

**Parish of Malone
Church of St John the Evangelist**



**''Sunday First''
2nd March 2025
Sunday next
before Lent**

THE GREETING

The grace and mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

O Lord, open our lips
and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
**as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

Praise the Lord.

The Lord's name be praised.



Welcome

HYMN 338

1 Jesus, stand among us
In Thy risen power;
Let this time of worship
Be a hallowed hour.

2 Breathe the Holy Spirit
Into every heart;
Bid the fears and sorrows
From each soul depart.

3 Thus with quickened footsteps
We pursue our way,
Watching for the dawning
Of eternal day.

Penitence St Paul says

‘Be imitators of God; love as Christ loved;
do not grieve the Holy Spirit;
put away all anger and bitterness, all slander and malice.’
So let us confess our sins to God, who forgives us in Christ.

**Almighty and most merciful Father,
we have wandered and strayed from your ways
like lost sheep.
We have followed too much the devices and desires
of our own hearts.
We have offended against your holy laws.
We have left undone those things that we ought to have done;
and we have done those things that we ought not to have done;
and there is no health in us.
But you, O Lord, have mercy upon us sinners.
Spare those who confess their faults.
Restore those who are penitent,
according to your promises declared to mankind
in Christ Jesus our Lord.
And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,
that we may live a disciplined, righteous and godly life,
to the glory of your holy name.
Amen.**

May Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you your sins and
bring you to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY- THE COLLECT

Let us pray ... *(silent prayer)*
Almighty Father, whose Son was revealed in majesty
before he suffered death upon the cross:
Give us grace to perceive his glory, that we may be strengthened to
suffer with him and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory;
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD.

FIRST READING

2 Corinthians 3: 12 - 4: 2

12 Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, ¹³not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that* was being set aside. ¹⁴But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. ¹⁵Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; ¹⁶but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. ¹⁷Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.

4Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. ²We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practise cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING:

Luke 9: 28-36

28 Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus* took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. ²⁹And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. ³⁰Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. ³¹They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. ³²Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake,* they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. ³³Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings,* one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah'—not

knowing what he said. ³⁴While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. ³⁵Then from the cloud came a voice that said, ‘This is my Son, my Chosen;— listen to him!’ ³⁶When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

HYMN 701 (sung twice)

Jubilate, ev’rybody,
serve the Lord in all your ways,
and come before his presence singing:
enter now his courts with praise
For the Lord our God is gracious,
and his mercy everlasting.
Jubilate, jubilate, jubilate Deo



THE ADDRESS

THE RESPONSE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**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.**

Hymn 581

I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.*

I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my words to them.
Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord.

I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will send the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord.

INTERCESSIONS

As we pray for others, we remember God's commandments to love our neighbours, our friends and enemies.

Let us pray

brief silence

God our Father, as we call to mind other people in their different and many needs, we pray that you will embrace them with your loving Spirit, and enable your church to find practical ways of ministering to them.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

Somewhere today children are crying after days of hunger, and their parents can only look on with the pain of a love that feels helpless.

Loving God, give us the faith and practical ways to counterbalance despair

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

Somewhere right now oppressed people are working like slaves for scant rewards while their exploiters are living in luxurious leisure.

Loving God, give us the faith that seeks justice and righteousness

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

Somewhere at this hour persecuted Christians are meeting for worship in secret, knowing that sooner or later some one might betray them.

Loving God, give them faith to persevere and hope that one day they may be able to worship without fear

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

Somewhere this morning people are facing major surgery, while others are being told that they have a disease for which there is no remedy. Loving God, give us the faith to believe in your healing and wholeness

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

Somewhere this day innocent people are suffering the chaos and brutality of war, homes are ravaged, bodies mutilated, hatreds enlarged.

Loving God, give us the faith to pray for peace and harmony among the nations

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

Somewhere, near or far away, there are people caught up in the raw grief of bereavement, so distressed that they wonder how they will face the future.

Loving God, give us the faith to know your presence with us through all the trials of this life.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

The presiding minister says.

As Jesus has taught us, we are bold to say

Our Father, who art in heaven ...

Notices

HYMN 366 (*during which the collection is received*)

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven,
to his feet thy tribute bring.

Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
who like me his praise should sing?

