



**St. Michael and All Angels
Amersham on the Hill**



**HOLY EUCHARIST
THANKSGIVING FOR THE INSTITUTION OF
HOLY COMMUNION**

Also known as the Feast of Corpus Christi

A warm welcome to this service

This booklet is designed for use on the Feast of Corpus Christi, and includes guidance notes. Do please ask a "Welcomer" if you need any further help.

The Feast of Corpus Christi celebrates the institution of the eucharist as a parallel to Maundy Thursday and originates from the 13th century. It was proposed by Thomas Aquinas, in order to create a feast emphasising the joy of the eucharist, and instituted by Pope Urban IV, to fall on the Thursday after Trinity Sunday. At St. Michael's, it is one of the occasions when our midweek eucharist is moved from its usual Tuesday to mark this important feast day.

The Gathering

The Greeting

President In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you

All **and also with you.**

Please sit.

Words of welcome or introduction may be said.

Prayer of Preparation

All **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.**

Invitation to Confession

Please remain seated or kneel.

Deacon You then, who truly and earnestly repent of your sins,
and are in love and charity with your neighbours,
and intend to lead a new life,
following the commandments of God,
and walking from this day forward in his holy ways:
draw near with faith,
and take this holy sacrament to your comfort;
and make your humble confession to almighty God.

Confession

As the hart longs for flowing streams,
so longs my soul for you, O God:
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

O send out your light and your truth,
that they may lead me:
Christ, have mercy.

All

Christ, have mercy.

May we come to your altar, O God,
the God of our salvation:
Lord, have mercy.

All

Lord, have mercy.

Absolution

President

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.

All

Amen.

Gloria in Excelsis

Please stand, if able.

All

**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

Lord Jesus Christ,
we thank you that in this wonderful sacrament
you have given us the memorial of your passion:
grant us so to reverence the sacred mysteries
of your body and blood
that we may know within ourselves
and show forth in our lives
the fruits of your redemption;
for you are alive and reign with the Father
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

Please sit.

Either one or two readings and a psalm may precede the Gospel reading.

At the end of each the reader says:

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

Gospel Reading

*Please stand and
turn to face the Gospel.*

Alleluia, alleluia.

I am the living bread that came down from heaven, says the Lord.
Whoever eats of this bread will live for ever.

All **Alleluia.**

All The Lord be with you
and also with you.

All Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *N.*
Glory to you, O Lord.

The Gospel is proclaimed.

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

A time of quiet reflection

Affirmation of Faith

Please stand, if able.

All

**We believe in God the Father,
God almighty, by whose plan
earth and heaven sprang to being,
all created things began.
We believe in Christ the Saviour,
Son of God in human frame,
virgin-born, the child of Mary
upon whom the Spirit came.**

**Christ, who on the cross forsaken,
like a lamb to slaughter led,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
he descended to the dead.
We believe in Jesus risen,
heaven's king to rule and reign,
to the Father's side ascended
till as judge he comes again.**

**We believe in God the Spirit;
in one Church, below, above:
saints of God in one communion,
one in holiness and love.
So by faith, our sins forgiven,
Christ our Saviour, Lord and friend,
we shall rise with him in glory
to the life that knows no end.**

Prayers of Intercession

Please sit or kneel to pray.

We pray to the Lord.

Lord, listen to the prayers of your people, gathered at your table.
In faith we pray:

All

we pray to you our God.

Here, where we celebrate how Christ gave us his body
to be our spiritual food, listen as we pray for his body the Church,
spread throughout the world ...

In faith we pray:

All

we pray to you our God.

Here, where we recognize the presence of Christ, who takes away the sin of the world, listen as we pray for that world and for its peoples for whom his blood was shed ...

In faith we pray:

All **we pray to you, our God.**

Here, where we come together as Christ gathered with his friends to give us this meal of holy fellowship, listen as we pray for all whom you have given us, our friends and all whose lives are joined with ours ...

