



(Please stand, if you are able)

The Greeting

God, who loves each one of us individually, be with you.
and also with you.

Hymn No. 88 Thanks and Praise Christ Be Our Light

[Verses 1-3]

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.

Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has pow'r to save us.
Make us your living voice.

Longing for food many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.

Make us your bread, broken for others,
shared until all are fed.

(Please sit)

Opening Responses

Loving God, we remember that from the beginning, the Good News of Jesus Christ was not just for a few, but for all.

Receive our praise.

You made it known to shepherds, ordinary, everyday people pursuing their daily life and work, unlikely yet special people.

Receive our praise.

You made it known to the wise men from the East, strangers, and regarded by many at the time as having no part in your promises.

Receive our praise.

Loving God,
for the truth this symbolises - that there is no one outside your love,
that the message of the Gospel transcends all barriers,
that you want to bring light to all corners of the world.

Receive our praise.

For the fact that we are part of your great purpose, called to

proclaim the gospel to those around us.

Receive our praise.

For the knowledge that your light continues to shine - despite opposition, persecution, and rejection by many.

Receive our praise.

**Loving God,
you have made your light shine in our hearts.**

**Help us to walk in the path it illuminates,
that we may shed your light around us. Amen.**

(Please stand, if you are able)

Hymn No. 88 Thanks and Praise

Christ Be Our Light

[Verses 4-5]

Longing for shelter, many are homeless.

Longing for warmth, many are cold.

Make us your building, sheltering others,

walls made of living stone.

Christ, be our light!

Shine in our hearts.

Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light!

Shine in your church gathered today.

Many the gifts, many the people,

many the hearts, that yearn to belong.

Let us be servants to one another, making your kingdom come.

(Please sit or kneel)

Call to Reconciliation

Loving God,

you offer us guidance in innumerable ways, yet so often, we either fail or refuse to hear or to see.

We can be too preoccupied with our own small affairs...

eyes only for the immediate moment...

vision impeded by trivial concerns...

Forgive us, Lord.

We can be so sure of where we are going...

what we want from life, and exactly how we can get it

that we have resisted the possibility that we may need to think again or

think differently...

Forgive us, Lord.

Forgive us for...

our self-centredness

our foolishness,

our stubbornness,

our closed minds...

(Silence)

May God forgive you.

Forgive others.

And most difficult of all, forgive yourself. *Amen.*

**The Collect of the 3rd Sunday
after the Epiphany**

Almighty God,
whose Son revealed in signs and
miracles
the wonder of your saving presence:
renew your people with your heavenly
grace,
and in all our weakness
sustain us by your mighty power;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

**The Collect for the Conversion of
St Paul - 25th January**

Almighty God,
who caused the light of the gospel
to shine throughout the world
through the preaching of your
servant Saint Paul:
grant that we who celebrate his
wonderful conversion
may follow him in bearing witness to
your truth;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.



(Please sit)

**The First Reading - 1 Corinthians
1: 10-18**

The first reading is from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians, chapter 1, beginning at verse 10.

10 Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you should be in agreement and that there should be no divisions among you, but that you should be united in the same mind and the same purpose.

11 For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. 12 What I mean is that each of you says, 'I belong to Paul', or 'I belong to Apollos', or 'I belong to Cephas', or 'I belong to Christ.' 13 Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? 14 I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, 15 so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. 16 (I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) 17 For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

18 For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are

perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

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

(Please stand, if you are able)

Hymn No. 15 Thanks and Praise
(Bless the Lord O My Soul)

*Bless the Lord O my soul, O my soul,
worship his holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul,
I'll worship your holy name.*

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning,
it's time to sing your song again.
Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me,
let me be singing when the evening comes:

You're rich in love, and you're slow to anger,
your name is great, and your heart is kind.
For all your goodness I will keep on singing,
ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

And on that day when my strength is failing,
the end draws near and my time

has come.

Still my soul will sing your praise unending,
ten thousand years and then forevermore:

*Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul,
worship his holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul.
I'll worship Your Holy name.
I'll worship Your Holy name.
Yes, I will worship your holy name.*

(Please sit)

The Second Reading - Matthew 4: 12-23

The second reading is from the Gospel according to Matthew, chapter 4, beginning at verse 12.

Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. ¹³He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the lake, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵ 'Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,
on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶ the people who sat in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death
light has dawned.'

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to proclaim, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.'

¹⁸As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the lake—for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, 'Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.'

²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. ²²Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

²³Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

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

(Please stand, if you are able)

Hymn No. 5 Thanks and Praise (All heaven declares)

All heaven declares the glory of the risen Lord,
Who can compare with the beauty of the Lord?

Forever he will be the Lamb upon the throne;
I gladly bow the knee and worship him alone.

I will proclaim the glory of the risen Lord,
who once was slain to reconcile man to God.
Forever he will be the Lamb upon the throne;
I gladly bow the knee and worship him alone.

The Sermon

(Please sit)

(Please stand, if you are able)

Affirmation of Faith

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist?
We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again?
We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,

who gives life to the people of God,
and makes Christ known in the
world?

We believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith.

*We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.*

Amen.

(Please remain standing, if you are able)

Hymn No. 598 (Take this moment)

Take this moment, sign and space;
take my friends around;
here among us make the place
where your love is found.

Take the time to call my name,
take the time to mend
who I am and what I've been,
all I've failed to tend.

Take the tiredness of my days,
take my past regret;
letting your forgiveness touch
all I can't forget.

Take the little child in me,
scared of growing old;
help me here to find my worth
made in Christ's own mould.

Take my talents, take my skills,
take what's yet to be;
let my life be yours, and yet
let it still be me.

(Please sit or kneel)

The Prayers

God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Hear our prayers, and together we
join in the prayer that Jesus taught
us to pray...

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father...

*The collection will be received during this hymn.
We recognise that many people give online and
via Standing Order. If you wish to donate to the
church online or electronically, the treasurers
would be happy to give you the required details.
There are QR codes available at the doors of the
church.*

(Please stand, if you are able)

**Hymn - As Christ with the Father
(To God be the Glory - Hymn No.
373)**

As Christ with the Father, we're
called to be one.

The Spirit close-binding the Father
and Son

invites into union all those who
believe,

to die to themselves and new life to
receive.

*Give us grace, give us grace;
what we are now to hold
as a gift for our times,
your full purpose unfold,
and beckon us forward to die to the
past*

and rise to that union with you which will last.

The world needs a sign to believe
Jesus gave
the mind of the Father, creation to
save;
accepting the state of our life here
on earth
he yet brought the power to destroy
sin and death.

We love the familiar, the church
ways we've known,
but God's will provides that which
matters alone;
baptised into newness, by Eucharist
fed,
we step to the future to which
Christ has led.

(Please sit or kneel)

The Blessing

Covenant God,
whose mission is to reconcile and
whose gift is peace,
teach us, we pray,
to prefer creation to destruction,
redemption to condemnation,
freedom to retaliation,
that in turning away from sinful
division,
we may follow the path to new life
and renewed community.

Bless us as we seek to fulfil your will
and desire to draw all things into
unity with you,
our Maker, Saviour and Comforter,
now and for ever. **Amen.**



Tea/Coffee/Juice

*You are warmly invited to join
us for tea/coffee/juice in the
South Transept after this
service.*

*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.*

FORTHCOMING SERVICES

Wednesday 27th January 2026

*10.30 Midweek Holy Communion in St
Thomas' Church*

Sunday 1st February 2026

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 4th February 2026

*10.30 Midweek Holy Communion in St
Thomas' Church*

Sunday 8th February 2026

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

Wednesday 11th February 2026

10.30 Midweek Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

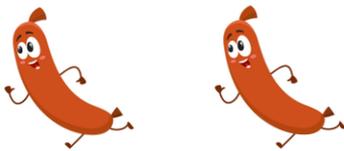
Sunday 15th February 2026

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

18.30 Sausage Service in St Philip and St James' Church

**Wednesday 18th February 2026 – Ash Wednesday**

10.30 Midweek Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

19.30 Ash Wednesday Evening Service in St Philip and St James' Church, followed by Ad Hoc Choir Practice

Sunday 22nd February 2026

8.30 Holy Communion in St Philip and St James' Church

10.30 United Service of the Word for Founder's Day (Scouting) in St Thomas' Church**Wednesday 25th February 2026**

10.30 Midweek Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

Sunday 1st March 2026

8.30 Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

10.30 UNITED SERVICE – RITE OF CONFIRMATION ADMINISTERED BY THE ARCHBISHOP OF DUBLIN, IN ST PHILIP AND ST JAMES' CHURCH**CHRISTIAN MEDITATION**

