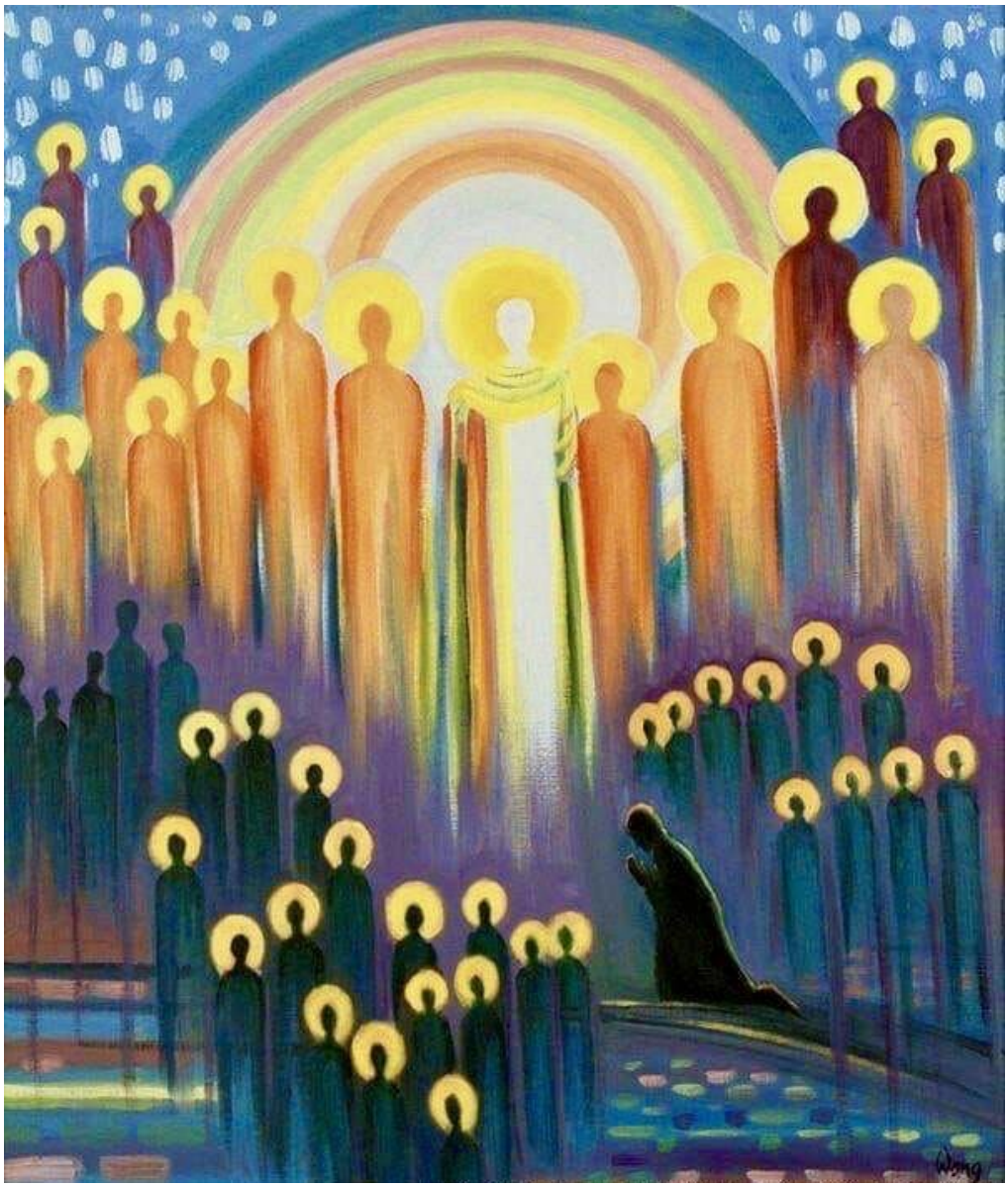
The Eucharist
for
Sundays of the Kingdom



The Parishes of
St Paul's Clifton and Cotham

The Sundays from All Saints Day through to Advent are a mini-season in the Church Year that focus on the promise of God's Kingdom and the inspiration of those who have trodden the path of faith before us.

