

PARISH EUCHARIST

THE SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT

SUNDAY 11 FEBRUARY 2024



THE CHURCH OF ST ANDREW, SERVING
CHARVIL, SONNING AND SONNING EYE

Everyone Welcome!

Welcome to our Parish Eucharist service this morning.

You will be guided by the welcome team to receive communion at the appropriate time.

We have gluten free communion wafers for those with gluten allergies. Please let one of the welcome team know if you would like to receive one at communion.

If you are hard of hearing, we have a hearing loop in church. Please turn your hearing aid to the appropriate position to use it.

Large print copies of this service booklet are available.

Sunday Club and STAY are running today and every 2nd, 4th and 5th Sunday of each month in the Ark (during term-time).

The children's area is open and toys are available for younger children there. Please would parents supervise their children using this area and tidy toys away afterwards.

Please do join us for refreshments in The Ark following the service.

*The responses and prayers in **BOLD** type are said by the whole congregation*

Please stand for the hymn (A&M 2)

Christ, whose glory fills the skies, Christ, the true, the only light, Sun of Righteousness, arise, Triumph o'er the shades of night; Dayspring from on high, be near; Daystar, in my heart appear.	2. Dark and cheerless is the morn Unaccompanied by thee; Joyless is the day's return, Till thy mercy's beams I see, Till they inward light impart, Glad my eyes, and warm my heart.
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3. Visit then this soul of mine,
Pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
Fill me, radiancy divine,
Scatter all my unbelief;
More and more thyself display,
Shining to the perfect day.

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

Please sit for the welcome and notices

Prayers of Preparation and Penitence

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

God the Father forgives us in Christ and heals us by the Holy Spirit.

Let us therefore put away all anger and bitterness, all slander and malice, and confess our sins to God our redeemer. *cf Ephesians 4.30,32*

We keep a time of quiet

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault.

We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your 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.**

Please stand to sing the Gloria in Excelsis

Glory to God, glory to God. Glory to God in the highest.

**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.**

Glory to God, glory to God. Glory to God in the highest.

**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.**

Glory to God, glory to God. Glory to God in the highest,

**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.**

Glory to God, glory to God. Glory to God in the highest.

Please remain standing.

The Collect for the Sunday next before Lent

Almighty Father, whose Son was revealed in majesty
before he suffered death upon the cross: give us grace to perceive his glory,
that we may be strengthened to suffer with him
and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory;
who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Please sit

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

New Testament Reading: 2 Corinthians 4: 3-6

New International Version

And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For what we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. For God, who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God's glory displayed in the face of Christ.

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

Please stand to sing the hymn (A&M 281)

'Tis good, Lord, to be here!

Thy glory fills the night;
Thy face and garments, like the sun,
Shine with unborrowed light.

2. 'Tis good, Lord, to be here,
Thy beauty to behold,
Where Moses and Elijah stand,
Thy messengers of old.

3. Fulfiller of the past,
Promise of things to be,
We hail thy body glorified,
And our redemption see.

4. Before we taste of death,
We see thy kingdom come;
We fain would hold the vision bright,
And make this hill our home.

5. 'Tis good, Lord, to be here,
Yet we may not remain;
But since thou bidst us leave the mount,
Come with us to the plain.

Please remain standing for the Gospel

Gospel Reading: Mark 9: 2-9 (NIV)

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark: **Glory to you O Lord.**

After six days Jesus took Peter, James and John with him and led them up a high mountain, where they were all alone. There he was transfigured before them. His clothes became dazzling white, whiter than anyone in the world could bleach them. And there appeared before them Elijah and Moses, who were talking with Jesus.

Peter said to Jesus, 'Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters – one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' (He did not know what to say, they were so frightened.)

Then a cloud appeared and covered them, and a voice came from the cloud: 'This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!'

Suddenly, when they looked around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus gave them orders not to tell anyone what they had seen until the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

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

Please sit

The Sermon

Please stand

The Creed

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, 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 sit or kneel

Prayers of Intercession

The end of each prayer concludes with 'Lord, in your mercy' to which we respond:
Hear our prayer.

And at the end: 'Merciful Father' to which we respond

Accept these prayers, for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

Please stand for the Peace

Christ is our peace. He has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross.
We meet in his name and share his peace.

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

Let us offer one another a word of peace.

Preparation of the Table

Please remain standing for the hymn (A&M 646)

God is working his purpose out

As year succeeds to year;
God is working his purpose out,
And the time is drawing near;
Nearer and nearer draws the time,
The time that shall surely be,
When the earth shall be filled
With the glory of God
As the waters cover the sea.

2. From utmost east to utmost west,
Wherever feet have trod,
By the mouth of many messengers
Goes forth the voice of God:
Give ear to me, ye continents,
Ye isles, give ear to me,
That the earth may be filled
With the glory of God
As the waters cover the sea.

3. What can we do to work God's work,
To prosper and increase
The love of God in all mankind,
The reign of the Prince of peace?
What can we do to hasten the time,
The time that shall surely be,
When the earth shall be filled
With the glory of God
As the waters cover the sea?

4. March we forth in the strength of God,
With the banner of Christ unfurled,
That the light of the glorious gospel of truth
May shine throughout the world.
Fight we the fight with sorrow and sin
To set their captives free,
That the earth may be filled
With the glory of God
As the waters cover the sea.

5. All we can do is nothing worth
Unless God blesses the deed;
Vainly we hope for the harvest-tide
Till God gives life to the seed;
Yet near and nearer draws the time,
The time that shall surely be,
When the earth shall be filled
With the glory of God
As the waters cover the sea.

