



SAINT JOHN'S MALONE



The Sixth Sunday of Easter. Rogation Sunday

Welcome to Saint John's especially all who are visiting today.

An audio loop system is in operation for those with hearing aids. The order of service is available to download from the website and the 10.30am is livestreamed on St John's Malone YouTube channel. Those baptised in the name of the Holy Trinity and are communicant members of their own church are welcome to receive Holy Communion, according to conscience.

Today: Sunday 14th May 2023
9.00 a.m. Eucharist in the Side Chapel *said*
10.30 a.m. Sung Eucharist

The Eucharist ~See service booklet for 10:30am if available or below for page references in the BCP 2004. 9am pg.201:

The Gathering	<i>page 201/125</i>
Presiding	Rev. Dr Brian Crowe
Opening Hymn	10
Collect of the Day	
Liturgy of the Word	
First Reading	
Psalm	66:7_18
Second Reading	
Gradual Hymn	294
Gospel (stand)	
Sermon	
Peace (stand)	<i>page 207 / 131</i>
Offertory Hymn	422
Liturgy of the Sacrament	Great Thanksgiving (1) <i>page 209</i>
The Lord's Prayer	
Communion	
Motet	If ye love me - Tallis
Great Silence	
Going Out	
Post Communion Prayers	<i>page 220</i>
Blessing	
Post Communion Hymn	581
Dismissal	
Organ Voluntary	
Office Setting	Archer



Collect

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

First Reading **Acts 17: 22-31**

22 Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, ‘Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. ²³For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, “To an unknown god.” What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷so that they would search for God* and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸For “In him we live and move and have our being”; as even some of your own poets have said, “For we too are his offspring.”

²⁹Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.’

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm

Second Reading **1 Peter 3: 13-22**

13 Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defence to anyone who demands from you an account of the hope that is in you; ¹⁶yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷For it is better to suffer for doing good, if

suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight people, were saved through water. ²¹And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Reading *Hear the Gospel of our Saviour Christ according to John chapter fourteen beginning at verse fifteen. **Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ***

John 14: 15-21

15 'If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

18 'I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Post Communion Prayer

God our Father,
whose Son Jesus Christ gives the water of eternal life:
May we also thirst for you,
the spring of life and source of goodness,
through him who is alive and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

NOTICES this week

Tuesday Parents & Toddlers Toddler Café 10am-11:30am; 5-6pm Confirmation Class in Edward Darling Room

Wednesday 3rd May 7.30pm Zoom Compline

Thursday 4th May The Ascension Day 10.30am Eucharist (1) with intercessions for those in need. A cup of coffee is available after this service.

7:30pm Choral Eucharist for The Ascension

Next Sunday Easter VII Sunday 21/05/23

9:00am Eucharist; 10.30 a.m. Family Eucharist

Notices:

- Samples of **Bible Reading Fellowship BRF Notes** are available each quarter for the year. Please consider taking some. Please speak to or email to Rev. Brian Cadden if you are interested in having the quarterly BRF Notes.
- Copies of the Diocesan magazine Connor Connections are available.

- **Welcome** to all our visitors whether you're joining us in the building or online. If you need assistance with anything, please ask one of the Churchwardens. Under GDPR guidance we need to tell you that we will be recording the service and/or livestreaming today. The cameras will point towards the nave altar and pulpit and only on occasion, towards the entrance doors. Those coming to and from the side areas and exiting will be in the camera view for a short time.
- **Welcome** if you are disabled, unwell, have experiences of cognitive or mental health issues. There is a hearing loop installed in the church for those who need it. Step-free access to church is available through the north porch door and to the halls via the Seaver Hall main door.
- **Welcome** to babies, children and young people. We understand that young children make noise. If your baby becomes upset during the service, you are welcome to go to

the back of the church if you need to settle – or to Sunday School in the halls where there is lots of space. Our toilets have baby change facilities. A confirmation class is ongoing on Tuesdays at 5pm.