"No Christian is solitary. Through baptism we become members one of another in Christ, members of a company of saints whose mutual belonging transcends death:
All Saints' Day and the Commemoration of the Faithful Departed on All Souls' Day both celebrate this mutual belonging.

All Saints' Day celebrates men and women in whose lives the Church as a whole has seen the grace of God powerfully at work. It is an opportunity to give thanks for that grace, and for the wonderful ends to which it shapes a human life; it is a time to be encouraged by the example of the saints and to recall that sanctity may grow in the ordinary circumstances, as well as the extraordinary crises, of human living.

The Commemoration of the Faithful Departed celebrates the saints in a more local and intimate key. It allows us to remember with thanksgiving before God those whom we have known more directly: those who gave us life, or who nurtured us in faith.

Remembrance Sunday goes on to explore the theme of memory, both corporate and individual, as we confront issues of war and peace, loss and self-gift, memory and forgetting.

The annual cycle of the Church's year ends with the Feast of Christ the King. The year that begins with the hope of the coming Messiah ends with the proclamation of his universal sovereignty within creation."

From Common Worship, Times and Seasons

God of all people from every tribe and language;
you call true witnesses who sing your praise,
live your grace and work for peace:
may we share their faith and know our need for you
that we might be a blessing to the hunger of your world;
through Jesus Christ, whose body we are. Amen.

Steven Shakespeare

*We say or sing the words in **bold type***

The Gathering

A church warden welcomes all who have gathered and invites us to some moments of shared quiet preparation.

We stand

Opening Hymn: 337 - Make me a channel

The Greeting

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

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Words of introduction and invitation

Prayers of Penitence

Since we are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses,
let us lay aside the sin that clings so closely,
looking to Jesus in penitence and faith.

Lord, you are gracious and compassionate:
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

You are loving to all
and your mercy is over all your creation:
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Your faithful servants bless your name
and speak of the glory of your kingdom:
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy

Absolution

A minister proclaims the good news of God's mercy and forgiveness

May the God of love and power
forgive you and free you from your sins,
heal and strengthen you by his Spirit,
and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Gloria

We sing these or other words led by a cantor

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.

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.

The Collect

Almighty Father,
whose will it is to restore all things
in your beloved Son, the King of all:
govern the hearts and minds of those in authority,
and bring the families of the nations,
divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin,
to be subject to his just and gentle rule;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

We sit

Old Testament Reading: Amos 5.18–24

18 Alas for you who desire the day of the Lord!
Why do you want the day of the Lord?
It is darkness, not light;
19 as if someone fled from a lion,
and was met by a bear;
or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall,
and was bitten by a snake.
20 Is not the day of the Lord darkness, not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?

21 I hate, I despise your festivals,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.
22 Even though you offer me your burnt-offerings and grain-offerings,
I will not accept them;
and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals
I will not look upon.
23 Take away from me the noise of your songs;

I will not listen to the melody of your harps.
24 But let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

For the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

New Testament Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4.13–18

13 But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters,
about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do
who have no hope. 14For since we believe that Jesus died and rose
again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who
have died.15For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that
we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by
no means precede those who have died.16For the Lord himself, with
a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of
God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will
rise first. 17Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in
the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so
we will be with the Lord for ever. 18Therefore encourage one
another with these words.

For the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

We stand as we sing:

Gradual Hymn: 286 - Be still, my soul

The Gospel Reading: Matthew 25.1–13

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew
Glory to you, O Lord.

25 Jesus said to his disciples, 'The kingdom of heaven will be like this.
Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the
bridegroom.2Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. 3When
the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; 4but the

wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. [5]As the bridegroom was
delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. [6]But at midnight there
was a shout, "Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet
him." [7]Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps.
[8]The foolish said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil, for our
lamps are going out." [9]But the wise replied, "No! there will not be
enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy
some for yourselves." [10]And while they went to buy it, the
bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the
wedding banquet; and the door was shut. [11]Later the other
bridesmaids came also, saying, "Lord, lord, open to us." [12]But he
replied, "Truly I tell you, I do not know you." [13]Keep awake
therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord
Praise be to you, O Christ.

