

Parish of Our Lady of Victories, Southwell, and Saint Anthony, Calverton



# Mass of Christmas Night

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> December 2020 : 11.00pm

Father Simon Gillespie

In order to comply with the Bishop's guidelines on celebrating Masses in the covid-19 period there'll be some differences in that way we come to Mass and the way Mass is celebrated. These were outlined to you when you book for Mass, and are detailed in the parish newsletter. Please take a few moments before Mass to remind yourself of these guidelines, and please follow these directions, recognise that those stewards asking you to follow the directions are volunteers themselves:

- ✘ Please don't attend if you show any symptoms of covid-19;
- ✘ Try to arrive no earlier than half an hour before Mass, and no later than ten minutes before Mass, to allow time for each person to enter one-by-one;
- ✘ Even if you arrive on foot, enter via the car park and follow the one-way signs, waiting by the 2 metre markers in front of the church door if others have arrived before you;
- ✘ Entry will be via the main door of the church;
- ✘ Ensure you bring a mask to wear throughout the time in church, except when receiving Holy Communion;
- ✘ Please use the hand-sanitiser (provided) on arrival;
- ✘ Please take one of these Mass Sheets, and a Newsletter, and take them home with you after Mass;
- ✘ Put your weekly offering into the basket in the narthex;
- ✘ There won't be any holy water available, the repository will be closed, and there are no Catholic papers currently available;
- ✘ Please sit on the seat to which you are directed, following the (marked) one-way system. Seating will be from the front of church first, and parishioners will be seated at two-metre intervals (in Southwell it might be possible to seat couples next to each other, and families in a single pew; in Calverton the chairs have been laid out singularly, and so each person, except for babes-in-arms, will be at a two-metre distance from the next person);
- ✘ Please avoid any contact with other parishioners; please don't speak before Mass unless necessary;
- ✘ Only the disabled toilet will be available for use, and only if absolutely necessary. If you do use the toilet, please do so before you are seated, and then go to your seat (in Southwell, by exiting the church hall lobby, walking around the side of the church, and re-entering the church through the main door, following the one-way system);
- ✘ Windows and doors will be open to enable as much ventilation as possible;
- ✘ During Mass there are some differences in the celebration, in particular:
  - o There will be no entrance procession;
  - o There will be no congregational singing;
  - o Responses will be made with quiet voices;
  - o There will be no ministries (eg altar servers, readers);
  - o There will be no sign of peace;
  - o Holy Communion will be distributed immediately following Mass;
- ✘ After Mass you will be invited to receive Holy Communion. If you are not receiving Holy Communion for whatever reason please simply follow the one-way system to leave church.
- ✘ Blessings will not be given to those not receiving Holy Communion since the entire congregation has been blessed only a few moments before.
- ✘ Whether receiving Holy Communion or not, please then leave the church following the one-way system, out into the car park (in Southwell, through the parish hall lobby) and please leave immediately.

*Before Mass will be heard carols sung by the children of Saint Philip Neri with Saint Bede Catholic Voluntary Academy, Mansfield: Maranatha; O come, O come Emmanuel; When is he coming; The angel Gabriel from heaven came; Stay awake be ready; No room at the inn; See him lying (Calypso carol); Kings from the east; Little drummer boy; Silent night (Polish and English); O come and join the dance.*

*As the start of Mass all STAND, and with Father Simon proclaim the entrance antiphon:*

**Let us all rejoice in the Lord, for our Saviour has been born in the world. Today true peace has come down to us from heaven.**

## Entrance Rites

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And with your spirit.**

Brothers and sisters, let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

**I confess to almighty God, and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.**

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

**Amen.**

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Glory to God in the highest,

**and on earth peace to people of good will.**

**We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you,**

**we give you thanks for your great glory,**

**Lord God, heavenly King,**

**O God, almighty Father.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,**

**Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,**

**you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;**

**you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;**

**you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,**

**you alone are the Lord,**

**you alone are the Most High,**

**Jesus Christ,**

**with the Holy Spirit,**

**in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

*At the end of the Collect all respond:*

... who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

*All SIT.*

## Liturgy of the Word

*The first reading is taken from the prophet Isaiah (9:1-7): A Son is given to us.*

