

# Ash Wednesday Mass



*"Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a  
new and right spirit within me."*

*Psalm 51:10*

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2025

## **ENTRANCE HYMN**

Longing for light, we wait in darkness  
Longing for truth, we turn to You.  
Make us Your own, Your holy people  
Light for the world to see.

**Christ, be our light!**  
**Shine in our hearts.**  
**Shine through the darkness.**  
**Christ, be our light!**  
**Shine in Your church gathered today.**

Longing for peace, our world is troubled  
Longing for hope, many despair.  
Your word alone has pow'r to save us.  
Make us your living voice.

Longing for food, many are hungry  
Longing for water, many still thirst.  
Make us Your bread, broken for others  
Shared until all are fed.

Longing for shelter, many are homeless  
Longing for warmth, many are cold.  
Make us Your building, sheltering others  
Walls made of living stone.

Many the gifts, many the people  
Many the hearts that yearn to belong.  
Let us be servants to one another  
Making Your kingdom come.

## **INTRODUCTORY RITES**

*Welcome and introduction to the mass by Father Riq,*

Priest: *In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit*

**All: Amen.**

Priest: *The Lord be with you*

**All: And with your spirit**

## Introduction –

Today we come together for our Ash Wednesday mass and mark the beginning of our Lenten journey. On this most holy day, the sign of the cross is marked on our foreheads with ash to remind us of the suffering of Jesus.

During Lent we make a spiritual journey and take time to say sorry to God for our sins, doing all that we can to grow closer to Him.

During this most holy and sacred time of year, we ask to be forgiven for the times we have turned our backs on God. We offer up our hearts to Him and ask that he guides us on our spiritual journey as we remember the suffering of his Son, Jesus Christ.



We offer up a candle and ask that you help us to remember that Jesus the Light of the World is always with us, offering us a light to guide our way.

We offer up a crown of thorns and ask that each time we see it, you help us to remember the suffering of your Son, Jesus Christ.

We offer our Lenten Promises and ask God to help us on our journey.

## COLLECT

Loving and compassionate God,  
teach us to show love and mercy to each other.

As we begin our journey through Lent, inspire us to be generous and kind.

Through our joy, patience and kindness, may we help to build a better world.

*Amen.*

## First Reading from Joel 2: 12-14

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Joel

“Turn to me now,” says the Lord,  
“Give me your hearts. Come with fasting, weeping, and mourning. Let your broken heart show your sorrow; tearing your clothes is not enough. Come back to the Lord your God.  
He is kind and full of mercy;  
He is patient and keeps his promise;  
He is always ready to forgive and not punish.”

The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

I will come to you in the silence  
I will lift you from all your fear  
You will hear My voice  
I claim you as My choice  
Be still, and know I am near

I am hope for all who are hopeless  
I am eyes for all who long to see  
In the shadows of the night,  
I will be your light  
Come and rest in Me

Do not be afraid, I am with you  
I have called you each by name  
Come and follow Me  
I will bring you home  
I love you and you are mine

I am strength for all the despairing  
Healing for the ones who dwell in  
shame All the blind will see, the lame  
will all run free  
And all will know My name

Do not be afraid, I am with you  
I have called you each by name  
Come and follow Me  
I will bring you home  
I love you and you are mine

I am the Word that leads all to  
freedom  
I am the peace the world cannot give  
I will call your name, embracing all  
your pain  
Stand up, now, walk, and live

Do not be afraid, I am with you  
I have called you each by name  
Come and follow Me  
I will bring you home  
I love you and you are mine

## Second Reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians 5:20 - 6:2

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

"Here we are then, speaking for Christ, as though God himself were making his appeal through us. We plead on Christ's behalf: let God change you from enemies into his friends! Christ was without sin, but for our sake God made him share our sin in order that in union with him we might share the righteousness of God.

In our work together with God then, we ask you who have received God's grace not to let it be wasted. Hear what God says:

'When the time came for me to show you favour, I heard you;  
when the day arrived for me to save you, I helped you.'

Listen! This is the hour to receive God's favour; today is the day to be saved!"

The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Come and join the circle,  
come and take my hand.  
Come and join the circle,  
come and be my friend.  
Gather round and see  
what the world can be.  
Come and join the circle,  
come and share God's word with me.

