

Christmas Vigil / Midnight Mass (A) 24th December 2025

Entrance Antiphon

Ps 2: 7

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 2:10-11

The Lord said to me: You are my Son.  
It is I who have begotten you this day.

Or:

Let us all rejoice in the Lord, for our Saviour has been born in the world. Today true peace has come down to us from heaven

The Collect

Let us pray.

O God, who have made this most sacred night radiant with the splendour of the true light, grant, we pray, that we, who have known the mysteries of his light on earth, may also delight in his gladness in heaven. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

First Reading

Isaiah 9:2-7

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone. You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil. For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire. For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace, there will be no end on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and for evermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 96(95):1-2a. 2b-3. 11-12a. 12b-13b. 13cd. R Luke 2:11

Today a Saviour has been born to us; who is Christ the Lord.

O sing a new song to the LORD;  
sing to the LORD, all the earth.  
O sing to the LORD; bless his name. (R)

Proclaim his salvation day by day. Tell among the nations his glory, and his wonders among all the peoples. (R)

Let the heavens rejoice and earth be glad; let the sea and all within it thunder praise. Let the field and all it bears rejoice. (R)

Then will all the trees of the wood shout for joy at the presence of the LORD, for he comes, he comes to judge the earth. (R)

He will judge the world with justice; and the peoples with faithfulness. (R)

Second Reading

Titus 2:11-14

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to Titus

Beloved: The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness, and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Alleluia, alleluia.

I bring you good news of great joy:  
for unto us is born this day a Saviour, Christ the Lord.  
Alleluia.

Gospel

Luke 2:1-14

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Glory to you, O Lord

‘Unto you is born this day a Saviour’

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be registered, each to his own town. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. And the angel said to them, ‘Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.’ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,  
‘Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!’

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Prayer over the Offerings

May the oblation of this day’s feast  
be pleasing to you, O Lord, we pray,  
that through this most holy exchange  
we may be found in the likeness of Christ,  
in whom our nature is united to you.  
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.  
Amen.

Communion Antiphon

Jn 1: 14

The Word became flesh, and we have seen his glory.

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

Grant us, we pray, O Lord our God,  
that we, who are gladdened by participation  
in the feast of our Redeemer’s Nativity,  
may through an honourable way of life become worthy of union with him. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Amen



# St John Fisher Merton

## Fisherman's Herald

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**Parish Priest:** Fr Francis Nonyelu,  
**Assistant Priest:** Fr Alfred Mamman,  
**Deacon:** Rev Tom Kavanagh  
**Parish Office:** Monday & Thursday from 9am to 2pm.

**Parish Primary School**  
St. John Fisher R. C. Primary and Nursery School,  
Grand Drive, SW20 9NA, Tel: 020 8540 2637  
Headteacher: Ms J Kenna

## 25th December 2025 The Nativity of The Lord

### Mass Intentions For This Week

<b>Wednesday 24th</b>	8:30am	Rosary
	9:00am	Eileen & Michael Tully
	9:30-10:30am	Confessions
<b>Christmas Eve</b>	5:30pm	Carols
<b>Vigil Mass</b>	6:00pm	Pat Igoe RIP
	11:30pm	Carols
	Midnight	Evelyn Chiejina & Family
<b>Thursday 25th</b>	8:00am	Ilma Tong RIP
<b>The Nativity of The Lord</b>	9:30am	Canon Acton RIP
	11:00am	Irene Steel RIP

### Christmas Greetings

*The Clergy of the parish, wish all parishioners and their families a Happy and peaceful Christmas. May the joy of Jesus' birth fill our hearts.  
And may the coming year bring us closer to God Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!!*

*Fr. Francis Nonyelu  
Fr. Alfred Mamman  
Deacon Tom Kavanagh*

### Reflection & Christmas Message

"Don't get so wrapped up in what the world has to sell that you miss what God has to give."

We cannot live without facing challenges. Responding to them is part of life. But by the Holy Spirit's grace and power, we have fought and struggled against the challenges of 2025. As Christian Catholics, we believe Jesus is with us in suffering and sorrow. Jesus is always and forever God with us. He saves us, raises us from dust, and lifts us from difficulty and sin. He is Emmanuel – God-with-us (Matthew 1:23). Do you believe this?

