



The Greeting

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all
and also with you.

Opening Response for Advent

May the light and love of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

As stars to the maker,
we are the work of God's hands.

As plants to the gardener,
we are the work of God's hands.

As clay to the potter,
we are the work of God's hands.

Hymn No. 135 (Veni Emmanuel)

[Verses 1 - 4]

1. O come, O come Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear:

Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

2. O come, thou Wisdom from above
who ord'rest all things through thy love;

to us the path of knowledge show
and teach us in her ways to go:

3. O come, O come, thou Lord of might,
who to thy tribes, on Sinai's height,
in ancient times didst give the law
in cloud, and majesty, and awe:

4. O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free
thine own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell thy people save,
and give them vict'ry o'er the grave:

(Please remain standing)

Collect for Purity

Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden;
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Penitence

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says:
You shall love the Lord your God with
all your heart and with all your soul
and with all your mind.

This is the first and great commandment.

And the second is like it.

You shall love your neighbour as yourself.

On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets.

Lord, have mercy on us, and write these laws in our hearts.

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ, to save us from our sins, to intercede for us in heaven, and to bring us to eternal life.

Let us then confess our sins in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God's commandments and to live in love and peace.

(Please sit or kneel)

[Silence]

The Penitential Kyries for Advent

Turn to us again, O God our Saviour, and let your anger cease from us.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Show us your mercy, O Lord, and grant us your salvation.

Christ, have mercy

Christ, have mercy.

Your salvation is near for those that fear you,

that glory may dwell in our land.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

The Gloria is omitted during the season of Advent.

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

The Collect for the First Sunday of Advent

Almighty God,
give us grace to cast away the works of darkness
and to put on the armour of light
now in the time of this mortal life
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility;
that on the last day
when he shall come again in his glorious majesty
to judge the living and the dead,
we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

(Please remain seated)

The Old Testament Reading - Isaiah 64: 1-9

The Old Testament reading is from the book of the prophet Isaiah, chapter 64, beginning at verse 1.

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—

² as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil—

to make your name known to your
adversaries,

so that the nations might tremble
at your presence!

³ When you did awesome deeds that
we did not expect,

you came down, the mountains
quaked at your presence.

⁴ From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait
for him.

⁵ You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in
your ways.

But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we
transgressed.

⁶ We have all become like one who is
unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like
a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind,
take us away.

⁷ There is no one who calls on
your name,
or attempts to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face
from us,
and have delivered us into the hand
of our iniquity.

⁸ Yet, O Lord, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are
our potter;

we are all the work of your hand.

⁹ Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord,

and do not remember iniquity for
ever.

Now consider, we are all your
people.

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

The Gradual Hymn - Advent is a Time of Waiting (Westminster Abbey) *Josie Smith*

Advent is a time of waiting
for the life that is to be.
When the Christ, by prophets
promised,
sits enthroned on Mary's knee,
human in the way that we are;
come to earth for you and me.

Choirs of angels are rehearsing,
'Glory to our God on high.'
Shepherds in the field are watching
where their bleating charges lie.
Distant magi, waiting, restless,
scan the dark mysterious sky.

Hope is all our theme for Advent,
hope for all the human race.
All our hope on God is founded,
God who shows a human face.
God who made the Earth and planets,
now appears in time and space.

[Please stand, if you are able]

The Holy Gospel - Mark 13: 24-37

Hear the Gospel of our Saviour Christ,

according to Mark, chapter 13, beginning at verse 24.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

²⁴ 'But in those days, after that suffering,
the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,
²⁵ and the stars will be falling
from heaven,

and the powers in the heavens will
be shaken.

²⁶ Then they will see "the Son of Man
coming in clouds" with great power
and glory. ²⁷ Then he will send out the
angels, and gather his elect from the
four winds, from the ends of the
earth to the ends of heaven.

²⁸ 'From the fig tree learn its lesson:
as soon as its branch becomes tender
and puts forth its leaves, you know
that summer is near. ²⁹ So also, when
you see these things taking place, you
know that he is near, at the very
gates. ³⁰ Truly I tell you, this
generation will not pass away until all
these things have taken place.

