

St Matthew's Westminster



Solemn Mass

The Epiphany of
The Lord

January 6th, 2022



Welcome! It is a privilege to welcome visitors and regular worshippers to St Matthew's, and it is our duty to be concerned for the safety of everyone.

During this time of heightened concern about possible infection, masks are once again required in church. Hymn singing has now resumed in church, but if you are uncomfortable with that please sit in St Michael's Chapel, which is reserved for those wishing to maintain greater distance.

For the duration of the pandemic only the consecrated bread will be offered to the congregation at Mass. The Church teaches that Christ is fully present in each of the elements, and that receiving the Sacred Host alone constitutes a full Communion.

We are currently maintaining the practice of sharing the Peace with one another by offering a gesture of peace rather than the traditional handshake.

Please ensure mobile telephones are switched off for the duration of the service.

For those who are hard of hearing the church has an inductive loop system. Please set your hearing aid to the *T* position during the liturgy.

Gluten free hosts are available for those who are gluten intolerant. Please ask for this before the service begins.

If you are new to St Matthew's and would like to know more about our life, please speak to one of the clergy.

The Mass is at the heart of our life together and the place where we encounter Christ in word and sacrament. Before the service begins we keep a time of silence, preparing quietly for the service.



Mass Setting

Messe Solennelle

Louis Vierne (1870-1937)

When the bell rings, please stand for the entry of servers and clergy. As the Introit is sung, the Altar and the Book of The Gospels are blessed with incense.

Introit Hymn

As with gladness men of old
Did the guiding star behold,
As with joy they hailed its light,
Leading onward, beaming bright;
So, most gracious Lord, may we
Evermore be led to thee.

As with joyful steps they sped,
To that lowly manger-bed,
There to bend the knee before
Thee whom heaven and earth adore;
So may we with willing feet
Ever seek thy mercy-seat.

As they offered gifts most rare
At that manger rude and bare,
So may we with holy joy,
Pure, and free from sin's alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to thee our heavenly King.

Holy Jesus, every day
Keep us in the narrow way;
And, when earthly things are past,
Bring our ransomed souls at last
Where they need no star to guide,
Where no clouds thy glory hide.

In the heavenly country bright
Need they no created light;
Thou its light, its joy, its crown,
Thou its sun which goes not down;
There for ever may we sing
Alleluias to our King.

Words: W Chatterton Dix (1837-98)

Music: Dix (CP 83), Adapted from C Kocher (1788-1872) by W H Monk (1823-89)

INTRODUCTORY RITE

The Greeting

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

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

The priest welcomes the people.

Prayers of Penitence

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you, through our own fault,
in thought and word and deed,
and in what we have left undone.
We are heartily sorry, and repent of all our sins.
For your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

The priest pronounces absolution.

Gloria in Excelsis Deo

please sit following the clergy, standing for the final Amen.

The Collect of The Day

O God, by the leading of a star
you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth:
Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence,
where we may see your glory face to face;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading

Isaiah 60. 1-6

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.

Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

The Word of The Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn

Hail, thou Source of every blessing,
Sovereign Father of mankind!
Gentiles now, thy grace possessing,
In thy courts admission find.

Once, far off, but now invited,
We approach thy sacred throne;
In thy covenant united,
Reconciled, redeemed, made one.

Now revealed to eastern sages,
See the Star of mercy shine,
Mystery hid in former ages,
Mystery great of love divine.

Hail, thou universal Saviour!
Gentiles now their offerings bring,
In thy temple seek thy favour,
Jesu Christ, our Lord and King.

Words: Basil Wood (1760-1831)

Music: Redhead (CP 392), Richard Redhead (1820-1901)

Second Reading

Ephesians 3. 1-12

A Reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Ephesians.

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles - for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

The Word of The Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Acclamation of The Gospel *(stand)*

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

The grace of God has dawned upon the world;
that all nations may behold the glory of God.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

The Holy Gospel

St Matthew 2. 1-12

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.' When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.' When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

The Gospel of The Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon Fr Richard Collins
Vicar, Christ the Saviour, Ealing

The Prayers of The People

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

The Peace

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

We are invited to exchange a gesture of peace with our neighbour.

