

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

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, so please respect others' need for space.

Heating Installation and Interior Works to St Philip and St James' Church

We have completed the first phase of the works. The new heating system has been installed and the accessibility works have been done. We still have more work to do but we have more funds to raise!

<u>The Greeting and Welcome</u> The Lord be with you. *And also with you.*

Opening Responses

O God, who called all life into being, the earth, sea and sky are yours. Your presence is all around us; every atom is full of your energy.

Your Spirit enlivens all who walk the earth.

With you we yearn for justice to be done, for creation to be free from threat, for the hungry to be fed, for captives to be released, for your kingdom of peace to come on earth.

<u>Hymn No. 78 Thanks and Praise</u> (Ebenezer (Ton-y-botel)

Jesus, tempted in the desert, lonely, hungry, filled with dread: 'Use your power,' the tempter tells him;

'turn these barren rocks to bread!' 'Not alone by bread', he answers, 'can the human heart be filled. Only by the Word that calls us is our deepest hunger stilled!'

Jesus, tempted at the temple, high above its ancient wall: 'Throw yourself from lofty turret; angels wait to break your fall!' Jesus shuns such empty marvels, feats that fickle crowds request: 'God, whose grace protects, preserves us, We must neven weight test.'

We must never vainly test.'

Jesus, tempted on the mountain by the lure of vast domain; 'Fall before me! Be my servant! Glory, fame you're sure to gain!' Jesus sees the dazzling vision, turns his eyes another way: 'God alone deserves our homage! God alone will I obey!'

When we face temptation's power, lonely, struggling, filling with dread, Christ, who knew the tempter's hour, come and be our living bread. By your grace, protect, preserve us lest we fall, your trust betray. Yours, above all other voices, be the Word, we hear, obey.

The Penitence

O God, gladly we live and move and have our being in you.

Yet always in the midst of creation's glory,

we see sin's shadow and feel death's darkness.

It is around us in the earth, sea and sky, in the abuse of matter.

It is beside us in the broken, the hungry and the poor,

in the betrayal of one another; and often, deep within us, in a striving against your Spirit.

O Trinity of Love,

forgive us that we may forgive one another, heal us that we may become people of healing,

and renew us that we may be makers of peace. Amen.

The Collect of the 1st Sunday in Lent

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin: Give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit; and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

The following collect may be said daily in Lent: Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing that you have made and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent: create and make in us new and contrite hearts that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness. may receive from you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



<u>The Old Testament Reading -</u> <u>Genesis 2: 15-17, 3: 1-7</u>

15 The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. ¹⁶And the LORD God commanded the man, 'You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; ¹⁷but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.' 3Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, 'Did God say, "You shall not eat from any tree in the garden"?' ²The woman said to the serpent, 'We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; ³but God said. "You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die." ' ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, 'You will not die; ⁵for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God,* knowing good and evil.' ⁶So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they

were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

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

<u>Psalm 91 - Hymn No. 173 Thanks</u> and Praise (On Eagles' Wings)

[Verse 1 and Chorus]

You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,

who abide in his shadow for life, say to the Lord, "My refuge, my rock in whom I trust."

And he will raise you up on eagles' wings,

bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.

[Please sit]

<u>The New Testament Reading -</u> <u>Matthew 4: 1-11</u>

4Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ²He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. ³The tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.' ⁴But he answered, 'It is written,

"One does not live by bread alone,

but by every word that comes from the mouth of God." '

5 Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶saying to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written,

"He will command his angels concerning you",

and "On their hands they will bear you up,

so that you will not dash your foot against a stone." '

⁷Jesus said to him, 'Again it is written, "Do not put the Lord your God to the test." '

8 Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour; ⁹and he said to him, 'All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.' ¹⁰Jesus said to him, 'Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

"Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him." '

¹¹Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

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

<u>Rest of Hymn No. 173 Thanks and</u> Praise (On Eagles' Wings)

[Verses 2 and 3 and Chorus]

Snares of the fowler will never capture you,

and famine will bring you no fear; under his wings your refuge, with faithfulness your shield.

