



***“Be courageous”***

***An Order  
for the Celebration of a***

***School Mass***

**AN ORDER FOR THE CELEBRATION  
OF A SCHOOL MASS**

*also called*

the Eucharist

*and*

Holy Communion

## **INTRODUCTION**

### ***WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE***

*We **STAND** for the beginning of Mass and we sing a song.*

**1. Father, hear the prayer we offer:  
not for ease that prayer shall be,  
but for strength that we may ever  
live our lives courageously.**

**2. Not for ever in green pastures  
do we ask our way to be;  
but the steep and rugged pathway  
may we tread rejoicingly.**

**3. Not for ever by still waters  
would we idly rest and stay;  
but would smite the living fountains  
from the rocks along our way.**

**4. Be our strength in hours of weakness,  
in our wanderings be our guide;  
through endeavour, failure, danger,  
Father, be thou at our side.**

We **REMAIN STANDING**. *The Priest says,*

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

**All: Amen.**

The Lord be with you

**All: and also with you.**

## **PRAYERS OF PENITENCE**

### *WE SAY SORRY TO GOD*

*The Priest invites us to confession.*

*Silence is kept for a time of personal reflection, then we say,*

**Most merciful God, we confess to you,  
before the whole company of heaven  
and one another,  
that we have sinned in thought,  
word and deed,  
and in what we have failed to do.  
Forgive us our sins, heal us by your Spirit  
and raise us to new life in Christ.  
Amen.**

*The Priest pronounces the Absolution saying,*

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.**

*The Priest introduces a period of silent prayer with the words ‘Let us pray’.*

Almighty God,  
as Jesus taught his disciples to be persistent in prayer,  
give us patience and courage never to lose hope,  
but always to bring our prayers before you;  
through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

**All: Amen.**

*We SIT.*

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

### WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

A reading from the book of Joshua *(adapted from Joshua 1:1-9)*

The Lord God spoke to Joshua, Moses' assistant, saying, 'My servant Moses is gone. Now proceed to cross the Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them. Every place that your foot will tread upon I have given to you, as I promised to Moses.

As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will not fail you or forsake you. Be strong and courageous; for you shall put this people in possession of the land that I swore to their ancestors to give them. Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to act in accordance with all the law that my servant Moses commanded you.

I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.' .

This is the word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

We STAND to sing,

**Respect is something that we need to see,**

**To live together as a family.**

**We all need respect for one another.**

**Respect for people in authority.**

**And all who live in this community.**

**We all need respect for one another.**

**We are all unique in many different ways,  
Whatever race or colour we may be.  
But I will take your hand  
and show respect for who you are,  
And I'll hope you do the same for me.**

***Respect is something that we need to see,  
To live together as a family.  
We all need respect for one another.  
Respect for people in authority.  
And all who live in this community.  
We all need respect for one another.  
We all need respect for one another.***

***We SIT for the next reading.***

A reading from the gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to Matthew.

*(Matthew 28:16-20)*

**All: Glory to you, O Lord.**

After the resurrection of Jesus, the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'

This is the gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you, O Christ.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

### WE PRAY FOR OUR WORLD

*After each prayer we say,*

Lord, in your mercy

**All: hear our prayer.**

*The priest concludes the Intercession is a prayer and all respond*

Be with us, Lord, in all our prayers,

and direct our way towards you,

that among the changes and chances of our lives,

we may always be defended by your gracious help;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

## SIGN OF PEACE

### WE SHARE GOD'S PEACE WITH OTHERS

*The Priest introduces it with these or other words saying,*

Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles:

'Peace I leave you, my peace I give you';

look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church,

and graciously grant her peace and unity

in accordance with your will, who live and reign for ever and ever.

**All: Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*We share a sign of peace, normally a handshake, with those around us.*



## LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

### WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

After this, we **REMAIN STANDING** to sing a song as the altar is prepared.

**I am a city on a hill,  
I am a light in the darkness.  
Jesus living in me can change the world.**

*Let my light shine, let my light shine,  
let my light shine!*

**If God is for me, who can stand against me?**

*Let my light shine, let my light shine,  
let my light shine!*

**We are a city on a hill,  
we are a light in the darkness.**

**Jesus living in us can change the world.**

*Let my light shine, let my light shine,  
let my light shine!*

**If God is for us, who can stand against us?**

*Let my light shine, let my light shine,  
let my light shine!*

*After this, the Priest says,*

Pray, my brothers and sisters,  
that our sacrifice  
may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

**All: May the Lord accept the sacrifice  
at your hands,  
for the praise and glory of his name,  
for our good and the good of all his Church.**

*A prayer is said over the gifts by the Priest and all respond,*

As the grain once scattered in the fields  
and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside  
are now reunited on this altar in bread and wine,  
so Father, may your whole Church soon be gathered together  
from the corners of the earth into your kingdom.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

*The Eucharistic Prayer follows.*

The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**


Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

**W**ord of all life,  
you created the universe,  
where all living things reflect your glory.  
You give us this great and beautiful earth,  
to discover and to cherish.  
You give us your love, even when things go wrong.  
You send us your Holy Spirit  
to be with us as our Comforter,  
and to teach us your way of gentleness and peace.  
You made us all, each wonderfully different,  
to join with the angels and the saints  
in singing your praise:

 **All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord  
God of pow'r and God of might.  
Heaven and earth,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory,  
your pow'r and might.  
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest heav'ns;  
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest heav'ns.  
Blessed, blessed, is he who comes,  
Blessed, blessed, is he who comes,  
Blessed, is he, blessed is he  
who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest heav'ns;  
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest heav'ns.**

We **REMAIN STANDING** for the second part of the Eucharistic Prayer.

