



*There are pieces of paper available for you to write the name(s) of those for whom you are praying today, and to write the names of those whom you are remembering today. The pieces of paper will be collected later in the service and placed on the Communion Table as we bring those people to God.*



### Greeting

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

***And also with you.***

### Hymn No. 618 (Slane 2)

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,  
whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy,  
be there at our waking, and give us,  
we pray,  
your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.

Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,  
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe,  
be there at our labours, and give us,  
we pray,  
your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.

Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,  
your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace,  
be there at our homing, and give us,  
we pray,  
your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

Lord of all gentleness, Lord, of all calm,  
whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm,  
be there at our sleeping, and give us,  
we pray,  
your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

*[Please sit]*

### The Introduction

### Opening Responses

***We come in this service to God,  
in our need, and bringing with us,  
the needs of the world.***

We come to God, who has come to us  
in Jesus,  
*and who walks with us the road of  
our world's suffering.*

We come with our faith, and with our  
doubts;  
*we come with our hopes and with  
our fears.*

We come with our requests, and with  
our thanksgivings,  
*we come with our memories, and  
with our hearts' deepest desires.*

We come as we are, because it is God  
who invites us to come,  
*and God has promised never to turn  
us away.*

*[Please kneel or sit]*

### The Penitence

O God,  
when we are battered and bruised...  
and weighed down by the guilt and the  
things that burden us and play on our  
minds,  
you can come close and repair us.

*[Silence]*

God,  
grant us your forgiveness  
*for our careless thoughts,  
for our thoughtless deeds,  
for our empty speech*

*and the words with which we  
wounded;  
for our false desires,  
for our hateful actions,  
for our wastefulness  
and for all we left untended.*

*[Silence]*

Loving Christ,  
risen in the early morning,  
*bring new life  
where we are worn and tired;  
new love  
where we have turned hard-  
hearted;  
forgiveness where we feel hurt and  
where we have wounded;  
and the joy and freedom of your  
Holy Spirit  
where we are the prisoners of  
ourselves.*

To all and to each  
where regret is real,  
where burden weighs heavy,  
God pronounces his pardon  
and grants us the right to begin again.  
**Amen.**

### The Collect for the Third Sunday in Lent

Merciful Lord,  
grant your people grace to withstand  
the temptations  
of the world, the flesh and the devil  
and with pure hearts and minds to

follow you, the only God;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**



## THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

*[Please sit]*

### **The First Reading - Psalm 63: 1-9**

*The First Reading is from the book of Psalms,  
chapter 63, beginning at verse 1.*

- 1 O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; my soul is athirst for you.
- 2 My flesh also faints for you, as in a dry and thirsty land where there is no water.
- 3 So would I gaze upon you in your holy place, that I might behold your power and your glory.
- 4 Your loving-kindness is better than life itself and so my lips shall praise you.
- 5 I will bless you as long as I live and lift up my hands in your name.
- 6 My soul shall be satisfied, as with marrow and fatness, and my mouth shall praise you with joyful lips,
- 7 When I remember you upon my bed and meditate on you in the watches of the night.

8 For you have been my helper and under the shadow of your wings will I rejoice.

9 My soul clings to you; your right hand shall hold me fast.

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

### **When I'm Confused**

*by Wendy Craig*

When I'm confused Lord,  
show me the way,  
show me, show me the way;  
baffled and bruised, Lord,  
show me the way,  
show me, show me the way.

Still my heart and clear my mind,  
prepare my soul to hear  
your still, small voice, your word of truth:  
peace be still! Your Lord is near;  
always so close  
to show you the way,  
show you, show you the way.

When I'm afraid, Lord,  
show me the way,  
show me, show me the way;  
weak and dismayed, Lord,  
show me the way,  
show me, show me the way.

Lift my spirit with your love,  
bring courage, calm and peace:  
you who bore all for my sake  
so I could walk from fear released

with you beside me  
showing the way,  
showing, showing the way.

## **The Second Reading – Luke 6: 12-19**

*The Second Reading is from the Gospel according to Luke, chapter 6, beginning at verse 12.*

12 Now during those days he went out to the mountain to pray; and he spent the night in prayer to God. <sup>13</sup>And when day came, he called his disciples and chose twelve of them, whom he also named apostles: <sup>14</sup>Simon, whom he named Peter, and his brother Andrew, and James, and John, and Philip, and Bartholomew, <sup>15</sup>and Matthew, and Thomas, and James son of Alphaeus, and Simon, who was called the Zealot, <sup>16</sup>and Judas son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor.

