

St John the Divine Croydon



A Service of Holy Communion

Including the Marriage of
Patrick James Fitzgerald and Norma Kathleen Seip

Sunday 30th November 2025

Celebrants: The Reverend Jenny Sumpter & The Reverend Jim Pilmer



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.]

THE ADVENT WREATH

[C] Heavenly Father, as we begin this Advent,
give light to our eyes and peace to our hearts.
May the Lord find us watching and waiting in joy when he comes.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!



GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

[EA] Opening Hymn: **TiS 134 – Praise my soul, the king of heaven**

1. Praise, my soul, the king of heaven;
to his feet your tribute bring;
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
who like me his praise should sing?
Praise him, praise him, hallelujah,
praise the everlasting king!
2. Praise him for his grace and favour
to his people in distress;
praise him still the same as ever,
slow to chide and swift to bless:
praise him, praise him, hallelujah,
glorious in his faithfulness!
3. Fatherlike he tends and spares us;
well our feeble frame he knows;
in his hands he gently bears us,
rescues us from all our foes:
praise him, praise him, hallelujah,
widely as his mercy flows!

4. Frail as summer's flower we flourish,
blows the wind and it is gone;
but while mortals rise and perish,
God endures unchanging on.
praise him, praise him, hallelujah,
praise the high eternal one!
5. Angels, help us to adore him,
you behold him face to face;
sun and moon, bow down before him,
dwellers all in time and space:
praise him, praise him, hallelujah,
praise with us the God of grace!

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

[C] The Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of
the Holy Spirit, be with you all.
And also with you.

Sentence of the day

[EA] Let God be gracious to us and bless us; and make his face to shine upon us.

[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] Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, and his steadfast love endures forever.

[silence may be kept]

Let us open our hearts and prepare for his coming, confessing our sins in
penitence and faith.

**Merciful God, our make 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.**

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

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

Collect of the day

[C] Let us pray:

Almighty and ever-living God, strengthen us all in faith, hope and love.
May we do with loving hearts what you ask of us and enter more fully the life you promise. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

[Please be seated for the Readings]

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

THE 1st READING – 1 Corinthians 13.1-13

13 If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ²And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. ³If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

⁴Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant ⁵or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; ⁶it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. ⁷It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

⁸Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. ⁹For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; ¹⁰but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. ¹¹When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. ¹²For

now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. ¹³And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

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

[Please stand for the gospel]

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **John 2.1-11**

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

2 On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ² Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. ³ When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, ‘They have no wine.’ ⁴ And Jesus said to her, ‘Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.’ ⁵ His mother said to the servants, ‘Do whatever he tells you.’ ⁶ Now standing there were six stone water-jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. ⁷ Jesus said to them, ‘Fill the jars with water.’ And they filled them up to the brim. ⁸ He said to them, ‘Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.’ So they took it. ⁹ When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom ¹⁰ and said to him, ‘Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.’ ¹¹ Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

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

Please be seated for the sermon.

Sermon: Fr Jim Pilmer PSM OAM OStJ

THE WEDDING

[C] Patrick, will you take Norma, to be your wife,
to live together according to God’s law?
Will you love her and comfort her,
And forsaking all others, love and protect her

so long as you both shall live?

[Patrick] **I will**

[C] Norma, will you take Patrick, to be your husband
to live together according to God's law?

Will you love him and comfort him
and, forsaking all others, love and protect him
so long as you both shall live?

[Norma] **I will**

[C] Families and friends, you are witnesses to these vows. Will you do everything
in your power to uphold Patrick and Norma in their marriage?

[All] **We will**

[Patrick and Norma join hands].

[Patrick] I, Patrick take you, Norma, to be my wife:
to have and to hold
from this day forward,
for better, for worse,
for richer, for poorer,
in sickness and in health,
to love and to cherish,
so long as we both shall live.
This is my solemn vow and promise.

[Norma] I, Norma take you, Patrick, to be my husband:
to have and to hold
from this day forward,
for better, for worse,
for richer, for poorer,
in sickness and in health,
to love and to cherish,
so long as we both shall live.
This is my solemn vow and promise.

[The priest receives the rings]

[C] Grant Lord, that *these rings* may be a constant sign of the pledge of love and
faithfulness which Norma and Patrick have made to each other, through
Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

(Patrick places the ring on Norma's finger and says)

Norma, with this ring I wed you;
With all that I am and all that I have I honour you;
in the name of God. **Amen.**

(Norma says)

Patrick, I receive this ring
in token of our marriage.
May God enable us to grow in love together.

(Norma places the ring on Norma's finger and says)

Patrick, with this ring I wed you;
With all that I am and all that I have I honour you;
in the name of God. **Amen.**

(Patrick says)

Norma, I receive this ring
in token of our marriage.
May God enable us to grow in love together.

[The priest then says]

[C] Before God and in presence of us all, by solemn consent and promise, Patrick and Norma have joined hands and made vows, promising life-long faithfulness to each other. In the name of God, I declare them to be husband and wife. Those whom God has joined together let no one put asunder.

