

**Face Masks**

The wearing of face masks is no longer mandated by the government. However, people may feel more comfortable wearing a mask and especially for singing, which we really appreciate being able to do again.

**Social Distancing**

The government has announced that social-distancing is no longer required, and we have removed our seating plans in both churches. 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. The North Transept of St Philip and St James' Church will continue to have a seating plan where those who would like to be socially-distanced from others may sit.

**The Gathering of God's People -  
Welcome and Greeting**

Christ is risen.

***The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!***

**Opening Responses**

Sometimes believing, sometimes  
doubting,  
***we come to God's house.***

Sometimes weeping, sometimes  
laughing,  
***we come to God's house.***

Sometimes afraid, sometimes joyful,  
***we come to God's house.***

Whatever has happened to us, here  
we are welcome;  
***this day and this house belong to  
God.***

**Hymn No. 86 (Vulpius (Gelobt sei  
Gott))**

[Verses 1–4]

Christ is the King! O friends,  
rejoice;  
brothers and sisters, with one voice  
let the world know he is your choice.

*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

O magnify the Lord, and raise  
anthems of joy and holy praise  
for Christ's brave saints of ancient  
days.

They with a faith for ever new  
followed the King, and round him  
drew  
thousands of faithful servants true.

O Christian women, Christian men,  
all the world over, seek again  
the way disciples followed then.

**Prayer of Approach**

Astounding God,  
very early on that first day  
you caught chaos unawares:  
planting grace in a garden,

setting love loose on creation,  
flinging joy into the air.

Jesus, Sun of justice,  
very early on that first day  
you staggered sin,  
throwing its weight off the world;  
you confounded death,  
leaving it alone in the grave;  
you opened the gates of the  
kingdom,  
so all could follow you into life.

Scarred Spirit,  
very early on the first day of the  
week,  
while we were washing sleep from  
our eyes  
and trying to make sense of our  
lives,  
you sang glad songs to us,  
rolling away fears from our hearts  
so we can see the Risen Lord.

God in Community, Holy and One,  
very early on the first day of the  
week, we lift our prayers to you,  
using the words that Jesus taught  
us:

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.*

Call to Reconciliation

Very early in the morning,  
God created all that is good and  
beautiful.

Very early in the morning,  
a mother placed her newborn in a  
manger.

Very early in the morning,  
the good news that Jesus was risen  
and alive in their midst  
was shared with frightened friends.

Let us confess the fears we bring  
this morning...

[Silence]

Prayer of Confession

*Emptier of tombs,  
on this morning of hallelujahs,  
we must confess how human we  
are.*

*We haven't done any great evil,  
but we have failed to do good  
when we had the chance.*

*We easily accept the witness of  
the angel in the tomb,*

*but find it difficult to share this good news with our friends and neighbours.*

*Dazzling God,  
bring us to life.  
Where we are tired and stressed,  
give us the energy to serve your creation;  
transform our hardened hearts  
into fountains of grace;  
forgive us for all the damage we  
have done -  
and fill us with the joy of the  
Spirit.*

#### Assurance of Pardon

God, our Creator, give us new life;  
Christ, our Redeemer, prepares a  
table for us;  
The Holy Spirit, our Joy, calls us to  
service.  
This is good news:  
The tomb is empty, sin is powerless,  
death is defeated for ever.  
*On this day, and every day,  
we walk as God's people -  
forgiven and made whole.  
Thanks be to God. Amen.*



#### The Collect for Second Sunday of Easter

Almighty Father,  
you have given your only Son to die  
for our sins  
and to rise again for our  
justification:  
Grant us so to put away the leaven  
of malice and wickedness  
that we may always serve you in  
purity of living and truth;  
through the merits of your Son  
Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## The Word of God

#### The First Reading - Acts 5: 27-32

*The first reading is from the Acts of the Apostles, chapter 5, beginning at verse 27.*

27 When they had brought them, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, <sup>28</sup>saying, 'We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us.' <sup>29</sup>But Peter and the apostles answered, 'We must obey God rather than any human authority. <sup>30</sup>The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. <sup>31</sup>God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Saviour, so that he might give repentance to Israel

and forgiveness of sins. <sup>32</sup>And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.'

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

**The Gradual Hymn - No. 86**  
**(Vulpius (Gelobt sei**  
**Gott)** *[Verses 5-7]*

Christ through all ages is the same:  
place the same hope in his great  
name;  
with the same faith his word  
proclaim.

*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

Let love's unconquerable might  
your scattered companies unite  
in service to the Lord of light.

So shall God's will on earth be done,  
new lamps be lit, new tasks begun  
and the whole Church at last be one.

