

St John the Divine Croydon

Eucharist Service

6th Sunday of Easter

25 May 2025



Welcome to our worship and community life at St John the Divine. All are welcome to come forward to make your communion with God, receiving either the sacrament, or a blessing if you prefer.

All stand when the bell rings.

[The sanctuary party will process towards the Altar with music provided by the Organist. The opening hymn will be sung once the sanctuary party has assumed their seats.]

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

[EA] Opening Hymn: **TiS 452 – God of mercy**

1. God of mercy, God of grace,
show the brightness of your face;
shine upon us, Saviour, shine,
fill your church with light divine;
and your saving health extend
unto earth's remotest end.

2. Let the people praise you, Lord!
be by all that live adored;
let the nations shout and sing
glory to their Saviour king;
at your feet their tribute pay,
and your holy will obey.

3. Let the people praise you, Lord!
earth shall then its fruits afford;
God to us his blessing give,
we to God devoted live:
all below, and all above,
one in joy and light and love.

[C] Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.

[C] Christ is risen. Alleluia.
He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Sentence of the day

[EA] 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you,' says the Lord. 'Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.' [John 14.27]

[EA] 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**

**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.**

Collect of the day

[C] Let us pray:

Great and loving God, your will for us in your Son Jesus is the peace which the world cannot give, your abiding gift, the Advocate he promised. Calm all troubled hearts, dispel every fear, and keep us steadfast in love and faithful to your word. Grant this through Jesus Christ, the firstborn from the dead, who lives with you now and always in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

[Please be seated for the Readings]

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

THE 1st READING – Acts 16.9-15

⁹ During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, ‘Come over to Macedonia and help us.’ ¹⁰ When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them. ¹¹ We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, ¹² and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. ¹³ On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. ¹⁴ A certain woman named Lydia, a worshipper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. ¹⁵ When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, ‘If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home.’ And she prevailed upon us.

May Your word live in us. **And bear much fruit to Your glory.**

PSALM 67

¹ Let God be gracious to us and bless us:
and make his face shine upon us,

² **That your ways may be known on earth:
your liberating power among all nations.**

³ Let the peoples praise you, O God:
let all the peoples praise you.

**⁴ Let the nations be glad and sing:
for you judge the peoples with integrity,
and govern the nations upon earth.**

⁵ Let the peoples praise you, O God:
let all the peoples praise you.

**⁶ Then the earth will yield its fruitfulness:
and God, our God, will bless us.**

⁷ God shall bless us:
and all the ends of the earth will fear him.

THE EPISTLE – Revelation 21.10-14, 21.22-22.5

¹⁰ And in the spirit he carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God. ¹¹ It has the glory of God and a radiance like a very rare jewel, like jasper, clear as crystal. ¹² It has a great, high wall with twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and on the gates are inscribed the names of the twelve tribes of the Israelites; ¹³ on the east three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. ¹⁴ And the wall of the city has twelve foundations, and on them are the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. ²² I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. ²³ And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. ²⁴ The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. ²⁵ Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. ²⁶ People will bring into it the glory and the honour of the nations. ²⁷ But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practises abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life. ¹ Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ² through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. ³ Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; ⁴ they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵ And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign for ever and ever.

May Your word live in us. **And bear much fruit to Your glory.**

[EA] Gradual Hymn: **TiS 223 – How sweet the name of Jesus sounds**

1. How sweet the name of Jesus sounds
in a believer's ear!
It soothes our sorrows, heals our wounds,
and drives away our fear.

2. It makes the wounded spirit whole
and calms the troubled breast,
is manna to the hungry soul
and to the weary rest.

3. Dear name! the rock on which I build,
my shield and hiding-place,
my never-failing treasury, filled
with boundless stores of grace:

4. Jesus, my shepherd, brother, friend,
my prophet, priest and king,
my Lord, my life, my way, my end,
accept the praise I bring.

5. Weak is the effort of my heart,
and cold my warmest thought;
but when I see you as you are
I'll praise you as I ought.

[Please remain standing for the gospel]

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **John 14.23-29**

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

²³ Jesus answered him, 'Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. ²⁴ Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me. ²⁵ 'I have said

these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶ But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. ²⁸ You heard me say to you, “I am going away, and I am coming to you.” If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. ²⁹ And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.

[For] the Gospel of the Lord, **praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

[Please be seated for the sermon / reflections.]

Sermon / Reflections

THE CREED

[EA] Let us stand and 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 [Intercession]

[EA] Let us pray for the world, the church and one another

The prayers conclude with:

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 for ever. Amen.**

PREPARATION FOR THE LORD'S SUPPER

[EA] Jesus said: I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. [John 6.35]

[EA] Let us pray:

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 is us. Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

[EA] Christ our Passover Lamb has been offered for us, therefore we come to celebrate the festival.

[Silence may be kept]

[EA] Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, with a sincere and a true heart.

**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.**

[C] 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

[C] Christ has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross.
We meet in his name and share his peace.

[C] The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

[All may exchange a sign of peace]

[EA] Offertory Hymn: **TiS 534 – Love is his word**

1. Love is his word, love is his way,
feasting with friends, fasting alone,
living and dying, rising again,
love, only love, is his way.

