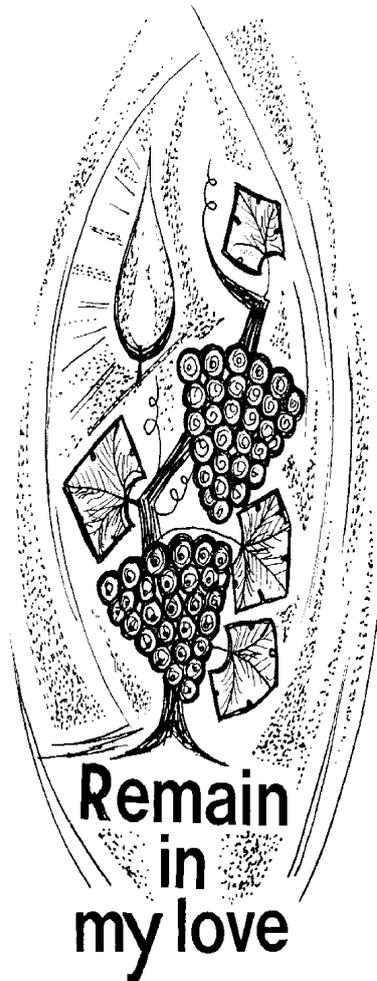


# A very warm Welcome to St Michael's Church

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May



In the *Gospel* this morning Jesus reminds us 'if you love me, keep my commandments.' The commandments the Lord summed up in a sentence - 'Love God, love your neighbour.' The love we have for one another will be a good indication that we are disciples of the Lord.

## **Opening Sentence**

Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard;  
proclaim to the ends of the earth:  
The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.

## **Greeting and Entrance**

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

Alleluia! Christ is risen.  
**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

## **Call to Confession**

My brothers and sisters,  
to prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries,  
let us first call to mind our sin.

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

## **Gloria**

**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 Liturgy of the Word**

Grant, almighty God,  
that we may celebrate with heartfelt devotion these days of joy,  
which we keep in honour of the risen Lord,  
and that what we relive in remembrance  
we may always hold to in what we do.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### **First Reading** (Sit)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (8:5-8,14-17)

Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result there was great rejoicing in that town.

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

### **Responsorial Psalm: 65(66):1-7,16,20**

**R.** Cry out with joy to God, all the earth.

Cry out with joy to God all the earth,  
O sing to the glory of his name.  
O render him glorious praise.  
Say to God: 'How tremendous your deeds! **R.**

'Before you all the earth shall bow;  
shall sing to you, sing to your name!  
Come and see the works of God,  
tremendous his deeds among men. **R.**

He turned the sea into dry land,  
they passed through the river dry-shod.  
Let our joy then be in him;  
he rules for ever by his might. **R.**

Come and hear, all who fear God.  
I will tell what he did for my soul:  
Blessed be God who did not reject my prayer  
nor withhold his love from me. **R.**

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading**

A reading from the first letter of St Peter (3:15-18)

Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear conscience, so that those who slander you when you are living a good life in Christ may be proved wrong in the accusations that they bring. And if it is the will of God that you should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong.

Why, Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

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

## **Gospel Acclamation**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Jesus said: 'If anyone loves me he will keep my word,  
and my Father will love him,  
and we shall come to him.'

**Alleluia!**

## **Gospel**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John (14:15-21)

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to his disciples:

'If you love me you will keep my commandments.

I shall ask the Father,

and he will give you another Advocate

to be with you for ever,

that Spirit of truth

whom the world can never receive

since it neither sees nor knows him;  
but you know him,  
because he is with you, he is in you.  
I will not leave you orphans;  
I will come back to you.  
In a short time the world will no longer see me;  
but you will see me,  
because I live and you will live.  
On that day you will understand that I am in my Father  
and you in me and I in you.  
Anybody who receives my commandments and keeps them  
will be one who loves me;  
and anybody who loves me will be loved by my Father,  
and I shall love him and show myself to him.

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

## **Sermon**

### **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;  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate of 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.  
With the Father and the Son  
he is worshipped and glorified.  
He 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.

### **Intercessions (Sit)**

Lord in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Merciful Father,  
accept these prayers  
for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

### **The Peace**

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, the  
peace be with you!  
Then were they glad when they saw the Lord.

Alleluia! The peace of the risen Christ be always with you.  
**And also with you. Alleluia!**

### **Offertory Prayers**

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation. Through your goodness  
we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human  
hands have made; it will become for us the bread of life.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands; it will become for us our spiritual drink.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. You called us into being and have now gathered us together. Renew us by your Holy Spirit that we may live to your glory and come to share the life of your kingdom.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

Let us pray my brothers and sisters, that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

**May the Lord accept this sacrifice at your hands,  
for the praise and glory of his name,  
for our good and the good of all his holy Church.**

## **The Eucharistic Prayer**

### **Prayer over the Gifts**

May our prayers rise up to you, O Lord,  
together with the sacrificial offerings,  
so that, purified by your graciousness,  
we may be conformed to the mysteries of your mighty love.  
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

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.**

## **Preface**

Father, all powerful and ever living God,  
we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks.

