

St John the Divine Croydon

Eucharist Service

2nd Sunday in Lent

1 March 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 590 – What a friend we have in Jesus**

1. What a friend we have in Jesus,
all our sins and griefs to bear,
what a privilege to carry
everything to God in prayer:
O what peace we often forfeit,
O what needless pain we bear,
all because we do not carry
everything to God in prayer.
2. Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged:
take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful
who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness;
take it to the Lord in prayer.
3. Are we weak and heavy-laden,
cumbered with a load of care?
Jesus is our only refuge:
take it to the Lord in prayer;
Do your friends despise, forsake
you?
Take it to the Lord in prayer;
in his arms he'll take and shield
you,
you will find a solace there.

[C] Our Lord Jesus Christ said: 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. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets. [Matthew 22.37–40, Mark 12.30–31]

[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.**

Collect of the day

God of mercy, you are full of tenderness and compassion, slow to anger, rich in mercy, and always ready to forgive: grant us grace to renounce all evil and to cling to Christ, that in every way we may prove to be your loving children; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

THE 1ST READING – Genesis 12.1-4a

¹ Now the Lord said to Abram, ‘Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. ² I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.’ ⁴ So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

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

PSALM 121 (read by alternate verses)

¹ I lift up my eyes to the hills:
but where shall I find help?

² **My help comes from the Lord:
who has made heaven and earth.**

³ He will not suffer your foot to stumble:
and he who watches over you will not sleep.

⁴ **Be sure he who has charge of Israel:
will neither slumber nor sleep.**

⁵ The Lord himself is your keeper:
the Lord is your defence upon your right hand;

**⁶ The sun shall not strike you by day:
nor shall the moon by night.**

⁷ The Lord will defend you from all evil:
it is he who will guard your life.

**⁸ The Lord will defend your going out and your coming in:
from this time forward for evermore.**

[Please stand for the gospel]

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **John 3.1-17**

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

¹ Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ² He came to Jesus by night and said to him, ‘Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.’ ³ Jesus answered him, ‘Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.’ ⁴ Nicodemus said to him, ‘How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?’ ⁵ Jesus answered, ‘Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶ What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Do not be astonished that I said to you, “You must be born from above.” ⁸ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.’ ⁹ Nicodemus said to him, ‘How can these things be?’ ¹⁰ Jesus answered him, ‘Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? ¹¹ ‘Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹² If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³ No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴ And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶ ‘For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. ¹⁷ ‘Indeed, God did not send the Son into the

world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

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

NICENE CREED

[EA] Let us stand and together affirm the faith of the Church:

We believe in one God,

**the Father, the almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

**the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation

**he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again

**in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again in glory to judge

**the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.**

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

**who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

**We acknowledge one baptism for the
forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

[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.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

[C] Knowing the goodness of God and our failure to respond with love and obedience, let us confess our sins, saying together,

Heavenly Father,

you have loved us with an everlasting love,

but we have broken your holy laws

and have left undone what we ought to have done.

We are sorry for our sins

and turn away from them.

For the sake of your Son who died for us,

forgive us, cleanse us and change us.

By your Holy Spirit,

enable us to live for you;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

[C] God is slow to anger and full of compassion,

forgiving all who humbly repent

and trust in his Son as Saviour and Lord.

God therefore forgives you in Christ Jesus,

in whom there is no condemnation. Amen.

Our Lord Jesus Christ himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. [1 Peter 2.24]

THE GREETING OF PEACE

[C] We are the body of Christ.

His Spirit is with us.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

[All may exchange a sign of peace]

[EA] Offertory Hymn: **TiS 153 – God is love. let heav'n adore him**

1. God is love, let heav'n adore him;
God is love, let earth rejoice;
let creation sing before him,
and exalt him with one voice.
God, who laid the earth's
foundation,
he who spread the heavens
above,
and who breathes through all
creation
God is love, eternal Love.
2. God is love, and gently enfolding
all the world in one embrace,
with unfailing grasp is holding
every child of every race.
And when human hearts are
breaking
under sorrow's iron rod,
then they find that selfsame
aching
deep within the heart of God.
3. God is love, and, though with
blindness
sin afflicts our human hearts,
God's eternal lovingkindness
holding, guiding, grace imparts.
Sin and death and hell shall
never
o'er us final triumph gain;
God is love, so love for ever
o'er the universe must reign.

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.

You are worthy, our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honour and power,
for you created all things,
making us in your own image.

We praise you for your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who by his death on the cross
and rising to new life
offered the one true sacrifice for sin
and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people.

Therefore, we lift our voices to praise you, saying,
**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

And now, gracious God, we thank you
for these gifts of bread and wine,
and pray that we who receive them,
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
according to our Saviour's word,
in remembrance of his suffering and death,
may share his body and blood.

On the night before he died, Jesus took bread,
and when he had given you thanks
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying,
'Take and eat. This is my body which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

[If the bread is broken here, the priest may say

We who are many are one body in Christ,
for we all share in the one bread.]

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
which is shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

We eat this bread and drink this cup
to proclaim the death of the Lord.

We do this until he returns.
Come, Lord Jesus!