Offertory Hymn

During the hymn the Altar is prepared. Once prepared, the Altar, with the gifts of bread and wine upon it, is blessed with incense. The clergy & congregation are also censed.

Brightest and best of the sons of the morning,
Dawn on our darkness, and lend us thine aid:
Star of the east, the horizon adorning,
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

Cold on his cradle the dew-drops are shining;
Low lies his head with the beasts of the stall;
Angels adore him in slumber reclining,
Maker and Monarch and Saviour of all.

Say, shall we yield him, in costly devotion,
Odours of Edom, and offerings divine,
Gems of the mountain, and pearls of the ocean,
Myrrh from the forest, or gold from the mine?

Vainly we offer each ample oblation,
Vainly with gifts would his favour secure:
Richer by far is the heart's adoration,
Dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.

Brightest and best of the sons of the morning,
Dawn on our darkness, and lend us thine aid:
Star of the east, the horizon adorning,
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

Words: Reginald Heber (1783-1826)

Music: Epiphany (CP 84), J F Thrupp (1827-67)

Orate Fratres

Priest Pray, my brothers and sisters,
that this our sacrifice may be acceptable to God,
the Almighty Father.

All **May the Lord accept the sacrifice we offer,
for the praise and glory of his name,
for our good and the good of all his Church.**

The priest says a prayer over the gifts of bread and wine.

The Eucharistic Prayer

Priest The Lord be with you

All **and also with you.**

Priest Lift up your hearts.

All **We lift them to the Lord.**

Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

... for ever praising you and saying:

Sanctus & Benedictus

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts,
heaven and earth are full of thy glory:
Glory be to thee, O Lord most High.
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Priest Great is the mystery of faith:

All **Christ has died;**

Christ is risen;

Christ will come again.

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

A short time of silence is kept at the end of the Eucharistic Prayer.

The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Holy Communion

*The Celebrant invites the congregation to receive Communion,
and all respond*

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

A note for visitors - anyone who receives Holy Communion at their own church is welcome to do so at this service. If for any reason you do not wish to receive Communion, you are invited to come forward for a blessing.

Those joining us online are invited to make an Act of Spiritual Reception, saying the words of this prayer.

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in this Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love you above all things, and I passionately desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my soul so that I may unite myself wholly to you now and forever.

St Alphonsus Liguori

Agnus Dei

*Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.*

*Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.*

*Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
dona nobis pacem.*

*Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.*

*Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.*

*Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
grant us peace.*

The Postcommunion Prayer

Hymn

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness!
Bow down before him, his glory proclaim;
With gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,
Kneel and adore him, the Lord is his name!

Low at his feet lay thy burden of carefulness,
High on his heart he will bear it for thee,
Comfort thy sorrows, and answer thy prayerfulness,
Guiding thy steps as may best for thee be.

Fear not to enter his courts in the slenderness
Of the poor wealth thou wouldst reckon as thine:
Truth in its beauty, and love in its tenderness,
These are the offerings to lay on his shrine.

These, though we bring them in trembling and fearfulness,
He will accept for the name that is dear;
Mornings of joy give for evenings of tearfulness,
Trust for our trembling and hope for our fear.

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness!
Bow down before him, his glory proclaim;
With gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,
Kneel and adore him, the Lord is his name!

Words: J.S.B. Monsell, (1811-75)

Music: Was lebet (CP 89), Melody from the Rheinhardt MS 1754

THE DISMISSAL

The Blessing of Chalk

Each year around the feast of the Epiphany many Christians throughout the world participate in an annual tradition of the chalking of their homes. The Epiphany blessing has biblical roots, deeply tied to the Passover in the Book of Exodus. The marking is traditionally made on the lintel of the main doorway, placing God at the entrance of the home, and the entire household under his protection.

The chalk is blessed by the priest with this prayer:

May God, who provided a safe dwelling place for the eternal Word, + bless this chalk, the homes of the faithful, and the people who live there, through Christ our Lord.

The inscription marks the year, and C, M, B marks the three Magi – Casper, Melchior, and Balthasar. It also stands for *Christus Mansionem Benedicat*, (*May Christ Bless this House.*)

The lintel of the main door of the house (and other doors if desired) is marked by a member of the household in the following way:
20 + C + M + B + 22

The Blessing

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

the priest pronounces God's Blessing, which is followed by the Dismissal.

