

The Order for Evening Prayer and  
the Holy Communion  
on the Feast of the Holy Innocents

December 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 5 p.m.

## Opening Versicles & Responses (*alternating*)

O Lord, open thou our lips.

*Answer.* And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

*Answer.* As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Praise ye the Lord.

*Answer.* The Lord's Name be praised.

## PRAISE OF GOD'S GLORY.

**Psalm 33.** *Exultate, justi.*

**R**EJOICE in the LORD, O ye righteous;  
\* for it becometh well the just to be thankful.

2 Praise the LORD with harp;  
\* sing praises unto him with the lute,  
and instrument of ten strings.

3 Sing unto the LORD a new song;  
\* sing praises lustily unto him with a good courage.

4 For the word of the LORD is true;  
\* and all his works are faithful.

5 He loveth righteousness and judgment;  
\* the earth is full of the goodness of the LORD.

6 By the word of the LORD were the heavens made;  
\* and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth.

7 He gathereth the waters of the sea together, as it were upon an heap;  
\* and layeth up the deep, as in a treasure-house.

- 8 Let all the earth fear the LORD:  
\* stand in awe of him, all ye that dwell in the world.
- 9 For he spake, and it was done;  
\* he commanded, and it stood fast.
- 10 The LORD bringeth the counsel of the heathen to nought,  
\* and maketh the devices of the people to be of none effect,  
and casteth out the counsels of princes.
- 11 The counsel of the LORD shall endure for ever,  
\* and the thoughts of his heart from generation to generation.
- 12 Blessed are the people whose God is the Lord JEHOVAH;  
\* and blessed are the folk that he hath chosen to him,  
to be his inheritance.
- 13 The LORD looketh down from heaven,  
and beholdeth all the children of men;  
\* from the habitation of his dwelling,  
he considereth all them that dwell on the earth.
- 14 He fashioneth all the hearts of them,  
\* and understandeth all their works.
- 15 There is no king that can be saved by the multitude of an host;  
\* neither is any mighty man delivered by much strength.
- 16 A horse is counted but a vain thing to save a man;  
\* neither shall he deliver any man by his great strength.
- 17 Behold, the eye of the LORD is upon them that fear him,  
\* and upon them that put their trust in his mercy;
- 18 To deliver their soul from death,  
\* and to feed them in the time of dearth.

19 Our soul hath patiently tarried for the LORD;  
\* for he is our help and our shield.

20 For our heart shall rejoice in him;  
\* because we have hoped in his holy Name.

21 Let thy merciful kindness, O LORD, be upon us,  
\* like as we do put our trust in thee.

GLORY be to the Father, and to the Son, \* and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, \* world without  
end. Amen.

**Psalm 34.** *Benedicam Dominum.*

I WILL always give thanks unto the LORD;  
\* his praise shall ever be in my mouth.

2 My soul shall make her boast in the LORD;  
\* the humble shall hear thereof, and be glad.

3 O praise the LORD with me,  
\* and let us magnify his Name together.

4 I sought the LORD, and he heard me;  
\* yea, he delivered me out of all my fear.

5 They had an eye unto him, and were lightened;  
\* and their faces were not ashamed.

6 Lo, the poor crieth, and the LORD heareth him;  
\* yea, and saveth him out of all his troubles.

7 The angel of the LORD tarrieth round about them that fear him,  
\* and delivereth them.

- 8 O taste, and see, how gracious the LORD is:  
\* blessed is the man that trusteth in him.
- 9 O fear the LORD, ye that are his saints;  
\* for they that fear him lack nothing.
- 10 The lions do lack, and suffer hunger;  
\* but they who seek the LORD  
shall want no manner of thing that is good.
- 11 Come, ye children, and hearken unto me;  
\* I will teach you the fear of the LORD.
- 12 What man is he that lusteth to live,  
\* and would fain see good days?
- 13 Keep thy tongue from evil,  
\* and thy lips, that they speak no guile.
- 14 Eschew evil, and do good;  
\* seek peace, and ensue it.
- 15 The eyes of the LORD are over the righteous,  
\* and his ears are open unto their prayers.
- 16 The countenance of the LORD is against them that do evil,  
\* to root out the remembrance of them from the earth.
- 17 The righteous cry, and the LORD heareth them,  
\* and delivereth them out of all their troubles.
- 18 The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a contrite heart,  
\* and will save such as be of an humble spirit.
- 19 Great are the troubles of the righteous;  
\* but the LORD delivereth him out of all.

