



## St John the Divine

*Baptism in Eucharist Service*

### 4th Sunday in Lent

14<sup>th</sup> March 2021

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

#### GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

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

Hymn: Lord of all your love's creation  
*Stephen Parish (b. 1949) - tune: Abbots Leigh*  
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- 1. Lord of all your love's creation,  
present in each time and place,  
may this earthly house of worship  
be a source of heavenly grace.  
Spirit, who at Christ's baptizing  
came upon him as a dove,  
come, renew for us that symbol,  
seal us in God's faith and love.**
- 2. When we meet around your table,  
Lord, be here in bread and wine,  
real to us who find your presence  
in the world as in this sign.  
Christ, whose cross is foolish wisdom,  
teach us sacrificial ways  
to reveal your truth to strangers,  
welcome them in pilgrims' praise.**
- 3. Praise to God whose power within us  
helps us more than we can say,  
in the church, and in Christ Jesus,  
in each age, and day by day.  
So we join in common worship,  
sharing in this house of prayer;  
come, Lord God, among your people:  
may all say that 'God is here!'**

There is one Body and one Spirit;  
**there is one hope in God's call to us.**

One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism,  
**one God and Father of all.**

Baptism is the gift of our Lord Jesus Christ. When he had risen from the dead, he commanded his followers to go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. We have come together today to obey that command. Baptism with water signifies the cleansing from sin that Jesus' death makes possible, and the new life that God gives us through the Holy Spirit. In baptism, the promises of God are visibly signed and sealed for us. We are joined to Christ, and made members of his body, the Church universal. So we welcome you, Hamish, with those sponsoring you - your parents and godparents - and those with you to celebrate this occasion. We give thanks for you, and pray that you may know God's love and faithfulness for ever.

#### CONFESSION AND COLLECT

So now we affirm our trust in God's mercy, and confess that we need forgiveness.

Lord God, you created this world, and made us in your own image.

Forgive us when we turn away from you.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy**

Lord God, through your Son you overcame evil and death.

Rescue us from slavery to sin.

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy**

Lord God, by your Spirit, you restore us to fellowship with you and with one another.

Breathe your love and freedom into our lives.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you your sins, and keep you in life eternal. **Amen.**

Everlasting God

in whom we live and move and have our being,

you have made us for yourself,

and our hearts are restless until they find their rest in you:

give us purity of heart and strength of purpose,

that no selfish passion may hinder us

from knowing your will,

no weakness prevent us from doing it;

that in your light we may see light,

and in your service find perfect freedom;

through Jesus Christ our Lord,

who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

#### THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

A reading from Numbers 21.4-9:

From Mount Hor the Israelites set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, 'Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.'

Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, 'We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us.' So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, 'Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.' So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

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 John 3.14-21

**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ**

Jesus said: 'Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

'For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

'Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgement, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord,

**praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

*Homily*

#### THE PRESENTATION

Children are baptised in response to God's all-embracing love. Parents and godparents who have responded to that love come now to bring their child for baptism. Before this congregation they must express their own trust and commitment to the promises of God, and their intention to bring up their child in the faith and practice of the Church. In due time this child should make his own response to God, and be prepared for confirmation.

*The minister addresses the sponsors (parents & godparents)*

Will you accept the responsibilities placed upon you in bringing Hamish for baptism?

*Sponsors* **I will.**

Are you willing to answer on behalf of Hamish?

*Sponsors* **I am.**

By your own prayers and example, by your friendship and love, will you encourage Hamish in the life and faith of the Christian community?

*Sponsors* **I will, with God's help.**

Before God and this congregation, you must affirm that you turn to Christ and reject all that is evil:

Do you turn to Christ?

*Sponsors* **I turn to Christ.**

Do you repent of your sins?

*Sponsors* **I repent of my sins.**

Do you reject selfish living, and all that is false and unjust?

*Sponsors* **I reject them all.**

Do you renounce Satan and all evil?

*Sponsors* **I renounce all that is evil.**

Almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness, and lead you in the light of Christ to his everlasting kingdom. **Amen.**

*The minister addresses the sponsors, with the whole congregation*

Let us together affirm the faith of the Church:

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

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

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

**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.**

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

Do you affirm this faith as yours?

*Sponsors* **I do.**

Will you each, by God's grace, strive to live as a disciple of Christ, loving God with your whole heart, and your neighbour as yourself, until your life's end?

*Sponsors* **I will, with God's help.**

*The priest says to the congregation*

You have heard these our sisters and brothers respond to Christ.

Will you support them in this calling?

*All* **We will.**

Hymn: Father welcomes all his children

*Robin Mann (b.1949) - tune: Kristin*

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**Father welcomes all his children to his family through his Son; Father giving his salvation, life for ever has been won.**

**1. Little children, come to me, for my kingdom is of these; life and love I have to give, mercy for your sin.**

**Father welcomes ...**

**2. In the water, in the word  
in his promise, be assured:  
those who are baptized and believe  
shall be born again.  
Father welcomes ...**

**3. Let us daily die to sin,  
let us daily rise with him,  
walk in the love of Christ our Lord,  
live in the peace of God.  
Father welcomes ...**

#### THE PRAYERS

Let us pray.

