

The background of the image shows the interior of a church. A large, ornate archway frames a statue of a figure, possibly a saint or the Virgin Mary, standing on a pedestal. The archway is decorated with intricate carvings and a circular medallion featuring a face. The walls are covered in a patterned fabric or tapestry. In the foreground, a large, ornate stone altar or pedestal is visible, featuring a relief carving of a group of people. The overall atmosphere is one of historical and religious significance.

St Nicolas Guildford

Mass
& Commissioning
of the
Parochial Church Council

Welcome to The Mass

¶ Please **STAND** for the entry of the priest and **HYMN**

The Gathering

Priest ✠ In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

Priest The Lord be with you:

All **And also with you.**

Priest Brothers and Sisters, this Eastertide we have celebrated with joyful hearts the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, his bursting from the tomb and his defeat of the power of sin and death. He appeared to his disciples many times and told them about the kingdom of God. This week we marked how he left this earth and returned to his Father, ascending into heaven to take his throne over all dominions and powers. Trusting in his reign over all creation, and submitting to his kingly yet loving rule, let us hear the story of his parting.

Lector A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. 'This', he said, 'is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized

with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.' So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.'

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

All He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Confession

This or another seasonal invitation to Confession is offered by the priest:

Priest Brothers and sisters, let us bring to God our failings and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

¶ Please SIT OR KNEEL

A short period of silence is observed, followed by:

Priest Lord Jesus, you suffered a cruel death on the cross for
our redemption, yet we have forgotten your pain
and stayed in the realm of the evil you defeated.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you were raised from death
to bring us new life,
yet we have preferred the comfort of the familiar,
and the empty promises of a sinful world.
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you have ascended to your Father
and our Father, your God and our God;
plead there at the right hand of God
for our forgiveness and entry
into the fullness of his presence.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Absolution

Priest 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**

¶ Please STAND

The Gloria

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

Priest O God the King of glory,
you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ
with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven:
we beseech you, leave us not comfortless,
but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us
and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ
is gone before,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God,
now and for ever.

All Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

¶ REMAIN STANDING for the GRADUAL HYMN

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

All Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to St John.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

The Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

¶ Please SIT

The Homily

¶ Please STAND

The Declaration of Faith

We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.
We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.
We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.
We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.

The Prayers of the People

¶ Please **SIT OR KNEEL**

Priest In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ
let us pray to the Father.

*The response to the bidding, Heaven and earth is are full of God's
glory.*

All Heaven and earth
are full of God's glory.

Let us join our prayers with those of our Saviour Christ,
seeking the Father's blessing and the gifts of the Spirit.

Jesus Christ, great high priest,

living for ever to intercede for us,

pray for the Church, your broken body in the world.

As we remember Jesus' Ascension

into heaven as Saviour and Lord, we pray for unity in
the Church and reconciliation and renewed vision.

We continue to pray for the Universal church and lift
our prayers to you for Pius, Bishop of Rome,

for our Bishops, Andrew and Paul.

We pray too for all those charged with the
discerning of the name of the next Archbishop of
Canterbury.

We pray for all the people of God in this place and
especially those who have come forward to serve their
neighbours as members of our Church Council.

Everlasting Father,

Your Son came to earth to do your will

and in baptism you call us to love and serve you:

help us to discern what you now ask of us

and give us grace to respond In joyful obedience

in union with your beloved Son.

All

Heaven and earth
are full of God's glory.

Jesus Christ, king of righteousness,
enthroned at the right hand of the majesty on high,
pray for the world, and make it subject to your gentle
rule.

Loving God, we pray for your world, of which your Son
is King. We pray for our Sovereign Lord, Charles, for all
the Royal Family and for the Armed Forces of the
Crown. We pray for peace, reconciliation and healing in
the places of war, hatred, and terror. Jesus Christ, Son
of Man, drawing humanity into the life of God,
pray for your brothers and sisters in need, distress or
sorrow. We pray for all farewells and homecomings
among our families and in our community, and for all
who have lost touch with loved ones and long for
reunion.

Father we pray for those who are full of tears,
and cannot imagine being happy again; we pray for the
hardened and callous, whose inner hurts have never yet
been healed. We pray for wholeness and comfort and
new life. In the silence of our hearts we remember
those who have asked for our prayers.

All

Heaven and earth
are full of God's glory.

Jesus Christ, pioneer of our salvation,
bringing us to glory through your death and
resurrection, surround with your saints and angels

those who have died trusting your promises. We remember especially those who have recently died and those whose years mind fall at this time.

Rest eternal grant unto them O Lord:

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

May they rest in peace

All **And rise in glory**

Members of the PCC process to the chancel steps and turn to face the congregation.

The Commissioning & Peace

Priest Jesus Christ, Lord over all things,
ascended far above the heavens and filling the universe,
pray for us who receive the gifts you give us
for work in your service.

All **Amen.**

Jesus Christ, keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit
and in the bond of peace, and bring the whole created
order to worship at your feet; for you are alive and
reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now
and for ever.

All **Amen.**

Priest Through baptism, God welcomes us into the fellowship
of the universal Church.
The ministry of lay people is to represent Christ and his
Church beyond the walls of this church; to bear witness
to him wherever they may be; and according to their
gifts, to carry on Christ's work of reconciliation in the
world; and to take their place in the life, worship and
governance of the Church.

