



ST PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH
Burwood

ASH WEDNESDAY

Wednesday 18 February 2026

6:00PM CHORAL EUCHARIST

Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season of Lent: a time of penitence, fasting, and prayer, in preparation for the great feast of the resurrection.

The season of Lent began in the early days of the Church as a time of preparation for those seeking to be baptised at the Easter Vigil. The forty days refer to our Lord's time of fasting in the wilderness; and since Sundays are never fast days, Ash Wednesday is the beginning of the Lenten Fast.

Throughout the Old Testament, ashes are used as a sign of sorrow and repentance, and Christians have traditionally used ashes to indicate sorrow for our own sin, and as a reminder that the wages of sin is death (Romans 6.23).

Like Adam and Eve, we have disobeyed and rebelled against God, and are under the same judgement, *"Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return"*. (Genesis 3.19).

But as we are marked with ashes in the same manner that we were signed with the Cross in Baptism, we are also reminded of the life we share in Jesus Christ, the second Adam (Romans 5:17, 6:4). It is in this sure hope that we begin the journey of these forty days, that by hearing and answering our Saviour's call to repent, we may enter fully into the joyful celebration of his resurrection.



All STAND as the bell is rung. The choir and sanctuary party enter from the Lady Chapel while the Introit is sung by the Cantor.

Introit

Return to the Lord your God, who is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

Greeting

✠ Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins,
whose mercy endures for ever.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Introduction

Dear People of God: The first Christians observed with great devotion the days of our Lord's passion and resurrection, and it became the custom of the Church to prepare for them by a season of penitence and fasting.

This season of Lent provided a time in which converts to the faith were prepared for Holy Baptism. It was also a time when those who, because of their sins, had been separated from the body of the faithful, were reconciled by penitence and forgiveness, and restored to the fellowship of the Church. Thereby, the whole congregation was put in mind of the message of pardon and absolution set forth in the Gospel of our Saviour, and of the need which all Christians continually have to renew their repentance and faith.

I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word.

Blessing of Ashes

Let us pray:

O God, who desires not the death of sinners, but their conversion, mercifully hear our prayers and, in your kindness, be pleased to bless ✠ these ashes, that we, who acknowledge we are but ashes and shall return to dust, may, through a steadfast observance of Lent, gain pardon for sins and newness of life after the likeness of your Risen Son. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Amen.

Confession

All KNEEL. The priest introduces the confession:

Compassion and forgiveness belong to the Lord our God, though we have rebelled and wandered far off.

(Silence may be kept)

Let us then ask for mercy, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

**Merciful God,
our maker and our judge,
we have sinned against you
in thought, word and deed, and in what we have failed to do:**

we have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;
we repent, and are sorry for all our sins.
Father, forgive us.
Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Imposition of Ashes

The people come forward to the communion rail to receive the ashes of penitence.

Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return.

Amen.

Following the imposition of ashes all KNEEL in their pew as the choir sings a series of antiphons.

At the conclusion of the imposition of ashes the priest pronounces the Absolution.

Almighty God,
who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith:
☩ pardon you and set you free from all your sins,
strengthen you in all goodness
and keep you in eternal life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

All STAND for the Kyrie which is sung by the choir.

Kyrie

Kyrie eleison. Lord, have mercy.
Christe eleison. Christ, have mercy.
Kyrie eleison. Lord, have mercy.

All remain standing for the collect of the day.

Collect

Gracious God, out of your love and mercy you breathed into dust the breath of life, creating us to serve you and one another: call forth our penitence and acts of love, and strengthen us to face our mortality, so that we may look with confidence for your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

All SIT.

First Reading: Joel 2.1–2, 12–17

Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the Lord is coming, it is near – a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness! Like blackness spread upon the mountains a great and powerful army comes; their like has never been from of old, nor will be again after them in ages to come. Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with

weeping, and with mourning; rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing. Who knows whether he will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind him, a grain-offering and a drink-offering for the Lord, your God?

Blow the trumpet in Zion; sanctify a fast; call a solemn assembly; gather the people. Sanctify the congregation; assemble the aged; gather the children, even infants at the breast. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her canopy.

Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep. Let them say, 'Spare your people, O Lord, and do not make your heritage a mockery, a byword among the nations. Why should it be said among the peoples, "Where is their God?"'

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: 51.1–17

Please remain seated.

