

# THE FEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS



Monday 15 September 2025

Entrance hymn: This is the Day! (*Leslie Garrett*)

This is the day, this is the day  
that the Lord has made, that the Lord has made;  
we will rejoice, we will rejoice  
and be glad in it and be glad in it.  
This is the day that the Lord has made.  
We will rejoice and be glad in it.  
This is the day, this is the day that the Lord has made.

This is the day, this is the day  
when he rose again, when he rose again.  
We will rejoice, we will rejoice  
and be glad in it and be glad in it.  
This is the day when he rose again.  
We will rejoice and be glad in it.  
This is the day, this is the day when he rose again.

This is the day, this is the day  
when the Spirit came, when the Spirit came.  
We will rejoice, we will rejoice  
and be glad in it and be glad in it.  
This is the day when the Spirit came.  
We will rejoice and be glad in it.  
This is the day, this is the day when the Spirit came.



## Sign of the Cross and Greeting

P: In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

P: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

## Penitential Rite

P: You were sent to heal the contrite of heart:  
Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

P: You came to call sinners:  
Christ, have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

P: You are seated at the right hand of the Father to intercede for us:  
Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

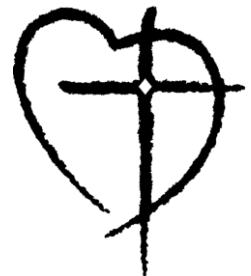
P: May almighty God have mercy on us,  
forgive us our sins,  
and bring us to everlasting life.

All: Amen.

## Opening Prayer

P: Let us pray:  
O God, who willed that your Only Begotten Son  
should undergo the Cross to save the human race,  
grant, we pray, that we, who have known his mystery on earth,  
may merit the grace of his redemption in heaven.  
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.



## Liturgy of the Word

**First reading:** A reading from the book of Numbers

(21:4b-9)

In those days;

The people became impatient on the way. And the people spoke against God and against Moses, 'Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water and we loathe this worthless food.'

Then the Lord sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. And the people came to Moses and said, 'We have sinned, for we have spoken against the Lord and against you. Pray to the Lord, that he take away the serpents from us.'

So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, 'Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live.' So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

The word of the Lord.

**R/ Thanks be to God.**

## Responsorial psalm:

(Ps 77; 1-2.34-38 R/ v7)

**The Response is: Never forget the deeds of the Lord.**

- 1 Give ear, my people, to my teaching;  
incline your ear to the words of my mouth.  
I will open my mouth in a parable,  
and utter hidden lessons of the past.
- 2 When he slew them, then they sought him,  
repented and earnestly sought God.  
They would remember that God was their rock,  
God the Most High their redeemer.
- 3 Yet they deceived him with their mouths;  
they lied to him with their tongues.  
For their hearts were not steadfast towards him;  
they were not faithful to his covenant.
- 4 Yet he who is full of compassion  
forgave them their sin and spared them.  
So often he held back his anger  
and did not stir up all his rage.

**Second reading:** A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians (2:6-11)

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The word of the Lord.

**R/ Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel acclamation**

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**We adore you, O Christ and we bless you;**

**because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world.**

**Alleluia!**

**The Gospel**

**P: The Lord be with you.**

**All: And with your spirit.**

**P: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John (3:13-17)**

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



Jesus said to Nicodemus:

‘No-one has gone up to heaven except the one who came down from heaven, the Son of Man who is in heaven; and the Son of Man must be lifted up as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him. Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life. For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**Homily**

### Prayer of the faithful:

R: On the Cross, Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them'.  
Lord, forgive us for the things we have done, said, or thought  
which have hurt others.  
Lord, in your mercy

**ALL: Hear our prayer**

R: On the Cross, Jesus said, 'Mother, here is your son...'  
Lord, we pray for our families:  
bring them peace where there is worry; joy where there is sadness;  
love where there is mistrust.  
Lord, in your mercy

**ALL: Hear our prayer**

R: On the Cross, Jesus cried out, 'My God, my God, why have you  
forsaken me?'  
Lord, help us to remember that we are never alone  
and that however difficult the path becomes, you will walk with us.  
Lord, in your mercy

**ALL: Hear our prayer**

R: On the Cross, Jesus said, 'Into your hands I commit my spirit.'  
Lord Jesus, we know that you left this life to spend eternity with your  
Father in heaven, where you welcome all who have died in faith.  
Welcome our family and friends who have died. Tell them that we love  
them, that we miss them and that they are not forgotten.  
Lord, in your mercy

**ALL: Hear our prayer**

R: We ask Mary, who stood at the foot of the Cross and watched as her  
son died for our salvation, to pray with us and we say:

**ALL: Hail Mary**  
full of grace,  
the Lord is with thee.  
Blessed art thou amongst women,  
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.  
Holy Mary,  
Mother of God,  
pray for us sinners, now, and at the hour of our death.  
Amen.

