

# **LANCASTER PRIORY**

**St Mary with St George and St John**

**A WELCOMING,  
INCLUSIVE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY,  
SERVING THE PEOPLE OF LANCASTER**



**ALL AGE EUCHARIST  
MOTHERING SUNDAY  
THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

**14 March 2021  
at 10.00 am**

*A very warm welcome to all our visitors, especially if you are visiting us for the first time. There will be many of our church family who will not yet feel able to worship with us in church—though they will continue to join us as we live-stream the service as we have done for the last months.*

*We are also much constrained in what we are able to do to ensure the safety of all who are present in the Priory today.*

*It is mandatory to wear face masks in the Priory. You will be guided to your seats by a steward, and we ask you to take your seat in the pew to which you are guided.*

*Unfortunately, singing is not yet permitted, so there will be no hymns, though we are able to appreciate the organ—and now the choral music. The collection plate will be at the back of Church or you can make an electronic payment, or join our Planned Giving Scheme.*

*Holy Communion will be given (only in one kind) at the chancel step, please follow the direction of the stewards, and keep social distancing as you line up and return to your seat via the side aisles.*

*At the end of the service, please wait, as we will be leaving church starting with the back rows first. (unless you wish to stay to the end of the organ voluntary.)*

*Due to the restrictions please do not socialise after the service.*

*We continue to do all we can to ensure the safety of our congregation members, and are grateful for your patience as we work through these challenging times together as the people of God in this place.*

President      The Revd Canon Brenda Harding, Hon Associate Priest

Sermon:        The Revd Anna Walker, Deacon in Training

Reader:        Jonas Leong-Smith

Intercessor:    Lois Kirtley

Organist:      Ian Pattinson FRCO, Priory Organist

Introit:        Magnificat Fugue II (Pachelbel)

Offertory:      Prelude on 'For Mary, Mother of the Lord' (Pattinson)

Final Voluntary: Allegro from Trio Sonata I (Bach)

Cantor:        Ellen Griffiths

Mass setting: Darke in E

6.30pm        Evening Prayer (BCP)

Officiant: The Revd Carol Backhouse, Vicar of Christ Church, Lancaster

#### Services next Sunday 21 March—Passion Sunday

8.00am        Holy Communion

10.00am       Priory Eucharist

President      The Revd Tim Evans, Hon Associate Priest

Sermon:        The Revd Canon John Roff, Hon Associate Priest

6.30pm        Evening Prayer (BCP)

Officiant: The Revd Keith Brockbank, Hon. Associate Priest

## **THE WELCOME and Notices**—The Revd Canon Brenda Harding

*Please join in saying the words in **bold** type.*

*The priest greets the congregation:*

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

**Amen.**

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

*The deacon invites us to confess our sins*

Let us call to mind our sin, our failure to value the love of others  
and our failure to love as Christ has loved us.

## **THE CANTOR SINGS THE KYRIE**

*Lord, have mercy upon us Lord, have mercy upon us  
Christ, have mercy upon us Christ, have mercy upon us  
Lord, have mercy upon us Lord, have mercy upon us*

*The priest pronounces the*

## **WORDS OF ABSOLUTION**

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.      **Amen.**

## **THE COLLECT**

God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary, shared  
the life of a home in Nazareth, and on the cross drew the whole human  
family to himself: strengthen us in our daily living that in joy and in  
sorrow we may know the power of your presence to bind together and  
to heal; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns  
with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

*Please sit for*

## **THE READING**

*A reading from the Book of Exodus*

*(Ex 2.1-10)*

Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him for three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. ‘This must be one of the Hebrews’ children,’ she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh’s daughter, ‘Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?’ Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, ‘Yes.’ So the girl went and called the child’s mother. Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, ‘Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.’ So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh’s daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, ‘because’, she said, ‘I drew him out of the water.’