Chant: Matthew Camidge (1758–1844)

- 1 Have mercy on me, O God, in your enduring goodness:
according to the fullness of your compassion blot out my offences.
- 2 Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness:
and cleanse me from my sin.
- 3 For I acknowledge my rebellion:
and my sin is ever before me.
- 4 Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your eyes:
so you will be just in your sentence and blameless in your judging.
- 5 Surely in wickedness I was brought to birth:
and in sin my mother conceived me.
- 6 You that desire truth in the inward parts:
O teach me wisdom in the secret places of the heart.
- 7 Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean:
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
- 8 Make me hear of joy and gladness:
let the bones which you have broken rejoice.
- 9 Hide your face from my sins:
and blot out all my iniquities.
- 10 Create in me a clean heart, O God:
and renew a right spirit within me.
- 11 Do not cast me out from your presence:
do not take your holy spirit from me.
- 12 O give me the gladness of your help again:
and support me with a willing spirit.

13 Then will I teach transgressors your ways:
and sinners shall turn to you again.

14 Lord God of my salvation, deliver me from bloodshed:
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness.

15 O Lord, open my lips:
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

16 You take no pleasure in sacrifice, or I would give it:
burnt-offerings you do not want.

17 The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit:
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5.20b–6.10

So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says,

'At an acceptable time I have listened to you,
and on a day of salvation I have helped you.'

See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labours, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honour and dishonour, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

All STAND for the tract and gospel acclamation

Tract

Sung by the choir.

1 He has not dealt with us according to our sins:
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.

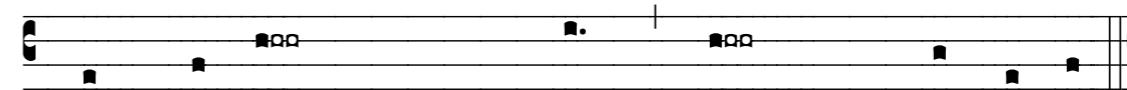
2 Do not remember against us the sin of former times:
but let your compassion hasten to meet us,
for we are brought very low.

6

3 Help us, O God our saviour, for the honour of your name:
O deliver us and forgive us our sins, for your name's sake.

Gospel Acclamation:

The Acclamation is sung first by the cantor and then repeated by all.



Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of end-less glo-ry.

If today you hear his voice; harden not your hearts.

The Acclamation is repeated by all.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

✠ A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel: Matthew 6.1–21

'Beware of practising your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

'So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

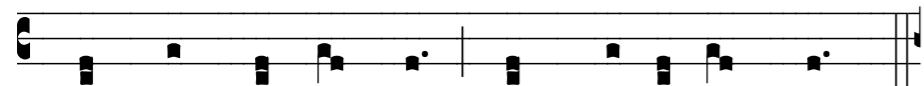
'And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

'When you are praying, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do; for they think that they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

'Pray then in this way:

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come.
Your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.

Great Thanksgiving



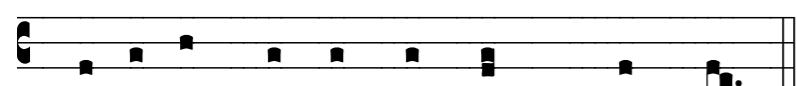
The Lord be with you. And also with you.



Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The priest continues with the Prayer of Thanksgiving.

All KNEEL as the sanctuary bell is rung three times.

Sanctus & Benedictus

Sung by the choir.

*Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus,
Dominus Deus sabaoth.*

*Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis.*

*¶ Benedictus qui venit
in nomine Domini
Hosanna in excelsis.*

The priest continues with the Prayer of Consecration.

Memorial Acclamation

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Therefore we do as our Saviour has commanded...

...his one perfect and sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world.

*¶ Renew us by your Holy Spirit, unite us in the body of your Son,
and bring us with all your people into the joy of your eternal kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom, and in whom, in the fellowship of
the Holy Spirit, we worship you, Father, in songs of never-ending praise:*

***¶ Blessing and honour and glory and power,
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.***

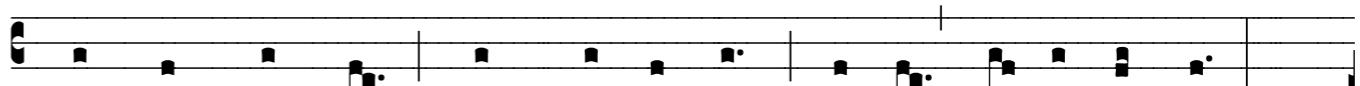
The Lord's Prayer

The priest intones:

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray:



Our Father in heaven hallowed be your name;



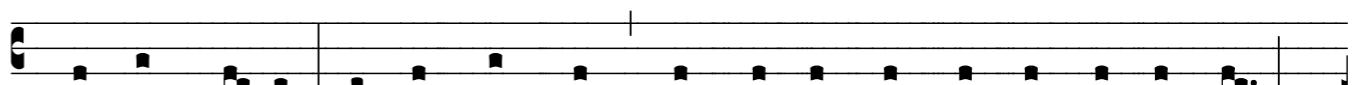
Your Kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven.