on Tuesdays 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

**Confirmation Class for teenagers**

Wednesdays 19.30-20.30 hours

28th January 4th February

11th February 25th February

4th March

Confirmation Rehearsal on Saturday

28th February 2026

19.30-20.30 hours

St Philip and St James' Church

Helpers Wanted with the Tea/Coffee/Juice

*in St Thomas' Church
and in St Philip and St James'
Church on a Sunday morning.*

*Please chat to Patricia Bedlow in St
Thomas' Church or June Burgess in
St Philip and St James' Church.*



Ad Hoc Choir Practice
in St Philip and St James' Church
On Wednesday 18th February 2026
after the Ash Wednesday Evening
Service which is at 19.00 hours.

Thursday 26th February 2026 –
Choir Practice at 19.30 hours

Confirmation is on Sunday 1st
March 2026 at 10.30 in St Philip
and St James' Church



Healer Prayer Group

NB Change of Date
Tuesday 17th February 2026
19.30 hours via Zoom



Any child (who has been toilet-trained) is
very welcome to join the Sunday Club.

St Thomas' Sunday Club will meet at 9.30
in the Monk Gibbon Hall on the following
Sundays:

8th February 2026	29th March 2026
12th April 2026	17th May 2026

St Philip and St James' Sunday Club will
meet at 11.00 in St Philip and St James'
Parish Centre on the following Sundays:

1st February 2026	8th March 2026
12th April 2026	10th May 2026

*The children and their leaders will join the
respective congregations later on in the
service.*

MOUNT MERRION

SELECT VESTRY

MONDAY 26TH JANUARY 2026

19.30 HOURS

THE COMMITTEE ROOM

BOOTERSTOWN AND

CARYSFORT

SELECT VESTRY

THURSDAY 19TH FEBRUARY 2026

19.30 HOURS

ST PHILIP AND ST JAMES' CHURCH

REGISTER OF VESTRYPERSONS

The Register of Vestrypersons is, in
many ways, the electoral roll of the

Parish and will be updated at the meetings of the respective Select Vestry on the dates given above.

If you are not on the Register, you are not entitled to vote on parish matters and are not able to hold any office in the parish or serve on the Select Vestry. Please contact the Churchwardens to be placed on the Register of Vestrypersons.

It is very simple to do, the churchwardens have forms available, and all you have to do is fill in the short, simple form and give it to a churchwarden.

CHURCH of IRELAND

UNITED DIOCESES of DUBLIN and GLENDALOUGH

Parish: **Mount Merrion**

NOTICE of the ANNUAL REVISION of the REGISTER of VESTRY MEMBERS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A MEETING OF THE SELECT VESTRY OF THIS PARISH HAS BEEN ARRANGED for Monday 26th January 2026 in the Committee Room of the Monk Gibbon Hall at 7.30pm, to REVISE THE REGISTER OF VESTRY MEMBERS, BY ADDING THE NAMES OF ANY QUALIFIED PERSONS, and REMOVING THE NAMES OF THOSE NO LONGER

QUALIFIED, since the last revision of the register.

Signed: *Gillian V. Wharton*

Date: 1st January 2026

CHURCH of IRELAND

UNITED DIOCESES of DUBLIN and GLENDALOUGH

Parish: **Boooterstown and Carysfort**

NOTICE of the ANNUAL REVISION of the REGISTER of VESTRY MEMBERS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A MEETING OF THE SELECT VESTRY OF THIS PARISH HAS BEEN ARRANGED for Thursday 19th February 2026 in St Philip and St James' Church at 7.30pm, to REVISE THE REGISTER OF VESTRY MEMBERS, BY ADDING THE NAMES OF ANY QUALIFIED PERSONS, and REMOVING THE NAMES OF THOSE NO LONGER QUALIFIED, since the last revision of the register.

Signed: *Gillian V. Wharton*

Date: 1st January 2026