20 He keepeth all his bones,  
\* so that not one of them is broken.

21 But misfortune shall slay the ungodly;  
\* and they that hate the righteous shall be desolate.

22 The LORD delivereth the souls of his servants;  
\* and all they that put their trust in him shall not be destitute.

GLORY be to the Father, and to the Son, \* and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, \* world without  
end. Amen.

**The First Lesson:** Isaiah 49:14-25  
*The restoration of the children of Israel.*

In those days, said the prophet Isaiah:  
Zion said, The LORD hath forsaken me,  
and my Lord hath forgotten me.

15 Can a woman forget her sucking child,  
that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb?  
yea, they may forget,  
yet will I not forget thee.

16 Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands;  
thy walls are continually before me.

17 Thy children shall make haste;  
thy destroyers and they that made thee waste  
shall go forth of thee.

18 Lift up thine eyes round about, and behold:  
all these gather themselves together, and come to thee.

As I live, saith the LORD,  
thou shalt surely clothe thee with them all, as with an ornament,  
and bind them on thee, as a bride doeth.

19 For thy waste and thy desolate places,  
and the land of thy destruction,

shall even now be too narrow by reason of the inhabitants,  
and they that swallowed thee up shall be far away.

<sup>20</sup> The children which thou shalt have,  
after thou hast lost the other,  
shall say again in thine ears,  
The place is too strait for me:  
give place to me that I may dwell.

<sup>21</sup> Then shalt thou say in thine heart,  
Who hath begotten me these,  
seeing I have lost my children, and am desolate,  
a captive, and removing to and fro?  
and who hath brought up these?  
Behold, I was left alone;  
these, where had they been?

<sup>22</sup> Thus saith the Lord GOD,  
Behold, I will lift up mine hand to the Gentiles,  
and set up my standard to the people:  
and they shall bring thy sons in their arms,  
and thy daughters shall be carried upon their shoulders.

<sup>23</sup> And kings shall be thy nursing fathers,  
and their queens thy nursing mothers:  
they shall bow down to thee with their face toward the earth,  
and lick up the dust of thy feet;  
and thou shalt know that I am the LORD:  
for they shall not be ashamed that wait for me.

<sup>24</sup> Shall the prey be taken from the mighty,  
or the lawful captive delivered?

<sup>25</sup> But thus saith the LORD,  
Even the captives of the mighty shall be taken away,  
and the prey of the terrible shall be delivered:  
for I will contend with him that contendeth with thee,  
and I will save thy children.

**Canticle:** *Magnificat*. St. Luke i. 46.

MY soul doth magnify the Lord,  
\* and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

For he hath regarded  
\* the lowliness of his handmaiden.

For behold, from henceforth  
\* all generations shall call me blessed.

For he that is mighty hath magnified me;  
\* and holy is his Name.

And his mercy is on them that fear him  
\* throughout all generations.

He hath showed strength with his arm;  
\* he hath scattered the proud  
in the imagination of their hearts.

He hath put down the mighty from their seat,  
\* and hath exalted the humble and meek.

He hath filled the hungry with good things;  
\* and the rich he hath sent empty away.

He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel;  
\* as he promised to our forefathers,  
Abraham and his seed, for ever.

**G**LORY be to the Father, and to the Son, \*  
and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, \*  
world without end. Amen.

**The Second lesson: St. Mark 10:13-16**

**A**T that time: they brought young children to [Jesus], that he should touch them: and his disciples rebuked those that brought them. <sup>14</sup> But when Jesus saw it, he was much displeased, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God. <sup>15</sup> Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein. <sup>16</sup> And he took them up in his arms, put his hands upon them, and blessed them.

**Canticle:** *Nunc dimittis.* St. Luke ii. 29.

**L**ORD, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace,  
\* according to thy word.  
For mine eyes have seen  
\* thy salvation,  
Which thou hast prepared  
\* before the face of all people;  
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles,  
\* and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

**G**LORY be to the Father, and to the Son, \*  
and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, \*  
world without end. Amen.

**PRAYERS FOR GOD'S GRACE.**

*Minister.* The Lord be with you.

*Answer.* And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

**The Collect**

**A**LMIGHTY and everlasting God, who dost enkindle the flame of thy love in the hearts of the Saints; Grant to us, thy humble servants, the same faith and power of love; that, as we rejoice in their triumphs,

we may profit by their examples; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

**A Collect for Peace.**

**O** GOD, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed; Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee, we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour. *Amen.*

**A Collect for Aid against Perils.**

**L**IGHTEN our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*



# THE ANTE-COMMUNION

*Minister.* The Lord be with you.