Father, as we recall his saving death and glorious resurrection,
may we who share these gifts
be renewed by your Holy Spirit
and united in the body of your Son.

Bring us with all your people
into the joy of your eternal kingdom,
there to feast at your table and
join in your eternal praise:

**Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain,
to receive praise and honour
and glory and power
for ever and ever. Amen.**

[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.

Draw near with faith, to feed on Christ in your hearts with thanksgiving.

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

[C] God of mercy, may we who have shared in this holy meal know your forgiveness in our lives, bring your reconciliation to others, and be a sign of your wholeness in this broken world.

[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]

[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, 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.

[EA] Closing Hymn: : **TiS 691 – Faith will not grow from words alone**

1. Faith will not grow from words alone,
from proofs provided, scripture known;
our faith must feel its way about,
and live with question-marks and doubt.
2. The pattern Jesus showed, we share:
life comes through death, hope through despair.
God is made known in brokenness,
and faith feeds on God's emptiness.
3. The church still tells how Jesus came
through death to glorious life again --
the strangest story! Yet, maybe,
our faith will thrive on mystery.
4. Faith takes the little that we know,
and calls for hope, and tells us: Go!
Love and take courage, come what may;
Christ will be with us on the way.

Worship Roster for today

9.00am E.A. Helen Duncan, **R.** Carol Doriean, **Intercessor.**Fr. Sam, **Cr.** Naomi Nesimnahan, **C.M.** Naomi Nesimnahan, **W.** Elizabeth Sanderson & Carol Doriean, **Counters.** Jim Moore & Mark Duncan

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

NOTICES

Palm Crosses making

We now have a volunteer who will be making the palm crosses, so no additional volunteers are needed at this time. We are grateful to everyone who expressed interest, and we offer our sincere appreciation to the volunteer who has kindly taken on this task.

Essential Safe Ministry Training for All Church Volunteers - Group Session TODAY

Group training for Safe Ministry Essential (M1) will take place immediately after the combined service today.

Alternatively, you may complete the training individually online. Volunteers who do not attend the group session will be emailed the link and must complete the training by March 30.

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

New Altar Cloth

We are planning to order a new altar cloth for the church, and we would like to invite parishioners who wish to contribute to take part in this effort. If you feel called to make a donation, please place your gift in an envelope, mark it 'altar cloth' and put it in the offering bowl. Thank you for your generosity and support.

Happy Hour - 5.30-7.30pm Friday 20th March

More details coming soon!

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 | 18-Apr-26 | TBC |

Roster for next week: 8-Mar

8AM E.A. Jim Moore, **R1.** Wendy Pullin, **R2.** Wendy Pullin, **Intercessor.** Fr Sam, **Cr.** Norm Stephens, **C.M.** Norm Stephens, **W.** Jean Jelley & Noel Hardy

10AM E.A. Ken Hutton, **R1.** Jenny Harris; **R2.** Judy Carter, **Intercessor.** Elizabeth Sanderson, **Cr.** Joel Shambrook, **C.M.** Helen Duncan, **W.** Cheryl Yon & Lyn Lynch; **Counters.** Joel Shambrook & Gecille Hindson

Readings for next weeks

| | | | | | |
|---------------|---------------|------------------|--------|------------------|--------------|
| 8-Mar | Lent 3 | Exodus 17.1-7 | Ps 95 | Romans 5.1-11 | John 4.5-42 |
| 15-Mar | Lent 4 | 1 Samuel 16.1-13 | Ps 23 | Ephesians 5.8-14 | John 9.1-41 |
| 22-Mar | Lent 5 | Ezekiel 37.1-14 | Ps 130 | Romans 8.6-11 | John 11.1-45 |

PARISH DIRECTORY

| | |
|---------|---|
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| Email | office@stjohndivine.org.au |
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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

| | | 2nd Sunday in Lent | |
|-----|-------|--------------------------------------|---|
| Sun | 1-Mar | 9:00 am | Said/Sung Eucharist COMBINED SERVICE followed by Safe Ministry Training |
| Mon | 2-Mar | 10:30 am | <i>Al Anon (fellowship room)</i> |
| Tue | 3-Mar | 11:00 am | Aged Care service: Tarralla Blue Cross |
| | | 5:30 pm | Community meal: TDRM |
| | | 7:30 pm | <i>A.A. meeting (fellowship room)</i> |
| Wed | 4-Mar | 10:00 am | Said Eucharist |
| | | 12:00 pm | Mother's Union meeting |
| | | 5:15 pm | <i>Community meal: Winter Shelter</i> |
| | | 7:00 pm | <i>N.A. meeting (fellowship room)</i> |
| Thu | 5-Mar | 10.00 am | Lenten Studies |
| | | 7:00 pm | Lenten Studies |
| Fri | 6-Mar | | |
| Sat | 7-Mar | 7:00 am | <i>A.A. meeting (fellowship room)</i> |
| | | 3rd Sunday in Lent | |
| Sun | 8-Mar | 8:00 am | Said Eucharist |
| | | 10:00 am | Said/Sung Eucharist |

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