For the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **THE CANTOR SINGS PSALM 34**

*O taste and see that the Lord is gracious.*

*Come, my children, and listen to me;  
I will teach you the fear of the Lord.  
Who is there who delights in life  
and longs for days to enjoy good things?*

*Keep your tongue from evil  
and your lips from lying words.  
Turn from evil and do good;  
seek peace and pursue it.*

*The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous  
and his ears are open to their cry.  
The face of the Lord is against those who do evil,  
to root out the remembrance of them from the earth.*

*The righteous cry and the Lord hears them  
and delivers them out of all their troubles.  
The Lord is near to the brokenhearted  
and will save those who are crushed in spirit.*

*Many are the troubles of the righteous;  
from them all will the Lord deliver them.  
He keeps all their bones,  
so that not one of them is broken.*  
**O taste and see that the Lord is gracious.**

## THE GOSPEL

*Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation:*

**Cantor:** Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.  
**Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.  
**Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

**Deacon:** The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**  
Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke  
**Glory to you, O Lord.** *(Luke 2.33-35)*

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON** The Revd Anna Walker

## THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Let us declare our faith in God.

**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.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*These responses may be used*

**Leader:** Lord, in your mercy  
**hear our prayer.**

**Leader:** Merciful Father,  
**accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,**  
**our Saviour Jesus Christ.**  
**Amen.**

*All stand for*

## **THE PEACE**

Through the prophet Isaiah, God says,  
'As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you.'  
The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**and also with you.**

**Deacon:** Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*All may exchange a sign of peace*

## **THE OFFERTORY**

*The Gifts are brought to the Altar.*

*The priest prepares the bread and wine*

God of mercy and compassion,  
your Word calls us home to faith and love.  
Accept all we offer you this day; in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.  
**Amen.**

*Please remain standing, if you feel able, until after we have said the Lord's Prayer, and seen the bread broken before us.*

## **THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you  
**And also with you.**

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

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

Almighty God, good Father to us all, your face is turned towards your world. In love you gave us Jesus your Son to rescue us from sin and death. Your Word goes out to call us home to the city where angels sing your praise. We join with them in heaven's song:

## THE CANTOR SINGS THE SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

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.**

Father of all, we give you thanks for every gift that comes from heaven. To the darkness Jesus came as your light. With signs of faith and words of hope he touched untaughtables with love and washed the guilty clean.

This is his story. **This is our song: Hosanna in the highest.**

The crowds came out to see your Son, yet at the end they turned on him. On the night he was betrayed he came to table with his friends to celebrate the freedom of your people.

This is his story. **This is our song: Hosanna in the highest.**

Jesus blessed you, Father, for the food; he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said: This is my body, given for you all. Jesus then gave thanks for the wine; he took the cup, gave it and said: This is my blood, shed for you all for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me.

This is our story. **This is our song: Hosanna in the highest.**

Therefore, Father, with this bread and this cup we celebrate the cross on which he died to set us free. Defying death he rose again and is alive with you to plead for us and all the world.

This is our story. **This is our song: Hosanna in the highest.**

Send your Spirit on us now that by these gifts we may feed on Christ with opened eyes and hearts on fire. May we and all who share this food offer ourselves to live for you and be welcomed at your feast in heaven where all creation worships you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:  
**Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

Trusting in the compassion of God, as our Saviour taught us, so we pray (*each in our own language*)

**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.**  
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.**

*Please kneel or sit as*

### **THE CANTOR SINGS THE 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.*

*The priest invites the congregation to receive communion*

*Christ has gathered his people around the earth to feast at his table.  
Come, for this is a table where all are invited, and all are welcome.*

### **THE GIVING OF COMMUNION**

*All Christians who are members in good standing of their own denominations are invited to receive Holy Communion (only the Bread). Please follow directions from the stewards and maintain social distancing as you line up. Holy Communion is received from the priest at the chancel step, as the communion wafer is placed on your palm. If you would prefer to receive a Blessing, please bring this order of service with you. If you require a gluten free wafer please bring a green card which you can find near the entrance to the church.*

*During the Communion the cantor sings the anthem: For Mary, mother of the Lord.*

*For Mary, Mother of our Lord, God's holy name be praised, who first the Son of God adored, as on her child she gazed. Brave, holy Virgin, she believed, though hard the task assigned, and by the Holy Ghost conceive the Saviour of mankind.*

*The busy world had got no space or time for God on earth; a cattle manger was the place where Mary gave him birth. She gave her body as God's shrine, her heart to piercing pain; she knew the cost of love divine, when Jesus Christ was slain.*

