

PARISH ANNIVERSARY & BAPTISM OF TOBY

Anniversary Sunday: 5th September 2021

**CHRIST
CHURCH**

West Didsbury

& St. Christopher
Withington



**A VERY WARM WELCOME TO CHRIST CHURCH THIS MORNING
for our joint eucharist to mark our parish anniversary
and to celebrate the baptism of Toby.**

A special welcome to our anyone who is with us for the first time.
Members of any Christian community are welcome to the Lord's table
or, if you wish, you may come to the altar for a blessing.

Today our two congregations meet to celebrate our lives together
as one parish.

Please pray for the mission and ministry of the Church in our parish
and in the wider world, and for Toby as we welcome him into
the Lord's family.

There will be wine and cake after our service.

Opening Hymn

God is here! As we his people
meet to offer praise and prayer,
may we find in fuller measure
what it is in Christ we share.
Here, as in the world around us,
all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of the Spirit
into open minds and hearts.

Here our children find a welcome
in the Shepherd's flock and fold,
here as bread and wine are taken,
Christ sustains us, as of old.
Here the servants of the Servant
seek in worship to explore
what it means in daily living
to believe and to adore.

Lord of all, of Church and Kingdom,
in an age of change and doubt,
keep us faithful to the gospel,
help us work your purpose out.
Here, in this day's dedication,
all we have to give, receive:
we, who cannot live without you,
we adore you! We believe!

The Greeting

The celebrant greets the people

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

All **Amen.**

The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Words of Welcome & Introduction

There are varieties of gifts

All **But the same Spirit.**

There are varieties of service

All **But the same Lord.**

There are different kinds of working

All: **But the same God is at work in all.**

Prayers of Penitence

God has called us to follow Christ,
and has formed us into a royal priesthood, a holy nation,
to declare the wonderful deeds of him
who has called us out of darkness into his marvellous light.
Let us confess the times when we have failed to heed this call.

Lord Jesus, you said to your disciples:
'You have not chosen me, but I have chosen you.'

Lord, have mercy;

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, we know that the harvest is plentiful
but the labourers are few.

Christ, have mercy;

All **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you appointed us to go and bear fruit that will last

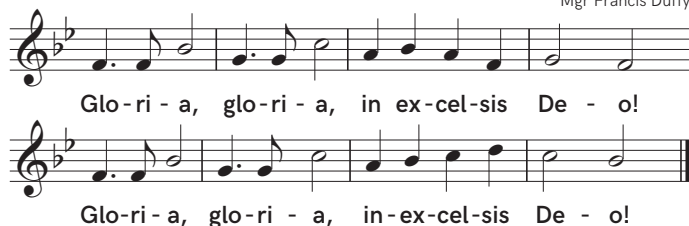
Lord, have mercy;

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Words of Absolution

The Gloria

Mgr Francis Duffy



Glo-ri - a, glo-ri - a, in ex-cel-sis De - o!

Glo-ri - a, glo-ri - a, in-ex-cel-sis De - o!

The Collect

Almighty and everlasting God,
by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church
is governed and sanctified:
hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people,
that in their vocation and ministry
they may serve you in holiness and truth
to the glory of your name;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All

Amen.

¶ Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: Genesis 28:11-18

A reading from the book of Genesis.

Jacob came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the LORD stood beside him and said, 'I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.'

Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, 'Surely the LORD is in this place - and I did not know it!' And he was afraid, and said, 'How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.'

So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it.

This is the word of the Lord.

All

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel: John 10:22-29

The Lord be with you;

All **And also with you.**

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John;

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

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, 'How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.' Jesus answered, 'I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand.'

This is the gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

¶ Liturgy of Baptism

Presentation of Toby

Jesus said, 'Let the children come to me. Do not stop them'.
We thank God for Toby who has come to be baptised today.
Christ loves him and welcomes him into his Church.

So I ask you all:

Will you support Toby as he begins his journey of faith?

All **We will.**

Will you help him to live and grow within God's family?

All **We will.**

Anne then says to Toby's parents and godparents

God knows each of us by name and we are his.
Parents and godparents, you speak for Toby today.
Will you pray for him, and help him to follow Christ?
We will.

The Decision

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light.
To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him.

Therefore I ask:

Do you turn to Christ?

I turn to Christ.

Do you repent of your sins?

I repent of my sins.

Do you renounce evil?

I renounce evil.

Signing with the Cross

Anne makes the sign of the cross on the forehead of Toby saying

Tobias Edward Ward Lowe, Christ claims you for his own.
Receive the sign of his cross.

Anne invites parents and godparents to sign Toby with the cross.

Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.

All

**Fight valiantly as a disciple of Christ
against sin, the world and the devil,
and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.**

May almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness,
restore in you the image of his glory
and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ.

