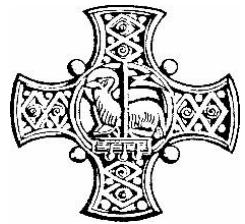


St John the Divine Croydon

Eucharist Service

5th Sunday after Epiphany

8 February 2026



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. The Liturgy of the day could be sung or said.

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.]

Sentence of the Day

‘Is not this the fast that I choose,’ says the Lord: ‘to loose the bonds of injustice, and to let the oppressed go free?’ [Isaiah 58.6]

Collect of the day

[C] Let us pray:

Faithful God, you have appointed us your witnesses, to be a light that shines in the world: let us not hide the bright hope you have given us, but tell everyone your love, revealed in Jesus Christ the Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

THE 1ST READING – Isaiah 58.1-12

¹Shout out, do not hold back!

Lift up your voice like a trumpet!

Announce to my people their rebellion,

to the house of Jacob their sins.

²Yet day after day they seek me

and delight to know my ways,

as if they were a nation that practised righteousness

and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;

they ask of me righteous judgements,

they delight to draw near to God.

³‘Why do we fast, but you do not see?

Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?’
Look, you serve your own interest on your fast-day,
and oppress all your workers.

⁴Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight
and to strike with a wicked fist.

Such fasting as you do today
will not make your voice heard on high.

⁵Is such the fast that I choose,
a day to humble oneself?
Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush,
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?

Will you call this a fast,
a day acceptable to the Lord?

⁶Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of injustice,
to undo the thongs of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?

⁷Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,
and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover them,
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

⁸Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up quickly;
your vindicator shall go before you,
the glory of the Lord shall be your rearguard.

⁹Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer;
you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

If you remove the yoke from among you,
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,

¹⁰if you offer your food to the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
then your light shall rise in the darkness
and your gloom be like the noonday.

¹¹The Lord will guide you continually,
and satisfy your needs in parched places,
and make your bones strong;

and you shall be like a watered garden,

like a spring of water,

whose waters never fail.

¹²Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;

you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;

you shall be called the repairer of the breach,

the restorer of streets to live in.

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

PSALM 112 (read by alternate verses)

¹O praise the Lord. Blessed is the man who fears the Lord :
and greatly delights in his commandments.

**²Their children shall be mighty in the land :
an upright race who will be blessed.**

³Riches and plenty shall be in his house :
and his righteousness stands for ever.

**⁴Light arises in darkness for the upright :
gracious and merciful is the righteous man.**

⁵It goes well with the man who acts generously and lends :
who guides his affairs with justice.

**⁶Surely he shall never be moved :
the righteous shall be held in everlasting remembrance.**

⁷They will not fear bad tidings :
his heart is steadfast, trusting in the Lord.

**⁸Their hearts are confident and will not fear :
they will see the downfall of their enemies.**

⁹They give freely to the poor :
their righteousness stands for ever, their head is uplifted in glory.

**¹⁰The wicked shall see it and be angry :
they shall gnash his teeth and consume away;
and the hope of the wicked shall fail.**

THE EPISTLE – 1 Corinthians 2.1-13

¹When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. ²For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. ³And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. ⁴My speech and my

proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power,⁵ so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

⁶ Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. ⁷ But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. ⁸ None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹ But, as it is written,

'What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him'—

¹⁰ these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹ For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. ¹² Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. ¹³ And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.

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

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **Matthew 5.13-20**

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

¹³ 'You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

¹⁴ 'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

¹⁷ 'Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfil. ¹⁸ For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth

pass away, not one letter,^[a] not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹Therefore, whoever breaks^[b] one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

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

Worship Roster

8AM E.A. Helen Duncan, **R1&R2.** Sonia Shaw, **Intercessor.** Fr. Sam, **Cr.** Norm Stephens, **C.M.** Norm Stephens, **W.** Jean Jolley & Noel Hardy

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

Palm Crosses

Please bring your Palm Crosses from last year to church next week, Sunday, 15 February 2026 and put them in the offertory bowl. The palm crosses will be burned for Ash Wednesday services.

Essential Safe Ministry Training for All Church Volunteers - Group Session March 1st

Safe Ministry Training must be undertaken by all clergy, church workers and volunteers every 3 years and all our volunteers are now due to complete this essential training.

A group training session for Safe Ministry Essential (M1) has therefore been scheduled for Sunday March 1st, following a combined service at 9am.

The group session will take place after the service and will go for approx. 2.5 hours, including morning tea. The cost of \$20 per person will be covered by the parish.

Alternatively, you may complete the training individually online, and we will email you the relevant links and information.

A list of all current church volunteers is now on display in the foyer. Please indicate if you will attend the group training session. It is essential that we have this information prior to the training day so that your name can be recorded and the correct number of participants enrolled.

Please note that ALL volunteers at St John's must complete their Safe Ministry Essential (M1) by March 30.

Please contact Joel Shambrook or Cathy Cossey if you have any queries.

TDRM Cooking – Tuesday 10th February

It is St John's turn to cook and serve the meal for The Dining Room Mission this coming Tuesday, 10th February

This time we are serving pasta bake with salad and garlic bread and lots of cooks are needed to make the pasta bakes. As always, the main ingredients are provided and can be collected before and after the 10am service. Transport can be arranged if you cannot deliver the food hot to TDRM at 5pm on Tuesday.

Volunteers are also needed in the kitchen on Tuesday from 4.30pm to make the salad, serve the meals and do the dishes. Please see Cathy Cossey (0402 239 933) if you can help or would like more information.

Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday service will be held on Wednesday, 18 February 2026 at 10AM and 7PM.

Rosters for next week : 15 -Feb

9AM E.A. Steven Sim, **R1.** Pat Mackay; **R2.** Joel Shambrook, **Intercessor.** Jenny Wakefield, **Cr.** Clive Mattingley, **C.M.** Clive Mattingley, **W.** Jenny Harris & Helen Duncan; **Counters.** Pei Lee & Stephen Cossey

Readings for next weeks

15-Feb	Transfiguration	Exodus 24.12-18	Ps 2	2 Peter 1.16-21	Matthew 17.1-9
22-Feb	Lent 1	Genesis 2.15-17, 3.1-7	Ps 32	Romans 5.12-21	Matthew 4.1-11
1 Mar	Lent 2	Genesis 12.1-4a	Ps 121	Romans 4.1-5 (6-12) 13-17	John 3.1-17 or Matthew 17.1-9

PARISH DIRECTORY

Address	5 Toorak Ave, Croydon VIC 3136
Office	03 9723 5099
	Tues, Wed, 9am -12pm
Email	office@stjohndivine.org.au
Website	www.stjohndivine.org.au - also on Facebook
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

5th Sunday after Epiphany				
Sun	8-Feb	8:00	am	Said Eucharist
		10:00	am	Sung/Said Eucharist
Mon	9-Feb	10:30	am	Al Anon (fellowship room)
Tue	10-Feb	5:30	pm	Community meal: TDRM
		7:30	pm	A.A meeting (fellowship room)
Wed	11-Feb	10:00	am	Said Eucharist
		5:15	pm	Community meal: Winter Shelter
		7:00	pm	N.A. meeting (fellowship room)
Thu	12-Feb			
Fri	13-Feb			
Sat	14-Feb	7:00	am	A.A. meeting (fellowship room)
				Last Sunday after Epiphany - Transfiguration
Sun	15-Feb	9:00	am	Said/Sung Eucharist COMBINED SERVICE
				Followed by Special Parish Meeting
				and birthday celebrations

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