Christmas is about gift-giving. God gave Himself to us through the holy mystery of Incarnation. In Incarnation, God reunited with His people. We, in turn, are gifts to those in our lives. Through Christmas, you become a gift from God to those you know and even those you do not know. So, create an open space within. Make room for others in your heart. Let God's grace guide your actions and feed your courage to act as Jesus would toward anyone in need.

Jesus is the centre of creation, the centre of reconciliation, and the centre of the People of God. He is alive and present among us. In Him we are all one people. Only in Jesus as the centre do we receive our identity as a people. So, by the celebration of Christmas, it is our choice to put Jesus in the first place in our lives, to be like Him, to imitate Him, and to follow Him to the end.

### Quote of The Week

*'The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.'*  
John 1:14



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*"Spes non Confundit"*

Hope does not disappoint (Rom 5:5)

Christmas Day - Mass during the Day (A) 25th December 2025

Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Is 9: 5

A child is born for us, and a son is given to us; his sceptre of power rests upon his shoulder, and his name will be called Messenger of great counsel.

The Collect

Let us pray.

O God, who wonderfully created the dignity of human nature and still more wonderfully restored it, grant, we pray, that we may share in the divinity of Christ, who humbled himself to share in our humanity. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

First Reading

Isaiah 52:7-10

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Sion, ‘Your God reigns.’ The voice of your watchmen — they lift up their voice; together they sing for joy; for eye to eye they see the return of the LORD to Sion. Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem, for the LORD has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem. The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

The Word of The Lord

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 98(97):1. 2-3b. 3c-4. 5-6. 3cd

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God..

O sing a new song to the LORD,  
for he has worked wonders.  
His right hand and his holy arm  
have brought salvation. (R)

The LORD has made known his salvation,  
has shown his deliverance to the nations.  
He has remembered his merciful love  
and his truth for the house of Israel. (R)

All the ends of the earth have seen  
the salvation of our God.  
Shout to the LORD, all the earth;  
break forth into joyous song,  
and sing out your praise. (R)

Sing psalms to the LORD with the harp,  
with the harp and the sound of song.  
With trumpets and the sound of the horn,  
raise a shout before the King, the LORD. (R)

Second Reading

Hebrews 1:1-6

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. For to which of the angels did God ever say, ‘You are my Son, today I have begotten you’? Or again, ‘I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son’? And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, ‘Let all God’s angels worship him.’

The Word of The Lord

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.  
A hallowed day has shone upon us.  
Come, O nations, and adore the Lord;  
for today a great light has come down to earth.  
Alleluia.

Gospel

John 1:1-18

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Glory to you, O Lord

‘The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.’

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the Only Begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth. John bore witness about him, and cried out, ‘This was he of whom I said, “He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.” ’

For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God; the only begotten God, who is at the Father’s side, he has made him known.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Prayer over the Offerings

Make acceptable, O Lord, our oblation on this solemn day,  
when you manifested the reconciliation  
that makes us wholly pleasing in your sight  
and inaugurated for us the fullness of divine worship.  
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Communion Antiphon

Cf. Ps 97: 3

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

Grant, O merciful God,  
that, just as the Saviour of the world, born this day,  
is the author of divine generation for us,  
so he may be the giver even of immortality.  
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Amen

## The Order of Mass

### Penitential Act

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,

**(And, striking their breast, they say)**

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.

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

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

### The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God,  
the Father Almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried;  
He descended into hell;  
on the third day He rose again from the dead;  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
from there He will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Holy Catholic Church,  
the communion of Saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and life everlasting.  
Amen.**

### The Liturgy of The Eucharist

Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters)...

**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**

### The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you.

**And with your spirit.**

Lift up your hearts.

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

The Priest, with hands extended, adds:

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right and just.**

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.**

**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.**

### The mystery of faith

**When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,  
we proclaim your Death, O Lord,  
until you come again.**

Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty  
Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour  
is yours, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

### The Communion Rite

At the Saviour's command

and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

**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.**

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil,  
graciously grant peace in our days,  
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.

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

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.

**Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And with your spirit.**

Let us offer each other the sign of peace

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

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

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.  
And together with the people he adds once:

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

### The Concluding Rites

#### Blessing

The Lord be with you.

**And with your spirit.**

May almighty God bless you,  
the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

#### Dismissal

Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.

**Thanks be to God.**