- **Welcome** to all experiences of race, colour or language. At the Lord's Prayer all are invited to bring the gift of your first language to our worship. You are also welcome if you are LGBTQIA+
- **Welcome** if you are unsure about faith, **Welcome** if you are exploring, **Welcome** if you are here for someone else. We run study courses through the year. These are notified here, in the parish magazine or on Facebook or on our parish website.
- If you need to reach out to our **Safeguarding** team please contact Stephen, Patricia or Tony malone@connor.anglican.org (Rector's email) or see the info posters in the halls.
- We are collecting for South Belfast Food Bank again. Please leave your contributions in the vestibule on the way in.
- Prayers for the sick and all those in need are offered on Thursday morning at the Eucharist. You can send names for the list to the Rector via his email or add the name(s) on the list in the side chapel.
- If you're **new to the parish** please ask the Churchwardens or a member of the clergy about the following: GDPR, Free Will Offering Scheme, Gift Aid Magazine, organisations or wanting to know more about life at St John's. We'd be delighted to help and to get to know you.
- **Coffee/tea** will follow this service and all are welcome.
- **Parents & Toddlers** meets in Seaver Hall Tuesday 10am-11:30am. All are welcome.

READINGS:

Acts 17:22-31: Paul preaches to the people of Athens, remarking on their many shrines, and using the shrine to the unknown god as a springboard, tells them about the God who is near to every person, and who has revealed God's self to humanity in Jesus.

Psalms 66:8-20: A psalm of praise to God for testing God's people, rescuing them and forgiving them.

1 Peter 3:13-22: Peter encourages the believers to endure suffering for doing good as Christ did, and to remember that they are saved in Christ, who is now in a place of honour and authority with God.

John 14:15-21: Jesus invites his disciples to show their love for him by obeying him, and he promises that the Holy Spirit will come to them and be in them, leading them into all truth.

REFLECTIONS ON THEME:

Following from last week's word of assurance, the Lectionary continues in an attitude of comfort, emphasising God's nearness and God's strengthening of those who struggle. In Athens, Paul speaks to the people of the city about a God who can be known and "in whom we live, move and have our being." He invites them to recognise that God is very near to all people, whether they are aware of God or not. The Psalmist reflects on God's presence even during times of 'testing' and gives thanks for God's rescue and forgiveness, and celebrates that God does indeed hear the prayers of God's people. In Peter's letter, the apostle continues to offer comfort to a persecuted church, assuring them that they are following in Christ's nail-scarred footsteps, and that in Christ they are saved. And, in John's Gospel, Jesus offers the promise of the Spirit, assuring his disciples that by the Spirit they will always know that God is with them and in them, and they will enjoy the love relationship that Jesus has given them. The wonderful, challenging and comforting message of this week is that God is intimately available to us, and that God's presence and resources are accessible to us as we face the challenges and struggles of following Christ and living fully. The inevitable question this raises is whether we are willing to embrace God's presence, and rest in God's strength even as we wrestle with injustice and the big crises facing our world.



ROGATIONTIDE (from Latin – rogare, to beseech)

The last four days of Eastertide are also known as Rogationtide, on which we call down God's blessings on the new crops, with prayers, sometimes processions and litanies. Rogationtide begins on Rogation Sunday, which is the 6th Sunday of Easter, and ends on the Vigil of the Ascension. A common feature of Rogation days in former times was the ceremony of beating the bounds (of the parish), in which a procession of parishioners, led by the minister, churchwarden, and choirboys, would proceed around the boundary of their parish and pray for its protection in the forthcoming year. This feature originated in the 5th century, when Mamertus, Archbishop of Vienne, instituted special prayers, fasting and processions on these days.



Edouard Jérôme Paupion, *Les Rogations*



If you are considering donating any items to the foodbank then we would really appreciate any of the following...

Tinned meat Tinned potatoes/ Smash Long life juice Tinned soup Toiletries Toilet roll Washing up liquid Washing powder You can either pop the items directly into the basket at Tesco Newtownbreda or donate directly to the foodbank.

We are open for donations every Wednesday 1-3pm and every Thursday 10am-12pm.

Our warehouse is Unit 4, 23 Sunwich Street, Belfast, BT6 8HR

Any questions regarding donating please call us on 07743332489 or email us on info@southbelfast.foodbank.org.uk



St John's Malone
@malonestjohns



stjohnsmalone



ITEMS REQUIRED AT PRESENT: *Please place in the baskets in the entrance vestibule/porch.*
Rice, Pasta sauce, Instant Mash, Tinned Custard, Tinned fruit, Coffee, Toilet roll, Toiletries Household Cleaning Items



www.malone.connor.anglican.org

The Church of Saint John the Evangelist, Parish of Malone

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The Parish Office for administrative matters, or for information about organisations connected with St John's (90667861) e-mail: secstjohns@btconnect.com

The Rector, Rev. Canon Stephen Fielding can be contacted on pastoral matters (90666644) e-mail : malone@connor.anglican.org



Please take this booklet home with you for the readings, notices and reference during the week and recycle.