

**THE GROUPED PARISHES OF  
ANNAHILT AND MAGHERAHAMLET**

**A CELEBRATION OF  
THE HOLY COMMUNION**

**THE FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING  
SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT  
21 NOVEMBER 2021**

**PRESIDENT & PREACHER:  
THE RECTOR  
THE REVD CANON ROBERT HOWARD**

**THE GREETING**

*The Rector introduces the Service and greets the congregation  
with the following words:*

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

**And also with you**

‘God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit  
and in truth.’ *St John 4:24*

*Processional Hymn CH 102*

Name of all majesty,  
fathomless mystery,  
king of the ages  
by angels adored;  
power and authority,  
splendour and dignity,  
bow to his mastery -  
Jesus is Lord!

Child of our destiny,  
God from eternity,  
love of the Father  
on sinners outpoured;  
see now what God has done  
sending his only Son,  
Christ the beloved one –  
Jesus is Lord!

Saviour of Calvary,  
costliest victory,  
darkness defeated  
and Eden restored;  
born as a man to die,  
nailed to a cross on high,  
cold in the grave to lie -  
Jesus is Lord!

Source of all sovereignty,  
light, immortality;  
life everlasting  
and heaven assured;

so with the ransomed, we  
praise him eternally,  
Christ in his majesty -  
Jesus is Lord!

#### THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

**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.**

#### PENITENCE

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says:  
You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart  
and with all your soul and with all your mind.  
This is the first and great commandment.  
And the second is like it.  
You shall love your neighbour as yourself  
On these two commandments depend all the law  
and the prophets. *Matthew 22: 37-39*

**Lord have mercy upon us, and write all these your laws in our hearts.**

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ, to save us from our sins, to intercede for us in heaven, and to bring us to eternal life.

Let us then confess our sins in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God's commandments and to live in love and peace:

*Kneel*

*Silence*

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
we have sinned in thought and word and deed,  
and in what we have left undone.**

**We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us,  
that we may walk in newness of life  
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

*The Rector pronounces the Absolution:*

Almighty God,  
who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy on you,  
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,  
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,  
and keep you in eternal life,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*(All Sing)*

**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**

#### THE COLLECT

Eternal Father,  
whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven  
that he might rule over all things as Lord and King:  
Keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit  
and in the bond of peace,  
and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet,  
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*Sit*

*The Old Testament Reading is from the 2<sup>nd</sup> book of Samuel  
Chapter 23 beginning at verse 1*

23 Now these are the last words of David:

The oracle of David, son of Jesse,  
the oracle of the man whom God exalted,\*  
the anointed of the God of Jacob,  
the favourite of the Strong One of Israel:

<sup>2</sup> The spirit of the LORD speaks through me,  
his word is upon my tongue.

<sup>3</sup> The God of Israel has spoken,  
the Rock of Israel has said to me:  
One who rules over people justly,  
ruling in the fear of God,

<sup>4</sup> is like the light of morning,  
like the sun rising on a cloudless morning,  
gleaming from the rain on the grassy land.

<sup>5</sup> Is not my house like this with God?

For he has made with me an everlasting covenant,  
ordered in all things and secure.

Will he not cause to prosper  
all my help and my desire?

<sup>6</sup> But the godless are\* all like thorns that are thrown away;  
for they cannot be picked up with the hand;

<sup>7</sup> to touch them one uses an iron bar  
or the shaft of a spear.

And they are entirely consumed in fire on the spot.\*

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

*Stand*

*Psalm 132 (SAID)*

1 Lord, remember for David ♦  
**all the hardships he endured;**

2 How he swore an oath to the Lord ♦  
**and vowed a vow to the Mighty One of Jacob:**

3 'I will not come within the shelter of my house, ♦  
**nor climb up into my bed;**

4 'I will not allow my eyes to sleep, ♦  
**nor let my eyelids slumber,**

5 'Until I find a place for the Lord, ♦  
**a dwelling for the Mighty One of Jacob.'**

6 Now, we heard of the ark in Ephrathah ♦  
**and found it in the fields of Ja-ar.**

7 Let us enter his dwelling place ♦  
**and fall low before his footstool.**

8 Arise, O Lord, into your resting place, ♦  
**you and the ark of your strength.**

9 Let your priests be clothed with righteousness ♦  
**and your faithful ones sing with joy.**

10 For your servant David's sake, ♦  
**turn not away the face of your anointed.**

11 The Lord has sworn an oath to David, ♦  
**a promise from which he will not shrink:**

12 'Of the fruit of your body ♦  
**shall I set upon your throne.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;  
**as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.**