17 He came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. <sup>18</sup>They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. <sup>19</sup>And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

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

## **The Sermon**

*[Please stand, if you are able]*

### **Affirmation of Faith**

Let us declare our faith in God:

***We believe that God is love,  
and those who live in love,  
live in God, and God lives in them.  
God's love... a love that lifts the  
heart,  
and anchors the soul.***

***We believe that Jesus is love,  
and that he came to show us a  
challenging love...  
a love that breaches borders and  
battlelines;  
a love that cracks convention,  
and sows seeds of hope.***

***We believe that the Holy Spirit is  
love, a tender love...  
a love that stands with tear-soaked  
eyes and grief-gripped souls,  
and holds aloft for us a fragile  
flame of reassurance and  
understanding,  
of solidarity and strength.***

***We believe in God, Father, Son and  
Holy Spirit, three, bound together  
by love,  
whose presence in our lives,  
can bring hope and healing;  
who gives us the strength to face  
fear full- on.***

***We believe in God's love; a generous  
love that lifts the heart,  
and anchors the soul.***



*During the singing of this hymn, the baskets  
with the pieces of paper are collected and  
placed on the Communion Table as we bring  
those people to God.*

### **Hymn No. 517 (Servant Song)**

Brother, sister, let me serve you,  
let me be as Christ to you.  
Pray that I may have the grace to  
let you be my servant, too.

We are pilgrims on a journey,  
and companions on the road;  
we are here to help each other  
walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ-light for you  
in the night-time of your fear;  
I will hold my hand out to you,  
speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping;  
when you laugh I'll laugh with you.  
I will share your joy and sorrow  
till we've seen this journey through.

When we sing to God in heaven  
we shall find such harmony,  
born of all we've known together  
of Christ's love and agony.

Won't you let me be your servant,  
let me be as Christ to you?  
Pray that I may have the grace to  
let you be my servant, too.

*[Please sit or kneel]*

### **The Prayers**

Let us pray:

Lord, in your mercy.  
***Hear our prayer.***

*Concluding with:*

In silence, we pray as God puts his ear  
close to our hearts and hears our  
prayers:

*Silence, during which each person can bring  
their own particular prayers to God.*

Lord, in your mercy.  
***Hear our prayer.***

### **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.*



*[During this hymn, the collection in aid of the Irish  
Cancer Society will be received.]*

### Hymn - No. 294 (Down Ampney)

Come down, O Love divine,  
seek thou this soul of mine,  
and visit it with thine own ardour  
glowing;

O Comforter, draw near,  
within my heart appear,  
and kindle it, thy holy flame  
bestowing.

O let it freely burn,  
till earthly passions turn  
to dust and ashes in its heat  
consuming;  
and let thy glorious light  
shine ever on my sight,  
and clothe me round, the while my  
path illuming.

Let holy charity  
mine outward vesture be,  
and lowliness become mine inner  
clothing:  
true lowliness of heart,

which takes the humbler part,  
and o'er its own shortcomings weeps  
with loathing.

And so the yearning strong,  
with which the soul will long,  
shall far outpass the power of human  
telling;  
for none can guess its grace,  
till we become the place  
wherein the Holy Spirit makes his  
dwelling.

### 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.

May he go before you to protect you,  
and stand behind you to give you  
strength; and the blessing of God  
almighty, the Father, Son and Holy  
Spirit be with you, this day and for  
evermore. **Amen.**

*You are invited to reflect upon these words as the  
music plays.*

### A Gaelic Blessing

*[Music by John Rutter]*

Deep peace of the running wave to  
you.

Deep peace of the flowing air to you.  
 Deep peace of the quiet earth to you.  
 Deep peace of the shining stars to you.  
 Deep peace of the gentle night to you.  
 Moon and stars pour healing light on you.  
 Deep peace of Christ the light of the world to you.

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*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.*

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### **Tea/Coffee and Bring-and-Buy**

**You are warmly invited to join us for tea/coffee/juice in the Parish Centre after the service.**

**There will be a basket for donations to the Irish Cancer Society and there will be a Bring-and-Buy Stall with a variety of items for sale, and a stall with merchandise from the Irish Cancer Society.  
 All proceeds will go the Irish Cancer Society.**

### **Cancer is so Limited**

*By Robert L. Lynn*

They've sentenced you with invisible cells that embed themselves deep in body recesses and multiply: lymphatic assault on vital functions.

Can cancer conquer you?

I doubt it, for the strengths I see in you have nothing to do with cells and blood and muscle.

For cancer is so limited---

It cannot cripple love.

It cannot shatter hope.

It cannot corrode faith.

It cannot eat away peace.

It cannot destroy confidence.

It cannot kill friendship.

It cannot shut out memories.

It cannot silence courage.

It cannot invade the soul.

It cannot reduce eternal life.

It cannot quench the spirit.

It cannot cancel Resurrection.

Can cancer conquer you?

I doubt it, for the strengths I see in you have nothing to do with cells and blood and muscle.