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*The responsorial is taken from Psalm 95(96):1-3.11-13:*

**Today a saviour has been born to us: he is Christ the Lord.**

*The second reading is taken from the letter of Saint Paul to Titus (2:11-14): God's grace has been revealed to the whole human race.*

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*All STAND.*

*The Gospel Acclamation is sung by Father Simon alone.*

*The Gospel is taken from Saint Luke (2:1-14): 'In the town of David a saviour has been born to you.'*

The Lord be with you.  
**And with your spirit.**  
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end of the Gospel:*

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

*All SIT for the homily, preached by Father Simon.*

*All STAND as we proclaim our Profession of Faith:*

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.  
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

*On the solemnity of Christmas it is traditional to KNEEL during the following words, in honour of Jesus' incarnation:*

**and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day 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.

I 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 adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.  
I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*All SIT.*

## Liturgy of the Eucharist

*As the gifts are prepared all respond:*

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the bread we offer you: fruit of the earth and work of human hands, it will become for us the bread of life.

**Blessed be God forever.**

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the wine we offer you: fruit of the vine and work of human hands, it will become our spiritual drink.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

*After the altar and gifts have been prepared all STAND:*

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

*After the Prayer over the Offerings the Preface begins:*

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

*At the end of the Preface:*

**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 congregation is invited to SIT during the Eucharistic Prayer.*

*During the Eucharistic Prayer:*

The mystery of the Faith:  
**When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,  
we proclaim your Death, O Lord,  
until you come again.**

*At the end of the Eucharistic Prayer:*

Through him,  
and with him,  
and in him,  
O God, almighty Father,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory and honour is yours,  
for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

*All STAND.*

At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

**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.**

... and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.  
**For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.**

... Who live and reign for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**And with your spirit.**

**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.**

*All remain STANDING.*

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 Father Simon receives Holy Communion he elevates the Sacred Host:*

The Body of Christ.  
**Amen.**

*As Father Simon receives Holy Communion he elevates the Chalice:*

The Blood of Christ.  
**Amen.**

*The Communion antiphon is not proclaimed, and all SIT or remain STANDING for some moments of silent thanksgiving.*

*All STAND (or continue STANDING) for the Prayer after Communion:*

... for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

## Concluding Rites

The Lord be with you.  
**And with your spirit.**  
Bow down for the blessing.

... **Amen.**

And may the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you for ever.  
**Amen.**

Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God!**

## Rite for Receiving Holy Communion

*Once Father Simon has sanitised his hands and is in place, the member of the congregation closest to the statue of Our Lady (in Calverton) or to the sacristy door (in Southwell) comes to the sanctuary barrier, in front of Father Simon, to receive Holy Communion. That person, when in front of Father Simon, removes his or her face mask, extends his or her hands at full stretch, and receives the Sacred Host in silence. Having consumed the Sacred Host that person replaces his or her mask, and then continues out of church via the fire escape (Calverton) or the parish hall lobby and car-park door (Southwell). Please do not linger in the car park.*

*Once the first member of the congregation has left the church, the next person comes forward (the person to the left of the empty chair in Calverton; the person to the right in the pew in Southwell) and repeats the way of receiving Holy Communion. This continues until all who wish to receive Holy Communion have done so.*

*For those who do not wish or who are not able to receive Holy Communion, simply follow the route out of church, from the chair or pew, then in front of Father Simon, pausing to bow in reverence in front of the Blessed Sacrament, and then out of the church.*

*For those who have not been to confession recently, and who are conscious of their sinful unworthiness in coming for Holy Communion, the Church is mindful of the recent difficulties in seeking Confession. Provided a perfect Act of Contrition has been made before receiving Holy Communion, including the desire to seek sacramental confession as soon as possible, it is perfectly possible to receive Holy Communion. Please then contact Father Simon to arrange a time for the celebration of Confession.*