And he will raise you up on eagles' wings,

bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.

For to his angels he's given a command,

to guard you in all of your ways; upon their hands they will bear you up,

lest you dash your foot against a stone.

And he will raise you up on eagles' wings,

bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand, and hold you, hold you, in the palm of his hand.

The Sermon

[Please stand, if you are able]

Affirmation of Faith

Let us confess the faith of the Church.

We believe in God in whom is power and compassion.

We believe in the creator who gave birth to the universe, who set solar systems dancing in space,

who shaped molecules and mountains,

and who conceived beauty beyond our imagining.

God's power topples tyrants, and brings down walls of separation; God's love embodies the tenderness of a mother and father, encouraging and caring for each of us.

We believe in Jesus, who was born in obscurity in an occupied land; a human being, vulnerable to hunger, thirst, persecution and grief. He understood the power of love and confronted the powers of evil, he spoke the truth with courage and clarity, forgave his enemies and changed lives. In his living, dying and rising again he showed love strong enough to save the world. We believe in the Holy Spirit

who sustains, comforts and empowers us,

who opens the scriptures, opens our minds,

and illuminates earth's darkness. Amen.

<u>Peace is Flowing (Pie Jesu by Lloyd</u> <u>Webber)</u>

Peace is flowing like a river, Flowing out through you and me, Spreading out into the desert, Setting all the captives free, Setting all the captives free.

Love is flowing...

Faith is flowing...

Hope is flowing ...

[Please sit or kneel]

Intercessions

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn No. 595 (Creator God)

Safe in the shadow of the Lord beneath his hand and power, I trust in him, I trust in him, my fortress and my tower.

My hope is set on God alone though Satan spreads his snare; I trust in him, I trust in him, to keep me in his care.

From fears and phantoms of the night, from foes about my way, I trust in him, I trust in him, by darkness and by day.

His holy angels keep my feet secure from every stone; I trust in him, I trust in him, and unafraid go on.

Strong in the everlasting Name, and in my Father's care, I trust in him, I trust in him, who hears and answers prayer.

Safe in the shadow of the Lord, possessed by love divine, I trust in him, I trust in him, and meet his love with mine.

The Blessing

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, that we may abound in hope, in the power of the Holy Spirit, and the blessing of God almighty, The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us, this day and for evermore. **Amen.**

The Closing Responses

May the God of Peace inspire us, may the God of Justice empower us,

and may the God of Hope encourage us, so that we go in the power of the Sprit. Go, in the power of the Spirit. Go, and do not try to separate politics and prayer. Go, not to escape, but to engage with God's world.

Go, to live hopefully, as people of the resurrection.

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.

Thank You!

Thank you to those who supported the Parish Coffee Morning in St Philip and St James' Church yesterday in aid of the earthquake victims, and in particular, thank you to those who put in a huge amount of work to make it happen. It was a fab morning where people could get together, chat, enjoy a tea, coffee, hot chocolate and scones, chocolate brownies and other goodies, and buy books, jams, marmalade, baked goods, etc. Just under €2,500 was raised which is fantastic! Thank you!

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

Tuesday afternoon—3.30pm—4.10pm There will be <u>no Christian Meditation</u> <u>on Tuesday 28th February and</u> <u>Tuesday 7th March March 2023.</u> Our meetings on Tuesday 14th and Tuesday 21st March 2023 will be via Zoom. We usually meet via Zoom, except for the last Tuesday of the month, when we meet in-person, so please note that we will meet inperson on Tuesday 28th March 2023, in the Canon Osborne Barr Room of St Philip and St James' Parish Centre.

Contact Irene on 087-2755423 irene.reid1052@gmail.com

All meditators are invited to Church of the Ascension in Balally Parish on Saturday 4th March 2023 from 11.00 to 12.45 The speaker will be Caroline Stratton... " Journey through the eye of the

needle, the Contemplative Path". There will be tea and coffee on arrival and there will be a discussion afterwards. Eircode: D16 EO32.

