

St John the Divine Croydon

Eucharist Service

12th Sunday after Pentecost

31 August 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 227 – When morning gilds the skies**

1. When morning gilds the skies,
my heart awaking cries:
May Jesus Christ be praised!
Alike at work and prayer
I know my Lord is there:
May Jesus Christ be praised!
2. To God, the word on high,
the hosts of angels cry:
May Jesus Christ be praised!
Let mortals, too, upraise
their voice in hymns of praise:
May Jesus Christ be praised!
3. Let earth's wide circle round
in joyful notes resound:
May Jesus Christ be praised!
Let air and sea and sky,
from depth to height, reply:
May Jesus Christ be praised!
4. Be this, when day is past,
of all my thoughts the last,
May Jesus Christ be praised!
The night becomes as day
when from the heart we say:
May Jesus Christ be praised!
5. Be this while life is mine
my song of praise divine,
May Jesus Christ be praised!
Be this the eternal song
through all the ages long,
May Jesus Christ be praised!

[C] The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Sentence of the day

[EA] All who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted. [Luke 14.11]

[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.

[EA] ‘Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ Jesus said: ‘This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: you shall love your neighbour as yourself.’

[EA] Let us then run our race, laying aside every weight and bringing our sins to the Lord in penitence and faith.

**O God, you have searched us out and known us,
and all that we are is open to you.**

**We confess that we have sinned:
we have used our power to dominate
and our weakness to manipulate;
we have evaded responsibility
and failed to confront evil;
we have denied dignity
to ourselves and to each other,
and fallen into despair.**

**We turn to you, O God;
we renounce evil;
we claim your love;
we choose to be made whole.**

[C] Your sins are forgiven, be at peace

[Sing/say] **Lord have mercy
Christ have mercy
Lord have mercy**

[Sing/say] **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:

O God, you invite the humble and the sinful to take their place in the festive assembly of the new covenant: teach your Church always to honour the presence of the Lord in the poor and the outcast, so that we may learn to recognise each other as brothers and sisters gathered together around your table. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

[All] **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.**

[Please be seated for the Readings]

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

THE 1st READING – Proverbs 25.6–7

6 Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence
or stand in the place of the great;

7 for it is better to be told, 'Come up here',
than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

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

Psalm 81.1, 81.10–16 (read by alternate verses)

¹ O sing joyfully to God our strength:
shout in triumph to the God of Jacob.

¹⁰ **'I am the Lord your God,
who brought you up from the land of Egypt:
open wide your mouth, and I will fill it.**

¹¹ 'But my people would not listen to my voice:
and Israel would have none of me.

¹² **'So I left them to the stubbornness of their hearts:
to walk according to their own designs.**

¹³ 'If only my people would listen:
if Israel would but walk in my ways,

¹⁴ **'I would soon put down their enemies:
and turn my hand against their adversaries.**

¹⁵ 'Those that hate the Lord would cringe before him:
and their punishment would last for ever.

¹⁶ **'But Israel I would feed with the finest wheat:
and satisfy you with honey from the rocks.'**

THE EPISTLE – Hebrews 13.1–8, 15–16

¹ Let mutual love continue. ² Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. ³ Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. ⁴ Let marriage be held in honour by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge

fornicators and adulterers. ⁵ Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, 'I will never leave you or forsake you.' ⁶ So we can say with confidence, 'The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?' ⁷ Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. ⁸ Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever. ¹⁵ Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. ¹⁶ Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

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

[EA] Gradual Hymn: **TiS 448 – Blest the pure in heart**

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| 1. Blest are the pure in heart,
for they shall see our God;
the secret of the Lord is theirs,
their soul is Christ's abode. | 3. still to the lowly soul
he will himself impart,
and for his cradle and his throne
chooses the pure in heart. |
| 2. The Lord who left the heavens
our life and peace to bring,
to dwell with us in lowliness,
our pattern and our King: | 4. Lord, we your presence seek;
this blessing now renew:
give us a pure and lowly heart,
a temple fit for you. |

[Please remain standing for the gospel]

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **Luke 14.1–14**

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

¹ On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely. ² Just then, in front of him, there was a man who had dropsy. ³ And Jesus asked the lawyers and Pharisees, 'Is it lawful to cure people on the sabbath, or not?' ⁴ But they were silent. So Jesus took him and healed him, and sent him away. ⁵ Then he said to them, 'If one of you has a child or an ox that has fallen into a well, will you not immediately pull it out on a sabbath day?' ⁶ And they could not reply to this. ⁷ When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honour, he told them a parable. ⁸ 'When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit

down at the place of honour, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; ⁹ and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, “Give this person your place”, and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. ¹⁰ But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, “Friend, move up higher”; then you will be honoured in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. ¹¹ For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.’ ¹² He said also to the one who had invited him, ‘When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbours, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. ¹³ But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. ¹⁴ And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.’

[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

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: Come to me all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. [Matthew 11.28]

[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 in us. 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 254 – O changeless Christ, for ever new**

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. O changeless Christ, for ever new,
who walked our earthly ways,
still draw our hearts as once you
drew
the hearts of other days. | 4. And as of old to all who prayed
your healing hand was shown,
so be your touch upon us laid,
unseen but not unknown. |
| 2. As once you spoke by plain and hill
or taught by shore and sea,
so be today our teacher still,
O Christ of Galilee. | 5. In broken bread, in wine
outpoured,
your new and living way
proclaim to us, O risen Lord,
O Christ of this our day. |
| 3. As wind and storm their Master
heard
and his command fulfilled,
may troubled hearts receive your
word,
the tempest-tossed be stilled. | 6. O changeless Christ, till life is past
your blessing still be given;
then bring us home, to taste at last
the timeless joys of heaven. |

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 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.