*Answer.* And with the spirit.

*Minister.* Let us pray.

## OPENING PRAYERS

*said by the priest alone*

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. Amen.

## The Collect for Purity

ALMIGHTY God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## PREPARING IN PENITENCE.

*Priest.* Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith.

THOU shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it; Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

*Christ, have mercy upon us.*

Lord, have mercy upon us.

¶ *Here shall be said,*

*Answer.*           The Lord be with you.  
                          And with thy spirit.  
*Minister.*         Let us pray.

### **The Collect.**

**O** ALMIGHTY God, who out of the mouths of babes and sucklings hast ordained strength, and madest infants to glorify thee by their deaths: Mortify and kill all vices in us, and so strengthen us by thy grace, that by the innocency of our lives, and constancy of our faith even unto death, we may glorify thy holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, now and ever. *Amen.*

**A** LMIGHTY God, who hast given us thy only. begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin; Grant that we being regenerate, and made thy children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by thy Holy Spirit; through the same our Lord Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Spirit ever, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

### **THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD**

**The Lesson for the Epistle:** Revelation 14:1

**Clerk:** The Lesson for the Epistle is written in the 14<sup>th</sup> chapter of the Revelation of Saint John the Divine, beginning at the 1<sup>st</sup> verse:

**I**N those days: I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads. And I heard a voice from heaven, as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder: and I heard the voice of harpers harping with their harps: and they sung as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and the elders: and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth. These are they which were not defiled with women for they are virgins. These are they

which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men, being the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb. And in their mouth was found no guile: for they are without fault before the throne of God.

**The Gospel:** St. Matthew 2:13

*Priest.* The Holy ✠ Gospel according to St. Matthew, in the 2nd chapter, beginning at the 13<sup>th</sup> verse.

*Answer:* Glory be to thee, O Lord.

**A**T that time: the angel of the Lord appeareth to Joseph in a dream, saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him. When he arose, he took the young child and his mother by night, and departed into Egypt: and was there until the death of Herod: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Out of Egypt have I called my son. Then Herod, when he saw that he was mocked of the wise men, was exceeding wroth, and sent forth, and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem, and in all the coasts thereof, from two years old and under, according to time which he had diligently enquired of the wise men. Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremy the prophet, saying, In Rama was there a voice heard, lamentation, and weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, and would not be comforted, because they are not.

*Answer:* Praise be to thee, O Christ.

## **The Nicene Creed** *said by all*

**I**BELIEVE in one God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,  
And of all things visible and invisible:

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God; Begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of very God; Begotten, not made; Being of one substance with the Father; By whom all things were made: Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, And was made man: And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried: And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures: And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the Father: And he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord, and Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son; Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; Who spake by the Prophets: And I believe one Catholic and Apostolic Church: I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins: And I look for the Resurrection ☩ of the dead: And the Life of the world to come. Amen.

## **The Address**

### **THE OFFERTORY**

Our soul is escaped, even as a bird out of the snare of the fowler: the snare is broken, and we are delivered. *Psalm 124.*

God is not unrighteous, that he will forget your works, and labour that proceedeth of love; which love ye have showed for his Name's sake, who have ministered unto the saints, and yet do minister. *Heb. vi. 10.*

### **The Biddings and The Commemoration of the Faithful Departed**

*Minister.* I bid your prayers for the repose of the souls of the faithful departed:

Rest ☩ eternal grant unto them, O Lord;

*Answer.* and let light perpetual shine upon them.

May they rest in peace. *Amen.*

## The Prayer for Christ's Church.

¶ *Then shall the Priest say,*

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church.

**A**LMIGHTY and everliving God, who by thy holy Apostle hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men; We humbly beseech thee most mercifully to receive these our prayers, which we offer unto thy Divine Majesty; beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord: And grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

We beseech thee also, so to direct and dispose the hearts of all Christian Rulers, that they may truly and impartially administer justice, to the punishment of wickedness and vice, and to the maintenance of thy true religion, and virtue.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all Bishops and other Ministers, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy People give thy heavenly grace; and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear, and receive thy holy Word; truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succour all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

And we also bless ✠ thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear; beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service, and to give us grace so to follow their good examples, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom. Grant this, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. *Amen.*

## The Preparation for Communion

¶ *Then shall the Priest say to those who come to receive the Holy Communion,*

**Y**E who do truly and earnestly repent you 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 henceforth in his holy ways; Draw near with faith, and take this holy Sacrament to your comfort; and make your humble confession to Almighty God, devoutly kneeling.