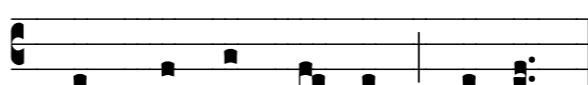
Give us to-day our daily bread for-give us our sins as we for-give



those who sin a-against us. Save us from the time of tri-al, and de-liv-er



us from e- vil For the king-dom, the po-wer and the glo-ry are yours,



now and for e - ver. A-men.

The breaking of the bread

The priest breaks the bread and says the following:

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

We who are many are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.

Agnus Dei

Sung by the choir.

*Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.*

*Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.*

*Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
dona nobis pacem.*

O Lamb of God, who takes away the
sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, who takes away the
sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, who takes away the
sins of the world, grant us your peace.

Invitation to Communion

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

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

Communion

Communion is distributed along the length of the communion rail.

Please form a single line on the Organ side of the nave and return on the Pulpit side.

Communion Motet

Hide not thou thy face

Richard Farrant, (c.1525-1580)

Hide not thou thy face from us, O Lord,
and cast not off thy servant in thy displeasure:
for we confess our sins unto thee,
and hide not our unrighteousness:
for thy mercy sake deliver us from all our sins.

Edited from *Barnard's First Book of Cathedral Musick* 1641

Please remain kneeling or seated to sing the communion hymn.

Communion Hymn

SONG 13 77 77

Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625)

1 Jesu, grant me this, I pray;
Ever in thy heart to stay;
Let me evermore abide
Hidden in thy wounded side.

2 If the evil one prepare,
Or the world, a tempting snare,
I am safe when I abide
In thy heart and wounded side.

3 If the flesh, more dangerous still,
Tempt my soul to deeds of ill,
Naught I fear when I abide
In thy heart and wounded side.

4 Death will come one day to me;
Jesu, cast me not from thee:
Dying let me still abide
In thy heart and wounded side.

Latin 17th century
Tr. H.W. Baker (1821-77)

All STAND for the post-communion prayer.

Post-Communion Prayer

God of mercy, may we who have shared in this holy meal know your forgiveness in our lives, bring your reconciliation to others, and be a sign of your wholeness in this broken world.

Father, we offer ourselves to you

as a living sacrifice

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Send us out in the power of your Spirit

to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

Blessing

The priest says this or an appropriate seasonal Blessing:

Christ our Saviour draw you to himself, that you may find in him crucified a sure ground for faith, a firm support for hope, and the assurance of sin forgiven; and the blessing of God almighty, **†** the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord:

† In the name of Christ. Amen.

Remain standing to sing the final hymn.

Final Hymn

AUS DER TIEFE 77 77

'M.H.' in *Nürnbergisches Gesangbuch* 1676
Melody possibly by M. Herbst (1654-81)

1 Forty days and forty nights
Thou wast fasting in the wild,
Forty days and forty nights
Tempted and yet undefiled.

2 Sunbeams scorching all the day,
Chilly dewdrops nightly shed,
Prowling beasts about thy way,
Stones thy pillow, earth thy bed.

3 Let us thine endurance share,
And awhile from joys abstain,
With thee watching unto prayer,
Strong with thee to suffer pain.

4 And if Satan, vexing sore,
Flesh or spirit should assail,
Thou, his vanquisher before,
Grant we may not faint nor fail.

5 So shall we have peace divine,
Holier gladness ours shall be,
Round us too shall angels shine,
Such as ministered to thee.

6 Keep, O keep us, Saviour dear,
Ever constant by thy side,
That with thee we may appear
At the eternal Eastertide.

G.H. Smyttan (1822-70)
and Francis Pott (1832-1909)

Postlude

Prelude on 'Herzlich tut mich verlangen' Op.122, No 10

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

The choir and sanctuary party depart through the Lady Chapel.

To maintain the prayerfulness of the liturgy, it is requested that there be no applause at the end of the organ postlude. Please be mindful of those who wish to stay and listen.