We praise you with greater joy than ever  
in this Easter season,

when Christ became our paschal sacrifice.  
As he offered his body on the cross,  
his perfect sacrifice fulfilled all others.  
As he gave himself into your hands for our salvation,  
he showed himself to be the priest, the altar,  
and the lamb of sacrifice.

The joy of the resurrection renews the whole world,  
while the choirs of heaven sing for ever to your glory:

**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.**

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**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 all,  
rejoicing at his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,  
and looking for his coming in glory,  
we celebrate the 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 Holy Mary mother of God, St  
Michael 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.

## **The Communion**

Our Father

Let us pray with confidence to the Father  
in the words our Saviour gave 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.**

## **Lamb of God**

**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.**

This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the World.  
Happy are those who are called to His supper.

**Lord I am not worthy to receive you  
but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

## **Communion Antiphon**

If you love me, keep my commandments, says the Lord.  
The Father will send you the Holy Spirit, to be with you for ever,  
Alleluia.

## **Prayer after Communion**

Almighty and ever-living Lord,  
you restored us to life  
by raising Christ from death.  
Strengthen us by this Easter sacrament.  
Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

**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.**

*Concluding rite: Blessing & Dismissal*

The Lord be with you.  
**And with your spirit.**

**Blessing (Stand)**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.  
**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Bow your heads and pray for God's blessing

God the Father, by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead, strengthen you to walk with him in his risen life; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, + and the Holy Spirit be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ Alleluia  
**thanks be to God Alleluia**

**Regina Coeli**

Joy to thee, O Queen of heaven! Alleluia.  
He whom thou was 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 has risen indeed, Alleluia.**

Let us pray: O God, who by the resurrection of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, has been pleased to fill the world with joy, grant, we beseech You, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, His Mother, we may receive the joys of eternal life, through the same Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Fr Ian writes...

As you will have noticed from the news the lockdown is gradually being relaxed but is by no means over. There has been conversations regarding the opening of churches from July but this is all dependent on how the next few weeks unfold. Even when churches do begin to open up it will only be for private prayer at set times. Restrictions on numbers entering the church will initially mean that we cannot all return at the same time and social distancing will have to be managed. This is by no means ideal but it is a start.

Please pray for your clergy and the church council especially as we prepare for our return to church. Your clergy are now offering online services and Bible studies and we are always available to talk with you and to pray for you. Our Website and Facebook page have all the details you need and our phone details are below.

Keep well, keep safe and please keep on praying.

God bless you and those you love

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***We pray for all who are ill, that God may grant them health and peace:***

Pauline Cassidy, Mildred, Sivananda, Venushica, Trevor Thompson, Stella, Eric, Eileen Potter, Perry Wells, George Booth, Kate, Seelah, Maureen Clements, Simon Payen, Shirley Angus, Augustus Olufunwa, Chris Zinzan, Doreen Lelliot, Bob Wood, Krystyna Hammil, Cicely Blalock, Androulla & Fannos Hadjiordani, Christopher Gibbons, Jazzmine Grimes, Emmanuel Kuye, Alexandra F Assis, Joshua Rattray, Elijah Blake, Jeffrey Blake, Victorine Clarke, Amy Harris, Thomas Hewitt, Geri Thompson, Mary Thompson, George Batley, Nancy Brittain, Sarah Reggerie, Jean Bjork, Ian Lennon, Kathleen Wale, Serena Forni, Naomi Brown, Derek Ogden, Lawrence Barrett, Dominic Swift, Jennifer Douglas Peter John Clements, Joan, Patience Mafunga, Jereline Simoms, Joy, Ayo Dumbuya, Ray and Pam Bennett, Dorren Norine, Beverley Pownall, Shola Adebawale, Una and Pat Murphy, Andrea Negri, Shane Claridge, Francis Burniston, James Ighodaro, Theresa Naish, Louiise, Anastasia, Allen, Jean Bromley, Angela Whyte, Josephine Baker, Saman Joseph, Marcus Cullen, Myrtle, Brenda la Rose, Joe Donkor, Dorothy, Brandon, Ronald, Edna Noel, Anita Atherley, Evelyn Baker, Vincent Booth, Rita Thompson, Zena Godfrey, Mark

***for those who have died recently***

Lynette, Cam, George Edward Yendluri, Grace Caroline Stone, Rufus, Alberta, Ellerston, Terry, Derek Hugh, Ulrich Thompson, Lynn Jane Large, Adam

***and for all whose anniversary of death falls at this time:***

17 <sup>th</sup> May	William D England
18 <sup>th</sup> May	Ella Scoones