### THE GOSPEL

*Priest: The Lord be with you.*

**All: And with your spirit**

Priest: A reading from the holy Gospel according to *(Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18)*

**All: Glory to you, Lord.**

Jesus said to his disciples, "Make certain you do not perform your religious duties in public so that people will see what you do. If you do these things publicly, you will not have any reward from your Father in heaven.

"So when you give something to a needy person, do not make a big show of it, as the hypocrites do in the houses of worship and on the streets. They do it so that people will praise them. I assure you, they have already been paid in full. But when you help a needy person, do it in such a way that even your closest friend will not know about it. Then it will be a private matter. And your Father, who sees what you do in private, will reward you.

**Priest:** *The Gospel of the Lord*

**All:** *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ*

**Silent reflection**

### **Blessing and distribution of Ashes**

**There is someone – led by children of St Teresa's School**

There is someone who knows me,  
Knows me by my name.  
There is someone who chose me,  
Chose me to proclaim.  
There is someone who loves me,  
Who loves us all the same. X 4



#### **O Lord, hear my prayer**

O Lord, hear my prayer  
O Lord, hear my prayer  
When I call, answer me

O Lord, hear my prayer  
O Lord, hear my prayer  
Come and listen to me

#### **Donna Nobis Pacem**

**Reflective music during distribution of ashes**

## THE PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

**Father Riq:** *God our Father, we come before you with all our needs, and we ask you to help us to love and forgive. We want to live in the Way of Jesus, and we ask for your help, as we pray.*

Heavenly Father, please guide Pope Francis and all Bishops and priests, especially Father Riq during Lent. Help them to guide us on our spiritual journey, as we seek forgiveness for our sins.

*Priest: Lord hear us*

**Response: Lord graciously hear us**

Heavenly Father, please take care of all our friends and family in heaven. May they watch over us and know how much they are loved and missed in our hearts.

*Priest: Lord hear us*

**Response: Lord graciously hear us**

Heavenly Father, please help us to pray for our parents and teachers. May they continue to teach us about your special messages and guide us to be kind and loving in all that we do.

*Priest: Lord hear us*

**Response: Lord graciously hear us**

Heavenly Father, we pray for our parish community. Please help them to grow closer to you during Lent and forgive others as you forgive us.

*Priest: Lord hear us*

**Response: Lord graciously hear us**

Heavenly Father, help us to listen to and respect all those in our school community. Bless each one of us and guide us to show compassion in our daily lives.

*Priest: Lord hear us*

**Response: Lord graciously hear us**

Heavenly Father, we pray for those people in war torn countries this Lent. Please shower your blessings upon them and give them the hope that they will find peace.

*Priest: Lord hear us*

**Response: Lord graciously hear us**

We ask Jesus' mother Mary to watch over us as we say

*Hail Mary, full of grace.  
The Lord is with thee.  
Blessed art thou among 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.*

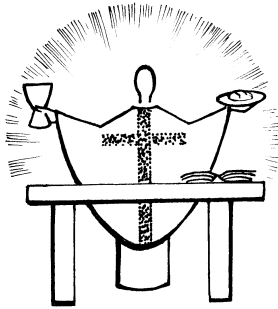
*Priest: Lord hear us*

**Response: Lord graciously hear us**

## **THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

### **Procession of the Gifts**

#### **Offertory Hymn**



Blest are you, Lord, God of all creation,  
thanks to your goodness this bread we offer:  
fruit of the earth, work of our hands,  
it will become the bread of life.

Blessed be God! Blessed be God!  
Blessed be God forever! Amen!  
Blessed be God! Blessed be God!  
Blessed be God forever! Amen!

Blest are you, Lord, God of all creation,  
thanks to your goodness this wine we offer:  
fruit of the earth, work of our hands,  
it will become the cup of life.

Blessed be God! Blessed be God!  
Blessed be God forever! Amen!  
Blessed be God! Blessed be God!  
Blessed be God forever! Amen!



