



# Christ Church

St Leonards on Sea



**The Solemnity of St George**

*Patron of England*

**Sung Mass**

**1030am**

**21<sup>st</sup> April 2024**

**Welcome to Christ Church. You are very welcome to join us for our worship, and to stay afterwards for refreshments. This morning we are pleased to welcome members of the 9th Hastings (Christ Church) Scout Group for their church parade.** *Children and families are very welcome here: our Sunday School meets at the back of Church and there is also a 'Play & Pray' space with books and toys in the South Aisle, for young children and their parents to use at any point during Mass.*

*Toilets are available at the back of church and in the crypt, accessed via the stairs at the end of the South Aisle.*

*Please follow the directions to sit, stand or kneel in italics and join with the words in **bold**. At the Giving of Holy Communion, if you are confirmed, please come forward to receive Communion via the main aisle following the directions of the sidesmen. Everyone is very welcome to come forward for a blessing: if you would like one, please bow your head.*

*Holy Communion is offered at the communion rail in both forms. Please kneel, unless you are unable. The Host is received on the tongue, or if preferred, on the hands. If you do not wish to receive from the Chalice, you can return to your seat after receiving the Host.*

*If you would like to join our mailing list and keep up to date with our upcoming services and events, email [christchurchmailing@gmail.com](mailto:christchurchmailing@gmail.com).*

***'Talk to God before Mass, and each other afterwards!'***

Please remember that people are trying to pray before Mass, so keep silence as much as possible and don't disturb those at prayer.

Please also remember that the time after receiving Holy Communion is for quiet prayer and contemplation – not to have conversations.

*Mass Setting - English Plainsong*

*Please stand when the bell rings for the entrance of the sanctuary party*

**Entrance Hymn**

**1 He who would valiant be  
'Gainst all disaster,  
Let him in constancy  
Follow the Master.  
There's no discouragement  
Shall make him once relent  
His first avowed intent  
To be a pilgrim.**

**2 Who so beset him round  
With dismal stories,  
Do but themselves confound--  
His strength the more is.  
No foes shall stay his might,  
Though he with giants fight:  
He will make good his right  
To be a pilgrim.**

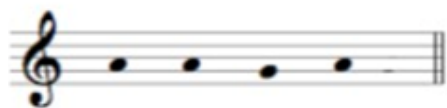
**3 Since, Lord, thou dost defend  
Us with thy Spirit,  
We know we at the end  
Shall life inherit.  
Then fancies flee away!  
I'll fear not what men say,  
I'll labour night and day  
To be a pilgrim**

+ In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit



**A-men.**

The Lord be with you.



**And also with you.**

*The priest introduces the Mass.*

## **The Penitential Rite: The Asperges**

Dear brothers and sisters let us humbly beseech the Lord our God to bless this water he has created, which will be sprinkled on us as a memorial of our Baptism. May he help us by his grace to remain faithful to the Spirit we have received.

*All pray in silence briefly. The Priest then continues:*

Almighty ever-living God, who willed that through water, the fountain of life and the source of purification, even souls should be cleansed and receive the gift of eternal life; be pleased, we pray, to bless this water, by which we seek protection on this your day, O Lord. Renew the living spring of your grace within us and grant that by this water we may be defended from all ills of spirit and body, and so approach you with hearts made clean and worthily receive salvation. Through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

*While the Choir sings the Vidi Aquam, the Priest sprinkles himself and the people, as a reminder of our cleansing in body and soul at baptism.*

May almighty God cleanse us of our sins, and through the celebration of this Eucharist make us worthy to share at the table of his kingdom.  
**Amen.**

*The choir leads **The Gloria** - Lourdes Gloria*

**R/. Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo**

*The priest sings the Collect:*

God of hosts,  
who so kindled the fire of charity  
in the heart of Saint George your martyr,  
that he bore witness to the risen Lord  
both by his life and by his death;  
grant us through his intercession, we pray,  
the same faith and power of love,  
that we who rejoice in his triumph  
may be led to share with him  
in the fullness of the resurrection.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