Grant, merciful God, that this child may be so buried with Christ in baptism that the new nature may be raised up in him. May the fruit of your Spirit grow and flourish in him.

God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Give to Hamish's sponsors and their families the desire to share with him what you have revealed in your holy gospel.

God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

May we all know Christ's forgiving love and continue in the fellowship and service of his Church.

May we proclaim, by word and example, the good news of God in Christ.

God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

We pray for the world in which we live, for peace and harmony among all people.

Bring healing and wholeness to the sick, to those who mourn and to all in need.

God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

We thank you for the ministry we have in your world and to each other in the household of faith.

Hasten that day when the whole creation shall be made perfect in Christ.

God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

#### THE BAPTISM

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

We give you thanks that at the beginning of creation your Holy Spirit moved upon the waters to bring forth light and life. With water you cleanse and replenish the earth; you nourish and sustain all living things.

Through the waters of the Red Sea you led your people out of slavery into freedom, and brought them through the river Jordan to new life in the land of promise.

We give you thanks for your Son Jesus Christ: for his baptism by John, for his anointing with the Holy Spirit.

Through the deep waters of death Jesus delivered us from our sins and was raised to new life in triumph.

We give you thanks for the grace of the Holy Spirit who forms us in the likeness of Christ and leads us to proclaim your kingdom.

And now we give you thanks that you have called

Hamish to new birth in your Church through the waters of baptism.

Pour out your Holy Spirit in blessing and sanctify this water so that when Hamish is baptised in it he may be made one with Christ in his death and resurrection. May he die to sin, rise to newness of life, and continue forever in Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we give you praise and honour in the unity of the Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Hamish, I baptise you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

#### AFTER BAPTISM

Hamish, I sign you with the sign of the cross to show that you are marked as Christ's own for ever.

Live as a disciple of Christ: fight the good fight, finish the race, keep the faith.

**Confess Christ crucified,  
proclaim his resurrection,  
look for his coming in glory.**

God has brought you out of darkness into his marvellous light.

**Shine as a light in the world  
to the glory of God the Father.**

God has called you into his Church.

**We therefore receive and welcome you  
as a member with us of the body of Christ,  
as a child of the one heavenly Father,  
and as an inheritor of the kingdom of God.**

#### THE GREETING OF PEACE

In baptism, God has made us one in Christ.

**His Spirit is with us.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

Offertory hymn: Longing for light

*Bernadette Farrell (b.1957) - tune: Christ Be Our Light*

© Bernadette Farrell, 1993, CCL No 632290

- 1. 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.**
- 2. Longing for peace, our world is troubled.  
Longing for hope, many despair.  
Your word alone has power to save us.  
Make us your living voice.  
Christ, be our light! ...**
- 3. Longing for food, many are hungry.  
Longing for water, many still thirst.  
Make us your bread, broken for others,  
shared until all are fed.  
Christ, be our light! ...**

**4. 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! ...**

**5. Many the gifts, many the people,  
many the hearts that yearn to belong.  
Let us be servants to one another,  
making your kingdom come.  
Christ, be our light! ...**

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.

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.

In baptism you have united us to him  
and brought us out of darkness into light.

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.

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.**

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident 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.**

#### 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.**

**Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.  
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.  
Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.**

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.

## SENDING OUT GOD'S PEOPLE

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: To God be the glory

*Frances Jane van Alstyne (1820-1915) alt.*

*tune: To God Be The Glory*

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CCL No 632290

- 1. To God be the glory, great things he has done!  
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,  
who yielded his life in atonement for sin  
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.  
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!  
Let the earth hear his voice!  
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!  
Let the people rejoice!  
O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,  
And give him the glory!  
Great things he has done!**
- 2. O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,  
to every believer the promise of God!  
And every offender who truly believes,  
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives.  
Praise the Lord! ...**
- 3. Great things he has taught us, great things he has  
done,  
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;  
but purer, and higher, and greater will be  
our wonder, our rapture, when Jesus we see.  
Praise the Lord! ...**

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.**

### Permissions

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### NOTICES

#### Lent season

*The Lent Course groups are meeting:*

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

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

Sun 21 Mar - 5th Sunday in Lent

*John 12.20-33 - 'A grain of wheat needs to die in order to bear much fruit.' Jesus claims that his death overcomes 'the ruler of this world'.*

Sun 28 Mar - Sunday of the Passion

*Mark 15.1-39 - Pilate agrees to crucify Jesus, and the soldiers carry out their orders.*

Thu 1 Apr - Maundy Thursday

*Commemoration of the Last Supper*

Fri 2 Apr - Good Friday

*Commemoration of the death of Christ*

Sat 3 Apr - Holy Saturday/Easter Vigil

*Anticipating the resurrection*

Sun 4 Apr - Easter Day

*Celebrating the resurrection*