart, and with all the understanding,  
and with all the strength", and "to

love one's neighbour as oneself",—this  
is much more important than all whole  
burnt-offerings and

sacrifices.' <sup>34</sup> When Jesus saw that he  
answered wisely, he said to him, 'You  
are not far from the kingdom of God.'

After that no one dared to ask him  
any question.

This is the Word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

### Hymn No. 525 (Let There Be Love)

Let there be love shared among us,  
let there be love in our eyes.

May now your love sweep this nation,  
cause us, O Lord, to arise;

give us a fresh understanding  
of brotherly love that is real,

let there be love shared among us,  
let there be love.

Let there be love shared among us,  
 let there be love in our eyes.  
 May now your love sweep this nation,  
 cause us, O Lord, to arise;  
 give us a fresh understanding  
 of sisterly love that is real,  
 let there be love shared among us,  
 let there be love.

### **The Sermon**

*[Please stand, if you are able]*

#### **Affirmation of Faith**

*We believe in God the Father  
 who loves each of us,  
 and wants the best for us.*

*We believe in God the Son,  
 who, in loving us,  
 showed us how to live our lives  
 and how to love others.*

*We believe in God the Spirit,  
 who is God in us,  
 loving us and helping us to love.*

*We believe in God, Father, Son and  
 Holy Spirit, bound together by  
 love.*

#### **The Prayers**

*[Please sit or kneel]*

*God, hear our prayer;  
 and give us strength and courage.*

We gather all our prayers together  
 as we say 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, the power  
 and the glory for ever and ever.  
 Amen.*

#### **Hymn No. 596 (Seek ye first)**

Seek ye first the kingdom of God,  
 and his righteousness,  
 and all these things shall be added  
 unto you;  
 allelu, alleluia!

Ask, and it shall be given unto you;  
 seek, and ye shall find;  
 knock and the door shall be opened  
 unto you;  
 allelu, alleluia!

We shall not live by bread alone,  
 but by every word that  
 that proceeds from the mouth of the  
 Lord;  
 allelu, alleluia!

**The Blessing**

May the road rise up to meet you.  
 May the wind be always at your back.  
 May the sun shine warm upon your  
 face,  
 and the rains fall soft upon your  
 fields.  
 And until we meet again,  
 may God hold you in the palm of his  
 hand. **Amen.**

**The Dismissal**

Through the turning of the seasons,  
***bless us with wildness and wonder.***

Through our nights and days,  
***bless us with adventure and  
 courage.***

Through the journeys of our lives,  
***bless us with healing and hope.***

And through your blessings may we  
 know your joy within us:

Star-maker,  
 Light of the world,  
 Fire of holiness,  
***Love without end. 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.*



Copyright © Toons4Biz \* <http://MyReligionClipart.com/145>

**ALL SAINTS' DAY**

Tomorrow is All Saints' Day when we remember all those who we have loved, and whom we continue to love, who are in God's nearer presence. In Christ, the bond of love is never broken. If you would like someone to be remembered by the lighting of a candle at our live—streamed services at 10.30 on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2021 and Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2021, please let me know by **12.00 midday on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2021.**

## CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

*in the Canon Osborne Barr Room*

Tuesday afternoon—3.30pm—4.10pm

Contact Irene on 087-2755423

[irene.reid1052@gmail.com](mailto:irene.reid1052@gmail.com)

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2021

St Thomas' Church at 10.30

*Midweek Holy Communion Service*



*Bring your own mug for a cuppa afterwards!*

## Services next Sunday

8.30 Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

10.30 United Service of Holy Communion and Holy Baptism in St Philip and St James' Church  
*(live-streamed)*

## BOOTERSTOWN AND

## CARYSFORT

SELECT VESTRY

THURSDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2021

20.00 HOURS *VIA ZOOM*

## MOUNT MERRION

SELECT VESTRY

MONDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> NOVEMBER 2021

20.00 HOURS *VIA ZOOM*



## CHRISTMAS — FAIR —

***PJ's Christmas Coffee Morning and Mini Fair with Raffle***

*Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2021*

10.30-12.30

*St Philip and St James' Parish Centre*