

# S.<sup>T</sup>JAMIES'

Bicentenary 2019-2024

**8:00am Holy Eucharist**



**Sunday 12th January**  
**THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD**

As Sydney's oldest church, St James' is a place of soul-stirring worship, challenging preaching and fine music. We are a progressive community that welcomes all people regardless of age, race, sexual orientation, gender identity, or religion.

We also acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land of which we worship  
—the Gadigal of the Eora Nation.

*Please advise one of the Sidespersons if you would like Communion brought to you in the pew. If necessary, you are welcome to sit for those parts of the liturgy when it is normal to stand.*

## Welcome

*The celebrant welcomes the people, then says,*

Celebrant ✠ In the Name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe.

**From the rising of the sun to its setting  
your name is proclaimed in all the world.**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

## Preparation

Celebrant Let us pray.

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.**

## Kyrie

Lord, have mercy

**Lord, have mercy**

Christ, have mercy

**Christ, have mercy**

Lord, have mercy

**Lord, have mercy**

## Confession

Christ the Son of God has been revealed as a light to the nations.

*A silence for self-examination follows.*

Let us bring our darkness to his light, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

**All**            **Merciful God,**  
**our maker and our judge,**  
**we have sinned against you**  
**in thought, word and deed**  
**and in what we have failed to do:**  
**we have not loved you with our whole heart;**  
**we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;**  
**we repent, and are sorry for all our sins.**  
**Father, forgive us.**  
**Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life;**  
**through Jesus Christ our Lord.**  
**Amen.**

Celebrant    Almighty God,  
who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith,  
✠ pardon you and set you free from all your sins,  
strengthen you in all goodness  
and keep you in eternal life,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## Gloria

Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to God's 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

## Collect

Celebrant Let us pray.

Eternal God,

at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan

you proclaimed him your beloved Son,

and anointed him with the Holy Spirit:

grant that all who are baptised into his name

may keep the covenant they have made,

and boldly confess him as Lord and Saviour;

who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns,

one God, in glory everlasting.

**Amen.**

*Please sit.*

## First Reading

Isaiah 43.1 - 7

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. Because you are precious in my sight, and honoured, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; I will say to the north, 'Give them up', and to the south, 'Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth— everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.

*A short silence is observed.*

Reader        For the Word of the Lord,  
All            **Thanks be to God.**

*The Psalm is recited antiphonally, a long pause being observed at the colon*

Ascribe to the Lord, you powers of heaven :  
ascribe to the Lord glory and might.

**Ascribe to the Lord the honour due to his name :**

**O worship the Lord in the beauty of his holiness.**

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters :  
the God of glory thunders, the Lord upon the great waters.

**The voice of the Lord is mighty in operation :  
the voice of the Lord is a glorious voice.**

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar-trees :  
the Lord breaks in pieces the cedars of Lebanon.

**He makes them skip like a calf :**

**Lebanon and Sirion like a young wild ox.**

The voice of the Lord divides the lightning-flash :  
the voice of the Lord whirls the sands of the desert,  
the Lord whirls the desert of Kadesh.

**The voice of the Lord rends the terebinth trees,  
and strips bare the forests :  
in his temple all cry ‘Glory.’**

The Lord sits enthroned above the water-flood :  
the Lord sits enthroned as a king for ever.

**The Lord will give strength to his people :  
the Lord will give to his people the blessing of peace.**

## Second Reading

Act 8.14 - 17

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

*A short silence is observed.*

Reader For the Word of the Lord,  
**All Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand.*

## **Gospel Acclamation**

Reader Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**All Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Reader The heavens were opened and the father's voice was heard:  
this is my beloved Son, hear him. Alleluia!

**All Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## **Holy Gospel**

**Luke 3.15 - 22**

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

**All And also with you.**

A reading from the Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
according to St Luke.

**All Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people. But Herod the ruler, who had been rebuked by him because of Herodias, his brother's wife, and because of all the evil things that Herod had done, added to them all by shutting up John in prison.

Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

Celebrant For the Gospel of the Lord,

**All Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## **Sermon**

*A silence for reflection follows the sermon.*

## A Liturgy of Thanksgiving for Holy Baptism

*Please stand.*

Rector God in Christ gives us water welling up for eternal life.  
With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

**All Lord, give us this water and we shall thirst no more.**

Praise God who made heaven and earth,  
**who keeps his promise for ever.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Blessed are you, sovereign God of all,  
to you be glory and praise for ever.

You are our light and our salvation.

From the deep waters of death  
you have raised your Son to life in triumph.

