

HOLY INNOCENTS FALLOWFIELD



Sunday December 28th 2025

The Holy Innocents

خوش آمدی

Welcome to Holy Innocents on the feast day of the small children who were killed by Herod in his hunt for the infant Jesus after the visit of the wise men. Please be still and quiet as we prepare together to celebrate the Eucharist.

When the bell rings, please stand to sing

HYMN 26 omit v4

The president today is the Revd Jane Walker..

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

Amen.

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

The president introduces the celebration:
Because they were found to be like the son of God, now these children can be found like the Lamb in eternal glory. Today we keep their feast day, remembering the innocents of the world and the gift of God himself to be amongst us. So, as we prepare to celebrate these holy mysteries, let us call to mind our own weakness and remember God's unflinching love.

After a time of silent prayer the choir sings the Kyrie Eleison. (Lord have mercy).

At the end, the president says the absolution.
May almighty God have mercy upon us,
forgive us our sins
and bring us to everlasting life.
Amen.

**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 this Sunday

Let us pray.

After a moment of silent prayer the president says the Collect. At the end: Amen.

Please sit for the Ministry of the Word.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31: 15-17

At the end: This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 124

"If the Lord had not been with us,"

O let Israel now say:

*"If the Lord had not been with us,
when we were amidst the fray;
When attackers in their anger
would have put us in the grave;
Torrents would have there engulfed us,
raging floods swept us away."*

Blessèd be our God and Father
Who has kept us in his care.

Like a bird, we fly to freedom
From the cruel fowler's snare.

For that snare has now been broken;
Our escape - new life, new birth -
our help ever in the Lord's name:
God who made both heav'n and earth.

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1:26-29

Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God.

At the end: This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand to sing:

HYMN 22

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 2: 13-18

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please sit down for the sermon. The preacher today is the Revd Canon Michael Ainsworth. After the sermon there will be a time of silence. Then we stand with the president for 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.

Please remain standing for the Prayer of the Faithful. After each section:

Lord, hear us:

Lord graciously hear us.

After the final section (for the departed) there will be a time of silent prayer. At the end:

Merciful Father,

accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The president introduces the Peace.

Blessed are the peacemakers: they shall be called children of God. We meet in the name of Christ and share his peace. The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

All exchange a sign of peace and then join in:

HYMN 37

The gifts of the people are collected and the bread and wine are brought to the altar.

The President says a prayer over the gifts to which we all respond:

Blessed be God for ever.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER follows.

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 thanks and praise.

THE PRESIDENT continues the prayer, thanking God for his saving works, and then invites the people to join their praises with the whole company of heaven:

...forever 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.

THE PRESIDENT asks the Father to send the Holy Spirit to sanctify the bread and wine, and then repeats the Lord's own words over the bread and cup. .

.....Great is the mystery of faith:
Christ has died: Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.

THE PRESIDENT CONTINUES, joining our offering with Christ's sacrifice of himself. At the end of the prayer the president says:

.....all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever: **Amen.**

The President introduces the Lord's Prayer and all say together:

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.

ملکوت تو ی پدر ما که در آسمانی، نام تو مقدس باد،
بر زمین نیز کرده بیاید. اراده تو چنانکه در آسمان است،
و قرض های ما شود. نان کفاف ما را امروز به ما بده.
و را ببخش چنانکه ما نیز قرضداران خود را می بخشیم،
ما را در آزمایش میاور، بلکه از شریر ما را رهایی ده.
زیرا ملکوت و قوت و جلالنا ابدالابد از آن تو است،
آمین.

We SIT or KNEEL as the president breaks the consecrated bread in pieces for all to share:

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.

The president addresses those who wish to come to Holy Communion:

Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. Blessed 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.

Those who wish draw near to the altar. Those who are baptized, as well as communicant members of other Christian churches, are invited to receive Holy Communion. Others are asked to fold their arms for a blessing. During communion, the choir sings Puer Nobis Nascitur.

When all have received Holy Communion what remains of the consecrated bread will be placed in the tabernacle. After a time of stillness and quiet, please stand with the President.

