



**St John the Divine**  
*Eucharist Service*  
**2nd Sunday in Lent**  
28<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Welcome to our live-streamed service, linked from our parish website: [www.stjohndivine.org.au](http://www.stjohndivine.org.au)

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

Hymn: 'Take up your cross,' the Saviour said  
*Charles William Everest (1814-77) alt.*  
*tune: O Jesu Christ, Meins Lebens Licht*  
© The Australian Hymn Book Company Pty Ltd, 1999,  
CCL No 632290

- 1. 'Take up your cross,' the Saviour said,  
'if you would my disciple be;  
take up your cross with willing heart  
and humbly follow after me.'**
- 2. Take up your cross; let not its weight  
fill your weak spirit with alarm;  
his strength shall bear your spirit up  
and brace your heart and nerve your arm.**
- 3. Take up your cross, nor heed the shame,  
and let your foolish price be still:  
your Lord refused not even to die  
upon a cross, on Calvary's hill.**
- 4. Take up your cross, then, in his strength  
and calmly every danger brave;  
it guides you to a better home  
and leads to victory o'er the grave.**
- 5. Take up your cross and follow Christ,  
nor think till death to lay it down;  
for only those who bear the cross  
may hope to wear the glorious crown.**

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins,  
**whose mercy endures for ever.**

Sentence

If you want to become a disciple of Jesus, deny yourself,  
take up your cross, and follow him.

*Mark 8.34*

Let us pray

**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 Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Hear the commandments which God gave his people  
Israel.

1. I am the Lord your God; you shall have no other gods  
but me.
2. You shall not make an idol of anything and worship it.
3. You shall not make wrong use of the name of the  
Lord your God.

4. Remember the Lord's day and keep it holy.
5. Honour your father and mother.
6. You shall not commit murder.
7. You shall not commit adultery.
8. You shall not steal.
9. You shall not give false evidence.
10. You shall not covet the possessions of others.

**Lord, have mercy on us: and write your law in our  
hearts by your Holy Spirit.**

**Holy God,  
holy and mighty,  
holy and immortal,  
have mercy on us.**

Let us pray.

God of all times and places,  
in Jesus Christ, who was lifted up on the cross,  
you opened for us the path to eternal life:  
grant that we, being born again of water and the Spirit,  
may joyfully serve you in newness of life  
and faithfully walk in your holy ways;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

A reading from Genesis 17.1-7, 15-16:

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord  
appeared to Abram, and said to him, 'I am God Almighty;  
walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my  
covenant between me and you, and will make you  
exceedingly numerous.' Then Abram fell on his face; and  
God said to him, 'As for me, this is my covenant with  
you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations.  
No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name  
shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a  
multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful;  
and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from  
you. I will establish my covenant between me and you,  
and your offspring after you throughout their generations,  
for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your  
offspring after you.

God said to Abraham, 'As for Sarai your wife, you shall  
not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will  
bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will  
bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of  
peoples shall come from her.'

May your word live in us,  
**and bear much fruit to your glory.**

Psalm 22.24-32

<sup>24</sup> O praise the Lord, all you that fear him:  
hold him in honour, O seed of Jacob,  
and let the seed of Israel stand in awe of him.

<sup>25</sup> **For he has not despised nor abhorred  
the poor man in his misery:  
nor did he hide his face from him,  
but heard him when he cried.**

- 26 From you springs my praise in the great congregation:  
I will pay my vows in the sight of all that fear you;
- 27 **The meek shall eat of the sacrifice  
and be satisfied:  
and those who seek the Lord shall praise him—  
may their hearts rejoice for ever!**
- 28 Let all the ends of the earth remember  
and turn to the Lord:  
and let all the families of the nations  
worship before him.
- 29 **For the kingdom is the Lord's:  
and he shall be ruler over the nations.**
- 30 How can those who sleep in the earth  
do him homage:  
or those that descend to the dust  
bow down before him?
- 31 **But he has saved my life for himself:  
and my posterity shall serve him.**
- 32 This shall be told of my Lord to a future generation:  
and his righteousness declared  
to a people yet unborn, that he has done it.

A reading from Romans 4.13-25:

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, 'I have made you the father of many nations')—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become 'the father of many nations', according to what was said, 'So numerous shall your descendants be.' He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith 'was reckoned to him as righteousness.' Now the words, 'it was reckoned to him', were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

May your word live in us,  
**and bear much fruit to your glory.**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Mark 8.31-38

**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ**

Then Jesus began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.'

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord,  
**praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

*Sermon*

Let us together affirm the faith of the Church:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ,  
God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;  
from there he will come to judge  
the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for the world and for the Church.

*Response:*  
Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Accept our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray:

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power and the glory  
are yours now and forever. Amen.**

#### RECONCILIATION WITH GOD

Whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone; so that your heavenly Father also who is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.  
*Mark 11.25*

Compassion and forgiveness belong to the Lord our God, though we have rebelled and wandered far off.

*Pause to bring to mind times where we have separated ourselves from God, from others, from creation, and from our inner selves.*

Let us now ask for mercy, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

**Merciful God,  
our maker and our judge,  
we have sinned against you in thought, word,  
and deed,  
and in what we have failed to do:  
we have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;  
we repent, and are sorry for all our sins.  
Father, forgive us.  
Strengthen us to love and obey you  
in newness of life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Almighty God, who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith:  
pardon you and set you free from all your sins,  
strengthen you in all goodness  
and keep you in eternal life,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

#### RECONCILIATION WITH EACH OTHER

Christ has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross.

