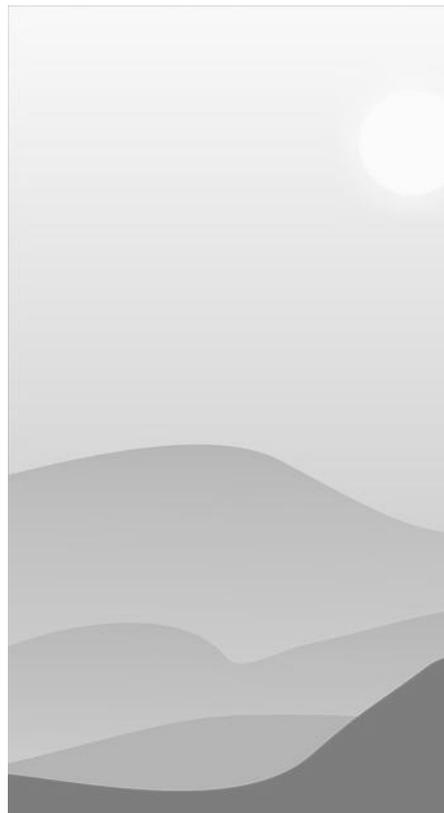




*S*<sup>t</sup> HELEN'S CHURCH  
ABINGDON-ON-THAMES

# The First Sunday Eucharist In Lent



## The Preparation

*After the welcome and before the Eucharist begins the President invites the congregation to prepare by an act of penitence.*

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. Let us confess our sins remembering before God the times when we have fallen from temptation into sin.

Lord Jesus Christ, we confess the ways in which we have failed to be the people you want us to be.

We confess to you our selfishness and lack of love:

*All* **Lord, forgive us.**

We confess to you our fear and failure in sharing our faith:

*All* **Lord, forgive us.**

We confess to you our stubbornness and lack of trust:

*All* **Lord, forgive us.**

*The choir leads the congregation in singing:*

<b>Lord, have mercy [on us]</b>	<b>or</b>	<b><i>Kyrie Eleison</i></b>
<b>Christ, have mercy [on us]</b>		<b><i>Christe Eleison</i></b>
<b>Lord, have mercy [on us]</b>		<b><i>Kyrie Eleison</i></b>

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

# The Holy Eucharist

## The Entrance

*All stand as the President, ministers and choir enter. Hymn numbers for the service can be found in the newsletter and on the hymn boards.*

## The Opening Hymn

## The Collect of the Day

*The president invites the people to pray silently, saying*  
Let us Pray

*The president then says the special prayer for the day*

*All*    **Amen.**

## The Liturgy of the Word

*All sit.*

## The First Reading

*At the end*

For the gift of the word

*All*    **Thanks be to God.**

*All stand.*

## The Gradual Hymn

*All remain standing for*

## **The Holy Gospel**

*A cantor introduces the acclamation.*

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

The Lord is a great God, O that today you would listen to his voice. Harden not your hearts.

**All Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

*When the Gospel is announced all reply: **Glory to you, O Lord.***

*Then afterward: **Praise to you, O Christ.***

*All sit.*

## **The Sermon**

### **The Apostles' Creed**

Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess the faith of the Church;

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

**All I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

**All I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

*All*    **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 Intercessions**

*Please stand, kneel or sit as directed.*

## **Thanksgiving for the Gift of a Child and/or Baptismal Welcome** (see pages 10-11)

*All stand.*

## **The Peace**

Since we are justified by faith,  
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who has given us access to his grace.  
The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*All*    **And also with you.**

*A suitable sign of the peace is shared by all. All remain standing.*

## **The Offertory Hymn**

## **The Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you  
*All*    **and also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.  
*All*    **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*All*    **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Lord of all life, you created the universe,  
where all living things reflect your glory.  
You give us this great and beautiful earth,  
to discover and to cherish.

You give us your love,  
even when things go wrong.  
Jesus knew hurt and pain.  
Through him you wipe away our tears,  
and fill us with your peace.

And now we give you thanks  
because you give us the spirit of discipline,  
that we may triumph over evil and grow in grace,  
as we prepare to celebrate the paschal mystery  
with mind and heart renewed.

Therefore, we join with the angels and sing your praise:

*All* **Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

We thank you, loving Father,  
because, when we turned away,  
you sent Jesus, your Son.  
He gave his life for us on the cross  
and shows us the way to live.

