

ALL SAINTS' MARGARET STREET

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD



SOLEMN HIGH MASS

6.30pm | Thursday, 14th May | 2026

*Welcome to All Saints', Margaret Street.
Thank you to Fr Graham Buckle, Vicar of St Stephen with St John,
Rochester Row, Westminster, for preaching for us tonight.
Please join us for refreshments in the Parish Bar after the Mass.*



*Collection is taken at the card reader at the back of church,
or using this QR code. Thank you for your support.*

MASS SETTING MISSA BREVIS

Neil Cox, b.1955

§ *All stand at the bell.*

SEE the Conqueror mounts in triumph,
See the King in royal state
Riding on the clouds his chariot
To his heavenly palace gate;
Hark! the choirs of angel voices
Joyful alleluyas sing,
And the portals high are lifted
To receive their heavenly King.
Who is this that comes in glory,
With the trump of jubilee?
Lord of battles, God of armies,
He has gained the victory;
He who on the cross did suffer,
He who from the grave arose,
He has vanquished sin and Satan,
He by death has spoiled his foes.

Thou hast raised our human nature
In the clouds to God's right hand;
There we sit in heavenly places,
There with thee in glory stand;
Jesus reigns, adored by angels;
Man with God is on the throne;
Mighty Lord, in thine ascension
We by faith behold our own.

Glory be to God the Father; Glory be to God the Son,
Dying, risen, ascending for us,
Who the heavenly realm has won;
Glory to the Holy Spirit; to One God in Persons Three;
Glory both in earth and heaven,
Glory, endless glory be. Amen.

REX GLORIAE

Henry Smart, 1813-1879

Christopher Wordsworth, 1807-1885

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens? Alleluia; this Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven will return as you saw him go, alleluia. Acts 1.11

§ *All respond with the words in bold.*

In the name of the ✠ Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you. **And with thy Spirit.**

§ *The celebrant invites the faithful to repent of their sins.*

PENITENTIAL ACT

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, **we have sinned against thee and against our neighbour, in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are heartily sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may serve thee in newness of life to the glory of thy name. Amen.**

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. Amen.

Kyrie eleison; Christe eleison; Kyrie eleison.

§ *Once the celebrant has intoned the Gloria, all sit.*

Glory be to God on high, and in earth peace, good will towards men. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father almighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesu Christ: O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

§ *All stand.*

THE COLLECT

Grant, we beseech thee, almighty God, that like as we do believe thy only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ to have ascended into the heavens; so we may also in heart and mind thither ascend and with him continually dwell, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

§ *All sit.*

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING *Acts 1.1-11*

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen.

After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. “This,” he said, “is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY 47

*Clap your hands together, all ye people: O sing unto God with the voice of melody.
For the Lord is high, and to be feared: he is the great King upon all the earth.
He shall subdue the people under us: and the nations under our feet.
He shall choose out an heritage for us: even the worship of Jacob, whom he loved.
God is gone up with a merry noise: and the Lord with the sound of the trump.
O sing praises, sing praises unto our God: O sing praises, sing praises unto our King.
For God is the King of all the earth: sing ye praises with understanding.
God reigneth over the heathen: God sitteth upon his holy seat.
The princes of the people are joined unto the people of the God of Abraham: for God,
which is very high exalted, doth defend the earth, as it were with a shield.*

SECOND READING *Ephesians 1.15-23*

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

§ *All stand.*

THE HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 24.44-53*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

God is gone up with a merry noise: and the Lord with the sound of the trumpet.

Psalm 47

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Then Jesus said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.” Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to thee, O Christ.

§ *All sit.*

HOMILY *Fr Graham Buckle*

Vicar, St Stephen with St John, Rochester Row

§ *All stand.*

THE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heav’n and earth, of all things visible and invisible: And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heav’n, *and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man,*

and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried, and the third day he rose again according to the scriptures, and ascended into heav'n, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead: whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord, the Giver of life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spake by the prophets. And I believe one holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins. And I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Lord, hear us. Lord, graciously hear us.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now, and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

THE PEACE

Then came Jesus and stood in the midst of his disciples and saith unto them, Peace be unto you. Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the Lord.

The peace of the risen Christ be always with you.

And with thy spirit.

§ *All sit.*

OFFERTORY MOTET ASCENDIT DEUS

Peter Philips, 1560-1628

Ascendit Deus in jubilatione, et Dominus in voce tubae. Alleluia.