Praise him! Praise him!

Praise the everlasting King!

Praise him for his grace and favour
to his people in distress;

praise him, still the same for ever,
slow to chide and swift to bless:

Praise him! Praise him,

glorious in his faithfulness.

Father-like, he tends and spares us;
well our feeble frame he knows;
in his hands he gently bears us,
rescues us from all our foes.
Praise him! Praise him,
widely as his mercy flows!

Angels, help us to adore him;
ye behold him face to face;
sun and moon bow down before him,
dwellers all in time and space.
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise with us the God of grace.

The Peace

God is love and those who live in love live in God
and God lives in them.

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

CONCLUDING PRAYER *we say together*

Gracious God,
you have given us much today;
grant us also a thankful spirit.
Into your hands we commend ourselves
and those we love.
Stay with us, and when we take our rest
renew us for the service of your Son Jesus Christ. Amen.

BLESSING

Go forth into the world in peace;
be of good courage; hold fast that which is good;
render to no one evil for evil;
strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak;
help the afflicted; honour everyone; love and serve the Lord,
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; and the blessing ... **Amen.**

Notices: |Sign up for the regular email Update at
secstjohns@btconnect.com

Contactless Payments The Select Vestry has made a new contactless payment device available in the parish from today and may be used for any donations you'd like to make at social time after the service in the hall.

Giving and Stewardship in St Johns' much of our income received is through the Free Will Offering Scheme using either envelopes or increasingly, by Standing Order. Standing order forms are available by asking the Churchwardens or contacting the Office or secstjohns@btconnect.com. Alternatively if you wish to make a donation then the account details for St John's are also available from the Wardens. Your donations help us maintain our buildings and support ministry and outreach here in St John's and more widely.

Organising your wedding in St John's

Weddings are special occasions in the life of any family and of the Church. We'd be delighted to talk to anyone contemplating their wedding in St John's. When considering getting married please check possible dates with the Rector before confirming any other arrangements. It is expected that couples will make a regular commitment to the life of the Church in preparation for marriage.

Hospital Visiting

The Rector would appreciate knowing if parishioners are going into or are in hospital or discharged and is pleased to offer pastoral support.

Safeguarding

The Rector, select vestry and parish leaders are committed to uphold the good practice to the parish's ministry with children, young people and vulnerable adults. Should you have any concern or suspicion regarding child welfare in the parish please contact a member of the

Parish panel.

Rev Canon Stephen Fielding 9066 6644

Mrs Patricia Armstrong 07854005699

Dr Anthony Stevens 07710647080

Services:

Ash Wednesday 10:30am Holy Communion; 7:30pm Choral Eucharist with imposition of ashes.

Thursday 10:30am Eucharist

First Sunday in Lent 9th March 9am Eucharist; 10:30am Sung Eucharist.

**LENTEN LUNCH SUNDAY 23RD MARCH FOLLOWING THE SERVICE
SIGN UP ON THE SHEET IN THE VESTIBULE IF YOU'D LIKE TO
ATTEND.**

www.malone.connor.anglican.org
[@malonestjohns](https://malonestjohns)
<https://stjohnsmalone.wordpress.com>



Thank you for your generosity | We depend on your gifts of time treasure and talent to keep ministry in St John's running. To make an offering in support of the parish please give at the welcome table near the church door or by scanning this QR code. Please use Gift Aid if you can. To set up regular giving, which helps our ministry planning, please contact Joanne Macartney at treasurer.stjohns@hotmail.com
<https://givealittle.co/c/stjohnsdonate>





South Belfast Foodbank

Together with Trussell

Urgently needed food items - in order of priority.

*Long Life Juice UHT Milk Oats Jams/Honey/Spreads Tinned
potato/Instant Mash Pulses (chickpeas/kidney beans/lentils)*

Coffee/Tea Tinned Fruit Custard/Rice Pudding Shampoo/Shower Gel |

*Household cleaning items - Fairy liquid / anti-bac spray/ washing
powder etc*

*Donations to the Foodbank can either be placed directly into the
basket at Tesco Newtownbreda or donate directly to the Foodbank. Or
please place items in the baskets in the church entrance
vestibule/porch.*

*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*

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Malone Charities Registration Number NIC101984 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.***