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.'

We remember his death on the cross.

We proclaim the resurrection to new life.

We await Christ's coming in glory.

Therefore we do as our Saviour has commanded:
proclaiming his offering of himself
made one 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

[C] 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.

[C] Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Happy are those who are called to his supper.
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

[C] 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 dies for us, and feed on him in our hearts by faith with
thanksgiving.

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

PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION

[C] Father of all we give you thanks and praise that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.

Keep us in this hope that we have grasped: so we and all your people will be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name.

[C] Most loving God,
you send us into the world you love. Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage in the power of your Spirit.

Notices, if any by one of the Wardens

[EA] Closing hymn: **TiS 111 – Praise to the Lord**

1. Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation;
O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation.
Come all who hear,
brothers and sisters draw near,
praise him in glad adoration.
2. Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning
and, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining:
have you not seen
all you have needed has been
sent by his gracious ordaining?
3. Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend us;
surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend us:
ponder anew
what the Almighty can do
as with his love he befriends us.
4. Praise to the Lord, who when darkness of sin is abounding,
who, when the godless do triumph, our best hopes confounding,
sheds forth his light,
scatters the horrors of night,
saints with his mercy surrounding.

5. Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him.
Let the Amen
sound from his people again:
gladly for ever adore him.

[C] The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds
in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; 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.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Worship Roster for today

8AM E.A. Rosemary Callow, **R1&R2** Deborah Guess; **Intercessor.** Fr Sam, **Cr.** Clive Mattingley, **C.M.** Clive Mattingley, **W.** Jean Jelley & Noel Hardy

10AM E.A. Naomi Nesimnahan, **R1** Carol Doriean; **R2.** Jenny Harris, **Intercessor.** Ailsa Wakeley, **Cr.** Joel Shambrook, **C.M.** Ailsa Wakeley, **W.** Carol Doriean & Jenny Harris;
Counters. Gecille Hindson & Ken Hutton

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.

Fr Sam's musing

"There's one thing worse than change and that's the status quo." - John le Carre

"If you don't design your own life plan, chances are you'll fall into someone else's plan. And guess what they have planned for you? Not much." - Jim Rohn

"You have tried to be superior in an ordinary realm. Now you must learn to be ordinary in a superior realm." - Dan Millman

"Those who can't change their minds can't change anything." - George Bernard Shaw

"The greatest of faults... is to be conscious of none." - Thomas Carlyle

"Everything you've ever wanted is on the other side of fear." - George Addair

"A team is not a group of people who work together. A team is a group of people who trust each other."

"Where 'I' is replaced by 'We,' even illness becomes wellness."

NOTICES

TDRM Cooking – Tuesday 9th September

It is St John's turn to cook and serve the meal for The Dining Room Mission this coming Tuesday, 9th September. Pasta Bake is on the menu this time and as always the recipe and main ingredients are provided and can be collected before/after the 8am and 10am services today.

2-3 volunteers are also needed in the kitchen with preparing and serving the meal and doing the dishes, etc.

Please see Jenny Wakefield if you can assist.

SAVE THE DATE!



Blessing of the animals

Sunday 5 October 2025

2 PM

5 Toorak Avenue, Croydon

Blessing of the Animals

The Blessing of the Animals is approaching fast, and we need your help to ensure the smooth service on the day. Please help as you are willing and able.

- a. Take a digital picture of your pet/s Cats, chickens, dogs, birds etc for the Facebook campaign with permission to use these photos. They would need to be in “.jpeg” format and sent to the office@stjohndivine.org.au
- b. Donate pet food cats, dogs, birds etc to go into the quite small showbags to be handed out after the service.
- c. Food for afternoon tea to be brought on the day and people to serve drinks from the servery.
- d. People to help on the day (ie: Live stream of the service, set up tables and chairs, etc).
- e. And most importantly to pray & suggest what we can give & offer people which might awaken an interest into the “way” of Christ.

Readings for next weeks

7-Sep	Martyrs of New Guinea	Zephaniah 3.14-20	Ps 130	Romans 8.33-39	John 12.20-32
14-Sep	Pentecost 14	Jeremiah 4.11-12, 22-28	Ps 14	1 Timothy 1.1-2, 12-19a OR 1 Timothy 1	Luke 15.1-10
21-Sep	Matthew, Apostle, Evangelist & Martyr	Proverbs 3.1-6	Ps 19.1-6	Ephesians 4.1-14	Matthew 9.9-13
28-Sep	Michael and All Angels	Daniel 7.9-10, 13-14 or Ezekiel 1.4-12	Ps 138	Revelation 12.7-12a	John 1.45-51

PARISH DIRECTORY

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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

12 th Sunday after Pentecost			
Sun	31-Aug	8:00 am	Said Eucharist
		10:00 am	Sung Eucharist
Mon	1-Sep	10:30 am	<i>Al Anon (fellowship room)</i>
Tue	2-Sep	5:30 pm	Community meal: TDRM
		7:30 pm	<i>A.A. meeting (fellowship room)</i>
Wed	3-Sep	10:00 am	Said Eucharist
		12:00 pm	<i>Mothers Union meeting</i>
		5:15 pm	<i>Community meal: Winter Shelter</i>
		7:00 pm	<i>N.A. meeting (fellowship room)</i>
Thu	4-Sep		
Fri	5-Sep		
Sat	6-Sep	7:00 am	<i>A.A. meeting (fellowship room)</i>
		6:30 pm	<i>Lai Christian Church service</i>
		Martyrs of New Guinea	
Sun	7-Sep	8:00 am	Said Eucharist
		10:00 am	Sung Eucharist

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