³¹ Heaven and earth will pass away, but
my words will not pass away.

³² 'But about that day or hour no one
knows, neither the angels in heaven,
nor the Son, but only the Father.

³³ Beware, keep alert; for you do not
know when the time will come. ³⁴ It is
like a man going on a journey, when he
leaves home and puts his slaves in
charge, each with his work, and
commands the doorkeeper to be on
the watch. ³⁵ Therefore, keep awake—

for you do not know when the master
of the house will come, in the evening,
or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at
dawn, ³⁶ or else he may find you asleep
when he comes suddenly. ³⁷ And what I
say to you I say to all: Keep awake.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The Sermon

(Please stand, if you are able)

The Nicene Creed *(shortened version)*

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



(Please kneel or sit)

Intercessions

***Come, O come Emmanuel
come and live in us.***

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

Please feel free to share the sign of peace in a manner that you and the person you are sharing the peace with are comfortable... it may be that a smile or a wave might be more appropriate than a handshake!



[Please stand, if you are able]

The Introduction to the Peace for Advent

In the tender mercy of our God,
the dayspring from on high shall
break upon us,
to give light to those who dwell in
darkness
and in the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of
peace. *Luke 1: 78-79*

The peace of the Lord be always with
you.

And also with you.

Many people give online and via Standing Order, so please feel free and comfortable not to put any collection in the basket. If you wish to donate to the church online or electronically, the treasurers would be happy to give you the required details.

Offertory Hymn - Hymn No. 119 **(Cross of Jesus)**

Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us;
let us find our rest in thee.

Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver,
born a child and yet a king;
born to reign in us for ever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal Spirit,
rule in all our hearts alone:
by thine all-sufficient merit,
raise us to thy glorious throne.

THE MINISTRY OF THE SACRAMENT

The Taking of the Bread and Wine

Christ, our passover has been
sacrificed for us,
therefore let us celebrate the feast.

The Great Thanksgiving - Prayer 1

The Lord is here.
His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Father, almighty and everliving God,
at all times and in all places
it is right to give you thanks and
praise:

salvation is your gift through the
coming of your Son our Saviour Jesus
Christ,
and by him you will make all things new
when he returns in glory to judge the
world:

and so with all your people, with
angels and archangels, and with all the
company of heaven, we proclaim your
great and glorious name, for ever
praising you and 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!

(Please feel free to stand, sit or kneel)

Blessed are you, Father, the creator
and sustainer of all things;
you made us in your own image;
male and female you created us;
even when we turned away from you,
you never ceased to care for us, but
in your love and mercy you freed us
from the slavery of sin, giving your
only begotten Son to become man and

suffer death on the cross to redeem
us;

he made there the one complete and
all-sufficient sacrifice for the sins of
the whole world: he instituted, and in
his holy Gospel commanded us to
continue, a perpetual memory of his
precious death until he comes again:

On the night that he was betrayed he
took bread;

and when he had given thanks to you,
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 when he had given thanks to you,
he gave it to them, saying, Drink this,
all of you, for 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.

Therefore, Father, with this bread
and this cup we do as Christ your Son
commanded:

***we remember his passion and death,
we celebrate his resurrection and
ascension,
and we look for the coming of his
kingdom.***

Accept through him, our great high
priest, this our sacrifice of praise and
thanksgiving;

and as we eat and drink these holy gifts,
grant by the power of the life-giving Spirit that we may be made one in your holy Church and partakers of the body and blood of your Son, that he may dwell in us and we in him:

Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom, with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, ***all honour and glory are yours, Almighty Father, for ever and ever. Amen.***

The Lord's Prayer

Breaking of the Bread

The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.

We being many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

The Invitation

The Communion

It is the custom of the Church of Ireland to welcome to receive Holy Communion, all those who usually receive Holy Communion in their own tradition. If you wish to receive a blessing instead, please indicate this to the priest. Please feel free and welcome to do whichever is appropriate for you.



The Great Silence

You are invited to take some time to reflect, having received Holy Communion.

