

The Order for Mass  
for the Solemnity of  
**ST GEORGE THE MARTYR,  
PATRON OF ENGLAND**

27<sup>th</sup> April 2025 at 6.00pm



*Welcome to St George's! This booklet contains all the material you will need for today's celebration of Mass. We hope that you will find this service easy to follow, but please do not be afraid to ask if you are unsure what to do at any point. The building is fitted with an induction loop and you will find the best results away from the pillars.*

*Families with small children are very welcome to make use of the carpeted play area at the back of church, where you will find books, crayons and soft toys. A toilet is at the back of church, behind the screen. After Mass, please join us in the hall for refreshments. Before Mass, please try to maintain an atmosphere of quiet prayer.*

*Many thanks to Mrs Francis for bringing the choir of St George's Primary School to sing for us.*

*Mass setting: Gregory Murray, New People's Mass.*

*At 6 o'clock the parish priest will come to the shrine of Our Lady to lead the singing of the Regina Caeli, the anthem of Our Lady for Easter. Please stand.*

*People*      **Joy to thee, O Queen of Heaven, alleluia!  
He whom thou wast meet to bear, alleluia!  
As he promised hath arisen, alleluia!  
Pour for us to God thy prayer, alleluia!**

*Priest*      Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia!

*People*      **For the Lord is risen indeed, alleluia!**

*Priest*      Let us pray. O God, who by the resurrection of thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, didst vouchsafe to bring joy to the whole world; grant that, through the prayers of his mother, the Virgin Mary, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life: through the same, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

*People*      **Amen.**

*Please stand when the bell rings, for the procession of the clergy and servers, and to sing hymn REH 219:*

**Lord God of Hosts, within whose hand  
Dominion rests on sea and land,  
Before whose word of life or death**

The strength of nations is but breath;  
O King, enthroned all thrones above,  
Give strength unto the land we love.

Thou breath of life since time began,  
Breathing upon the lips of man,  
Hast taught each kindred race to raise  
United word to sound thy praise:  
So, in this land, join, we beseech,  
All hearts and lips in single speech.

To George our saint thou gavest grace  
Without one fear all foes to face,  
And to confess by faithful death  
That word of life which was his breath.  
O help us, helper of Saint George,  
To fear no bonds that man can forge.

Arm us like him, who in thy trust  
Beat down the dragon to the dust;  
So that we too may tread down sin  
And with thy saints a crown may win.  
Help us, O God, that we may be  
A land acceptable to thee.

*Laurence Housman (1865-1959) © Oxford University Press.*

*The priest sings:*

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

*People*        **Amen.**

*Priest*        The Lord be with you.

*People*        **And also with you.**

*Priest*        Alleluia, Christ is risen.

*People*        **He is risen indeed! Alleluia.**

*The priest introduces the Mass and invites the people to recall and confess their sins:*

*Priest* As we give thanks for all those who from the beginning witnessed to Christ, even to the shedding of their blood, let us acknowledge our own faithlessness in following the way of our discipleship. So let us confess our sins.

*People* **I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.**

*Priest* May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life,

*People* **Amen.**

*People* Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**  
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**  
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

*We all sing the Gloria.*

*People* **Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the most high, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

*Then the priest prays the collect:*

*Priest* God of hosts, who so kindled the fire of charity in the heart of Saint George your martyr, that he bore witness to the risen Lord both by his life and by his death; grant us through his intercession, we pray, the same faith and power of love, that we who rejoice in his triumph may be led to share with him in the fullness of the resurrection. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

*People* **Amen.**

*Now sit to listen to the first reading:*

*Reader* A reading from the Revelation to St John. (*Revelation 10; 10-12*).

I, John, heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, 'Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come, for the accuser of our brothers and sisters has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God. And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death. Therefore, rejoice, O heavens and you who dwell in them!'

This is the word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*Please remain seated to sing the Psalm (118)*



1 O give thanks unto the Lord, for | he is | gracious :  
because his | mer- ' cy en- | dureth ' for | ever.

- 2 Let Israel now confess that | he is | gracious :  
and that his | mer- ' cy en- | dureth ' for | ever.
- 3 Let the house of Aaron | now con- | fess :  
and that his | mer - ' cy en- | dureth ' for | ever.
- 4 Yea, let them now that fear the | Lord con- | fess :  
and that his | mer- ' cy en- | dureth ' for | ever.