## The Liturgy of the Eucharist

P: Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,  
for through your goodness we have received the bread we offer you:  
fruit of the earth and work of human hands,  
it will become for us the bread of life.

**All: Blessed be God for ever.**

P: Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,  
for through your goodness we have received the wine we offer you:  
fruit of the vine and work of human hands,  
it will become our spiritual drink.

**All: Blessed be God for ever.**

P: Pray, my 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 the praise and glory of his name,  
for our good and the good of all his holy Church.**

P: Let us pray:  
May this oblation, O Lord,  
which on the altar of the Cross  
cancelled the offence of the whole world,  
cleanse us, we pray, of all our sins.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**



## The Eucharistic Prayer

P: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

P: Lift up your hearts

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right and just.

P: It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

For through the saving Passion of your Son,  
the whole world has received a heart  
to confess the infinite power of your majesty,  
since by the wondrous power of the Cross  
your judgement on the world is now revealed  
and the authority of Christ crucified.  
And so, Lord, with all the Angels and Saints,  
we, too, give you thanks, as in exultation we acclaim:

All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.

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.



P: You are indeed Holy, O Lord,  
the fount of all holiness.  
Make holy, therefore, these gifts, we pray,  
by sending down your Spirit upon them like the dewfall,  
so that they may become for us  
the Body ✠ and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.

At the time he was betrayed  
and entered willingly into his Passion,  
he took bread and, giving thanks, broke it,  
and gave it to his disciples, saying:

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

In a similar way, when supper was ended,  
he took the chalice  
and, once more giving thanks,  
he gave it to his disciples, 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.

The mystery of faith:

All: **Save us, Saviour of the world,  
for by your Cross and Resurrection, you have set us free.**

Therefore, as we celebrate  
the memorial of his Death and Resurrection,  
we offer you, Lord,  
the Bread of life and the Chalice of salvation,  
giving thanks that you have held us worthy  
to be in your presence and minister to you.

Humbly we pray  
that, partaking of the Body and Blood of Christ,  
we may be gathered into one by the Holy Spirit.

Remember, Lord, your Church,  
spread throughout the world,  
and bring her into the fulness of charity,  
together with Francis, our Pope, Malcolm, our Bishop  
and all the clergy.

Remember also our brothers and sisters  
who have fallen asleep in the hope of the resurrection,  
and all who have died in your mercy;  
welcome them into the light of your face.  
Have mercy on us all, we pray,  
that with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God,  
with the blessed Apostles,  
and all the Saints who have pleased you throughout the ages,  
we may merit to be coheirs to eternal life,  
and may praise and glorify you  
through your Son, Jesus Christ.

Through him,  
and with him,  
and in him,  
O God almighty Father,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory and honour is yours,  
for ever and ever.

**All: Amen.**

## The Communion Rite

P: At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to 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.

P: 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 the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and for ever.

P: 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 grant her peace and unity  
in accordance with your will.  
Who live and reign for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: And with your spirit.

## Breaking of Bread

All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

### Invitation to Communion

P: Behold the Lamb of God,  
behold him who takes away the sins of the world.  
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.  
All: Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof,  
but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

### Communion

*Those are unable to receive Communion today are invited come forward to receive a blessing.*

### Music for Communion:

You Have Called Us By Our Name (Bernadette Farrell)

### Prayer after Communion

P: Let us pray:  
Having been nourished by your holy banquet,  
we beseech you, Lord Jesus Christ,  
to bring those you have redeemed  
by the wood of your life-giving Cross  
to the glory of the resurrection.  
Who live and reign for ever and ever.  
All: Amen.

### The Concluding Rite

P: The Lord be with you  
All: And with your spirit.

P: May almighty God bless you,  
the Father, and the Son ✠ and the Holy Spirit.  
All: Amen.

P: The Mass is ended: Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.  
All: Thanks be to God.

Closing Hymn: Give me Joy in my Heart!

Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising,  
give me joy in my heart, I pray.  
Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising,  
keep me praising 'till the end of day.

Sing hosanna! Sing hosanna!  
Sing hosanna to the King of Kings!  
Sing hosanna! Sing hosanna!  
Sing hosanna to the King!

Give me peace in my heart, keep me resting,  
give me peace in my heart, I pray.  
Give me peace in my heart, keep me resting,  
keep me resting 'till the end of day.

Sing hosanna ...

Give me love in my heart, keep me serving,  
give me love in my heart, I pray.  
Give me love in my heart, keep me serving,  
keep me serving 'till the end of day.

Sing hosanna ...