© 2007 by Robert L. Lynn

### **Life is a Journey**

*by Rabbi Alvin I. Fine*

Birth is a beginning  
 and death a destination,  
 and life is a journey:  
 from childhood to maturity  
 and youth to age;  
 from innocence to awareness  
 and ignorance to knowing;  
 from foolishness to desecration  
 and then perhaps to wisdom.  
 From weakness to strength or  
 from strength to weakness



and often back again;  
 from health to sickness  
 and we pray to health again.  
 From offence to forgiveness  
 from loneliness to love  
 from joy to gratitude  
 from pain to compassion  
 from grief to understanding  
 from fear to faith.  
 From defeat to defeat to defeat  
 until looking backwards or ahead,  
 we see that victory lies not  
 at some high point along the way  
 but in having made the journey  
 step by step;  
 a sacred pilgrimage.  
 Birth is a beginning  
 and death a destination  
 and life is a journey;  
 a sacred journey to life everlasting.

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## **FORTHCOMING SERVICES**

### **Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

*10.30 Midweek Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church*

### **Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2025 – Mothering Sunday**

8.30 Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church  
 9.30 Service of the Word in St Thomas' Church  
 11.00 Holy Baptism in St Philip and St James' Church

### **Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2025**

*10.30 Midweek Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church*

### **Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2025**

8.30 Holy Communion in St Philip and St James' Church  
 9.30 Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

11.00 Holy Communion in St Philip and St James' Church

### **Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2025**

*10.30 Midweek Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church*

### **Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2025 – Palm Sunday**

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  
 18.30 Sausage Service in St Philip and St James' Church



## **Holy Week**

*Monday – 20.00 in St Thomas' Church*

*Tuesday – 20.00 in St Philip and St James' Church*

*Wednesday - 10.30 Midweek Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church  
 20.00 in St Thomas' Church*

*Maundy Thursday – 20.00 Holy Communion in St Philip and St James' Church*

*Good Friday – 14.00 Prayer at the Cross in St Thomas' Church*

*19.00 - Ecumenical Prayer around the Cross in The Church of the Assumption*

### **Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2025 – Easter Day**

6.30 Sunrise on Sandymount Strand **TBC**  
 8.30 Holy Communion in St Philip and St James' Church  
 9.30 NB Time Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church  
 11.00 Holy Communion in St Philip and St James' Church



Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2025

10.30 Midweek Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2025

8.30 Holy Communion in St Philip and St James' Church

10.30 United Service of the Word in St Thomas' Church

Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2025

10.30 Midweek Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church



St Thomas' Sunday Club will meet at 9.30 in the Monk Gibbon Hall and St Philip and St James' Sunday Club will meet at 11.00 in St Philip and St James' Parish Centre on the following Sundays:

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2025**

All children who are toilet-trained are welcome.

The leaders have been Garda-vetted and have undergone Safeguarding Trust Training.



**Healer Prayer Group**

**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2025**  
19.30 hours *via Zoom*

**MOUNT MERRION**  
**SELECT VESTRY**  
**MEETING**

**MONDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2025**  
**19.30 HOURS**  
**IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM OF THE**  
**MONK GIBBON HALL**

## CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

Tuesday afternoon 3.30pm—4.10pm  
In the Canon Osborne Barr Room of St Philip and St James' Parish Centre  
Contact Irene on 087-2755423

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



## Lenten Challenge

**Gillian is off again!**

**This year, she is walking/cross-training/cycling/rowing at least 5km every day of Lent 2025.**

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March – Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2025 inclusive!**

Lent is the season for examining ourselves and seeing how we can more fully reflect the life and love of Christ and his commandment to us to love our neighbour as ourselves. That means respecting and caring for others and for ourselves.

Therefore, again, this Lent, I am encouraging people to take up something that gives you a focus each day and that benefits you physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually.

This year, I will doing 5km each day - using a variety of ways of moving as I have been battling with plantar fasciitis for the last

year! - for my physical, mental, emotional and spiritual wellbeing and for the Irish Cancer Society and Blackrock Hospice.

You can make a donation by online banking to **Boooterstown and Mount Merrion Account**

IBAN: IE30IPBS99062932796541

BIC: IPBSIE2D

## What to do in Lent!

Join **Christ Church Cathedral** and **Fr Kieran O'Mahony**

**OSA** present 'Salvation in the Gospel of John'.

This is a 6 week course beginning at 19:30 on [Ash Wednesday after Eucharist at 18:00](#) which you are warmly encouraged to attend.

Keys for unlocking the message today.

This is a free hybrid event. Participants can attend in person in the Music Room at Christ Church or via Zoom.

**Please note that the Music Room is only accessible by stairs.**

<https://christchurchcathedral.ie/lenten-series-2025.../>

## EASTER GENERAL VESTRIES

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

**MOUNT MERRION**  
**EASTER GENERAL VESTRY**  
**TUESDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2025**  
**20.00 HOURS**  
**ST THOMAS' CHURCH**

## BOOTERSTOWN AND CARYSFORT

**EASTER GENERAL VESTRY**  
**THURSDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> APRIL**  
**2025**  
**20.00 HOURS**  
**ST PHILIP AND ST JAMES'**  
**CHURCH**

## Colouring Section



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