**The Second Reading - John 20:**  
**19-31**

*The second reading is from the Gospel of John, chapter 20 beginning at verse 19.*

19 When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace

be with you.' <sup>20</sup>After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' <sup>22</sup>When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

24 But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'

26 A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' <sup>27</sup>Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' <sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' <sup>29</sup>Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

30 Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup>But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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

The Sermon

**Hymn No. 252 (Alleluia No. 1)**

*Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord!*

*Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.*

Jesus is Lord of all the earth.  
He is the King of creation.

Spread the good news through all the earth,  
Jesus has died and is risen:

We have been crucified with Christ-  
now we shall live for ever:

God has proclaimed the just reward-  
life for the world, alleluia!

Come, let us praise the living God,  
joyfully sing to our Saviour!

**Affirmation of Faith**

Lus declare our faith  
in the resurrection of our Lord  
Jesus Christ.

*Christ died for our sins  
in accordance with the  
Scriptures;*

*he was buried;*

*he was raised to life on the third  
day*

*in accordance with the  
Scriptures;*

*afterwards he appeared to his  
followers,*

*and to all the apostles:*

*this we have received,*

*and this we believe.*

**Amen.**

*cf 1 Corinthians 15.3-7*

*[Please kneel or sit]*

**The Prayers of the People**

Open our eyes:

***we long to see you.***

**The Blessing for Easter-tide**

God the Father,

by whose glory Christ was raised  
from the dead,

raise you up to walk with him in the  
newness of his risen life:

and the Blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy  
Spirit,

be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

*We are continuing to be cautious regarding Covid-19, and therefore, we will not be passing around baskets for the collection. Instead, 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. Thank you to those who give via online banking. If you wish to donate to the church online or electronically, the treasurers would be happy to give you the required details*

### **Hymn No. 255 (Morgenlied)**

Christ is risen, alleluia!  
risen our victorious head;  
sing his praises, alleluia!  
Christ is risen from the dead.  
gratefully our hearts adore him,  
as his light once more appears,  
bowing down in joy before him,  
rising up from grief and tears.

*Christ is risen, alleluia!  
risen our victorious head;  
sing his praises, alleluia!  
Christ is risen from the dead.*

Christ is risen! all the sadness  
of this earthly life is o'er;  
through the open gates of gladness  
he returns to life once more;  
death and hell before him bending,  
he doth rise the victor now,  
angels on his steps attending,  
glory round his wounded brow:

Christ is risen! Henceforth never  
death or hell shall us enthrall,  
we are Christ's, in him for ever  
we have triumphed over all;  
all the doubting and dejection  
of our trembling hearts have  
ceased.

'Tis the day of resurrection;  
let us rise and keep the feast.

### **The Closing Responses and Dismissal**

As God sent Jesus  
to bring hope and healing,  
to care for our neighbours,  
to work for justice,  
**Jesus sends us.**

With the gift of the Holy Spirit,  
**Jesus sends us with love.**

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



*May the glory of the  
Resurrection  
fill you with joy and hope this  
Easter-time.*

*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.*

## Thank You!



*Thank you to those who decorated both of our churches so beautifully for Easter.*

## **EASTER GENERAL VESTRIES**

*Both Easter General Vestries will be held in person.*

### **MOUNT MERRION**

**EASTER GENERAL VESTRY  
MONDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2022**

**20.00 HOURS**

**ST THOMAS' CHURCH**

### **BOOTERSTOWN AND CARYSFORT**

**EASTER GENERAL VESTRY  
THURSDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2022**

**20.00 HOURS**

**ST PHILIP AND ST JAMES'  
CHURCH**

### **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2022 – St Philip and St James' Day**

8.30 Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

10.00 Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

**11.00** Holy Communion in St Philip and St James' Church, which will also be live-streamed.

### **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

8.30 Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

10.00 Morning Prayer in St Thomas' Church

**11.00** Morning Prayer in St Philip and St James' Church, which will also be live-streamed.

18.30 Sausage Service and Holy Baptism in St Philip and St James' Church, followed by supper of sausages and wedges.

## History of the Parishes

Michael Lee is compiling a history of our parishes for our forthcoming celebrations in 2024:

2021 – 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the foundation of the Parish of Booterstown

2024 – 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the consecration of St Philip and St James' Church

2024 – 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the consecration of St Thomas' Church

2026 – 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the foundation of Booterstown National School

Mike has interviewed some of the parishioners of both churches, about their memories, stories and experience but he really would like more stories and photographs if you have them. *“Do not think that your story is not interesting enough, all will help make up the wonderful different strands that will enrich the colourful weave of the story of these historic churches.”*

*Please email your story/stories, or contact Mike at [mikelee2653@gmail.com](mailto:mikelee2653@gmail.com)*