All

Amen.

Prayer over the Water

We gather at the baptismal font.

We praise you, loving Father, for the gift of your Son Jesus.
He was baptised in the River Jordan,
where your Spirit came upon him
and revealed him as the Son you love.
He sent his followers to baptise all who turn to him.
Now, Father, we ask you to bless this water,
that those who are baptised in it
may be cleansed in the water of life, and, filled with your Spirit,
may know that they are loved as your children,
safe in Christ for ever.

All **Amen.**

Profession of Faith

Brothers and sisters,
I ask you to profess together with Toby's family
the faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and
life, the one for whom we exist?

All **I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature, died for us and rose again:

All **I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit
who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world?

All **I believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church

All **This is our faith.**
We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Baptism

Tobias Edward Ward,
I baptise you in the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

May God, who has received you by baptism into his Church,
pour upon you the riches of his grace,
that within the company of Christ's pilgrim people
you may daily be renewed by his anointing Spirit,
and come to the inheritance of the saints in glory.

All **Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

Lord, in your mercy;

All **Hear our prayer.**

At the end:

All **Merciful Father**

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

The Welcome

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism:
Toby, by one Spirit we are all baptised into one body.

All **We welcome you into the fellowship of faith;
we are children of the same heavenly Father;
we welcome you.**

The Peace

We are all one in Christ Jesus.
We belong to him through faith,
heirs of the promise of the Spirit of peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All **And also with you**

¶ Liturgy of the Sacrament

Offertory Hymn

Preparation of the Table & Taking of the Bread and Wine

Heavenly Father,
as we set before you these gifts of bread and wine,
bless also the gift of our hearts and minds
as we offer our lives in your service;
for Jesus Christ's sake.

All **Amen.**

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation
through your goodness we have this bread to set before you
which earth has given and human hands have made.
It will become for us the bread of life.

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation
through your goodness we have this wine to set before you,
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.
It will become for us the cup of salvation

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here.

All **His spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

The celebrant continues praising God for his gifts and all respond:

All **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.**

The prayer continues....

Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.
Great is the mystery of faith:

All **Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.**

The prayer continues and all respond:

All **Amen.**

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

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

The breaking of the bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

All **Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in the one bread.**

Agnus Dei

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.

The Giving of Communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

All **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

*Please come forward to receive communion, keeping social distance
and follow the one-way system when returning to your seats.*

Communion will be in one kind only.

Prayer after Communion

Father of all, we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off
you met us in your Son and brought us home.
Dying and living, he declared your love,
gave us grace and opened the gate of glory.
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;
we who drink his cup bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
so we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The Dismissal

The Blessing

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

Recessional Hymn

O happy day that fixed my choice
On Thee, my Saviour and my God!
Well may this glowing heart rejoice,
And tell its raptures all abroad.

Refrain:

O happy day, O happy day,
When Jesus washed my sins away!
He taught me how to watch and pray,
And live rejoicing every day; (Alleluia)
Happy day, O happy day,
When Jesus washed my sins away!

O happy bond, that seals my vows
To Him who merits all my love!
Let cheerful anthems fill His house,
While to that sacred shrine I move.

Refrain

Now rest, my long-divided heart,
Fixed on this blissful centre, rest;
Here have I found a nobler part,
Here heavenly pleasures fill my breast.

Refrain

WEEK COMMENCING 5TH SEPTEMBER 2021

SUNDAY <i>Parish Anniversary</i>	11.00 a.m.	Joint Eucharist & Baptism at Christ Church
	1.30 p.m.	William Byrd Singers rehearse at Christ Church
TUESDAY <i>Evartius</i>	9.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer at St. Christopher's
WEDNESDAY <i>Birth of the BVM</i>	9.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer at Christ Church
	10.00 a.m.	Christ Church Open
	7.30 p.m.	Eucharist at Christ Church
THURSDAY <i>Charles Fuge Lowder</i>	9.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer at St. Christopher's
11th and 12th		Didsbury Open Doors Christ Church open 10am - 4pm
SATURDAY	2.00 p.m.	Appassionare Opera sing at Christ Church
NEXT SUNDAY <i>15th Sunday</i>	9.30 a.m.	Eucharist at St. Christopher's
<i>after Trinity</i>	11.00 a.m.	Eucharist at Christ Church
	1.30 P.M.	William Byrd Singers rehearse at Christ Church

Tea & Coffee Rota

We are hoping to start serving tea and coffee after the service soon, but to do this we need volunteers. If you can help have a word with Anne or Barbra.

Didsbury Open Doors

We will be opening Christ Church on the 11th and 12th September 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m. **Please sign up if you can help.**



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