

The Parish Church of
St Werburgh
Spondon



Parish Mass

10am Sunday 10th March

Welcome.



**Welcome to
this community
of healing**

Our booklet this week is sponsored by Mary Massie

St Werburgh's stands in the catholic tradition of the Church of England and is part of a group of worshipping communities that in traditional and new ways try to practise the generous Gospel of Jesus Christ. Together we are exploring a way of living inspired by joyful worship, taking seriously the the challenge of following Jesus Christ. Welcome to this community of healing.

Our celebrant today is the Vicar, Canon Julian.

- PLEASE LEAVE BY THE SOUTH DOORS IN THE BAPTISTRY where tea and coffee are available after the service.
- Everybody is welcome here regardless of race, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, addictions or beliefs, single or partnered, we are all God's people
- Everybody is welcome to receive Holy Communion in this church of whatever age or wherever you are on the path of life – all of the bread is gluten free. And our wine is alcohol free. NOBODY MUST RECEIVE.
- There are large print service books available; church always has lots of words, we try to be dyslexia friendly – if you need your book on a different colour paper or in a different font just ask a welcomer
- This church is fitted with a hearing loop, if you experience difficulty hearing the service, then please let a welcomer know
- FEEL FREE TO BREASTFEED, if you would prefer more privacy and a comfy sofa just use Can J's office, one of the welcomers can show you.
- Don't worry about babies making a noise during the service, feel free to get up and walk about, ... there's no need ever to "Shush" kids.
- Toilets with baby changing facilities are located through the doors at the back.
- Adults who find kids an issue are free to go into the Tower Vestry, it has glass doors and a speaker so you can still hear the service. We aim for the Tower Vestry to be an 'autistic friendly' space, but please find wherever it is comfortable for you.



You can use this QR Code to make your gift today and why not join the Parish Giving Scheme?

This makes a huge difference to us and ensures your gift each week as even if you cannot always be here.

A bit of history.....

This Sunday is also known as Laetare Sunday. Since ancient times it has been a day of celebration, within the austere period of Lent. This Sunday gets its name from the first few words of the traditional Latin entrance hymn of the day. "Laetare Jerusalem" ("Rejoice, O Jerusalem") from Isaiah 66:10, but we know it better as Mothering Sunday. In medieval times on this day the pope used to send a blessed golden rose to kings and this led to the use of the rose-colored vestments on this day.... A tradition we carry on here in Spondon!

The notices are given.

After which we stand to sing:

(291)

**Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ, our head and cornerstone,
chosen of the Lord and precious,
binding all the Church in one;
holy Zion's help forever
and our confidence alone.**

**To this temple, where we call you,
come, O Lord of hosts, and stay;
come with all your lovingkindness,
hear your people as they pray;
and your fullest benediction
speak within these walls today.**

**Grant, we pray, to all your faithful
all the gifts they ask to gain;
what they gain from you forever
with the blessed to retain;
And hereafter in your glory
evermore with you to reign.**

**Praise and honour to the Father,
praise and honour to the Son,
praise and honour to the Spirit,
ever three and ever one:
one in might and one in glory
while unending ages run!**

Grace, mercy and peace be with you all!
And also with you.

All sit as the service is introduced.

Let us pray:

God of love, passionate and strong, tender and careful: watch over us and hold us when we feel fragile and all the days of our life; through Jesus the one who gathers us in. **Amen.**

We remain seated for our reading.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to John
Glory to you, Lord.



Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.' Then he said to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

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

We stand to sing

(317)

**Virgin-born, we bow before thee;
blessèd was the womb that bore thee;
Mary, mother meek and mild,
blessèd was she in her child.**

**Blessèd was the breast that fed thee;
blessèd was the hand that led thee;
blessèd was the parent's eye
that watched thy slumbering infancy.**

**Blessèd she by all creation,
who brought forth the world's Salvation,
blessèd they for ever blest,
who love thee most and serve thee best.**

**Virgin-born we bow before thee;
blessèd was the womb that bore thee;
Mary, mother meek and mild,
blessèd was she in her child.**

We sit for the sermon.

After which we keep a time of silence.

We remain seated to affirm our faith together:

Though he was divine, he did not cling to equality with God, but made himself nothing. Taking the form of a slave, he was born in human likeness. He humbled himself and was obedient to death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God has raised him on high, and given him the name above every name: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Sisters and brothers, confident that God hears the voices of those who trust in Jesus, we join our prayers for peace this day with his.

Kyrie, kyrie eleison.

Kyrie, kyrie eleison.

Christe, Christe eleison.

Christe, christe eleison

Kyrie, kyrie eleison.

Kyrie, kyrie eleison.

For our Church, that we may uplift the lives of all the diverse faces of Christ in our world, we pray for all those praying and working for peace at this time, holding before you the Palestinian people, the people of Ukraine and all who are suffering so grievously.

Kyrie, kyrie eleison.

Kyrie, kyrie eleison.

We pray for courageous leaders who will condemn violence and not use this senselessness for their own ends. We pray for the release of those hostages being held by Hamas and for those who work for reconciliation. For public officials and aid agency staff under immense pressure and all those providing hospitality and safety to those fleeing war in many regions of the world. For our community, that we may be open to acting with generosity and receiving those fleeing war with open arms.

Christe, Christe eleison.

Christe, christe eleison

We give thanks for our own families, whether given or chosen and those whom we see no more in this life who have made us who we are. Hold in your tender arms all those who find this day difficult and we commend to your infinite care all those who have died and whom we miss.

Kyrie, kyrie eleison.

Kyrie, kyrie eleison.

May the God of all love and power, forgive and free us from our sins, heal and strengthen us through the Holy Spirit and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord.

Amen.

We share the Peace of Christ.