In faith we pray:

All **we pray to you, our God.**

Here, where we remember the night of Christ's agony and trial, listen as we pray for all who share his sufferings through fear or pain or distress of many kinds ...

In faith we pray:

All **we pray to you, our God.**

Here, where we join our praises with the whole company of heaven, listen as we pray for all who have trusted Christ's promise to raise up on the last day those who eat his flesh and drink his blood ...

In faith we pray:

All **we pray to you, our God.**

Lord, satisfy our hunger with the food that lasts, the bread of God which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world, Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

Please stand, if able.

For those who would like to, you are welcome to join hands as we sing or say the Peace.

President We are the Body of Christ.
In the one Spirit we were all baptised into one body.
Let us then pursue all that makes for peace
and builds up our common life.

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

Deacon Let us offer one another a sign of peace.
All may exchange a sign of peace.

Preparation of the Table

*The gifts of the people are gathered and presented.
The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.
The President takes the bread and wine.*

President God our sustainer,
receive the gifts we bring before you,
and feed us continually with the bread which satisfies all hunger,
your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

All **Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer A

All The Lord is here.
His Spirit is with us.

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

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

It is indeed right,
it is our duty and our joy,
at all times and in all places
to give you thanks and praise,
holy Father, heavenly King,
almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

For he is your living Word;
through him you have created all things from the beginning,
and formed us in your own image.
Through him you have freed us from the slavery of sin,
giving him to be born of a woman and to die upon the cross;
you raised him from the dead
and exalted him to your right hand on high.

Through him you have sent upon us
your holy and life-giving Spirit,
and made us a people for your own possession.

And now we give you thanks
because by water and the Holy Spirit
you have made us a holy people
in Jesus Christ our Lord;
you renew that mystery in bread and wine
to show forth your glory in all the world.

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

All

**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.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,
and as we follow his example and obey his command,
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us his body and his blood;

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.

Therefore, heavenly Father,
we remember his offering of himself
made once for all upon the cross;

we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;
we look for the coming of your kingdom,
and with this bread and this cup
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Deacon

Christ is the bread of life:

All

**When we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus,
until you come in glory.**

President

Accept through him, our great high priest,
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts
in the presence of your divine majesty,
renew us by your Spirit,
inspire us with your love
and unite us in the body of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him,.
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
we worship you, Father almighty,
in songs of everlasting praise:

All

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Please sit or kneel.

As our Saviour taught us, in our own language, so we pray:

All

**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 for ever. Amen.**

or

Let us pray with confidence, in our own language, as our Saviour has taught us:

All **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.**

The Breaking of the Bread

President We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.

All **Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in the one bread.**

Agnus Dei

All **Jesus, Lamb of God,
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins,
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, redeemer of the world,
grant us peace.**

Giving of Communion

President 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.



*All are welcome to receive communion or a blessing.
After receiving the bread and the wine, please respond "Amen"
or, if you would like a blessing, please place your hands across
your chest.*

Post Communion Prayer

President All praise to you, our God and Father,
for you have fed us with the bread of heaven
and quenched our thirst from the true vine:
hear our prayer that, being gathered into Christ,
we may grow together in unity
and feast with him in his kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

All **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.**

The Dismissal

Blessing

May the Father,
who fed his children with manna in the wilderness,
strengthen you in your pilgrimage to the Promised Land.

All **Amen.**

May the Son,
who gave his flesh for food and his blood for drink,
keep you in eternal life and raise you up on the last day.

All **Amen.**

May the Holy Spirit,
who leads us into all truth,
help you discern the Lord's body
and empower you to proclaim his death until he comes.

All **Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

Material from the following may be included in this service: *Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England* (2000), *Patterns for Worship* (1995), *New Patterns for Worship* (2002), *Times and Seasons* (2006), *The Promise of His Glory* (1991) all copyright © The Archbishops' Council; *Celtic Daily Prayer Book 1 & 2* (2015) © The Northumbria Community Trust; *Enriching the Christian Year* (SPCK, 1993) compilation © Michael Perham. CCL No 908682.