*Dear Mary, from your lowliness and home in Galilee there comes a joy and holiness to every family. Hail, Mary, you are full of grace, above all women blest; and blest your son, whom your embrace in birth and death confessed.*

*J.R. Peacey (1896-1971)*

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Loving God, as a mother feeds her children at the breast you feed us in this sacrament with the food and drink of eternal life: help us who have tasted your goodness to grow in grace within the household of faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*The flowers and gifts are blessed:*

Loving God, who is both our father and our mother,  
We thank you for all the love we have known in our homes;  
among our friends; with God's people.  
Bless these flowers and gifts as we share them,  
May they remind us to be people of thanks,  
people of love, people of joy.  
In Jesus' name we pray.

**Amen.**

*Children and adults say together:*

**Thank you God for the love of our mothers  
and those who care for us:  
thank you God for their care and concern;  
thank you God for the joys they have shared with us;  
thank you God for the pains they have borne for us;  
thank you God for all that they give us;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**

*The priest gives*

## **THE BLESSING**

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness, to deny yourselves,  
take up your cross, and follow him; and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain  
with you always.

**Amen.**

*Deacon:* Our Eucharist is ended, let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord  
**In the name of Christ.**  
**Amen.**

*Gifts of flowers will be available to collect from outside of church after the service.*



*In your prayers, please remember those who are sick:*

**David Blackwell, Gwendolen Boyd-Wasson,  
Esme Bradbury, Vona Corbet, Ian Corbet, Bron England, Wendy Foster,  
Stephen Gardner, Anne Goulding, Michael Greenhalgh, Christine Heywood,  
Marilyn Kenny, Michael and Anne Oppenheim, Joan Pinches,  
Cindy Rigney, Brenda Storrie,  
Richard Thompson and Gordon Tyson**

*And those recently departed:*

**John Altham, Matt Clark, Dorothy Weir McCracken and Janis Whitlock**

*Please pray for their families*

**6.30 pm**

**CHORAL EVENSONG**

**14 March**

**OFFICIANT : The Revd Carol Backhouse**

**PSALM: 107.1-9**

**RESPONSES: Smith**

**CANTICLES: Purcell in G minor**

**ANTHEM: Ave Maria (Parsons)**

**HYMN: Sing we of the blessed mother VOLUNTARY: O quam glorifica (Redford)**

**Opportunity for confession in Holy Week**

If you would like to take the opportunity in Lent to search your life and seek absolution for your sins, we are offering the sacrament of reconciliation at Lancaster Priory on Wednesday 31st March 2021 between 1.50pm and 3.50 pm in the Thomas à Becket Chapel. Please email [office@lancasterpriory.org](mailto:office@lancasterpriory.org) to request an appointment with a priest.

Through our lives we learn to deceive ourselves in various ways, but Jesus who is the Truth, the Way and the Life calls us to look at our lives in all honesty. Because of the Father's love and desire for us to be reconciled with him, we dare to come to the light. It is only after we own and name our thoughts, words, deeds or patterns of behaviour which are sinful that we can be truly liberated from them. Jesus entrusted a ministry of forgiveness to his Church towards all those who are truly penitent. Confessing our sins to the priest and being assured of forgiveness can be a significant step on our journey towards the fullness of life and the joy of Easter.

In this period until a new vicar is appointed, the churchwardens

(Pauline Fielding & Andrew Nicholson)

will try to address any concerns you may have.

You can contact them by emailing:

[office@lancasterpriory.org](mailto:office@lancasterpriory.org) or ring 01524 65338.

**THE SERVICE SHEET THIS WEEK**

**IS SPONSORED BY**

**LOIS AND BRIAN KIRTLEY TO WELCOME**

**LEOPOLD ERNEST KIRTLEY-THOMLINSON**

**BORN 7 MARCH**

**AND CONGRATULATIONS TO BRAND NEW PARENTS ROB & RUTH.**

**The Priory is taking a big hit from a drop in visitor income, venue income, and service collections.**

**If your income is keeping up, please consider using the barcode to make a donation to the work of the Priory.**

**We share a great sense of thanksgiving for all that God is inspiring around us in these difficult times.**



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