

Parish of Greater Whitbourne. Patronal Festival Communion, St John the Baptist, 26th June '22

The Gathering

1st Hymn – 316 Lo, from the desert homes

1. Lo, from the desert homes,
where he hath hid so long,
the new Elijah comes,
in sternest wisdom strong:
the voice that cries
of Christ from high,
and judgement nigh
from opening skies.

2. Your God 'en now doth stand
at heaven's opening door;
his fan is in his hand,
and he will purge his floor;
the wheat he claims
and with him stows,
the chaff he throws
to quenchless flames.

3. Ye haughty mountains, bow_
your sky-aspiring heads;
ye valleys, hiding low,
lift up your gentle meads;
make his way plain
your King before,
for evermore
he comes to reign.

*4. May thy dread voice around,
thou harbinger of Light,
on our dull ears still sound,

lest here we sleep in night,
till judgement come,
and on our path
the Lamb's dread wrath
shall burst in doom.

5. O God, with love's sweet might,
who dost anoint and arm
Christ's soldier for the fight
with grace that shields from harm:
thrice blessed Three,
heaven's endless days
shall sing thy praise
eternally.

Handing over the Parish Cross

The giver of the cross says

We should glory in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ;
for he is our salvation,
our life, and our resurrection,
and through him we are saved and made free.

On behalf of the people of **EDVIN LOACH**

I present you with the Parish Cross.
May it be a focus of our prayers
and a sign of our unity in Christ. Amen.

The receiver of the cross says

Father, your Son showed the depth of his love when,
for our sake, he opened his arms on the Cross.
On behalf of the people of **Whitbourne**
I accept the Parish Cross.
Through the saving power of the Cross,

impressed inwardly on our lives
and revealed outwardly in our work,
may others come to know
the depth of your love.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

Amen.

The Greeting

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Prayer of Preparation

**Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Prayers of Penitence

John the Baptist proclaimed,
'Repent for the kingdom of heaven has come near.'
Let us turn to the Lord in penitence and faith
and humbly confess our sin.

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you,
through our own fault,
in thought, and word, and deed,**

**and in what we have left undone.
We are heartily sorry,
and repent of all our sins.
For your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name.
Amen.**

**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 Gloria

**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.**

The Collect for *The Birth of John the Baptist*

Almighty God,
by whose providence
your servant John the Baptist was wonderfully born,
and sent to prepare the way of your Son our Saviour
by the preaching of repentance:
lead us to repent according to his preaching
and, after his example,
constantly to speak the truth,
boldly to rebuke vice,
and patiently to suffer for the truth's sake;
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.

The Liturgy of the Word

FIRST READING –Isaiah 40.1-11

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God.
Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her
that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid,
that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out:

'In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.

Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.'

A voice says, 'Cry out!'
And I said, 'What shall I cry?'
All people are grass,
their constancy is like the flower of the field.
The grass withers, the flower fades,
when the breath of the LORD blows upon it;
surely the people are grass.
The grass withers, the flower fades;
but the word of our God will stand for ever.
Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good tidings;
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,
lift it up, do not fear;
say to the cities of Judah,
'Here is your God!'

See, the Lord GOD comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;
his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.
He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms,
and carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead the mother sheep.

PSALM 85.7-end

*R The Lord will indeed grant prosperity,
and our land will yield its increase.*

Show us your mercy, O Lord,
and grant us your salvation.

I will listen to what the Lord God is saying,
for he is speaking peace to his faithful people
and to those who turn their hearts to him. R

Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him,
that his glory may dwell in our land.
Mercy and truth have met together;
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
Truth shall spring up from the earth,
and righteousness shall look down from heaven. R

The Lord will indeed grant prosperity,
and our land will yield its increase.
Righteousness shall go before him,
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet. R

SECOND READING –

EITHER

Acts 13.14b-26

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

On the sabbath day Paul and his companions went into the synagogue and sat down. After the reading of the law and the prophets, the officials of the synagogue sent them a message, saying, ‘Brothers, if you have any word of exhortation for the people, give it.’ So Paul stood up and with a gesture began to speak:

‘You Israelites, and others who fear God, listen. The God of this people Israel chose our ancestors and made the people great during their stay in the land of Egypt, and with uplifted arm he led them out of it. For about forty years he put up with them in the wilderness. After he had destroyed seven nations in the land of Canaan, he gave them their land as an inheritance for about four hundred and fifty years. After that he gave them judges until the time of the prophet Samuel. Then they asked for a king; and God gave them Saul son of Kish, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, who reigned for forty years. When he had removed him, he made David their king. In his testimony about him he said, “I have found David, son of Jesse, to be a man after my heart, who will

carry out all my wishes.” Of this man’s posterity God has brought to Israel a Saviour, Jesus, as he promised; before his coming John had already proclaimed a baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel. And as John was finishing his work, he said, “What do you suppose that I am? I am not he. No, but one is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of the sandals on his feet.”

