

St John the Divine Eucharist service

Mary, Mother of our Lord

20th August 2023



Welcome to our worship and community life at St John the Divine. You are encouraged to participate in whatever way best helps you connect with God, to know how much God loves you and cares about you. All are welcome to come forward to make your communion with God, receiving either the sacrament, or a blessing if you prefer.

You are invited to take this booklet away with you, to be able to refer to the notices in the back - and to reflect further on the Scripture readings.

All stand if able when the bell rings, for Processional entry.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.



And also, with you

WELCOME BISHOP BILL RAY

Hymn: Sing we of the blessed Mother

(tune Abbot's Leigh)

1 Sing we of the blessed Mother
who received the angel's word
and obedient to his summons
bore in love the infant Lord;
sing we of the joys of Mary
at whose breast that child was fed,
who is Son of God eternal
and the everlasting Bread.

2 Sing we, too, of Mary's sorrows
of the sword that pierced her through
when beneath the cross of Jesus
she his weight of suffering knew,
looked upon her Son and Saviour
reigning high on Calv'ry's tree,
saw the price of our redemption
paid to set the sinner free.



3 Sing again the joys of Mary
when she saw the risen Lord,
and, in prayer with Christ's apostles,
waited on his promised word;
from on high the blazing glory
of the Spirit's presence came,
heavenly breath of God's own being,
manifest through wind and flame.

4 Sing the greatest joy of Mary
when on earth her work was done,
and the Lord of all creation
brought her to his heav'nly home;
virgin mother, Mary blessed,
raised on high and crown with grace,
may your Son, the world's redeemer,
grant us all to see his face.

Sentence: When the fullness of time had come, God sent his son, born of a woman, so that we might receive adoption as God's children.

(Galatians 4.4-5)

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.**

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

GLORIA AND COLLECT

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Let us pray.
Heavenly Father,
who chose the virgin Mary, by your grace,
to be the mother of our Lord and Saviour:
fill us with your grace,
that in all things we may accept your holy will
and with her rejoice in your salvation:
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

God of mission, Who alone brings growth to your Church,
Send your Holy Spirit to give
Vision to our planning,
Wisdom to our actions,
Joy to our worship, And power to our witness.
Help our church to grow in numbers, In spiritual commitment to you,
And in service to our local community,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

A reading from Isaiah 61.10-62.3

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,
and her salvation like a burning torch.
The nations shall see your vindication,
and all the kings your glory;
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the LORD will give.
You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

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

Song of Mary (The Magnificat)

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord:
my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,
**Who has looked with favour on his lowly servant:
from this day all generations will call me blessed.**
The Almighty has done great things for me:
and holy is his name.
**God has mercy on those who fear him:
from generation to generation.**
The Lord has shown strength with his arm:
and scattered the proud in their conceit.
**Casting down the mighty from their thrones:
and lifting up the lowly.**
God has filled the hungry with good things:
and sent the rich away empty.
**He has come to the aid of his servant Israel:
to remember the promise of mercy.**
The promise made to our forebears:
to Abraham and his children for ever.

A reading from Galatians 4. 4-7

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!' So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

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

Gradual Hymn: TIS 161 Tell out my soul, the greatness of the Lord.

**1 Tell out, my soul, the greatness
of the Lord!
Unnumbered blessings, give my
spirit voice;
tender to me the promise of his
word;
in God my Saviour shall my heart
rejoice.**

**2 Tell out, my soul, the greatness
of his name!
Make known his might, the deeds
his arm has done;
his mercy sure, from age to age
the same;
his holy name - the Lord, the
Mighty One.**

**3 Tell out, my soul, the greatness
of his might!
Powers and dominions lay their
glory by.
Proud hearts and stubborn wills
are put to flight,
the hungry fed, the humble lifted
high.**

**4 Tell out, my soul, the glories of
his word!
Firm is his promise, and his mercy
sure.
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of
the Lord
to children's children and for
evermore!**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to St Luke 2.1-7

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

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

Please be seated for the Sermon.

NICENE CREED

Let us together affirm the faith of the Church:

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge
the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the
forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for the world and for the Church.

Response:

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers.

**Grant that what we have asked in faith
we may by your grace receive,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

The Lord has mercy on those who fear him from generation to generation.
Let us humbly confess our sins in penitence and faith, confident that God will raise us up.

**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.**

THE GREETING OF PEACE

We are the body of Christ.

His Spirit is with us.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Offertory Hymn: TIS 150 Ye watchers and ye holy ones.