The Post Communion Prayer

***God our deliverer,
awaken our hearts
to prepare the way for the advent
of your Son,
that, with minds purified by the
grace of his coming,
we may serve you faithfully all our
days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.***



Lighting the First Candle on the Advent Wreath

In this season of Advent, we are here to watch and wait and pray for the coming of the light into the world. We long for the day when the things of darkness - selfishness and greed,

suffering and oppression - shall be no more, and this year, we long for the day when the conflicts in Ukraine, Israel and Palestine shall be no more.

The candles on our Advent Wreath will remind us of the story of how, through the years, through different people, and finally in Jesus Christ, God's Kingdom comes on earth.

The first candle is to remind us of the patriarchs (the leaders God sent before Jesus), and so today, we think of Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Jacob, Moses and David who God called to be the founders and leaders of his people Israel.

Blessed be God for ever.

The first candle is lit.

***Like them we put our faith in God
who fulfilled his promises,
by sending his Son Jesus Christ
to be the Saviour and King of all.
Amen.***

Hymn - One Candle (Frère Jacques)

[Repeat each line]

One candle,
burning slow.
Advent weeks of waiting,
three to go.

Mary's waiting,
Joseph too.
Waiting for the baby,
coming soon.

St Philip and St James' Church - The Jesse Tree

The Jesse Tree represents the family tree, or genealogy of Jesus Christ. It tells the story of God's salvation plan, beginning with creation and continuing through the Old Testament, to the coming of the Messiah. The name comes from Isaiah 11:1, "Then a shoot will spring from the stem of Jesse, and a branch from his roots will bear fruit."

The Jesse Tree shows Jesus' family tree. Today, we are putting a dove for creation, an apple for Adam and Eve, a rainbow and ark for Noah, stars for Abraham, a ram for Isaac and a ladder for Jacob on the tree.



The Blessing for Advent

We walk in the wilderness searching
for meaning.

We walk in the city thirsting for
justice.

We walk towards Bethlehem seeking a
Saviour.

***May God baptise us with mercy and
fire, with integrity and hope, with
holiness and joy.***

And may the blessing of God, our
Judge, Maker, Saviour and Holy

Spirit, come upon us now, and remain with us for ever. **Amen.**

Hymn No. 135 (Veni Emmanuel)

[Verses 5 – 8]

5. O come, thou key of David, come,
and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery:

Rejoice! Rejoice!

*Emmanuel shall come to thee, O
Israel.*

6. O come, thou Dayspring, come and
cheer
our spirits by thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadows put to
flight:

7. O come, Desire of Nations, bring
all peoples to the Saviour King;
thou Corner-stone, who makest one,
complete in us thy work begun:

8. O come, O come Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear:

The Dismissal

Like Abraham and Sarah laughing.
Like Jacob wrestling for a blessing.
Like Hannah praying in the temple.
Like Noah keeping boats in the
wilderness.
Like Moses challenging injustice.

Like Joseph and Mary listening to
angels.

Keep us keeping on.

*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.

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

via Zoom

Tuesday afternoon—3.30pm—4.10pm

Contact Irene on 087-2755423

irene.reid1052@gmail.com

FORTHCOMING SERVICES

Wednesday 6th December 2023

*10.30 Midweek Holy Communion in St
Thomas' Church*

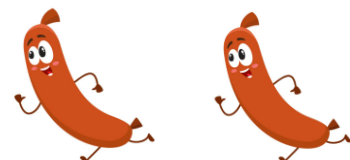
Sunday 10th December 2023

8.30 Holy Communion in St Philip and St
James' Church

9.30 Morning Prayer in St Thomas' Church

11.00 Morning Prayer in St Philip and St
James' Church (live-streamed)

18.30 Sausage Service in St Philip and St
James' Church, followed by sausages and
wedges



Wednesday 13th December 2023

10.30 Midweek Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

Wednesday 13th December 2023

17.00 and 19.00 St Andrew's College Junior School Carol Services in St Philip and St James' Church