‘My brothers, you descendants of Abraham’s family, and others who fear God, to us the message of this salvation has been sent.’

OR

Galatians 3.23-end

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Galatians.

Before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s offspring, heirs according to the promise.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

2nd Hymn – 315 Sing we the praises

1. Sing we the praises of the great forerunner,
tell forth the mighty wonders of his story:
so may his Master cleanse our lips and make them
fit to extol him.
2. Lo, God's high herald, swift from heaven descending,
gives to thy father tidings of thy coming,
telling thy name and all the tale of marvels

that shall befall thee.

3. Oft had the prophets in the time before thee
spoken in vision of the Daystar's coming;
but when he came,
'twas thou that didst proclaim him
Saviour of all men.

Gospel Reading – Luke 1.57-66, 80

Alleluia, alleluia.

You, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High for you will go before
the Lord to prepare his ways.

Alleluia.

Alleluia.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

Glory to you, O Lord.

The time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. Her neighbours
and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy to her, and they
rejoiced with her.

On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to
name him Zechariah after his father. But his mother said, 'No; he is to be
called John.' They said to her, 'None of your relatives has this name.' Then
they began motioning to his father to find out what name he wanted to give
him. He asked for a writing-tablet and wrote, 'His name is John.' And all of
them were amazed. Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue
freed, and he began to speak, praising God. Fear came over all their
neighbours, and all these things were talked about throughout the entire hill
country of Judea. All who heard them pondered them and said, 'What then
will this child become?' For, indeed, the hand of the Lord was with him.

The child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the wilderness until
the day he appeared publicly to Israel.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

The Creed

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again
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.

We 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 worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

...

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Merciful father...

accept these prayers

for the sake of your Son,

our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

The Lord God of Israel has come to his people to set them free and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Preparation of the Table

Taking of the Bread and Wine

3rd Hymn – 27 On Jordan's bank

1. On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry.
announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake, and hearken, for he brings.
glad tidings of the King of kings.

2. Then cleansed be every breast from sin;
make straight the way for God within;
prepare we in our hearts a home,

where such a mighty guest may come.

3. For thou art our salvation, Lord,
our refuge, and our great reward;
without thy grace we waste away,
like flowers that wither and decay.

4. To heal the sick stretch out thine hand,
and bid the fallen sinner stand;
shine forth, and let thy light restore
earth's own true loveliness once more.

5. All praise, eternal Son, to thee
whose advent doth thy people free,
whom with the Father we adore
and Holy Ghost for evermore.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here.

His Spirit is with us.

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.

Father, we give you thanks and praise
through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, your living Word, through whom you
have created all things;
who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our Saviour.

By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh;
as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin,
he lived on earth and went about among us;
he opened wide his arms for us on the cross;
he put an end to death by dying for us;

and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life;
so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.

And now we give you thanks
because you prepared the way of your Son Jesus Christ
by the preaching of your servant John the Baptist,
who proclaimed him as the Lamb of God, our Saviour.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and singing:

**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.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many

for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.

Jesus Christ is Lord:

**Lord, by your cross and resurrection
you have set us free.
You are the Saviour of the world.**

And so, Father,
calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of John the Baptist and all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

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.**

Breaking of the Bread

**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.**

**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.**

Giving of Communion

Draw near with faith.

**Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you,
and his blood which he shed for you.**

Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

Prayer after Communion

Merciful Lord,
whose prophet John the Baptist
proclaimed your Son as the Lamb of God
who takes away the sin of the world:
grant that we who in this sacrament
have known your forgiveness and your life-giving love
may ever tell of your mercy and your peace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

The Dismissal

4th Hymn – 205 Now thank we all out God

1. Now thank we all out God.
with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things hath done,
in whom his world rejoices:
who from our mother's arms
hath blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours to-day.

2. O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,

with ever joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us;
and keep us in his grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills
in this world and the next.

3. All praise and thanks to God
the Father now be given,
the Son, and him who reigns
with them in highest heaven,
the one eternal God,
whom earth and heaven adore,
for thus it was, is now,
and shall be evermore.

Through the tender compassion of our God
may the dawn from on high break upon you
and guide your feet into the way of peace.
And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ.
Amen.

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Brief Notices (see <http://whitbourne.org.uk/files/WeeklyNotices.pdf>)

Tuesday 28th 9am: [Morning Prayer](#) from home by Zoom.

1-2.30pm Little Lambs group at Saltmarshe & District Hall

3.45-5.45pm Children's Club at Saltmarshe & District Hall

Wednesday 29th 9.30am [Morning Prayer](#) from home by Zoom.

Sunday 3rd July "3rd after Trinity" 9.30am: Holy Communion at Whitbourne.

[web-page](#) [pdf](#) [booklet](#)