The Mass is ended. Go in the peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Organ Postlude

Carrillon
Louis Vierne

FORTHCOMING SERVICES & EVENTS AT STMW

Friday January 7th *Feria of Epiphany*
12.30 Low Mass

Sunday January 9th *The Baptism of The Lord*
09.00 Low Mass
11.00 Solemn Mass
Preacher: Fr Jonathan Aitken
Spatzen-Messe (Mozart), Listen Sweet Dove (Ives)

Monday January 10th *William Laud, Bp.*
12.30 Low Mass

Tuesday January 11th *Feria of Epiphany*
18.30 Plainsong Evensong

Wednesday January 12th *St Aelred of Rievaulx, Ab.*
12.30 Low Mass
18.30 Choral Evensong (*Sung by Epiphani*)
Watson in E, Videntes Stella (Palestrina)
Speaker: Daniel Binder, Pastoral Assistant

Friday January 14th *Feria of Epiphany*
12.30 Low Mass

Saturday January 15th *Feria of Epiphany*
18.00 Westminster Chamber Music Society
Hana Mizuta- Spencer (Violin) and Stephen Gutman (Piano)

Giving to St Matthew's

Like virtually all other bodies, the church has taken a massive financial hit in the past year. Our current income at St Matthew's is considerably below what we need to run the church, and we pray that this will change in due course. We are inviting all members of the church to prayerfully consider increasing their giving on whatever way is most convenient for you.

We greatly welcome donations to support the life and ministry of St Matthew's.

Donations may be made by:

- ❖ Using the contactless machine located in the Narthex as you enter or exit the church.
- ❖ Scanning the QR code below with your mobile phone (providing payment card details).
- ❖ Placing cash or a cheque in the collection plate.

Please consider making a Gift Aid declaration, if eligible, so that we are able to reclaim the tax and increase the value of your donation by 25%. For contactless and mobile giving you will automatically be offered this option. For cash and cheque donations please complete a white Gift Aid envelope.

If you would like to make a regular donation the best way to do this is to set up a standing order with your bank and, where applicable, complete a Gift Aid declaration. We will be glad to give you have the church's bank account details for this purpose and a Gift Aid form.

Thank you for your support of St Matthew's.



Additionally there is another way you can financially support the life of St Matthew's at no cost to you! St Matthew's is part of the Giving Machine, a fundraising site that raises donations for charities whenever you shop online. Sign up at www.thegivingmachine.co.uk/causes/st-matthews-westminster and whenever you shop at over 2,200 of your favourite retailers, including Waitrose, John Lewis, Sainsburys and M&S a small donation is made to St Matthew's at no cost to you (or us)!

DIRECTORY

<i>Vicar</i>	Fr Philip Chester
<i>Assistant Priests</i>	Fr Peter Hanaway, Fr Jonathan Aitken, Mthr Sarah Lenton, Fr Michael Skinner
<i>Director of Music</i>	Nigel Groome
<i>Churchwardens</i>	Simon Lello, Jess Streeting
<i>Pastoral Assistant</i>	Daniel Binder
<i>Operations Director</i>	Jon Siddall
<i>School Head Teacher</i>	Rachel Jewitt
<i>Conference Centre Manager</i>	Enver Sengul

Contact Details

<i>Church</i>	St Matthew's House, 20 Gt Peter Street, London SW1P 2BU Phone · 020 7222 3704 Email · office@stmw.org Website · www.stmw.org
<i>School</i>	18 Old Pye Street, London SW1P 2DG Phone · 020 7504 0500 Email · office@stmwschool.org.uk Website · www.stmwschool.org.uk
<i>Conference Centre</i>	St Matthew's Conference Centre, 20 Gt Peter Street, London SW1P 2BU Phone · 020 7222 6535 Email · enver@stmwvenue.co.uk Website · www.stmwvenue.co.uk
<i>Social Media</i>	Facebook & Twitter · @STMWchurch, @STMWmusic

Common Worship material is copyright © The Archbishops' Council 2000
Christian Copyright Licence Number 56903