

# St John the Divine Croydon

*Eucharist Service*

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent**

22 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.]*

## **GATHERING IN GODS NAME**

[EA] Opening Hymn: **TiS 591 – Forty days and forty nights**

1. Forty days and forty nights  
you were fasting in the wild,  
forty days and forty nights  
tempted, and yet undefiled:
2. let us your endurance share  
and from earthly greed abstain,  
with you watching unto prayer,  
with you strong to suffer pain.
3. And if Satan on us press  
flesh or spirit to assail,  
Victor in the wilderness,  
grant we may not faint or fail.
4. Keep, O keep us, Saviour dear,  
ever constant by your side,  
that with you we may appear  
at the eternal Eastertide.



[C] The Lord be with you

**And also with you**

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins,  
**whose mercies endure for ever.**

Sentence of the day

We do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God. [Matthew 4.4]

[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 confess our sins in penitence and faith, confident in God's forgiveness.

**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.**

Collect of the day

Almighty God, whose Son fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet did not sin: give us grace to direct our lives in obedience to your will, that, as you know our weakness, so we may know your power to save; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD**

**THE 1<sup>ST</sup> READING – Genesis 2.15-17, 3.1-7**

<sup>15</sup>The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. <sup>16</sup>And the Lord God commanded the man, ‘You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; <sup>17</sup>but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.’

**3** <sup>1</sup>Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, ‘Did God say, “You shall not eat from any tree in the garden”?’ <sup>2</sup>The woman said to the serpent, ‘We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; <sup>3</sup>but God said, “You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.”’ <sup>4</sup>But the serpent said to the woman, ‘You will not die; <sup>5</sup>for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.’ <sup>6</sup>So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. <sup>7</sup>Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

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

**PSALM 32** (read by alternate verses)

<sup>1</sup> Blessed is he whose sin is forgiven :  
whose iniquity is put away.

<sup>2</sup> **Blessed is the man to whom the Lord imputes no blame :  
and in whose spirit there is no guile.**

<sup>3</sup> For whilst I held my tongue :

my bones wasted away with my daily complaining.

<sup>4</sup> **Your hand was heavy upon me day and night :**

**and my moisture was dried up like a drought in summer.**

<sup>5</sup> Then I acknowledged my sin to you :

and my iniquity I did not hide;

<sup>6</sup> **I said ‘I will confess my transgressions to the Lord’ :**

**and so you forgave the wickedness of my sin.**

<sup>7</sup> For this cause shall everyone that is faithful

make his prayer to you in the day of trouble :

and in the time of the great water-floods,

they shall not come near him.

<sup>8</sup> **You are a place to hide me in,**

**you will preserve me from trouble :**

**you will surround me with deliverance on every side.**

<sup>9</sup> ‘I will instruct you, and direct you in the way that you should go :

I will fasten my eye upon you, and give you counsel.

<sup>10</sup> **‘Be not like horse or mule, that have no understanding :**

**whose forward course must be curbed with bit and bridle.’**

<sup>11</sup> Great tribulations remain for the ungodly :

but whoever puts his trust in the Lord,

mercy embraces him on every side.

<sup>12</sup> **Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous, and be glad :**

**and shout for joy, all you that are true of heart.**

#### THE EPISTLE – Romans 5.12-21

<sup>12</sup> Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned— <sup>13</sup> sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. <sup>14</sup> Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come. <sup>15</sup> But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man’s trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. <sup>16</sup> And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man’s sin. For the judgement following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. <sup>17</sup> If, because of the one man’s trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup> Therefore just as one man’s trespass led to

condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. <sup>19</sup>For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous. <sup>20</sup>But law came in, with the result that the trespass multiplied; but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more, <sup>21</sup>so that, just as sin exercised dominion in death, so grace might also exercise dominion through justification leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

[EA] Gradual Hymn: **Change my heart Oh God**

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Change my heart Oh God, make it ever true.  
Change my heart Oh God, may I be like You.  
You are the potter, I am the clay,  
Mold me and make me, this is what I pray.  
Change my heart Oh God, make it ever true.  
Change my heart Oh God, may I be like 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 **Matthew 4.1-11**

**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ**

**4** Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. <sup>2</sup>He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. <sup>3</sup>The tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.' <sup>4</sup>But he answered, 'It is written,

"One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."

<sup>5</sup>Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, <sup>6</sup>saying to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written,

"He will command his angels concerning you", and "On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone."

<sup>7</sup>Jesus said to him, 'Again it is written, "Do not put the Lord your God to the test."' "

<sup>8</sup>Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour; <sup>9</sup>and he said to him, ‘All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.’ <sup>10</sup>Jesus said to him, ‘Away with you, Satan! for it is written, “Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.”’

<sup>11</sup>Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

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

### Sermon/Reflection

#### **APOSTLES' CREED**

[EA] Let us stand and together 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**

[EA] Let us pray for the world and for the Church.

Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers.

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

## THE PREPARATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

[C] 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.

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.**

## RECONCILIATION WITH GOD

[EA] Whenever you stand to praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone; so that your heavenly Father also who is in heaven may forgive your trespasses. [Mark 11: 25]

Compassion and forgiveness belong to the Lord our God, though we have rebelled and wandered far off.

*[pause; silently bring to mind times when we have separated ourselves from God from others, from creation, and from our inner selves]*

## RECONCILIATION WITH EACH OTHER

*[Stand to share God's peace- his reconciling shalom of wholeness and wellbeing- with each other.]*

[C] Christ has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross.