[The priest adds a blessing]

[C] May God the Father enrich you with his grace,
God the Son make you holy in his love,
God the Holy Spirit strengthen you with his joy.
The Lord bless you and keep you in eternal life. AMEN

[The marriage certificates are to be signed at the conclusion of the service]

THE GREETING OF PEACE

[C] We are the body of Christ.
His Spirit is with us.

[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 217 – Love divine all love excelling**

1. Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown:
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation;
enter every trembling heart.
2. Come, almighty, to deliver,
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never,
never more thy temples leave:
thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.
3. Finish then thy new creation,
pure and spotless let us be,
let us see thy great salvation,
perfectly restored in thee:
changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love and praise.

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.

When you made us in your image,
creating us male and female,
you gave us the gift of marriage.

When sin marred that image
you healed our brokenness,
giving your Son to die for us.

Therefore we raise our voices,
with all who served you in every age,
to proclaim the glory of your name:
**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.]**

Most gracious 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.'

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

With this bread and this cup,
in thanksgiving for the gift of your Son,
we proclaim his passion and death,
his resurrection and ascension,
the outpouring of his Spirit,
and his presence with his people.

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, 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 for 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 on body in Christ,
for we all share in the one bread.

[All are welcome to join communion. The wine will be administered in two chalices. The taller chalice will be for 'sipping' and the shorter chalice for 'dipping/intinction']

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.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Almighty God, Lord of the universe, all love, strength, and understanding come from you: so direct and govern us in body and soul that we may strive to live according to your word and to do everything that is agreeable to your will: through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Signing of certificate

[EA] Closing hymn: **TiS 106 - Now thank we all our God**

1. Now thank we all our God
with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done,
in whom the world rejoices;
who from our mothers' arms
has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.
2. O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us.
Lord, keep us in your grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills
in this world in the next.

3. All praise and thanks to God
who reigns in highest heaven,
to Father and to Son
and Spirit now be given:
the one eternal God,
whom heaven and earth adore,
who ever was, is now,
and shall be ever more.

[C] May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: 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

10.00am E.A. Helen Duncan, **R.** Jenny Harris, **Cr.** Naomi Nesimnahan, **C.M.** Ailsa Wakeley, **W.** Jenny Harris & Elizabeth Sanderson, **Counters.** Mark 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

Thank you

We recently received a very generous anonymous donation of \$4,000 to St John's and wish to convey the Parish's gratitude for this donation.

News from your Fund Raising Team

ATTN PARISHIONERS

The Christmas cake fund raiser has been cancelled. Apologies are sent.
From your Friendly Fund Raising Team.

2025 Parish Council Report

The annual Parish Council Report that was omitted from our recent APM is now on display in the foyer.

Anglicare Christmas Toy Appeal

Christmas is quickly approaching and Anglicare is having a Christmas Toy Drive to spread joy and love to children and teens. If you would like to contribute, they are seeking new, unwrapped toys, vouchers, books for children ages 0-18. Donations can be given to office during office hours (Tues and Wed, 9AM-12PM) by 10 December at the latest. Please find poster at narthex for more information.

SJD Christmas Services

Please note St John the Divine Christmas Services as below:

11-Dec	5.30PM	Kindergarten Christmas Carol
21-Dec	9AM	4 th Sunday of Advent + Crib service
24-Dec	11PM	Midnight Service
25-Dec	9AM	Christmas Service

Please also note that all Sunday services from 28 December and January 2026 are COMBINED SERVICE at 9AM.

Readings for next weeks

7-Dec	Advent 2	Isaiah 11.1-10	Ps 72.1-7, 18-21	Romans 15.4-13	Matthew 3.1-12
14-Dec	Advent 3	Isaiah 35.1-10	Song of Mary or Ps 146	James 5.7-10	Matthew 11.2-11
21-Dec	Advent 4	Isaiah 7.10-16	Ps 80.1-7, 17-19	Romans 1.1-7	Matthew 1.18-25

PARISH DIRECTORY

Address	5 Toorak Ave, Croydon VIC 3136
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Website	www.stjohndivine.org.au - <i>also on Facebook</i>
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

		1 st Sunday of Advent	
Sun	30-Nov	8:00 am	Said Eucharist
		10:00 am	Sung Eucharist + Wedding of Norma Seip and Patrick Fitzgerald
Mon	1-Dec	10:30 am	<i>Al Anon (fellowship room)</i>
Tue	2-Dec	5:30 pm	Community meal: TDRM
		7:30 pm	<i>A.A. meeting (fellowship room)</i>
Wed	3-Dec	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	4-Dec		
Fri	5-Dec		
Sat	6-Dec	7:00 am	<i>A.A. meeting (fellowship room)</i>
		2 nd Sunday of Advent	
Sun	7-Dec	8:00 am	Said Eucharist
		10:00 am	Sung Eucharist

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