God will not hold us in condemnation, nor stand in power over the weak, God will become a slave, take our hate into that heart of love and win us with forgiveness.

The peace of God be always with you!
And also with you!

We offer each other a sign of peace.

We sing the offertory hymn:

(315)

**Sing we of the blessed Mother
who received the angels word,
And obedient to God's summons
bore in love the infant Lord;
Sing we of the Joys of Mary
at whose breast that child was fed
Who is Son of God eternal
and the everlasting Bread.**

*As we sing the gifts of bread and
wine to be consecrated at this
gathering are brought forward and
the altar is prepared.*

**Sing we, too, of Mary's sorrows,
of the sword that pierced her through,
When beneath the cross of Jesus
she his weight of suffering knew,
Looked upon her Son and Saviour
reigning from the awful tree,
Saw the price of man's redemption
paid to set the sinner free.**

*The children distribute daffodils to
everyone on this special day.*

**Sing again the joys of Mary
when she saw the risen Lord,
And in prayer with Christ's apostles,
waited on his promised word:
From on high the blazing glory
of the Spirit's presence came,
Heavenly breath of God's own being,
Tokened in the wind and flame.**

*The altar is then blessed with
incense and we are all blessed
because this is something we do
together not something done by
Canon Julian alone.*

**Sing the chiefest joy of Mary
when on earth her work was done,
And the Lord of all creation
brought her to his heavenly home:
Virgin Mother, Mary blessed,
Raised on high and crowned with grace,
May thy Son, the world's redeemer,
Grant us all to see his face.**

*All those who will touch the bread
of communion wash their hands.*

When all is ready, we remain standing and come to solemn prayer:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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.

We thank you, desert Mother, for in the valley of dry bones you create hearts of flesh quickened by the Spirit's breath. We thank you, wise Sister, that you walk in cloud and fire with you lost and faithless people. We thank you Son of Heaven, that you empty yourself of might and glory and set your face towards the fickle crowd, the cruel empire, the faithful despisers. We welcome you as God's own fool, whose cross brings to nothing the violence of the world and reveals another wisdom outside the city walls. Therefore, with all who follow your way with the traders and tax collectors, the soldiers and prostitutes, and all who caught a glimpse of glory in the humanity you shared, we worship God's own holiness revealed in sweat and tears:

**Be still for the presence of the Lord, the Holy one is here
Come bow before him now in 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.**

We ask that your Holy Spirit will fall upon us and upon these gifts that these fragile, earthly things may be to us the body and blood of our Lord and brother, Jesus Christ; who, on the night that he was betrayed, gathered with his faltering friends for a meal that tasted of freedom. Calling them to his table, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said: 'This is my body, which is given for you. Do this to remember me.' + In the same way after supper, he took the cup, saying: 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, whenever you drink it, to remember me.' As on that night, so here and now he offers himself in touch and taste beyond all words can hold. +

**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.**

Therefore, in our eating and drinking we are filled with the life-giving presence of Christ; we proclaim him as creation's host, transforming poverty into plenty in the reckless generosity of love. Inspire us with the hope that one day death and greed will be no more and people without number will come from east and west, north and south to share the kingdom meal.

**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.**

All sit to pray together:

As our Saviour taught so we pray:

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 forever and ever. Amen.

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.**

Receive what you are, the Body of Christ.

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion in this Church.

All of our bread is gluten and soya free and vegan. Our wine is alcohol free. (An alcoholic chalice is available in the Lady Chapel for those who choose to receive alcoholic sacrament.)

As Communion is distributed we sing:

**O Lamb of God, come cleanse our hearts and take our sin away.
O Lamb of God, your grace impart and let our guilty fear depart,
have mercy, Lord we pray.**

**O Lamb of God, our lives restore, our guilty souls release.
Into our lives your Spirit pour and let us live for evermore
in perfect heav'nly peace.**

The angel Gabriel from heaven came,
his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;
"All hail," said he to meek and lowly Mary,
"most highly favoured maiden." Gloria!

"I come from heav'n to tell the Lord's decree:
a blessed virgin mother you shall be.
Your Son shall be Immanuel, by seers foretold,
most highly favoured maiden." Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head;
"To me be as it pleases God," she said.
"My soul shall laud and magnify his holy name."
Most highly favoured maiden, Gloria!

Of her, Immanuel, the Christ, was born
In Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn,
and Christian folk throughout the world will ever say,
"Most highly favoured maiden." Gloria!

Once the altar is cleared together we pray:

Loving God, as a mother feeds her children at the breast you feed us in this sacrament with the food of eternal life: help us who have gathered at this table of Grace to grow as a household of true faith, bringing your love to the world. Amen.

We stand for the Blessing:

God be with you.

And also with you.

May God our Mother who brought us to birth strengthen us in this life.

May God our Mother who provides for all our needs sustain us day by day.

May God our Mother who loves each one of us as her own send us out to live and work for others, and the blessing of God, the Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer be with us and remain with us always. **Amen.**

We sing Mary's great song to the Lord:

(394)

**Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!
Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice;
Tender to me the promise of His Word;
In God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.**

**Tell out, my soul, the greatness of His name!
Make known His might, the deeds His arm has done;
His mercy sure, from age to age the same;
His holy Name, the Lord, the mighty One.**

**Tell out, my soul, the greatness of His might!
Powers and dominions lay their glory by;
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight;
The hungry fed, the humble lifted high.**

**Tell out, my soul, the glories of His Word!
Firm is His promise, and His mercy sure.
Tell out my soul, the greatness of the Lord
To children's children and forevermore!**

The mass is ended, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Refreshments are
available in the
Parish Room after
the service.

If you're new then
do please introduce
yourself to a
member of the
clergy.