¶ *Then shall this General Confession be made, by the Priest and all those who are minded to receive the Holy Communion, humbly kneeling.*

**A**LMIGHTY God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all men; We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, Which we, from time to time, most grievously have committed, By thought, word, and deed, Against thy Divine Majesty, Provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, And are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; The remembrance of them is grievous unto us; The burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; For thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, Forgive us all that is past; And grant that we may ever hereafter Serve and please thee In newness of life, To the honour and glory of thy Name; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

¶ *Then shall the Priest (the Bishop if he be present) stand up, and turning to the People, say,*

**A**LMIGHTY God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him; Have mercy upon you; pardon and deliver you from all your sins; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness; and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

¶ *Then shall the Priest say,*

Hear what comfortable words our Saviour Christ saith unto all who truly turn to him.

COME unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. *St. Matt. xi. 28.*

So God loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. *St. John iii. 16.*

Hear also what Saint Paul saith.

This is a true saying, and worthy of all men to be received, That Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. 1 *Tim. i. 15.*

Hear also what Saint John saith.

If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the Propitiation for our sins. 1 *St. John ii. 1, 2.*

¶ *After which the Priest shall proceed, saying,*

The Lord be with you  
*Answer.* And with thy spirit.  
*Priest.* Lift up your hearts.  
*Answer.* We lift them up unto the Lord.  
*Priest.* Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.  
*Answer.* It is meet and right so to do.

¶ *Then shall the Priest turn to the Holy Table, and say,*

IT is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God: because thou didst give Jesus Christ, thine only Son, to be born as at this time for us; who, by the operation of the Holy Ghost, was made very man, of the substance of the Virgin Mary his mother; and that without spot of sin, to make us clean from all sin.

THEREFORE with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY, Lord God of, hosts, Heaven and earth are full of thy glory: Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High. Amen.

*Priest.* Blessed is he that cometh in the Name of the Lord.

*Answer.* Hosanna in the highest.

¶ *Priest and People.*

## The Prayer of Consecration

¶ *When the Priest, standing before the Table, hath so ordered the Bread and Wine, that he may with the more readiness and decency break the Bread before the People, and take the Cup into his hands, he shall say the Prayer of Consecration, as followeth.*

ALL glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the Cross for our redemption; who made there (by his one oblation of himself once offered) a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again: For in the night in which he was betrayed, (a) he took Bread; and when he had given thanks, (b) he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, Take, eat, (c) this is my Body, which is given for you; Do this in remembrance of me. Likewise, after supper, (d) he took the Cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of this; for (e) this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins; Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me.

*(a) Here the Priest is to take the Paten into his hands.*

*(b) And here to break the Bread.*

*(c) And here to lay his hand on all the Bread.*

*(d) Here he is to take the Cup into his hands.*

*(e) And here he is to lay his hand upon every vessel, in which there is any Wine to be consecrated.*

WHEREFORE O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy Divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

*The Invocation*

AND we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

**A**ND we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness, mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion. And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee, that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him. And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice; yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service; not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offences, through Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honour and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. *Amen.*

And now, as our Saviour Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

**O**UR 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, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

**W**E do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy: Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his Body, and our souls washed through his most precious Blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. *Amen.*

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

### **The Communion**

THE Body of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was given for thee, preserve thy body and soul unto everlasting life. Take and eat this in remembrance that Christ died for thee, and feed on him in thy heart by faith, with thanksgiving.

*The Communion:*

Take the young child and his mother, and go into the land of Israel: for they are dead which sought the young child's life. *St Matthew 2.*

### **The Prayers after Communion**

¶ *Then shall the Priest say,*

Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee, for that thou dost vouchsafe to feed us who have duly received these holy mysteries with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favour and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, which is the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs through hope of thy everlasting kingdom, by the merits of his most precious death and passion. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

## The Angelic Hymn

¶ *Then shall be said Gloria in excelsis, all standing.*

**G**LORY be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will towards men. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the ✠glory of God the Father. Amen.

## The Blessing

¶ *Then, the people kneeling, the Priest (the Bishop if he be present) shall let them depart with this Blessing.*

**T**HE Peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: And the Blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. *Amen*

## The Last Gospel: St. John 1:1-14

*Priest.* The beginning of the Holy ✠Gospel according to St. John.

*Answer:* Glory be to thee, O Lord.

**I**N the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe. He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that

Light. That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to be come the Sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, [*all genuflect or kneel here for a short space*] (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

*Answer:* Thanks be to thee, O Christ.