Send your Holy Spirit  
that these gifts of bread and wine  
may be for us Christ's body and his blood.

On the night before he died,  
when darkness had fallen,  
Jesus took bread.  
He gave thanks, broke it,  
and shared it with his disciples, saying:  
'This is my body, given for you.  
Do this to remember me.'

After they had eaten, he took the cup of wine,  
gave thanks, and shared it with his disciples, saying:  
'This is my blood, poured out for you and for many,  
for the forgiveness of sins.'

So Father, with this bread and this cup  
we celebrate his love, his death, his risen life.  
As you feed us with these gifts,  
send your Holy Spirit,  
and change us more and more  
to be like Jesus our Saviour.

Help us, Father, to love one another,  
as we look forward to that day  
when suffering is ended,  
and all creation is gathered in your loving arms.

And now with [N and] all your saints  
we give you glory, through Jesus Christ,  
in the strength of the Spirit,  
today and for ever.

*All* **Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray as Jesus taught us

**All** 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.  
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and forever.  
Amen.

## The Breaking of the Bread

We who are many are one body,  
**All** because we all share in one bread.

*The choir sings or leads the congregation in singing*

Lamb of God, you take	(or)
away the sin of the world,	Jesus, Lamb of God,
have mercy on us.	have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take	Jesus, bearer of our sins,
away the sin of the world,	have mercy on us.
have mercy on us.	Jesus, redeemer of the
Lamb of God, you take	world, grant us peace.
away the sin of the world,	
grant us peace.	

OR

*Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi miserere nobis*  
*Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi miserere nobis*  
*Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata dona nobis pacem*

*Then the President invites the congregation to come forward to receive either the Sacrament or a blessing saying,*

God's holy Gifts for God's holy people.

## **The Communion**

*While the choir sings an anthem the congregation is directed to the altar rail by the sidespeople.*

## **The Post-Communion Hymn**

### **Post-Communion Prayer**

Faithful God, may we who share this banquet  
glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
*All* **our salvation, life and hope,**  
**who reigns as Lord now and for ever. Amen.**

## **The Blessing**

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness,  
to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him;  
And the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.  
*All* **Amen.**

*All sit for the Notices.*

## **The Dismissal**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
*All* **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

*The President, other ministers and choir depart while an organ postlude is played.*



## **THANKSGIVING for the GIFT of a CHILD**

*Parents with their children gather at the altar rail. The President or other minister begins:*

We gather today with parents as they give thanks for *their children*, and to support them in their responsibilities toward those whom they have brought into the world. God became one of us in Jesus, and understands all that surrounds the arrival and upbringing of children. It is God's purpose that children should know love within the stability of their home, grow in faith, and come at last to the eternal city where his love reigns.

*The President/minister says:*

Loving God,  
you hold all things in life  
and call us into your kingdom of peace;  
help us to walk the path of your truth  
and fill our lives with gratitude and faith;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

*The minister says to each group of parents:*

Do you receive this child as a gift from God?

*The parents reply:*

**We/I do.**

Do you wish to give thanks to God and to seek his blessing?

**We/I do.**

What name have you given this child?

**His/her name is N.**

*The President/minister places a hand on the child and says:*

Heavenly Father, we praise you for *N's* birth,  
surround *him/her* with your blessing  
that *he/she* may know your love,  
be protected from evil,  
and know your goodness all *his/her* days.

**All** May *he/she/they* learn to love all that is true,  
grow in wisdom and strength,  
and, in due time, come through faith and baptism  
to the fullness of your grace;  
through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

### ***The Giving of the Gospel***

*As a Bible is given to the family, the minister says:*

Receive this Bible. Hear God's word with us.  
Learn and tell its stories. Rejoice in its Good News.  
Discover its mysteries. Honour its commandments.  
May God's life-giving word be to you sweeter than honey,  
and may it lead you in the way of Christ.

**All** Amen.

## **WELCOME to THOSE RECENTLY BAPTISED**

*Families of those recently baptised come to the front of the church. Each receives a lighted candle and is given the Certificate of Baptism.*

Receive this light. This is to show that you have passed from darkness to light.

**All:** Shine as a light in the world to the glory of God the Father.  
God has received you by baptism into his Church.

**All:** We welcome you into the Lord's family. We are members together of the body of Christ; we are children of the same heavenly Father; we are inheritors together of the kingdom of God, we welcome you.

***Please leave this booklet in church to be used again. Thank you.***

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