

**THE GROUPED PARISHES OF
ANNAHILT AND MAGHERAHAMLET**

**A SERVICE OF
THE HOLY COMMUNION**

ON

SUNDAY 5 SEPTEMBER 2021

PRESIDENT AND PREACHER:

THE RECTOR

THE REVD CANON ROBERT HOWARD

THE GREETING

The Rector 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. *John 4.24*

HYMN CH 6

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessèd, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unchanging, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice, like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all, life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
and wither and perish; but nought changeth thee.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all laud we would render: O help us to see
'tis only the splendour of light hideth thee.

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 on us,
and write 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:

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.**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS (SUNG)

**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 OF THE DAY

Almighty God,
whose only Son has opened for us
a new and living way into your presence:
Give us pure hearts and steadfast wills
to worship you in spirit and in truth,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING

The Old Testament Reading is from the book of Proverbs Chapter
22 beginning at verse 1

²²A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches,
and favour is better than silver or gold.

²The rich and the poor have this in common:
the LORD is the maker of them all.

⁸Whoever sows injustice will reap calamity,

and the rod of anger will fail.

⁹Those who are generous are blessed,
for they share their bread with the poor.

²²Do not rob the poor because they are poor,
or crush the afflicted at the gate;

²³for the LORD pleads their cause
and despoils of life those who despoil them.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 125 (SAID)

1 Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, ♦
which cannot be moved, but stands fast for ever.

2 As the hills stand about Jerusalem, ♦
**so the Lord stands round about his people,
from this time forth for evermore.**

3 The sceptre of wickedness shall not hold sway
over the land allotted to the righteous, ♦

lest the righteous turn their hands to evil.

4 Do good, O Lord, to those who are good, ♦
and to those who are true of heart.

5 Those who turn aside to crooked ways
the Lord shall take away with the evildoers; ♦
but let there be peace upon Israel.

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

The Epistle is from the letter of Saint James Chapter 2 beginning at
verse 1

²My brothers and sisters,* do you with your acts of favouritism
really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? ²For if a person
with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if
a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, ³and if you take notice
of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, 'Have a seat here,
please', while to the one who is poor you say, 'Stand there', or, 'Sit
at my feet', ⁴have you not made distinctions among yourselves,
and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵Listen, my beloved
brothers and sisters.* Has not God chosen the poor in the world to
be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised

to those who love him? ⁶But you have dishonoured the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? ⁷Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

⁸You do well if you really fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' ⁹But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. ¹⁰For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. ¹¹For the one who said, 'You shall not commit adultery', also said, 'You shall not murder.' Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. ¹²So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. ¹³For judgement will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgement.

¹⁴What good is it, my brothers and sisters,* if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? ¹⁵If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, ¹⁶and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill', and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? ¹⁷So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

GRADUAL HYMN CH 495

*Jesu, Jesu,
fill us with your love,
show us how to serve
the neighbours we have from you.*

Kneels at the foot of his friends,
silently washes their feet;
master who acts as a slave to them.

Neighbours are rich folk and poor,
neighbours are black, brown and white,
neighbours are nearby and far away.

These are the ones we should serve,
these are the ones we should love;
all these are neighbours to us and you.

Loving puts us on our knees,
serving as though we were slaves,
this is the way we should live with you.

THE GOSPEL READING

Hear the Gospel of our Saviour Christ according to Saint Mark
Chapter 7 beginning at verse 24

All sing: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ

²⁴From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre.* He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, ²⁵but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. ²⁶Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. ²⁷He said to her, 'Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs.' ²⁸But she answered him, 'Sir,* even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs.' ²⁹Then he said to her, 'For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter.' ³⁰So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

³¹Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³²They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. ³⁴Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, 'Ephphatha', that is, 'Be opened.' ³⁵And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶Then Jesus* ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷They were astounded beyond measure, saying, 'He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord

All Sing: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

THE SERMON

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

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 those
being ordained Priest later today, the: Revd Rodney Blair for the
curacy of Shankill, Lurgan; the Revd Andrew Hay for the curacy of
St Finnian's Cregagh; the Revd Anna Williams for the curacy of
Seapatrick, Banbridge. We pray for James Cunningham, who will
be ordained Deacon on next Sunday for ordained local ministry for
the Ulster Hospital Chaplaincy.

We pray for the Revd Colin Taylor, Rector of our neighbouring
Parishes of Dromara and Garvaghy and for his wife Eleanor as they
move into retirement in Belfast.

We pray for this Group of Parishes and for those recently
confirmed, Rhys Ewing, Alana Jiandani, Joshua McKeown, Emily
O'Neill and Zara Saulters from Annahilt, Charlotte Moore, Mark
Stanford, Sarah Wightman and Jenny Wightman in Magherahamlet.

As we are fed by word and sacrament, make us strong in your
service. Guide us and direct us in the preparations we will be
making to safely return to parochial activities in our Church
buildings.

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 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:
Show us the way to relieve the needs that lie close to us.

Shield our families from the assaults and fear of coronavirus and its variants. We pray for those who are living in fear: fear of illness, fear for loved ones, fear of others' reaction to them.

If we are ill, strengthen us. If we are tired, fortify our spirits.

Help us in our life together to be a healing influence in our neighbourhood and in the world.

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 and your wisdom in distributing vaccine. May discoveries in the field of medicine be truly shared between rich and poor. Inspire those who as yet have 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

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.**

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 432

Love is his word, love is his way,
feasting with friends, fasting alone,
living and dying, rising again,
love, only love is his way:

*Richer than gold is the love of my Lord,
better than splendour and wealth.*

Love is his way, love is his mark,
sharing his last Passover feast.
Christ at his table, host to the twelve,
love, only love, is his mark:

Love is his mark, love is his sign,
bread for our strength, wine for our joy,
'This is my body, this is my blood' -
love, only love, is his sign:

Love is his name, love is his law,
hear his command, all who are his:
'Love one another, I have loved you' –
love, only love, is his law:

Love is his law, love is his word:
love of the Lord, Father and Word,
love of the Spirit, God ever one,
love, only love, is his word:

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.

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

Lord God,
the source of truth and love:
Keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship,
united in prayer and the breaking of bread,
and one in joy and simplicity of heart,
in 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.**

HYMN T&P 146

The kingdom of God is justice and joy;
For Jesus restores what sin would destroy.
God's power and glory in Jesus we know;
And here and hereafter the kingdom shall grow.

The kingdom of God is mercy and grace;
The captives are freed, the sinners find place,
The outcast are welcomed God's banquet to share;
And hope is awakened in place of despair.

The kingdom of God is challenge and choice:
Believe the good news, repent and rejoice!
God's love for us sinners brought Christ to his cross:
Our crisis of judgement for gain or for loss.

God's kingdom is come, the gift and the goal;
In Jesus begun, in heaven made whole.
The heirs of the kingdom shall answer his call;
And all things cry "Glory!" to God all in all.

DISMISSAL

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

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

Notices