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



## PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

### EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

*Priest: The Lord be with you.*

**All: And with your spirit**

*Priest: Lift up your hearts.*

**All: We lift them up to the Lord.**

*Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God*

**All: It is right and just.**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of hosts. 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.**

### THE MYSTERY OF FAITH

**We proclaim your Death, O Lord,**

**And profess your Resurrection until you come again.**

### COMMUNION RITE

#### OUR FATHER

**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.**

*Priest: Deliver us, Lord, from every evil, graciously grant us peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.*

**All: For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and forever,**

*Priest: Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your apostles:*

*Peace I leave you, my peace I give you; Look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will. Who live and reign for ever and ever.*

**All: Amen.**

*Priest: The peace of the Lord be with you always.*

**All: And with your spirit**

*Priest: Let us offer each other the sign of peace.*

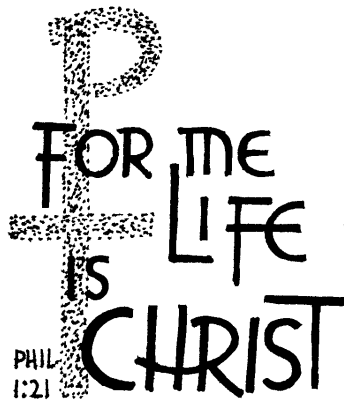
**All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
grant us peace.**

*Priest: Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world.  
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.*

**All: Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof but only say the word  
and my soul shall be healed.**



#### COMMUNION HYMN

##### Make me a channel of your peace

Make me a channel of your peace  
Where there is hatred let me bring your love  
Where there is injury, your pardon Lord  
And where there's doubt, true faith in you

Make me a channel of your peace  
Where there's despair in life let me bring hope  
Where there is darkness, only light  
And where there's sadness ever joy

Oh, master grant that I may never seek  
So much to be consoled as to console  
To be understood as to understand  
To be loved as to love with all my soul

Make me a channel of your peace  
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned  
In giving to all men that we receive  
And in dying that we're born to eternal life

Oh, master grant that I may never seek  
So much to be consoled as to console

To be understood as to understand  
To be loved as to love with all my soul

### **Be Still For The Presence of the Lord**

Be still for the presence of the Lord  
The Holy One is here  
Come bow before Him now  
With reverence and fear  
In Him no sin is found  
We stand on holy ground  
Be still for the presence of the Lord  
The Holy One is here

Be still for the glory of the Lord  
Is shining all around  
He burns with holy fire  
With splendour He is crowned  
How awesome is the sight  
Our radiant King of light  
Be still for the glory of the Lord  
Is shining all around

Be still for the power of the Lord  
Is moving in this place  
He comes to cleanse and heal  
To minister His grace  
No work too hard for Him  
In faith receive from Him  
Be still for the power of the Lord  
Is moving in this place

### **INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC – A TIME FOR QUIET REFLECTION AND PRAYER**



### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

May the Sacrament we have received sustain us, O Lord,  
that our Lenten fast may be pleasing to you  
and be for us a healing remedy.  
Through Christ Our Lord



### **CONCLUDING RITE**

*Priest: The Lord be with you.*

**All:**           **And with your spirit.**

*Priest: May the Lord, when he comes, find us watching and waiting.*

**All:**           **Amen.**

*Priest May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.*

**All:**           **Amen.**

*Priest: As we begin our spiritual Lenten journey, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.*

**All:**           **Thanks be to God.**

### **RECESSIONAL HYMN**

***Walk with me, oh my Lord,  
Through the darkest night and  
brightest day  
Be at my side, oh Lord,  
Hold my hand and guide me on my way.***

Sometimes the road seems long,  
My energy is spent.  
Then, Lord, I think of you

And I am given strength

Stones often bar my path,  
And there are times I fall,  
But you are always there  
To help me when I call.

Just as you calmed the wind  
And walked across the sea  
Conquer, my living Lord  
The storms that threaten me

Help me to pierce the mists  
That cloud my heart and mind,  
So that I shall not fear  
The steepest mountain-side.

As once you healed the lame  
And gave sight to the blind  
Help me when I'm downcast  
To hold my head up high



Thank you for coming to share such a sacred mass with us today. Thank you to the Mini

Vinnies for leading us in our mass.

As we begin our Lenten Journey, let us remember God's precious Son and the sacrifices He  
made for us all.

Let us ask God to guide us to be more giving in our daily lives.