Please sit

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here: **His 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.**

Father, we give you thanks and praise through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, your living Word, through whom you have created all things; who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our Saviour. By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh; as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin, he lived on earth and went about among us; he opened wide his arms for us on the cross; he put an end to death by dying for us; and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life; so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and singing:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness; grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit, and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying: 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.

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

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross, his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world; rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, we bring before you this bread and this cup and we thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup, so that we, in the company of St Andrew and all the saints, may praise and glorify you for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

(Sunday Club parents - please collect your children from the Ark now)

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour taught us:

**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.

Breaking of the 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.

Giving of Communion

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you. Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

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.

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.

If you are a communicant member of any Christian Church you are welcome to take communion with us, or if you would prefer a blessing please bring this booklet with you when you are invited to the communion rail.

During communion the choir will sing the hymn 'And now, O Father, mindful of the love' and after communion the anthem 'Benedictus' (Jenkins)

Prayer after Communion

Father of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday Club or STAY will tell us about their morning session

Please stand

THE DISMISSAL

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**

Hymn (A&M 498)

Lord, thy Church on earth is seeking

Thy renewal from above;

Teach us all the art of speaking

With the accent of thy love.

We would heed thy great commission:

'Go now into every place -

Preach, baptise, fulfil my mission,

Serve with love and share my grace'

2. Freedom give to those in bondage,

Lift the burdens caused by sin.

Give new hope, new strength and courage,

Grant release from fears within:

Light for darkness; joy for sorrow;

Love for hatred; peace for strife.

These and countless blessings follow

As the Spirit gives new life.

3. In the streets of every city

Where the bruised and lonely dwell,

Let us show the Saviour's pity,

Let us of his mercy tell.

To all lands and peoples bringing

All the richness of thy word,

Til the world, thy praises singing,

Hails thee Christ, Redeemer, Lord.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

Organ Voluntary

Parish News

LENT SERMON SERIES - Beginning on Sunday 18th February and lasting through Lent, 5 members of our congregation will speak to the subject "Why I am a Christian." The series will conclude on Easter Day when the 103rd Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord Carey, will preach.

LENT PRAYER WAVE - Help us start a Lent prayer wave based on : Matthew 7:7 *"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you."*

Please join us from 15 February as we collectively pray over the next 40 days and nights of Lent at both 7.07am and 7.07pm (if possible), for a few minutes each day, basing our pray on Matthew 7:7 - praying for our ministry team, our church and what ever else God reveals to us whilst we pray.

This will start a habit of prayer and a feeling of collective encouragement as God is building a prayer platform for his next plan for us as a church. (There is no prescribed prayer - this is your personal prayers for the church, protection for its ministry team and support for the ongoing ministry in the community).

We have set up a WhatsApp group for those who would like encouragement, please reach out to (Heather Hexter, Alison Smyly and Helen Craig) if you want to be added; alternatively simply set a reminder to pray for a few minutes at 7.07. Let's see if we can turn this spark into a flame in our community.

EASTER BAPTISMS - We have several people who are to be baptised in the Thames on Easter Day, following the morning service. If you have not already been baptised (Christened) then please speak to Jamie or Westy if interested.

RENDEZVOUS LUNCH CLUB - Tuesday 13th February. The menu will be minced beef and onion pie (vegetarian, vegan and Gluten free are all available) and a dessert plus coffee for £10. Do join us for an opportunity to chat with old friends and make new ones. To book please call Hilary in the Parish office on 0118 969 3298 or email office@sonningparish.org.uk

EASTER LILIES - From Easter Saturday we display lilies in memory of loved ones for a suggested donation of £5 per stem and record their names on a special board. Please place the donation in the office letterbox with your name and the name to be remembered. To pay by bank transfer please mark your payment 'Lilies' with your surname and pay St Andrew's PCC account number 00011793 sort code 40-52-40 and email Hilary the relevant name to be included. The closing date for names for the lily display is Palm Sunday, 24 March.

Prayer Team and Pastoral Visiting

If you have a person or situation that you would like the prayer team to pray for, please email brief details to office@sonningparish.org.uk
The sick are now prayed for weekly on the Parish Prayer Bulletin rather than during services for reasons of confidentiality.

We remember any who have died who are known to us:

Oscar de Ville

We remember any whose anniversaries fall around this time:

Ernest Cunningham

The Week Ahead

Tuesday 13 February

9.30am	Morning Prayer	Church
12 noon	Rendezvous Lunch Club	Church
2.30pm	Funeral of Sir Oscar de Ville	Church
8.00pm	Alpha Course online (<i>contact the office for details</i>)	

Ash Wednesday 14 February

10.00am	Holy Communion with imposition of ashes	The Ark
7.30pm	Holy Communion with imposition of ashes	Church

Thursday 15 February

8.00pm Thursday at 8 *for details email helen.craig50@gmail.com*

Friday 16 February

5.30pm	Junior Choir practice	Church
6.30pm	Senior Choir practice	Church
6.45pm	STAY Youth Group	The Ark

Sunday 18 February

8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Church
10.30am	Family Communion	Church
3.00pm	Messy Church	The Ark

Parish Contacts

Vicar: Revd Jamie Taylor 0118 969 3298 vicar@sonningparish.org.uk
(*off duty Friday*)

Lay Minister: Bob Peters 0118 377 5887 bob@sonningparish.org.uk

Youth Minister: Chris West 07946 224 106 youthminister@sonningparish.org.uk

Female Youth & Children's worker: Corinne Robertson corinne@sonningparish.org.uk

Parish Administrator: Hilary Rennie 0118 969 3298 office@sonningparish.org.uk

The Parish Office is open from 9am - 1pm Monday - Friday. At all other times please leave a message or send an email and we will get back to you as soon as possible.