Grant that all who have been born anew by water and the Spirit,  
may daily be renewed in your image,

walk by the light of faith,

and serve you in newness of life;

through your anointed Son, Jesus Christ,

to whom with you and the Holy Spirit

we lift our voices of praise.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**All Blessed be God for ever.**



Rector Let us affirm our common faith in Jesus Christ.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,  
source of all being and life,  
the one for whom we exist?

**All I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,  
who took our human nature,  
died for us and rose again?

**All I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,  
who gives life to the people of God  
and makes Christ known in the world?

**All I believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.

**All This is our faith.**

**We believe and trust in one God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

*The Rector takes the water and sprinkles the people*

Remember your baptism into Christ Jesus.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*The Rector returning to the Chancel step concludes:*

Rector        Let us pray.  
                  Almighty God,  
                  in our baptism you have consecrated us  
                  to be temples of your Holy Spirit.  
                  May we, whom you have counted worthy,  
                  nurture this gift of your indwelling Spirit with a lively faith  
                  and worship you with upright lives;  
                  through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All            Amen.**

### **Greeting of Peace**

*Please stand.*

Celebrant    God has made us one in Christ.  
                  He has set his seal upon us and, as a pledge of what is to come,  
                  has given the Spirit to dwell in our hearts. Alleluia.

                  The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**All            And also with you.**

*We greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

*A collection is taken for the work and ministry of the parish. You may wish to consider making your offertory using the card machine at the entrance, online at [sjks.org.au/donate](http://sjks.org.au/donate) or via this QR code.*

*Please remain standing.*



Celebrant Open the heavens, Lord our God,  
and send your transforming Spirit on us and on these gifts.  
May we who are baptised into Christ  
be ready to share his cup of suffering  
and strengthened to serve him for ever.

**All Blessed be God for ever!**

### **Sursum Corda**

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

**All 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 our thanks and praise.**

### **Great Thanksgiving**

Celebrant All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,  
mighty Creator, everliving God.

We give you thanks and praise for your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ,

who by the power of your Spirit  
was born of Mary and lived as one of us.

You anointed him as Messiah,  
the light of the nations,  
and revealed him as the hope  
of all who thirst for righteousness and peace.

By his death on the cross  
and rising to new life,  
he offered the one true sacrifice for sin  
and obtained an eternal deliverance for his 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 saying:

**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.**

Celebrant Merciful God, we thank you for these gifts of your creation,  
this bread and wine, and we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit,  
we who eat and drink them  
may be partakers of Christ's body and blood.  
On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread;  
and when he had given you thanks he broke it,  
and gave it to his disciples, saying,  
'Take, eat. This is my body given for you.  
Do this in remembrance of me.'  
After supper, he took the cup, and again giving you thanks  
he gave it to his disciples, saying,  
'Drink from this, all of you.  
This is my blood of the new covenant  
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.**

Celebrant Therefore we do as our Saviour has commanded:  
proclaiming his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross,  
his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,  
and looking for his coming again, we celebrate,  
with this bread and this cup,  
his one perfect and sufficient sacrifice  
for the sins of the whole world.

✠ Renew us by your Holy Spirit,  
unite us in the body of your Son,  
and bring us with all your people  
into the joy of your eternal kingdom;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
with whom, and in whom, in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
we worship you, Father, in songs of never-ending praise:

✠ **Blessing and honour and glory and power  
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

*The bell is rung and silence is kept.*

### **The Lord's Prayer**

Celebrant As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to 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.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
for the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.**

### **Breaking of the Bread**

*The celebrant breaks the Eucharistic Bread and says:*

Celebrant We break the bread of life,  
and that life is the light of the world.

**All God here among us,  
light in the midst of us,  
bring us to light and life.**

## Agnus Dei

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

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

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

## Invitation to Communion

Celebrant God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

All **Jesus Christ is holy,  
Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.**

*Communion will be distributed at the High Altar rail. Baptised Christians from all traditions are welcome to receive Communion. Others are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing. You are also advised to take any valuables with you to Communion to ensure their security. If you prefer not to receive from the chalice the nature of the Sacrament is such that it is acceptable to only receive the Host. **For health reasons intinction is not permitted.***

*At the end of the Communion a silence is kept.*

## Post-Communion Prayer

*Please stand.*

Celebrant Lord of all time and eternity,  
you opened the heavens and revealed yourself as Father  
in the baptism of Jesus your beloved Son:  
by the power of your Spirit  
complete the heavenly work of our rebirth  
through the waters of the new creation;

**All Most loving God,  
you send us into the world you love.  
Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage  
in the power of your Spirit. Amen.**

## Notices

### Blessing and Dismissal

Celebrant May God, who in Christ gives us a spring of water  
welling up to eternal life,  
perfect in you the image of his glory;  
and the blessing of God almighty  
✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be upon you and remain with you always.

**All Amen.**

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

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