*The Epistle is from the Revelation of Saint John the Divine  
Chapter 1 beginning at verse 4*

4 John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, <sup>5</sup>and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed\* us from our sins by his blood, <sup>6</sup>and made\* us to be a kingdom, priests serving\* his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

<sup>7</sup> Look! He is coming with the clouds;

every eye will see him,  
even those who pierced him;  
and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

8 'I am the Alpha and the Omega', says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

*Gradual Hymn T&P 80*

King of kings, majesty,  
God of heaven living in me,  
gentle Saviour, closest friend,  
strong deliverer, beginning and end,  
all within me falls at your throne.

*Your majesty, I can but bow,  
I lay my all before you now.  
In royal robes I don't deserve  
I live to serve your majesty,  
I live to serve your majesty.*

Earth and heaven worship you,  
love eternal, faithful and true,  
who bought the nations, ransomed souls,  
brought this sinner near to your throne;  
all within me cries out to praise.

*All remain standing for the reading of the Gospel.*

*Hear the Gospel of our Saviour Christ according to Saint John  
Chapter 18 beginning at verse 33*

**All sing: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

33 Then Pilate entered the headquarters\* again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, 'Are you the King of the Jews?'<sup>34</sup> Jesus answered, 'Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?'<sup>35</sup> Pilate replied, 'I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?'<sup>36</sup> Jesus answered, 'My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.'<sup>37</sup> Pilate asked him, 'So you are a king?' Jesus answered, 'You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord

**All Sing: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

**THE SERMON**

*Stand*

**THE NICENE 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,  
was incarnate by the Holy Spirit 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,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,  
who 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.**

**THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*Kneel*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
you promised through your Son Jesus Christ  
to hear the prayers of those who ask in faith.

Lord of your people:

We give thanks for the grace that always exceeds what we can hope or ask for.

We pray this diocese and for David our Bishop. We pray for the Parish of Moneyreagh and the Local Ordained Minister, the Revd Rory Blake-Knox.

We pray for this Group of Parishes and for our Sunday Schools, Rainbow Guides and Bowling Club now that they have resumed their activities despite continuing restrictions.

May your Church everywhere make Christ real in the corridors of power and in the dark places of deprivation. At this time of an ongoing easing of pandemic restrictions help us to be at one with each other in love and prayer and mutual support

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer**

Lord of creation:

We pray for our leaders whose decisions and policies have the potential to impact the lives of millions of people around the world, people who they may never meet, know or be aware of but are your sons and daughters.

Bless Elizabeth our Queen, the Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, the Secretary of State, Brandon Lewis & the Government, the First Minister, Paul Givan, Deputy First Minister, Michelle O'Neill & Executive; also President Michael D Higgins, the Taoiseach, Micheál Martin, Tánaiste, Leo Varadkar & Government in the Republic.

We pray that your Spirit will inspire the hearts and heads of our leaders and those who hold positions of responsibility in Afghanistan, Yemen, Iran, Myanmar and the Horn of Africa, that they might hear the voices of the impoverished, the oppressed and the vulnerable. Help them to see the impact of their actions and the potential to release healing and hope through just policies.

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer**

Lord of our relationships:

We pray for our local community and all who work for its good:

those in local government, education, social, health and medical services, the shopkeepers, the police and all associated with our neighbouring churches.

Help us to be good witnesses among those who know us best, at home and among friends and family Help us to be humble and forgiving and always willing to understand our faults. So may our family life and our neighbourhood itself be a witness to your saving grace.

Shield our families and friends from the assaults and fear of coronavirus and its variants.

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

Lord of all healing:

May the compassion of Christ still prevail to heal the sick and feed the hungry, through the divine love that never fails. Give skill, sympathy and resilience to all who are caring for the sick at home or in hospital, in particular Ruth Carlisle, Isaac Harrison,. Give your wisdom in distributing vaccine boosters. May discoveries in the field of medicine be truly shared between rich and poor. Inspire those who as yet have not taken up the opportunity of vaccination to consider the positive benefits of doing so. We pray for all who are bereaved and grant them the assurance of your love.

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer**

Lord of eternity:

Grant refreshment, light and peace to all who no longer need the bread of this world. Receive them into their eternal home.