Dominus in caelo paravit sedem suam. Alleluia.

Psalm 47

§ *All stand.*

Pray, my brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God the almighty Father.

May the Lord accept the sacrifice at thy hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his holy Church.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Accept, O Lord, we pray thee, the oblations which, in remembrance of the glorious Ascension of thy Son, we do offer unto thee: and mercifully grant that we, being delivered from all perils in this life present, may attain in the end unto life everlasting; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you. **And with thy spirit.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God. **It is meet and right so to do.**

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts, Heaven and earth are full of thy glory, Glory be to thee, O Lord most high. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

§ *All kneel.*

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again

§ *The canon concludes:*

O Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen.**

THE COMMUNION RITE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

AGNUS DEI

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. [x2]

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

§ *As the choir sings the Agnus, the celebrant shows the consecrated host to the people:*

Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. Blessed are those who are called to the Supper of the Lamb.

**Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldst come under my roof,
but speak the word only and my soul shall be healed.**

§ *Anyone baptized in the name of the Trinity may receive Holy Communion.*

It is distributed both at the High Altar and at the Lady Altar in the North Aisle.

Low gluten Hosts are available at the latter, which is also step-free.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age, alleluia.

St Matthew 28.20

§ *All kneel or sit to sing:*

**ALLELUYA, sing to Jesus,
His the sceptre, his the throne;
Alleluya, his the triumph,
His the victory alone:
Hark the songs of peaceful Sion
Thunder like a mighty flood;
Jesus out of every nation,
Hath redeemed us by his blood.**

**Alleluya, not as orphans
Are we left in sorrow now;
Alleluya, he is near us,
Faith believes, nor questions how;
Though the cloud from sight received him
When the forty days were o'er,
Shall our hearts forget his promise,
'I am with you evermore'?**

Alleluya, Bread of Angels,
Thou on earth our food, our stay;
Alleluya, here the sinful
Flee to thee from day to day;
Intercessor, Friend of sinners,
Earth's Redeemer, plead for me,
Where the songs of all the sinless
Sweep across the crystal sea.

Alleluya, King eternal,
Thee the Lord of lords we own;
Alleluya, born of Mary,
Earth thy footstool, heaven thy throne:
Thou within the veil hast entered,
Robed in flesh, our great High Priest;
Thou on earth both Priest and Victim
In the Eucharistic Feast.

W. Chatterton Dix, 1837-1898

HYFRYDOL

Richard Huw Pritchard, 1811-1887

§ *All stand.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O God our Father, who in Christ hast raised up our humanity and fed us with the bread of heaven: mercifully grant that, nourished with such spiritual blessings, we may set our hearts in the heavenly places; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

BLESSING & DISMISSAL

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

§ *All bow down for the blessing.*

May almighty God bless you, for on this very day his Only Begotten Son pierced the heights of heaven and unlocked for you the way to ascend to where he is. **Amen.**

May he grant that, as Christ after his Resurrection was seen plainly by his disciples, so when he comes as Judge he may show himself merciful to you for all eternity. **Amen.**

And may you, who believe he is seated with the Father in his majesty, know with joy the fulfillment of his promise to stay with you until the end of time. **Amen.**

And may the blessing of God Almighty, the ☩ Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, come down upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

§ *All sing.*

**HAIL the day that sees him rise Alleluya!
Glorious to his native skies; Alleluya!
Christ, awhile to mortals given, Alleluya!
Enters now the highest heaven! Alleluya!**

**There the glorious triumph waits; Alleluya!,
Lift your heads, eternal gates! Alleluya!
Christ hath vanquished death and sin; Alleluya!
Take the King of glory in. Alleluya!**

**Lord, though parted from our sight, Alleluya!
Far above yon azure height, Alleluya!
Grant our hearts may thither rise, Alleluya!
Seeking thee beyond the skies. Alleluya!**

**There we shall with thee remain, Alleluya!
Partners of thine endless reign; Alleluya!
There thy face unclouded see, Alleluya!
Find our heaven of heavens in thee. Alleluya!**

Charles Wesley, 1707-1788 and Thomas Cotterill, 1779-1823

LLANFAIR

Robert Williams of Anglesey, 1781-1821

ORGAN VOLUNTARY PRELUDE IN C

J.S. Bach, 1685-1750