Sunday 17th December 2023

NB Service Times and Venues

8.30 Holy Communion in St Philip and St James' Church

10.30 United Christingle in St Philip and St James' Church (live-streamed)

19.00 Carols by Candlelight in St Thomas' Church (live-streamed)

followed by mulled wine and mince pies in the Monk Gibbon Hall



Wednesday 20th December 2023

10.30 Midweek Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

Wednesday 20th December 2023

12.00 Booterstown National School Carol Service in St Philip and St James' Church

Thursday 21st December 2023

11.00 Ecumenical School Carol Service for Booterstown National School, Our Lady of Mercy Girls' School and St Mary's Boys' School in St Philip and St James' Church

Sunday 24th December 2023 – Christmas Eve

NB Service Times and Venues

8.30 Holy Communion in St Philip and St James' Church

10.30 United A Quiet Christmas in St Thomas' Church

22.00 The First Communion of Christmas - St Thomas' Church

Monday 25th December 2023 – Christmas Day

8.30 Holy Communion in St Philip and St James' Church

9.30 Family Communion in St Thomas' Church

11.00 Family Communion in St Philip and St James' Church (live-streamed)

Wednesday 27th December 2023

No Midweek Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

Sunday 31st December 2023 – New Year's Eve

8.30 Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

10.30 United Service of the Word in St Philip and St James' Church (live-streamed)



PJ's Christmas Craic-er!

Saturday 9th December 2023

10.30-12.30

St Philip and St James' Church

A Christmas Get-Together for chat and craic! Tea/Coffee/Juice with Scones and Mince Pies, Ice Cream, Raffle, Bring-and-Buy Stall, Pin the Tail on the Reindeer and Christmas Lucky Dip... and... Santa Claus.



Carol Singing for Dublin SIMON

Thursday 21st December 2023

4pm—6pm

Blackrock Village Shopping Centre,
(the one with SuperValu)

*We are asking people to sign up to sing
and/or collect for 30 minutes or 1 hour... or
however long they can.*

*Please email Gillian to let her when and for
how long you can be there!*

booterstownandmountmerrion@gmail.com



BOOTERSTOWN AND CARYSFORT

**SELECT VESTRY MEETING
THURSDAY 14TH DECEMBER 2023
19.30 HOURS IN THE PARISH ROOM
OF ST PHILIP AND ST JAMES'
PARISH CENTRE**

MOUNT MERRION

**SELECT VESTRY MEETING
TUESDAY 29TH JANUARY 2024
19.30 HOURS VIA ZOOM**



Confirmation Class for teenagers

**Wednesday 6th December 2023 at 18.30
St Philip and St James' Church**

Please note that Confirmation preparation for adults
will take place separately – please contact the
Rector.

Ad Hoc Choir Practice *for the Carols by Candlelight*

Wednesday 6th December 2023

Wednesday 13th December 2023

at

7.30pm in St Thomas' Church



Help for Santa!

Life can be very cruel and we could make a difference to some children this Christmas. This is why I am asking you if we could help Santa. I am asking if you could buy one or two small toys - they cannot be big toys as those families living in hotels or hostels, or in cars, do not have the room for anything big - and could you bring them to either of our churches on the following Sundays... if you are not able to attend the service, please aim to arrive at the end of the service to drop off the items:

**Sunday 10th December 2023 to St
Thomas' Church – service at 9.30-10.15
or to St Philip and St James' Church -
services at 8.30-9.00, 11.00-11.45 and
18.30-19.00.**

*I have to deliver the items into the Capuchin
Day Centre on Wednesday 13th December
2023, so we have to have them before then.*

Santa needs long-johns, etc too!

New pairs of long-johns (underwear) are hugely appreciated by The Alice Leahy Trust for their service users. As you can imagine, it is bitterly cold, living on the streets, at this time of the year. We would be delighted to pass on new long-johns, new warm socks, new gloves and new hats. Warm jackets and hoodies in good condition would also be great.

***We can give a little love this Christmas, and
that is exactly what Christmas is... God
coming to earth in human form because he
loves us, and to show us through Jesus
Christ how to love and to care.***