## **THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

*Revelation 12.10-12; Romans 5:1-5; John 15:1-8*

*Please sit*

**First Reading** A reading from the Revelation to St John

This is the word of the Lord      **Thanks be to God**

**Psalm 23 /R.** The Lord is my Shepherd, there is nothing I shall want

**Second Reading** A reading from the Letter to the Romans

This is the word of the Lord      **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation.*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

*Please turn to face the Gospel, proclaimed from the midst of the people*

The Lord be with you **And also with you.**

Hear the Gospel (+) of Our Lord Jesus Christ (+) according to John (+)

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**The Gospel**

This is the Gospel of the Lord **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

**Children's Presentation on St George.**

*(To the tune of Head and Shoulders, Knees & Toes)*

**There's a dragon we all know, we all know  
He was heard of long ago, long ago  
But he was hunted down by brave St George  
Destroying all our cares and woes, cares and woes**

**George slayed the dragon on that day, on that day  
Saving the village from affray, from affray  
Now we can all live in peace and play  
Now all our dragons have gone away, gone away.**

**The Creed – *please stand.***

**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, *(all bow)*  
*was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and was made man.***

**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.**

*Please remain standing for* **The Intercessions**

*After each petition:* Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer.**

*As we pray for the dead:* Rest eternal, grant unto them O Lord,  
**and let light perpetual shine upon them.**

*After the final petition we entrust all our prayer and petitions to the unceasing prayers of the Saints in heaven, especially to the Blessed Virgin Mary who we greet saying:*

**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.**

*The priest concludes the prayer, and all respond: **Amen***



## THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

*Please sit for the offertory hymn as bread and wine are brought forward by the people, for the preparation of the altar. During this hymn a collection is taken towards the costs of Christ Church's ministries – if you don't have cash, there is a contactless reader by the entrance.*

*Please stand when the congregation is censed by the thurifer.*

### Offertory Hymn

1. Just as I am, without one plea  
But that thy blood was shed for me,  
And that thou bidd'st come to thee,  
O Lamb of God, I come.
2. Just as I am, though tossed about  
With many a conflict, many a  
doubt,  
Fightings within, and fears  
without,  
O Lamb of God, I come.
3. Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;  
Sight, riches, healing of the mind,  
Yea all I need, in thee to find,  
O Lamb of God, I come.
4. Just as I am, thou wilt receive,  
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse,  
relieve:  
Because thy promise I believe,  
O Lamb of God, I come.
5. Just as I am (thy love unknown  
Has broken every barrier down),  
Now to be thine, yea thine alone,  
O Lamb of God, I come.
6. Just as I am, of that free love  
The breadth, length, depth and  
height to prove,  
Here for a season then above,  
O Lamb of God, I come.

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

**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.**

*The priest offers the Prayer over the Gifts, and all respond. Amen.*

## Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you                      **And also with you**  
Lift up your hearts                      **We lift them up to the Lord**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God  
**It is right to give Him thanks and praise**

*The priest continues with the Opening (Preface) of the Prayer of Thanksgiving at the end of which the choir leads the **Sanctus***

***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.***

*Please kneel as the priest continues the Prayer of Thanksgiving.  
He first invokes the Holy Spirit to sanctify the offerings of bread and wine.  
He then recalls the Lord's actions the night before he died. A bell is rung as the Priest elevates the consecrated Host and Chalice. He then says:*