We sit

Reflection

One of the ministers shares thoughts and reflections on the readings and themes of the day; an encouragement to connect faith with our lives

We stand

Profession of Faith

Let us affirm our common faith in Jesus Christ.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist?
I believe and trust in God.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again?
I believe and trust in Jesus Christ.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world?
I believe and trust in the Holy Spirit.

This is the faith of the Church.
This is our faith.
We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

We sit

Act of Remembrance

In the presence of God, in penitence and faith, we commit ourselves to work for reconciliation between the nations, that all people may live together in freedom, justice and peace.
We pray for all who in bereavement, disability and pain continue to suffer the consequences of fighting and terror.
We remember with thanksgiving and sorrow those whose lives, in world wars and conflicts past and present, have been given and taken away.

The Silence & Act of Remembrance

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old;
age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,
we will remember them.
We will remember them.

Silence is kept.

The last post is sounded.

Ever-living God,
we remember those whom you have gathered from the storm of war
into the peace of your presence;
may that same peace calm our fears,
bring justice to all peoples

and establish harmony among the nations,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Wreaths are laid

The Intercessions

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

Act of Commitment
Let us commit ourselves to responsible living and faithful service.
Will you strive for all that makes for peace?
We will.
Will you seek to heal the wounds of war?
We will.
Will you work for a just future for all humanity?
We will.
Merciful God, we offer to you the fears in us
that have not yet been cast out by love:
may we accept the hope you have placed in the hearts of all people,
and live lives of justice, courage and mercy;
through Jesus Christ our risen redeemer.
Amen.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

We stand

The Peace

We are fellow-citizens with the saints and of the household of God,
through Christ our Lord,
who came and preached peace to those who were far off
and those who were near.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
and also with you.

We offer a gesture of peace to those around us

Offertory Hymn: 271 - Inspired by love and anger

Preparation of the table

As we come to the Table, bread and wine are taken and blest, and the bread is broken as we share the meal that re-members Jesus, the food that 'tastes of freedom'.

As the grain once scattered in the fields
and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside
are now reunited on this table in bread and wine,
so, Lord, may your whole Church soon be gathered together
from the corners of the earth into your kingdom.
Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here
God's Spirit is with us

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

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

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should always sing of your glory,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.
For you are the hope of the nations,
the builder of the city that is to come.
Your love made visible in Jesus Christ
brings home the lost,
restores the sinner
and gives dignity to the despised.
In his face your light shines out,
flooding lives with goodness and truth,
gathering into one in your kingdom
a divided and broken humanity.
Therefore with all who can give voice in your creation
we glorify your name,
for ever praising you and *saying*:

We sing:
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.

We praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we follow his example and obey his command,
send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:
Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross.
Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

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

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.
Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with [*N and*] all the saints
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

We sit

The Lord's Prayer

In the power of the Spirit, let us pray to the Father,
in the words of the Son

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.

Breaking Bread

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.
Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.

Agnus Dei

We sing:
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.

Invitation

Here is the table of the Lord,
we are gathered to his supper,
a foretaste of things eternal.

Come, when you are fearful, to be made new in love.
Come, when you are doubtful, to be made strong in faith.
Come, when you are regretful, and be made whole.
Come, there is room for all.

Communion

*We keep an **Open Table - all** are invited and **all** are welcome to receive the elements that have been taken, blest and broken. If you would prefer to receive a blessing then please bring this service sheet with you to indicate this.*

Please ask if you need to receive gluten free bread.

Prayer after Communion

God of peace,
whose Son Jesus Christ proclaimed the kingdom
and restored the broken to wholeness of life:
look with compassion on the anguish of the world,
and by your healing power
make whole both people and nations;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Lord of hosts,
we praise your glory reflected in your saints.
May we who share at this table
be filled with the joy of your eternal kingdom,
where Jesus is Lord, now and for ever.
Amen

Banns of Marriage, news and notices may be shared

We stand

Blessing and Dismissal

May God,
who kindled the fire of his love in the hearts of the saints,
pour upon you the riches of his grace.
May he give you joy in their fellowship
and a share in their praises.
May he strengthen you to follow them in the way of holiness
and to come to the full radiance of glory.
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Following God's Saints in the way of Jesus Christ,
go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Final Hymn: 377 - For the healing of the nations

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