TODAY'S MUSIC DETAILS:

Setting: *Missa orbis factor* (Gregorian chant)

Motet: *Hide not thou thy face* (Richard Farrant, c.1525-1580)

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UPCOMING CHORAL SERVICES:

Sunday 22 February – First Sunday in Lent

10:00am CHORAL EUCHARIST & LITANY

Setting: *Missa Brevis* (Geoffrey Arnold, 1932-1983)

Motet: *Nolo mortem peccatoris* (Thomas Morley, 1557-1602)

Sunday 1 March – Second Sunday in Lent

10:00am CHORAL EUCHARIST & LITANY

Setting: *Missa Westron Wynde* (Healey Willan, 1880-1968)

Motet: *If ye love me* (Thomas Tallis, c.1505-1585)

Sunday 8 March – Third Sunday in Lent

10:00am CHORAL EUCHARIST

Setting: *Mass for four voices* (William Byrd, c.1540-1623)

Motet: *Sicut cervus* (G.P. da Palestrina, c.1525-1594)

5:00pm CHORAL EVENSONG

Let my prayer (John Blow, 1649-1708)

Faux-bourdon Service (Jeremy Woodside, b.1989)

Lord, let me know mine end (Maurice Greene, 1696-1755)

Responses (Harrison Oxley, 1933-2009)

Sunday 15 March – Fourth Sunday in Lent (*Laetare Sunday*)

10:00am Choral Eucharist

Collegium Regale (Herbert Howells, 1892-1983)

The secret of Christ (Richard Shephard, 1949-2021)

Sunday 22 March – Fifth Sunday in Lent

9:00am Choral Eucharist & Litany

Missa fons bonitatis (Gregorian chant)

Remember Lord, not thy offences (Henry Purcell, 1659-1695)

Are you a new parishioner or do you need to update your details?



Use this QR code to update your details in our parish database and ensure you are kept up-to-date with everything going on at St Paul's Burwood.

Alternatively, you can contact the parish office by phone: (02) 9747 4327 or email: info@stpaulsburwood.org.au

Support us @ St Paul's



Use this QR code to make a payment via PayPal directly from your mobile phone.

General Offertory / Donation Account

Account Name: St Paul's Anglican Church
BSB: 032-062 Acc: 818 285

Parish Pantry Account

Account Name: Parish Pantry
BSB: 032-062 Acc: 812 238

National Trust Account

Account Name: National Trust of Australia (NSW) St Paul's Anglican Church Burwood
BSB: 032-044 Acc: 742 926
donations over \$2 are tax-deductible

Donations & Bequests

"I bequeath the sum of \$____ to the Rector and Wardens of the Anglican parish of St Paul's Burwood, to be used at their absolute discretion for the charitable or other beneficial purposes of the parish."

Wills

Mark Squire (an 8:00am service parishioner) is a solicitor experienced in drafting Wills. While he does not wish to have any commercial association with the church and/or its members, he has made an offer to assist, at no cost, senior parishioners and community members who wish to make donations to the parish in their Wills.

Mark is concerned to ensure that any senior who wants to help our wonderful parish this way is not deterred by the potential cost of so doing. Mark can be contacted via the parish office – (02) 9747 4327

JOIN US @ ST PAUL'S

HOLY COMMUNION

Sundays throughout the year:

8:00am Said Eucharist – *with hymns*

10:00am Choral Eucharist – *with the Choir of St Paul's*

Wednesdays:

10:30am Eucharist

Fridays: *last Friday of the month (weekly in Advent & Lent)*

5:40pm Evening Prayer

6:00pm Eucharist

Seasonal Services:

6:00pm Choral Eucharist – *with the Choir of St Paul's*

Special services are held during the year to mark Feast Days and other days of seasonal significance. These are advertised in the pew bulletin and on our website.

CHORAL EVENSONG

Sundays as advertised:

5:00pm Choral Evensong – *with the Choir of St Paul's*

For further information please visit our website: stpaulsburwood.org.au



ST PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, BURWOOD

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Rector

Fr James Collins OAM

Senior Assistant Priest

Fr Michael Deasey OAM FRSCM

Honorary Priest

Fr Mark Battison

Lay Minister

Ms Rosemary King

Director of Music

Mr David Russell

Honorary Acting Organist

Fr Michael Deasey OAM FRSCM

Sacristan

Br Brian Luhr OGS OAM

Lay Assistant

Ms Natalie McDonald