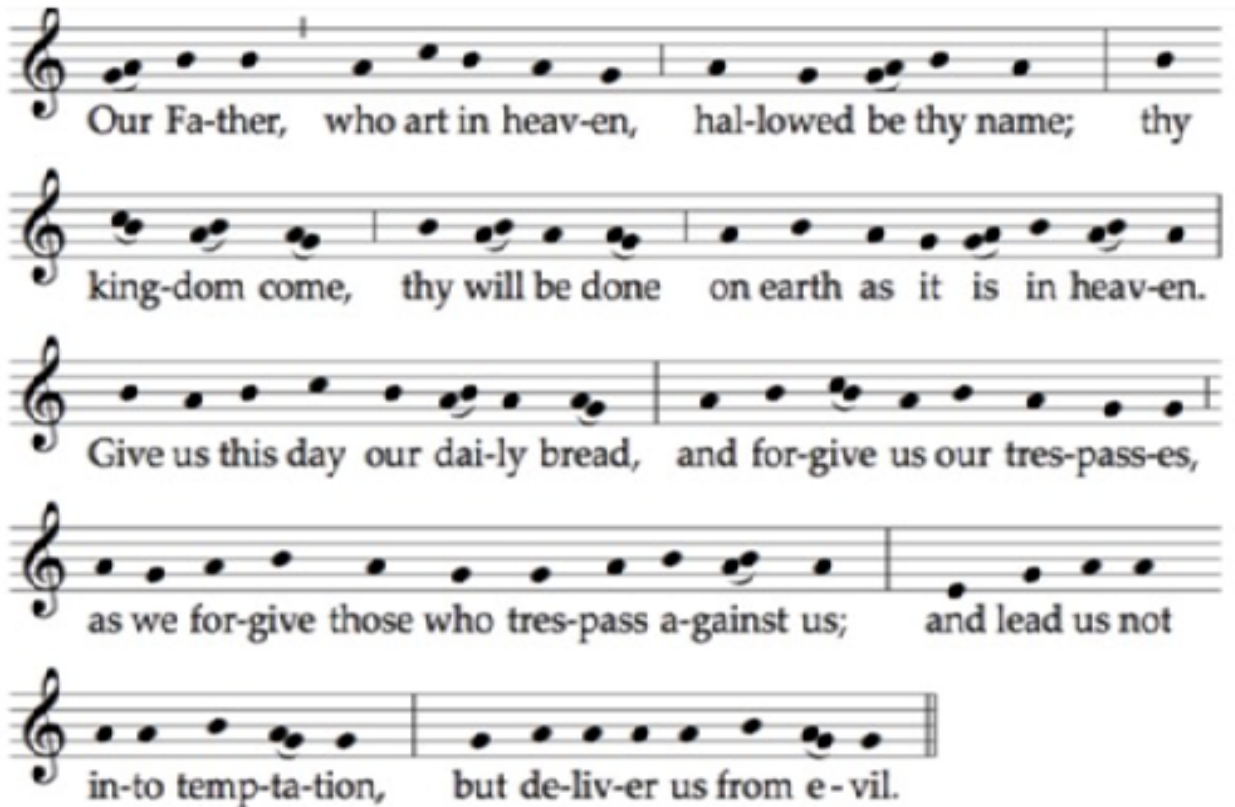
Great is the mystery of faith.  
**Christ has died, Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

*The priest continues with the Eucharistic Prayer. At the end, all respond:*



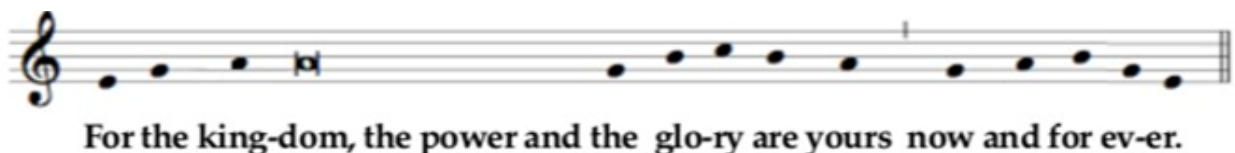
**A-men.**

## The Lord's Prayer - *please stand*



Our Fa-ther, who art in heav-en, hal-lowed be thy name; thy  
king-dom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heav-en.  
Give us this day our dai-ly bread, and for-give us our tres-pass-es,  
as we for-give those who tres-pass a-gainst us; and lead us not  
in-to temp-ta-tion, but de-liv-er us from e-vil.

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil,  
graciously grant 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.



For the king-dom, the power and the glo-ry are yours now and for ev-er.

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.



A-men.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.



**And also with you.**

Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

*All share a sign of peace with those near them.*

*As the bread is broken, the choir lead the **Agnus Dei***

*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.*

### **Giving of Communion**

*Please kneel as the priest shows the Body of Christ*

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.