- 22 The same stone which the | builders ' re- | fused :  
is become the | head-stone | in the | corner.
- 23 This is the | Lord's\_ | doing :  
and it is | marvel- ' lous | in our | eyes.
- 24 This is the day which the | Lord hath | made :  
we will re- | joice\_ | and be | glad in it.
- 25 Help me | now, O | Lord :  
O Lord, | send us | now pros- | perity.
- 26 Blessed be he that cometh in the | Name of ' the | Lord :  
we have wished you good luck, ye that | are of ' the | house of ' the |  
Lord.
- 27 God is the Lord who hath | shewed us | light :  
bind the sacrifice with cords, yea, even | unto ' the | horns of ' the |  
altar.

*Remain seated for the second reading:*

*Reader* A reading from St Paul's letter to the Romans. (*Romans 5; 1-5*)  
Brothers and sisters: since we have been justified by faith,  
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.  
Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this  
grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory  
of God. Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings,  
knowing that suffering produces endurance, and  
endurance produces character, and character produces  
hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's

love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.  
This is the word of the Lord.

*People*     **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand for the gospel acclamation*

*Choir*     Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*People*     **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*Choir*     Happy the man who stands firm,  
for he has proved himself, and will win the crown of life.

*People*     **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*Priest*     The Lord be with you,

*People*     **And also with you.**

*Priest*     A reading from the holy Gospel according to John. (*John 15; 18-21*)

*People*     **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Priest*     At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, 'If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. Remember the word that I said to you: "A servant is not greater than his master." If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you. If they kept my word, they will also keep yours. But all these things they will do to you on account of my name, because they do not know him who sent me.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

*People*     **Praise to you, O Christ.**  
**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*Please sit for the Homily from Fr Henry.*

*All stand to say the Nicene Creed:*

*People*     **I believe in one God, the Father almighty,**

maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father, through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*Please remain standing for the Prayers of Intercession.*

*Priest* Let us pray to God, whose love brings life and victory out of suffering and death.

*Reader* Lord, in your mercy,

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*At the prayer for the departed,*

*Reader* Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord.

*People* **and let light perpetual shine upon them.**

*When the prayers of the saints are invoked:*

**Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among 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.**

*In conclusion to the prayers:*

*Priest* Help us, O Lord, to live always in the knowledge that although our citizenship is in heaven, we are to serve Christ in one another and in the least of all our brothers and sisters: Merciful Father,

*People* **Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

*Please sit, as the Choir sing the anthem "O, thou the Central Orb" by Charles Wood, while bread and wine are brought to the altar.*

*Stand to sing the hymn (REH 272), as the altar is prepared and the collection is taken. If you want to give by card, there is a card reader at the back of church.*

**In our day of thanksgiving one psalm let us offer**

**For the saints who before us have found their reward;**

**When the shadow of death fell upon them, we sorrowed,**

**But now we rejoice that they rest in the Lord.**

**In the morning of life, and at noon, and at even,**

**He called them away from our worship below;**

**But not till his love, at the font and the altar,**

**Had girt them with grace for the way they should go.**

**These stones that have echoed their praises are holy,**

**And dear is the ground where their feet have once trod;**

**Yet here they confessed they were strangers and pilgrims,**

**And still they were seeking the city of God.**

**Sing praise then, for all who here sought and here found Him,**

**Whose journey is ended, whose perils are past:**

**They believed in the Light; and its glory is round them,**

**Where the clouds of earth's sorrows are lifted at last.**

*William Henry Draper (1855-1933)*

*The priest says*

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

*People* **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.**

*Priest* Receive, we pray, O Lord, the sacrifice of conciliation and praise, which we offer to your majesty in commemoration of the blessed Martyr Saint George, that it may lead us to forgiveness and confirm us in constant thanksgiving. Through Christ our Lord.

*People* **Amen.**

*The priest sings the opening of the Eucharistic Prayer:*

*Priest* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Priest* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them up to the Lord.**

*Priest* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*The priest prays the Preface to the Eucharistic Prayer, and then all sing the Sanctus and Benedictus:*

*People* **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.**

*Please kneel. The Eucharistic Prayer continues, until the Words of Institution.*

*Then all make the Memorial Acclamation:*

*Priest* Great is the mystery of faith.

*People* **Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your cross and resurrection you have set us free.**

*The priest concludes the Eucharistic Prayer, and all sing:*

*People* **Amen!**

*Please stand for the Lord's Prayer.*

*Priest* At the Saviour's command, and formed by divine teaching, we dare to sing,

*People* **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.**

*Priest* Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our day, 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.

*People* **For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever.**

*Priest* 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.

*People* **Amen.**

*Priest* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Priest* Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*Now sing the Agnus Dei*

*People* **Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have  
mercy on us. (repeated)**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.**

*Then kneel.*

*Priest* 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.

*People* **Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

*Priest* If we have died with Christ, we shall also live with him; if we persevere, we shall also reign with him, Alleluia.