We praise and bless you, loving Father,  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit,  
that broken bread and wine outpoured  
may be for us the Body and Blood of your dear Son.  
On the night before he died he had supper with his friends  
and, taking bread, he praised you.  
He broke the bread, gave it to them saying:

TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND EAT OF IT,  
FOR THIS IS MY BODY,  
WHICH WILL BE GIVEN UP FOR YOU.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.  
Again he praised you, gave it to them, saying:

TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND DRINK FROM IT,  
FOR THIS IS THE CHALICE OF MY BLOOD,  
THE BLOOD OF THE NEW AND ETERNAL COVENANT,  
WHICH WILL BE Poured OUT  
FOR YOU AND FOR MANY  
FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS.  
DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,  
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice  
made once for all upon the cross,  
bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,  
we proclaim his death and resurrection  
until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith.

**All: Christ has died, Christ is risen,  
Christ will come again!**

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day  
when your kingdom comes  
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,  
gather us in your loving arms  
and bring us with the Blessed Virgin Mary,  
St Joseph, Thomas, Alban, all the saints  
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,  
for ever and ever.

**All: Amen.**

## **COMMUNION RITE**

### *WE RECEIVE THE LORD JESUS*

*After the Eucharistic Prayer, we keep few moments of silence.*

*The Priest introduces the Lord's Prayer; we say,*

**All: 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 Agnus Dei is sung,*

**♪ All: 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.**

*The Priest invites the people to receive Holy Communion,*

This is the Lamb of God  
who takes away the sin of the world.

Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**All: Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word,  
and I shall be healed.**

*The Priest reads the Communion Antiphon and then proceeds with the distribution of the Sacrament. While communicating people the priest and the ministers will say,*

The Body of Christ  
*and*

The Blood of Christ

*We reply **Amen** to these words before receiving the Sacrament.*

### **A note about receiving Holy Communion**

*Every Baptised and Confirmed person is invited to receive Holy Communion at this point.*

*If you receive Holy Communion in another church or Christian denomination, you are very welcome to receive the Sacrament here. Should you require a gluten-free wafer, please say so to the Priest.*

*If do not wish to receive Communion, you are invited to approach the altar to receive an individual blessing.*

*Please indicate this by carrying this order of service with you.*

*We SIT after receiving Communion.*

## **CONCLUDING RITES**

### *WE RECEIVE GOD'S BLESSING*

*The Post-Communion Prayer is said and all respond,*

In this celebration, O Lord our God,  
you have shown us the depths of your love for everyone;  
give us courage, we pray, to reach out to others  
with generosity, respect, and kindness,  
so that we may learn to share with them  
the goodness and beauty of your love.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

*Then we say,*

**All: Almighty God,  
we thank you for feeding us  
with 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.**



*After this, we **STAND** for the final Blessing.*

The Lord be with you

**All: and also with you.**

May God's holy angels protect you, and keep you;

May St Alban, St Thomas,

and Our Blessed Lady Mary pray for you;

and the blessing of God almighty,

the Father, ✠ the Son, and the Holy Spirit,

be among you and remain with you always.

**All: Amen.**

The Mass is ended. Go in the peace of Christ.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

*We remain standing for the final song.*

**1. Lord, the light of your love is shining,  
in the midst of the darkness, shining;  
Jesus, light of the world, shine upon us;  
set us free by the truth you now bring us.  
Shine on me, shine on me.**

***Shine, Jesus, shine,  
fill this land with the Father's glory!  
Blaze, Spirit, blaze,  
set our hearts on fire!  
Flow, river, flow,  
flood the nations with grace and mercy;  
send forth your word,  
Lord, and let there be light!***

**2. Lord, I come to your awesome presence,  
From the shadows into your radiance;  
By the blood I may enter your brightness,  
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness.  
Shine on me, shine on me.**

***Shine, Jesus, shine...***

**3. As we gaze on your kingly brightness  
so our faces display your likeness.  
ever changing from glory to glory,  
mirrored here may our lives tell your story.  
Shine on me, shine on me.**

***Shine, Jesus, shine,  
fill this land with the Father's glory!  
Blaze, Spirit, blaze,  
set our hearts on fire!  
Flow, river, flow,  
flood the nations with grace and mercy;  
send forth your word,  
Lord, and let there be light!***

*Please, take this order of service home with you.*



*The Parish of All Saints' is the Church of England  
in Houghton Regis, Linmere, Thorn, Bidwell West, and North Dunstable.*

[allsaintshr.co.uk](http://allsaintshr.co.uk) - [@allsaintshr](https://www.instagram.com/allsaintshr)