

EASTER 4

(Fifth Sunday of Easter)

St Raphael's

2020



In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit

Amen

The Lord is here

His Spirit is with us

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Lord Jesus Christ, in this season of Easter we give you thanks for all the benefits of your passion and resurrection. You are Lord of life, and even death cannot conquer your love. As we celebrate your victory over sin, suffering and death, we wait for your Spirit, confident in the promises you have set before us, and rejoicing in our salvation.

**Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy:
Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,
your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.**

**Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:
Be there at our labours, and give us, we pray,
your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.**

**Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,
your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace:
Be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,
your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.**

**Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm:
Be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,
your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.**

The Confession.

Jesus Christ, risen master and triumphant Lord,
We come to you in sorrow for our sins,
And confess to you our weakness and unbelief.

We have a moment of quiet...

We have lived by our own strength,
And not by the power of your resurrection.
In your mercy forgive us,
Lord, hear us and help us.

We have lived by the light of our own eyes,
As faithless and not believing.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Lord hear us and help us.

We have lived for this world alone,
And doubted our home in heaven.
In your mercy forgive us.
Lord hear us and help us.

The Father of all mercies
Cleanse you from your sins
And restore in you his image
To the praise and glory of his name,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
Amen

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The Gloria

Refrain: *Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo, Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo.*

1. Lord God heavenly King, peace you bring to us, we worship you, we give you thanks, we sing our song of praise.

2. Jesus, saviour of all, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away our sins, O Lord, have mercy on us all.

3. At the Father's right hand, Lord, receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One and you alone are Lord.

4. Glory Father and Son, glory Holy Spirit! To you we raise our hands up high! We glorify your name

Risen Christ,
Your wounds declare your love for the world
And the wonder of your risen life:
Give us compassion and courage to risk ourselves for those we serve
To the glory of God the Father,
Amen

We hear the first reading

1 Peter 2:2-10

²Like new-born babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, ³now that you have tasted that the LORD is good. ⁴As you come to him, the living Stone-rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him- ⁵you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For in Scripture it says: "See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame." ⁷Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, "The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone," ⁸and, "A stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall." They stumble because they disobey the message-which is also what they were destined for. ⁹But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Alleluia, alleluia.

Jesus said, 'All who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life; and I will raise them up on the last day.'

Alleluia

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

Glory to you Oh Lord

Jesus the Way to the Father

14 “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe^[a] in God, believe also in me. ²In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?^[b] ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going.”^[c] ⁵Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you know me, you will know^[d] my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” ⁹Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. ¹²Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If in my name you ask me^[e] for anything, I will do it.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Oh Christ

We hear a reflection for the Fifth Sunday of Easter (Easter 4)

We confirm our faith together in the words of the 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 of the Holy Spirit and 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

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

We give thanks to God for the many blessings in our lives: for family, friends, our local community and the joys that come with the returning Spring. Bless us and preserve us and lead us on in faith and courage.

Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer

We give thanks for this weekend's VE Day anniversary celebrations, as we remember those who made great sacrifices to see justice done in our world. We pray for those in the armed forces and for their families and all those they love.

Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer

We bring before God his Church in every place, praying especially for Christians in our own Diocese and our own communities. We thank you for all those who are serving you and their neighbour, through acts of kindness and through dedicated prayer. Help us to be instruments of your love, and to show the way to you by the way we live our lives.

Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer

We bring before God the needs of the nations, today praying especially for the work of Christian Aid amongst the poorest people of our world. Bless and guide those who work for them and who have volunteered and given this week. Help us to remember the many benefits that we enjoy, and to give with generosity and thanksgiving to those in need.

Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer

We bring before God the needs of our own community, praying for all who are suffering. Today we pray especially for all those who are shielding in our community, that they may know themselves cared for, both practically and emotionally. We pray too for those whose mental health has been adversely affected by the need to stay at home, for those who are anxious or depressed, and for those who live with them and care for them. We pray for all we know who suffer in body, mind or spirit – for healing, peace and comfort.

Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer

We pray for all who mourn, and for the departed souls of Sue-Sue, Peggy Bird, Christine Allnutt, Adrian and Alice Warmsley and all those known to us. May they rest in peace and rise in glory and may light perpetual shine upon them.

Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer

Heavenly Father,
you have delivered us from the power of darkness
and brought us into the kingdom of your Son:
grant that, as his death has recalled us to life,
so his continual presence in us may raise us to eternal joy;
through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

We worship with Christians across the globe, and so we pray for one another in the words of the peace...

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said,
'Peace be with you.'
Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia.
The peace of the risen Christ be always with you
and also with you. Alleluia!

**Eternal God,
Whose Son Jesus Christ is the Way, the Truth and the Life,
Grant us to walk in his way,
Rejoice in his truth,
And to share his risen life,
Who is alive and reigns, now and forever, Amen**

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**Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,
pilgrim though this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
hold me with thy powerful hand;
Bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore.**

**Open now the crystal fountain,
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fiery cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through;
strong Deliverer,**

be thou still my Strength and Shield.

**When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
bear me through the swelling current,
land me safe on Canaan's side;
songs of praises,
I will ever give to thee.**

Let us pray together as our Saviour taught us
**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.**

God the Father,
by whose love Christ was raised from the dead
open to you who believe the gate of everlasting life..

Amen

God the Son,
who in bursting from the grave has won a glorious victory,
give you joy as you share the Easter faith.

Amen.

God the Holy Spirit,
who filled the disciples with the life of the risen Lord,
empower you and fill you with Christ's peace.

Amen.

And the blessing of God almighty,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
Be among you and remain with you always
Amen.



With the risen life of Christ within us
Let us live our lives in the peace of Christ. Alleluia. Alleluia.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.