*The people come forward to receive Communion. If you have not been baptized and confirmed, please come forward for a blessing instead of Communion, carrying this order of service.*

*During Communion hymn REH 398 is sung, all remaining seated or kneeling.*

**Once, only once, and once for all,  
His precious life he gave;  
Before the Cross in faith we fall,  
And own it strong to save.  
'One offering, single and complete,'  
With lips and hearts we say;  
But what he never can repeat  
He shows forth day by day.**

**For as the priest of Aaron's line  
Within the holiest stood,  
And sprinkled all the mercy shrine  
With sacrificial blood;**

**So he, who once atonement wrought,  
Our priest of endless power,**

**Presents himself for those he bought  
In that dark noontide hour.**

**His Manhood pleads where now it lives  
On heaven's eternal throne,  
And where in mystic rite he gives  
His presence to his own.**

**And so we show thy death, O Lord,  
Till thou again appear,  
And feel, when we approach thy board,  
We have an altar here.**

*William Bright (1824-1901)*

*All stand for the Post-Communion Prayer:*

*Priest* Rejoicing on this festival day, O Lord, we have received  
your heavenly gifts; grant, we pray, that we who in this  
divine banquet proclaim the death of your Son may merit  
with Saint George to be partakers in his resurrection and  
glory. Through Christ our Lord.

*People* **Amen.**

*Please sit for the notices. After the notices St George's School Choir will sing.*

*Then stand for the blessing and dismissal*

*Priest* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*priest* May almighty God set his blessing upon you and defend  
you from every evil. And may he, who sustained his  
blessed martyr George in the bitter pains of his suffering,  
stretch forth the right hand of his mercy upon you: that,  
in heaven above, you may rejoice in the companionship of  
him, whose triumphal victory you celebrate on earth.

*People* **Amen.**

*Priest* And may the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you for ever.

*People* **Amen.**

*All join in singing the National Anthem:*

**God save our gracious King,  
Long live our noble King,  
God save the King.  
Send him victorious,  
Happy and glorious,  
Long to reign over us,  
God save the King.**

*Priest* Go forth, the Mass is ended. Alleluia.

*People* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia.**

*Clergy & servers go to the image of St George, which is censed: the priest says:*

*Priest* The love of Christ compels us to live not for ourselves

*People* **But for him who died and rose for us.**

*Priest* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Priest* Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. *(John 12; 24-26)*

*People* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Priest* At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honour him."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

*People*      **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Priest*      O blessed martyr George, servant of Christ and our most holy patron, pray for us that we too may be faithful in the midst of all trials and adversities, and endure to the end. Through Christ our Lord.

*People*      **Amen.**

*Priest*      O God, hear the prayers of your martyr George, the patron of this land, and grant that, following his example and strengthened by his intercession, we may bear our cross and be faithful in your service. Through Christ our Lord.

*People*      **Amen.**

*Remain standing to sing the hymn (REH 483) as clergy and servers depart:*

**How shall I sing that majesty which angels do admire?**

**Let dust in dust and silence lie; Sing, sing, ye heavenly choir.**

**Thousands of thousands stand around**

**Thy throne, O God most high;**

**Ten thousand times ten thousand sound**

**Thy praise; but who am I?**

**Thy brightness unto them appears, whilst I thy footsteps trace;**

**A sound of God comes to my ears, but they behold thy face.**

**They sing because thou art their Sun;**

**Lord, send a beam on me;**

**For where heaven is but once begun**

**There alleluyas be.**

**Enlighten with faith's light my heart, inflame it with love's fire;**

**Then shall I sing and bear a part with that celestial choir.**

**I shall, I fear, be dark and cold,**

**With all my fire and light;**

**Yet when thou dost accept their gold,**

**Lord, treasure up my mite.**

**How great a being, Lord, is thine, which doth all beings keep!  
Thy knowledge is the only line to sound so vast a deep.  
Thou art a sea without a shore,  
A sun without a sphere;  
Thy time is now and evermore,  
Thy place is everywhere.**

*John Mason (c1645-1694)*

*The organist plays Prelude and Fugue in C, BWV 545, by JS Bach.*

***PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE PARTY IN THE CHURCH HALL.***

Scripture readings are taken from the English Standard Version, Catholic Edition

**Collection:** we take a collection during the second hymn, towards the cost of providing services and the upkeep of this church. If you are a UK taxpayer please place your offering in one of the envelopes in the pews (completed with your name and address) and place it in the collection plate when it is circulated during the hymn. Pens are in the pews. A card reader to give by contactless payment is available at the back of church. Special thanks if you give by standing order, as this helps us to budget.

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