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

*As the priest receives Holy Communion, a bell is rung & the people come forward. If you are confirmed, please come forward to receive Communion via the main aisle, following the directions of the sidesmen.*

*All are welcome to come forward for a blessing: if you would like one, please bow your head.*

*Holy Communion is offered in both forms at the Communion Rail. Please kneel, unless you are unable. The Host is received on the tongue, or if preferred, on the hands. If you don't wish to receive from the Chalice, you can return to your seat after receiving the Host. Intinction ('dipping' the Host in the Chalice) is not permitted.*

*As you prepare to receive the Body & Blood of Christ, you may like to use the following prayer:*

We do not presume to come to this 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 our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

*During the receiving of Holy Communion, the Choir sing an **Anthem***

### **Communion Hymn**

**1. Dear Lord and Father of  
mankind,  
Forgive our foolish ways!  
Re-clothe us in our rightful mind,  
In purer lives thy service find,  
In deeper reverence praise.**

**2. In simple trust like theirs who  
heard,  
Beside the Syrian sea  
The gracious calling of the Lord,  
Let us, like them, without a word  
Rise up and follow thee.**

**3. O Sabbath rest by Galilee!  
O calm of hills above,  
Where Jesus knelt to share with  
thee  
The silence of eternity,  
Interpreted by love!**

**4. Drop thy still dews of quietness,  
Till all our strivings cease;  
Take from our souls the strain and  
stress,  
And let our ordered lives confess  
The beauty of thy peace.**

**5. Breathe through the heats of our desire  
Thy coolness and thy balm;  
Let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;  
Speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire,  
O still small voice of calm!**

*There is a time of silent prayer.*

*You may like to use the following prayer having received Holy Communion:*

Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

*Please stand.*

*The priest sings the **Prayer after Communion***

Rejoicing on this festival day, O Lord,  
we have received your heavenly gifts;  
grant, we pray,  
that we who in this divine banquet  
proclaim the death of your Son  
may merit with Saint George to be partakers  
in his resurrection and glory.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

**Notices** – *please sit.*

**The Blessing and Dismissal** - *please stand*

The Lord be with you. **And also with you**  
May almighty God bless you, the Father and the Son + and the Holy  
Spirit. **Amen**

The Mass is ended. Go in the peace of Christ! **Thanks be to God!**

*On this day celebrating our National Patron, we sing the National Anthem, once the flagbearers have collected their flags. All facing the Altar we sing:*

**God Save our gracious King!  
Long live our noble King,  
God save the King!  
Send him victorious, happy and  
glorious,  
Long to reign over us,  
God save the King!**

**Thy choicest gifts in store  
On him be pleased to pour,  
Long may he reign!  
May he defend our laws,  
And ever give us cause  
To sing with heart and voice,  
God save the King!**

*As the Sanctuary party departs, all sing the* **Recessional Hymn**

**1. Love Divine, all loves  
excelling,  
Joy of heaven to earth come  
down,  
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,  
All thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesu, thou art all compassion,  
Pure unbounded love thou art;  
Visit us with thy salvation,  
Enter every trembling heart.**

**2. Come, almighty to deliver,  
Let us all thy life receive;  
Suddenly return, and never,  
Never more thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always  
blessing,  
Serve thee as thy hosts above,  
Pray, and praise thee, without  
ceasing,  
Glory in thy perfect love.**

**3. Finish then thy new creation,  
Pure and spotless let us be;  
Let us see thy great salvation,  
Perfectly restored in thee,  
Changed from glory into glory,  
Till in heaven we take our place,  
Till we cast our crowns before thee,  
Lost in wonder, love, and praise!**

## **The Regina Caeli**

*As the procession approaches the Image of Our Lady, all turn to focus on the Blessed Virgin as the Priest leads the singing of the **Regina Caeli***

**Joy to thee, O Queen of heaven, alleluia!  
He whom thou wast meet to bear, alleluia!  
As He promised hath arisen, alleluia!  
Pour for us to God thy prayer, alleluia!**

Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia!  
**For the Lord is risen indeed, alleluia!**

*Please stay and join us for refreshments at the back of church  
after Mass.*

*Please also take a copy of the 'Week Ahead' booklet which gives  
details of the times of worship this week at Christ Church, as  
well as upcoming events.*

*If you would like to join our mailing list and keep up to date with  
our upcoming services and events, please email  
[christchurchmailing@gmail.com](mailto:christchurchmailing@gmail.com)*