Therefore, I ask:

Will you engage with the Scriptures and the Church's teachings in your ministry on the PCC and in your daily life?

PCC **With the help of God, I will.**

Will you work collaboratively and serve with humility, integrity, love and devotion, persevering in prayer while working for justice?

PCC **With the help of God, I will.**

Will you then, in the strength of the Holy Spirit, continually stir up the gift of God that is in you to make Christ known to all?

PCC **With the help of God, I will.**

Almighty God, who has given you the will to undertake these things, give you also the strength to perform them, that he may complete that work that he has begun in you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen**

Wardens Will you support, encourage and co-operate with the Rector in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical?

PCC **With the help of God, I will.**

Priest Will you pray for, support and encourage members of the PCC?

PCC **With the help of God, I will.**

The PCC pray together, saying:

**God our Father,
we offer our lives to do your work in your Church
and in the world. Help us by your Holy Spirit to
hear more clearly your call to deeper commitment
to your service, and give us grace to respond with
gladness; for the glory of Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Priest **Father, we thank you for those willing to serve on the
PCC. By your grace, please equip us for this work.
Give us unity, vision and wisdom we pray.
With the whole congregation here, make us fruitful for
your kingdom and glory, for our Lord Jesus Christ's
sake.**

All **Amen**

The Peace

This or another introduction to the Peace is offered.

**God is love and those who live in love live in God
and God lives in them.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All **And also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

¶ Please STAND for the OFFERTORY HYMN

In Christ alone, my hope is found
He is my light, my strength, my song
This Cornerstone, this solid ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love, what depths of peace
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease
My Comforter, my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
'Til on that cross as Jesus died
The love of God for all to see
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live, I live.

There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

**No guilt in life, no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell, no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand**

*During which a collection will be taken for the work of the church and good causes.
Consider using the Giving envelope so we can be tax efficient or do ask about using the
cordless payment machine.*

**Priest Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours
 may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.**
**All May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands
 for our good and the good of all his holy Church.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

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

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

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

Priest It is indeed right and good,
 our duty and our joy,
 always and everywhere to give you thanks,
 holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
 through Jesus Christ the King of glory.
 Born of a woman,
 he came to the rescue of our human race.
 Dying for us, he trampled death and conquered sin.
 By the glory of his resurrection
 he opened the way to life eternal
 and by his ascension gave us the sure hope
 that where he is we may also be.
 Therefore the universe resounds with Easter joy
 and with choirs of angels we sing for ever to your
 praise:

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.**

¶ Please SIT or KNEEL

Priest How wonderful the work of your hands, O Lord.
As a mother tenderly gathers her children,
you embraced a people as your own.
When they turned away and rebelled
your love remained steadfast.
From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour,
born of Mary,
to be the living bread.
He offered his life for sinners,
and with a love stronger than death
he opened wide his arms on the cross.

On the night before he died,
he came to supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he gave you thanks.
He 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.**

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,
he gave you 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, as often as you drink it, in
remembrance of me.**

All Great is the mystery of faith:
**Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.**

Father, we plead with confidence
his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross;
we remember his dying and rising in glory,

and we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand.

Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you these gifts of your creation;
may they be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence,
form us in the likeness of Christ,
and build us into a living temple to your glory.
Remember, Lord, your Church in every land.
Reveal her unity, guard her faith,
and preserve her in peace.

Bring us at the last with Our Lady, Nicolas, George,
Catherine, Benedict, Helena and all the saints
to the vision of that eternal splendour
for which you have created us;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
by whom, with whom, and in whom,
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

Priest At the Saviour's command and formed by Divine teaching we dare to say,

**All Our Father, which art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done;
in earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive them that trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.**

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil,
graciously grant peace in our days,
that, by the help of your mercy,
we may be always free from sin
and safe from all distress,
as we await the blessed hope
and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

**All For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Fracture

Priest We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.

*You are welcome to make your communion. Sidespeople will guide you.
Anyone baptised may receive the Eucharist.*

Prayer after Communion

God our Father,
you have raised our humanity in Christ
and have fed us with the bread of heaven:
mercifully grant that, nourished with such spiritual
blessings, we may set our hearts in the heavenly places;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All

Amen.

We thank you, Lord,
that you have fed us in this sacrament,
united us with Christ,
and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet
prepared for all peoples. Amen.

The Blessing & Dismissal

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Then the disciples returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying. They were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Responsory

All As we wait in silence,
make us ready for your coming Spirit.

All As we listen to your word,
make us ready for your coming Spirit.

All As we worship you in majesty,
make us ready for your coming Spirit.

All As we long for your refreshing,
make us ready for your coming Spirit.

All As we long for your renewing,
make us ready for your coming Spirit.

All As we long for your equipping,
make us ready for your coming Spirit.

All As we long for your empowering,
make us ready for your coming Spirit.

The Blessing

God the Father,
who has given to his Son the name above every name,
strengthen you to proclaim Christ Jesus as Lord.

God the Son,
who is our great high priest passed into the heavens,
plead for you at the right hand of the Father.

God the Holy Spirit,
who pours out his abundant gifts upon the Church,
make you faithful servants of Christ our King.
And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

Priest The Mass is ended.
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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