**We meet in his name and share his peace.**

The peace of the Lord always be with you.

**And also with you.**

[EA] Offertory Hymn: **TiS 745 – Seek ye first the kingdom of God**

1. Seek ye first the kingdom of God  
and his righteousness,  
and all these things  
shall be added unto you.

*Allelu, alleluia.*

*Alleluia, alleluia,*

*alleluia, allelu, alleluia.*

*[continue on next page]*

2. Ask and it shall be given unto you,  
seek and you shall find,  
knock and it shall  
be opened unto you.  
*Allelu, alleluia.*

3. We shall not live by bread alone,  
but by every word  
that proceeds  
from the mouth of the Lord.  
*Allelu, alleluia.*

[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**

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.

He was tempted in every way as we are,  
yet he did not sin.

By his death upon the cross  
and rising to new life,  
he offered the one true sacrifice for sin  
and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people.

By his grace we are able  
to triumph over every evil,  
and to walk in the way of his love.

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 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 our Lord 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.**

[C] Jesus is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

Happy are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord I am not worthy to receive you,  
But only say he word, and I shall be healed**

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.]*

## THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

[C] Compassionate and Loving God, through your Son Jesus Christ you have fed us and have reconciled your people to yourself. Following his example of fasting and prayer, may we obey you with willing hearts and serve one another in holy love.

[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 by one of the wardens]

[EA] Closing Hymn: : **TiS 668 – Touch the earth lightly**

1. Touch the earth lightly,  
use the earth gently,  
nourish the life of the world in our care:  
gift of great wonder,  
ours to surrender,  
trust for the children tomorrow will bear.
2. We who endanger,  
who create hunger,  
agents of death for all creatures that live,  
we who would foster  
clouds of disaster,  
God of our planet, forestall and forgive!
3. Let there be greening,  
birth from the burning,  
water that blesses and air that is sweet,  
health in God's garden,  
hope in God's children,  
regeneration that peace will complete.
4. God of all living,  
God of all loving,  
God of the seedling, the snow and the sun,  
teach us, deflect us,  
Christ re-connect us,  
using us gently and making us one.

## **BLESSING AND DISMISSAL**

[C] Christ our Saviour draw you to himself, that you may find in him crucified a sure ground for faith, a firm support for hope, and the assurance of sin forgiven. **Amen.**

[EA] Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**+ In the name of Christ. Amen.**

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### **Worship Roster for today**

**8.00am E.A.** Rosemary Callow, **R1&R2.** Deborah Guess, **Intercessor.** Fr. Sam, **Cr.** Andrew Bell, **C.M.** Andrew Bell, **W.** Caroline Stephens

**10.00am E.A.?, R1.?, R2.** Helen Duncan, **Intercessor.** Jenny Wakefield, **Cr.** Joel Shambrook, **C.M.** Helen Duncan, **W.** Normal Fitzgerald & Elizabeth Sanderson, **Counters.** Helen Duncan & ?

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

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## NOTICES

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### **Palm Crosses making**

As the Lent season is coming, we would like to invite parishioners to make the palm crosses ourselves. To make it happen, it will need a coordinator to coordinate the palm supplies, the date of palm crosses making and the volunteers. This will be a lovely opportunity for fellowship as we come together to prepare the crosses for Palm Sunday. If you feel called to take on the role of coordinator, please speak with Fr Sam.

### **Worship Roster**

I am in the process of compiling the Worship roster for March 2026. Please let me know by Friday, 27 February 2026 if you are unavailable during the month. Please email me on [hduncan@stjohndivine.org.au](mailto:hduncan@stjohndivine.org.au) the dates you will be unavailable.

(Helen)

### **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 next week, 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.

## **SJD upcoming events**

Save the date for the coming events at St John...

Happy hour	20-Mar-26	5.30-7.30PM
Working Bee	21-Mar-26	10AM-12PM
Trivia night	19-Apr-26	TBC



## **Readings for next weeks**

<b>1 Mar</b>	<b>Lent 2</b>	Genesis 12.1-4a	Ps 121	Romans 4.1-5 (6-12) 13-17	John 3.1-17 or Matthew 17.1-9
<b>8-Mar</b>	<b>Lent 3</b>	Exodus 17.1-7	Ps 95	Romans 5.1-11	John 4.5-42
<b>15-Mar</b>	<b>Lent 4</b>	1 Samuel 16.1-13	Ps 23	Ephesians 5.8-14	John 9.1-41

## PARISH DIRECTORY

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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			
		<b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent</b>	
Sun	22-Feb	8:00 am	Said Eucharist
		10:00 am	Sung/Said Eucharist
Mon	23-Feb	10:30 am	<i>Al Anon (fellowship room)</i>
Tue	24-Feb	5:30 pm	Community meal: TDRM
		7:30 pm	<i>A.A. meeting (fellowship room)</i>
Wed	25-Feb	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	26-Feb	10.00 am	Lenten Studies
		7:00 pm	Lenten Studies
Fri	27-Feb		
Sat	28-Feb	7:00 am	<i>A.A. meeting (fellowship room)</i>
		<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent</b>	
Sun	1-Mar	9:00 am	Said/Sung Eucharist COMBINED SERVICE
		followed by <b>Safe Ministry Training</b>	

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