Accept our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray:

**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 PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS**

**We do not presume to come to this your table,  
merciful Lord,  
trusting in our own righteousness  
but in your manifold and great mercies.  
We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under  
your table.  
But you are the same Lord,  
whose nature is always to have mercy.  
Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord,  
so to eat the flesh of your 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.**

*Stand*

**THE PEACE**

*The Rector introduces the Peace with these words:*

Christ is our peace. He has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross. We meet in his name and share his peace.

*followed by:*

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

*Hymn CH 425*

Jesus, thou joy of loving hearts;  
thou fount of life, our lives sustain;  
from the best bliss that earth imparts  
we turn unfilled to thee again.

Thy truth unchanged hath ever stood;  
thou savest those that on thee call;  
to them that seek thee, thou art good,  
to them that find thee, all in all.

We taste thee, O thou living bread,  
and long to feast upon thee still;  
we drink of thee, the fountain-head,  
and thirst our souls from thee to fill.

Our restless spirits yearn for thee,  
where'er our changeful lot is cast;  
glad when thy gracious smile we see,  
blessed when our faith can hold thee fast.

O Jesus, ever with us stay,  
make all our moments calm and bright;  
chase the dark night of sin away,  
shed o'er the world thy holy light.

**CELEBRATING AT THE LORD'S TABLE**

**THE TAKING OF THE BREAD AND WINE**

*The Rector takes the bread and wine and may say*

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us  
**Therefore let us celebrate the feast.**

*Kneel*

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

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

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.**

Father, Lord of all creation,  
we praise you for your goodness and your love.  
When we turned away you did not reject us.  
You came to meet us in your Son,  
welcomed us as your children  
and prepared a table where we might feast with you.

In Christ you shared our life  
that we might live in him and he in us.

**He opened wide his arms upon the cross and,  
with love stronger than death,  
he made the perfect sacrifice for sin.**

Lord Jesus Christ, our redeemer,  
on the night before you died  
you came to table with your friends.  
Taking bread, you gave thanks, broke it  
and gave it to them saying,  
Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

**Lord Jesus, we bless you:  
you are the bread of life.**

At the end of supper  
you took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said,  
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 in remembrance of me.

**Lord Jesus, we bless you:  
you are the true vine.**

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ:  
**dying, you destroyed our death,  
rising, you restored our life;  
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Holy Spirit, giver of life,  
come upon us now;  
may this bread and wine be to us  
the body and blood of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

**As we eat and drink these holy gifts  
make us, who know our need of grace,  
one in Christ, our risen Lord.**

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Blessed Trinity:  
with your whole Church throughout the world  
we offer you this sacrifice of thanks and praise  
and lift our voice to join the song of heaven,  
for ever praising you and singing:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full,  
full of your glory  
Hosanna in the highest,  
hosanna in the highest**

Thanks be to you, our God, for your gift beyond words.  
**Amen. Amen. Amen.**

#### **THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

*The Rector breaks the consecrated bread in preparation for the  
Communion*

The bread which we break  
is a sharing in the body of Christ.  
**We, being many, are one body,  
for we all share in the one bread.**

#### **THE COMMUNION**

*The Rector says*

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.  
Remember that he died for you,  
and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

*The Rector and other persons receive communion*

#### **THE GREAT SILENCE**

*When all have received communion, they keep silence for reflection.*

*Going Out as God's People*

Stir up, O Lord,  
the wills of your faithful people;  
that plenteously bearing the fruit of good works  
they may by you be plenteously rewarded;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*All say*

**Almighty God,  
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food  
of 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.**

**BLESSING**

The peace of God,  
which passes 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 Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always. *(All sing)* **Amen.**

*Recessional Hymn CH 259*

Christ triumphant, ever reigning,  
Saviour, Master, King!  
Lord of heaven, our lives sustaining,  
hear us as we sing:

*Yours the glory and the crown,  
the high renown, th'eternal name!*

Word incarnate, truth revealing,  
Son of Man on earth!  
Power and majesty concealing  
by your humble birth:

Suffering servant, scorned, ill-treated,  
victim crucified!  
Death is through the cross defeated,  
sinners justified:

Priestly King, enthroned for ever  
high in heaven above!  
Sin and death and hell shall never  
stifle hymns of love:

So, our hearts and voices raising  
through the ages long,  
ceaselessly upon you gazing,  
this shall be our song:

*Yours the glory and the crown,  
the high renown, th'eternal name!*

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

*Notices*