Forthcoming Services

<u>Wednesday 1st March 2023</u> 10.30 Midweek Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

Sunday 5th March 2023

8.30 Holy Communion in St Thomas'Church10.00 Holy Communion in St Thomas'Church

11.00 Holy Communion in St Philip and St James' Church

Wednesday 8th March 2023

10.30 Midweek Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

Sunday 12th March 2023

8.30 Holy Communion in St Thomas'Church10.00 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



<u>Wednesday 15th March 2023</u> 10.30 Midweek Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

Sunday 19th March 2023

8.30 Holy Communion in St Thomas'Church10.00 Holy Communion in St Thomas'Church11.00 Holy Communion in St Philip and StJames' Church

Wednesday 22nd March 2023

10.30 Midweek Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

Sunday 26th March 2023

8.30 Holy Communion in St Thomas'
Church
10.30 United Daffodil Service in St Philip and St James' Church
No 10.00 and 11.00 services

<u>Wednesday 29th March 2023</u> 10.30 Midweek Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church



Lenten Challenge

Gillian is off again! She is walking at least 6km every day of Lent 2023. Wednesday 22nd February – Saturday 8th April 2023 in aid of:

The victims of the earthquake in Turkey and Syria (channelled through the Bishops' Appeal to Christian Aid who are working on the ground with local agencies), and parish funds

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.

You can make a donation by online banking to

Booterstown and Mount Merrion Account IBAN: IE30IPBS99062932796541 BIC: IPBSIE2D



Daffodil Service and Daffodil Coffee Morning with Bringand-Buy

Sunday 26th March 2023

8.30 Holy Communion - St Thomas' Church

10.30 United Family Service for Daffodil Day - St Philip and St James' Church

At this Service, we will pray for those who are undergoing treatment for cancer, and for all who are involved in the healing and care of people with cancer; and for those who are undertaking research into the treatment and cure of cancer. We are going to give thanks for the recovery of those who have survived cancer, and remember those who have died from cancer.

Tea/coffee will be served after the service in the parish hall, in aid of the Irish Cancer Society, and there will also be a Bring and Buy Stall in aid of the Irish Cancer Society.



Sunday Clubs

We are delighted that both of our Sunday Clubs re-opened in February. They meet once a month, and as it happens, both Sunday Clubs will meet on the same morning. The dates are: Sunday 5th March 2023

Sunday 2nd April 2023 Sunday 7th May 2023

St Thomas' Sunday Club will meet in the Monk Gibbon Hall at 10.00 and St Philip and St James' Sunday Club will meet in St Philip and St James' Parish Centre at 11.00. The children and leaders will join the rest of the congregation before the end of the service in the respective churches.

Thank you to those who have volunteered to lead our Sunday Clubs. All children who are aged three and over, and who are toilet-trained are very welcome to join the Sunday Club.



History of the Parishes

Michael Lee is almost finished his research for a history of our parishes for our forthcoming celebrations in 2024. If you have any stories about either parish or the school, please contact Mike <u>STRAIGHT AWAY</u>. He will finish the writing of the book within the next couple of weeks so needs to hear from you urgently if you have something to contribute. *Please email your story/stories, or contact Mike at mikelee2653@gmail.com*

2021 - 200th anniversary of the foundation of the Parish of Booterstown
2024 - 200th anniversary of the consecration of St Philip and St James' Church
2024 – 150th anniversary of the

consecration of St Thomas' Church 2026 - 200th anniversary of the foundation of Booterstown National School

Healer Prayer Group

Monday 6th March 2023 *via Zoom*

MOUNT MERRION

SELECT VESTRY MEETING TUESDAY 7TH MARCH 2023 19.30 HOURS *VIA ZOOM*

BOOTERSTOWN

AND CARYSFORT SELECT VESTRY THURSDAY 23RD MARCH 2023 19.30 HOURS *VIA ZOOM*