**1 Ye watchers and ye holy ones,
bright seraphs, cherubim and thrones,
raise the glad strain: alleluia!
Cry out, dominions, principedoms, powers,
virtues, archangels, angels' choirs:
alleluia!**

**2 O higher than the cherubim,
more glorious than the seraphim,
lead their praises: alleluia!
Thou bearer of the Eternal Word,
most gracious, magnify the Lord,
alleluia!**

**3 Respond, ye souls in endless rest,
ye patriarchs and prophets blest:
alleluia, alleluia!
Ye holy twelve, ye martyrs strong,
all saints triumphant, raise the song,
alleluia!**

**4 O friends, in gladness let us sing,
supernal anthems echoing:
alleluia, alleluia!
To God the Father, God the Son,
and God the Spirit, Three in One,
alleluia!**

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 was born 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.
And now we give you thanks for the obedience
of your servant Mary,
who by your grace answered your call
to be the mother of your Son.
With all generations we call her blessed,
and with her we rejoice in the greatness of your salvation.
Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and singing:

**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.**

The gifts of God for the people of God.

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.

All are welcome to come forward to receive communion or a blessing if you prefer.

SENDING OUT GOD'S PEOPLE

Let us pray.

God our Saviour,

your word proclaims our salvation

which we taste in the bread of life.

Grant us the humble obedience we see in Mary

that we, too, may respond as willing servants

and bare your Word to our 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.

NOTICES

BLESSING & DISMISSAL

Please stand for the blessing if you are able.

Christ the Son of God, born of Mary, gladden our hearts by his coming

to dwell among us, and fill us with joy and peace;

and the blessing of God almighty

+ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,

be among you, those whom you love and have loved

now and always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

+ In the name of Christ, amen.

Hymn: TIS 497 Let all mortal flesh keep silence.

**1 Let all mortal flesh keep silence,
and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly-minded,
for with blessing in his hand
Christ our God to earth descending
comes full homage to demand.**

**2 King of kings, yet born of Mary,
as of old on earth he stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture,
in the body and the blood,
he will give to all the faithful
his own self for heavenly food.**

**3 Rank on rank the host of heaven
spreads its vanguard on the way,
as the Light of light comes shining
from the realms of endless day,
that the powers of hell may vanish
as the darkness clears away.**

**4 At his feet the six-winged seraphs,
cherubim with sleepless eye,
veil their faces to the presence,
as with ceaseless voice they cry,
alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia, Lord most high!"**



Thank you for joining in our worship today. We offer an after-service 'cuppa' in our meeting room next to the foyer after Sunday services - you are invited to join us.

If you wish to know more about our community life, speak to any of the regulars (often wearing name tags), ask for a welcome brochure, or visit our website.

NOTICES

Office Manager

St John the Divine Croydon is seeking a person to be engaged as Office Manager in a part time capacity.

The person would be required to attend the Parish Office each weekday for three hours per day.

Applicants will need to demonstrate experience in general office administration, events and website management.

Please contact Ken Hutton on at Khutton@stjohndivine.org.au for the position description or further information.

New Rosters: Are now in operation any queries contact Helen Duncan.

St John's Kindergarten: Next week is book week and we were wondering if any church members want to come to kinder and read a story to our group.

Monday – between 10am and 12noon or 2pm and 3pm.

Tuesday – between 10am and 12noon or 2pm and 3pm.

Thursday – between 10am and 12noon.

They can pop in a read a story to the group, it doesn't need to be a long visit.

Please let us know, thanks.

Mel.

Parish Directory

Address: 5 Toorak Ave, Croydon Vic 3136
Office: 03 9723 5099
Email: office@stjohndivine.org.au
Website: www.stjohndivine.org.au - *also on Facebook*
Acting Vicar: Fr. Sathi (Sam) Anthony

Please email notices to Parish Office by Wednesday 2pm

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

Mary, Mother of our Lord

- Sun 20th August One service only today
10:00 am Sung Eucharist Bishop Bill preaching &
August Birthday celebrations in fellowship room.
8:00 pm A.A. meeting in fellowship room.
- Mon 21st August 10:30 am *Al Anon* meeting in fellowship room.
- Tue 22nd August 1:00 pm A.A. meeting in fellowship room.
5:30 pm Community meal: TDRM
- Wed 23rd August 10:00 am Said Eucharist in Chapel
5:30 pm Community meal: *Winter Shelter*
7:30 pm N.A. meeting in fellowship room.
- Thurs 24th August 10:30 am A.A. meeting in fellowship room
10:30 am Croydon Grove Aged Care communion.
- Fri 25th August
- Sat 26th August 7:00 am A.A. meeting in fellowship room.
10:30 am Focus on Faith & Friendship meeting.
6:00 pm *Lai Christian Church* service.
- Sun 27th August **13th Sunday after Pentecost**
8:00 am Said Eucharist
10:00 am Sung Eucharist
8:00 pm A.A. meeting in fellowship room.

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