**We meet in his name and share his peace.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

Offertory hymn: To walk the way of Abraham

*Christopher Idle (1895-1984) - tune: Dumferline*

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**1. To walk the way of Abraham:  
should that make us afraid?  
'Go to the land that I will show,'  
God called, and he obeyed.**

- 2. To have the faith of Abraham:  
can such things be achieved?  
'Father of nations you shall be,'  
God spoke, and he believed.**
- 3. To pray the prayer of Abraham  
is to be called God's friend.  
'Will not the Judge of earth do right?'  
On his word we depend.**
- 4. To join the race of Abraham  
we trust what God has said:  
so things impossible shall be,  
for God can raise the dead.**
- 5. To know the God of Abraham:  
that is to know the name  
of him who truly said 'Before  
Abraham was, I am!'**

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.  
Through your goodness we have these gifts to share.  
Accept and use our offerings for your glory  
and for the service of your kingdom.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,  
mighty Creator, everliving God.

We give you thanks and praise for your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
who by the power of your Spirit was born of Mary  
and lived as one of us.

He was tempted in every way as we are,  
yet he did not sin.

By his death on the cross  
and rising to new life,  
he offered the one true sacrifice for sin  
and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people.

By his grace we are able  
to triumph over every evil,  
and to walk in the way of his love.

Therefore 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.**

Merciful God, we thank you  
for these gifts of your creation,  
this bread and wine,  
and we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit,  
we who eat and drink them  
may be partakers of Christ's body and blood.

## SENDING OUT GOD'S PEOPLE

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread;  
and when he had given you thanks  
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying,  
'Take, eat. This is my body given for you.  
Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper, he took the cup,  
and again giving you thanks  
he gave it to his disciples, saying,  
'Drink from this, all of you.  
This is my blood of the new covenant  
shed for you and for many  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it,  
in remembrance of me.'

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.**

Therefore we do as our Saviour has commanded:  
proclaiming his offering of himself  
made once for all upon the cross,  
his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,  
and looking for his coming again,  
we celebrate, with this bread and this cup,  
his one perfect and sufficient sacrifice  
for the sins of the whole world.

Renew us by your Holy Spirit,  
unite us in the body of your Son,  
and bring us with all your people  
into the joy of your eternal kingdom;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
with whom, and in whom,  
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
we worship you, Father,  
in songs of never-ending praise:  
**Blessing and honour and glory and power  
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

### THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE COMMUNION

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.  
We who are many are one body,  
**for we all share in the one bread.**

**We do not presume  
to come to your table, merciful Lord,  
trusting in our own righteousness,  
but in your manifold and great mercies.  
We are not worthy  
so much as to gather up the crumbs under your  
table.  
But you are the same Lord  
whose nature is always to have mercy.  
Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord,  
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ,  
and to drink his blood,  
that we may evermore dwell in him,  
and he in us. Amen.**

Come, let us take this holy sacrament of the body and  
blood of Christ in remembrance that he died for us, and  
feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

Let us pray.  
God of mercy,  
may we who have shared in this holy meal  
know your forgiveness in our lives,  
bring reconciliation to others,  
and be a sign of your wholeness in this broken world.

**Father,  
we offer ourselves to you  
as a living sacrifice  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Send us out in the power of your Spirit  
to live and work to your praise and glory.**

Hymn: Take my life, and let it be

*Frances Ridley Havergal (1836-79) alt. - tune: Savannah*  
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CCL No 632290

- 1. Take my life, and let it be  
consecrated, Lord, to thee.  
Take my moments and my days,  
let them flow in ceaseless praise.**
- 2. Take my voice, and let me sing  
always, only, for my King.  
Take my lips, and let them be  
filled with messages from thee.**
- 3. Take my will and make it thine;  
it shall be no longer mine.  
Take my heart, it is thine own;  
it shall be thy royal throne.**
- 4. Take my love: my Lord, I pour  
at thy feet its treasure-store.  
Take myself, and I will be  
ever, only, all for thee.**

Christ our Saviour draw you to himself,  
that you may find in him crucified  
a sure ground for faith,  
a firm support for hope,  
and the assurance of sin forgiven;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord:  
**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

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## NOTICES

### Latest Covid regulation update

*From the Archbishop:*

*'Masks are no longer required indoors. However, we continue to recommend that masks are worn for singing, for distributing communion, when the space is poorly ventilated, and when social distancing cannot be maintained.*

*'The number of visitors allowed to private homes is now 30 per day, and this applies to any church meetings or groups held in homes.*

*'The overall restrictions return to what was in place immediately before Christmas.'*

### Singing: looking ahead

*Now that parishioners can choose to be maskless during the service, except when singing, it is now more viable to resume having our usual four hymns for the Sunday 10am service, which will commence from next Sunday.*

*We will only resume having a Sung Eucharist when deemed safe to sing without a mask - presumably once enough people have been inoculated.*

### Lent course

*The Lent Course groups have started meeting:*

- *in Joan Sweet's home at 11am on Saturdays*
- *in the downstairs chapel (All Saints & All Souls Chapel) at 7.30pm on Wednesdays from 24 Feb*

*We are using the study book 'Awakening my faith' by Bp Jeremy Greaves, leading us through the Year B Gospel readings.*