Let us pray:

After a moment of silent prayer:

Lord our God, in your humility
you stooped to share our human life
with the most defenceless of your children:
may we who have received
these gifts of your passion,
rejoice in celebrating the witness
of the Holy Innocents
to your son Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

HYMN 34

*Please sit for the announcements
and then stand for the blessing and dismissal.*

May the Father, who has loved the eternal Son from before the foundation of the world, shed that love upon you his children. **Amen.**
May Christ, who by his incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with joy and peace; **Amen.**

May the Holy Spirit, by whose overshadowing Mary became the Godbearer, give you grace to carry the good news of Christ. **Amen.**

The blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son + and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Rector: The Revd Richard Young

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Associate Priest: The Revd Jane Walker

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O sisters too, what may we do
for to preserve this day,
This poor youngling, for whom
we now sing bye bye lullay lullay.

Herod the King, in his raging
chargèd he hath this day
His men of might, in his own sight
all young children to slay.

Then woe is me, poor child for thee, and ever
mourn and pray -
For thy parting neither say nor sing
bye bye lullay lullay.

**There are no weekday services
this week.**

A Happy New Year to everyone!

SUNDAY January 4th 2026

The New Year

10:00 Sung Eucharist

خداوند می فرماید: "در شهر رامه صدایی شنیده می شود، صدای آه و ناله ای تلخ؛ راحیل برای فرزندان از دست رفته اش گریه می کند و تسلی نمی یابد. ولی ای مادر قوم من، دیگر گریه نکن، چون آنچه برای ایشان کرده ای، بی پاداش نخواهد ماند؛ فرزندان از سرزمین دشمن نزد تو باز خواهند گشت. بلی، امیدی برای آینده ات وجود دارد، چون فرزندان تو بار دیگر به وطنشان باز خواهند گشت.

Psalm 124

قوم اسرائیل جواب این سؤال را بدهد: «اگر خداوند با ما نمی بود چه می شد؟» هنگامی که دشمنان درنده خوی ما بر ما یورش آوردند، اگر خداوند با ما نمی بود آنها ما را زنده می بلعیدند! سیل ما را با خود می برد و در گردابها غرق می شدیم! سپاس بر خداوند که نگذاشت ما شکار دندانهای آنها شویم. همچون پرنده، از دام صیاد گریختیم. دام شکست و ما آزاد شدیم. 8 مددکار ما خداوند است که آسمان و زمین را آفرید.

Second Reading

برادران عزیز، اگر به خود که برای پیروزی از مسیح دعوت شده اید نگاه کنید، پی خواهید برد که اکثر شما از نظر دنیوی حکیم و قدرتمند و ثروتمند نیستند. در عوض، خدا عمداً اشخاصی را برگزیده، که مانند شما در نظر مردم دنیا، نادان و ضعیف هستند، تا از این راه آنانی را که دانا و قدرتمند به حساب می آیند، شرمگین سازد. خدا افرادی را انتخاب کرده که طبق معیارهای دنیا از طبقات پایین و مطرود جامعه هستند. بلی، خدا همان کسانی را برگزیده که دنیا ایشان را هیچ می انگارد، تا نشان دهد آنانی که مهم و بزرگ بنظر می آیند، هیچ هستند؛ و به این ترتیب هیچکس در هیچ جا، نتواند در برابر خدا فخر فروشی کند.

Gospel Reading

پس از رفتن ستارشناسان، فرشته خداوند در خواب بر یوسف ظاهر شد و گفت: "برخیز و کودک و مادرش را برداشته، به مصر فرار کن، و همانجا بمان تا تو را خبر دهم؛ زیرا هیروдіس پادشاه می خواهد کودک را به قتل برساند." یوسف همان شب مریم و کودک را برداشت و بسوی مصر رفت، و تا زمان مرگ هیروдіس در آنجا ماند. یکی از انبیاء قرنهای پیش درباره این موضوع پیشگویی کرده و گفته بود: "پسر خود را از مصر فرا خواندم." اما وقتی هیروдіس متوجه شد که ستارشناسان از دستور او سرپیچی کرده اند، بسیار خشمگین شد و سربازانی به بیت لحم فرستاد تا تمام کودکان دو ساله و کمتر را که در آن شهر و در تمام حومه آن بودند قتل عام کنند، زیرا طبق گفته ستارشناسان، ستاره دو سال پیش از آن ظاهر شده بود. این رفتار بی رحمانه هیروдіس را قبلاً ارمیای نبی چنین پیشگویی کرده بود: "صدای گریه و ماتم از رامه به گوش می رسد. راحیل برای فرزندانش می گرید و آرام نمی گیرد، چون فرزندانش مرده اند."

First Reading