[Refrain] *Richer than gold is the love of my Lord:
better than splendour and wealth.*

2. Love is his way, love is his mark,
sharing his last Passover feast,
Christ at his table, host to the twelve,
love, only love, is his mark. **[Refrain]**
3. Love is his mark, love is his sign,
bread for our strength, wine for our
joy,
'This is my body, this is my blood',
love, only love, is his sign. **[Refrain]**
4. Love is his sign, love is his news,
'Do this,' he said, 'lest you forget
all my deep sorrow, all my life's
blood.'
Love, only love, is his news. **[Refrain]**
5. Love is his news, love is his name,
we are his own, chosen and called,
sisters and brothers, cousins and kin.
Love, only love, is his name. **[Refrain]**
6. Love is his name, love is his law.
Hear his command, all who are his:
'Love one another, I have loved you.'
Love, only love, is his law. **[Refrain]**
7. Love is his law, love is his word:
love of the Lord, Father and Word,
love of the Spirit, God ever one.
Love, only love, is his word. **[Refrain]**

[Please remain standing for the gospel]

Offertory prayer

[C] 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

[C] [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,
he offered the one true sacrifice for sin,
and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people.

And now we give you thanks that you raised him to life triumphant,
and exalted him in glory.

By his victory over death,
the reign of sin is ended,
a new day has dawned,
a broken world is restored
and we are made whole once more.

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/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.**

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.

[The wine will be administered in two chalices. The taller chalice will be for 'sipping' and the shorter chalice for 'dipping/intinction']

(Sing)

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.

PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION

[C] Eternal God, giver of life, in the breaking of the bread we know the risen Lord. May we who celebrate this holy feast walk in his risen light and bring new life to all creation.

[C] 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, if any by one of the Wardens]

[EA] Closing Hymn : **TiS 530 – Now let us from this table rise**

1. Now let us from this table rise
renewed in body, mind and soul;
with Christ we die and live again,
his selfless love has made us whole.

2. With minds alert, upheld by grace,
to spread the Word in speech and deed,
we follow in the steps of Christ,
at one with all in hope and need.
3. To fill each human house with love,
it is the sacrament of care;
the work that Christ began to do
we humbly pledge ourselves to share.
4. Then give us grace, Companion God,
to choose again the pilgrim way,
and help us to accept with joy
the challenge of tomorrow's day

[C] The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you what is pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

[EA] Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Worship Roster for today

8.00am E.A. Jim Moore, **R1.** Clive Mattingley, **R2.** Clive Mattingley, **Intercessor.** Fr. Sam, **Cr.** Andrew Bell, **C.M.** Clive Mattingley, **W.** Eileen Moore

10.00am E.A. Ken Hutton, **R1.** Judy Carter, **R2.** Howard Carter, **Intercessor.** Jenny Wakefield, **Cr.** Naomi Nesimnahan, **C.M.** Elizabeth Sanderson, **W.** Norma & Patrick Seip, Cheryl Yon, **Counters.** Helen Duncan & Naomi Nesimnahan

E.A.: Eucharistic Assistant, **C.M.:** Communion Minister, **Cr.** Crucifer, **R:** Reader, **W:** Welcomers



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.

NOTICES

Trash & Treasure Stall is this Saturday, 31 May 2025. This will be held outside under the veranda in the front church facing Wicklow Avenue. This is to include the wider community.

If anybody has any preloved goods to donate, it will be very much appreciated. It cannot be large items, it has to be small to medium size, so that it can be carried by one person. The goods can only be delivered on the Thursday or Friday before, due to no storage at church.

Worship Roster:

I am in the process of compiling the Worship roster for June 2025. Please let me know by Tuesday 27th May if you are unavailable during the month. I realize this is short notice but next Sunday is the 1st June and the roster needs to be sent out this week. Please email me on hduncan@stjohndivine.org.au. the dates you will be unavailable.

Readings for next weeks

1-Jun-25	7th Sunday of Easter	Acts 16.16-34	Ps 97	Revelation 22.12-22	John 17.20-26
8-Jun-25	Pentecost	Acts 2.1-21 <i>or</i> Genesis 11.1-9	Ps 104.26-36	Romans 8.14-17 <i>or</i> Acts 2.1-21	John 14.8-17 (25-27)

PARISH DIRECTORY

Address	5 Toorak Ave, Croydon VIC 3136
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Vicar	Fr. Sathi (Sam) Anthony (BD, MTh) 0400 248 347 please leave a message when calling Email: sathianthony@optusnet.com.au

Banking details for those who wish to make a direct deposit to support our programs and for your regular offering:

Westpac: BSB # 033-044, St. John's General Account # 251582

Please email notices to Parish Office by Wednesday 9AM

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

6th Sunday of Easter			
Sun	25-May	8:00 am	Said Eucharist
		10:00 am	Said/Sung Eucharist
Mon	26-May	10:30 am	<i>Al Anon (fellowship room)</i>
Tue	27-May	5:30 pm	Community meal: TDRM
Wed	28-May	10:00 am	Said Eucharist
		5:15 pm	<i>Community meal: Winter Shelter</i>
		7:00 pm	<i>N.A. meeting (fellowship room)</i>
Thu	29-May		
Fri	30-May		
Sat	31-May	7:00 am	<i>A.A. meeting (fellowship room)</i>
		9:00 am	Trash & Treasure Stall
		6:30 pm	<i>Lai Christian Church service</i>
7th Sunday of Easter			
Sun	1-Jun	8:00 am	Said Eucharist
		10:00 am	Said/Sung Eucharist

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