

THE PARISH OF THE ASCENSION, LAVENDER HILL

Sunday 14 July 2024
Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

11.00am Solemn Mass

*A very warm welcome to everyone especially if this is your first visit.
Please join us for refreshments following the service.
Please take this order of service away with you*

THIS WEEK

Observances	Monday:	<i>St Bonaventure</i>
	Tuesday:	<i>Our Lady of Mount Carmel</i> Low Mass: <u>6.00pm</u>
	Wednesday:	<i>Feria</i> Low Mass: <u>12 noon</u>
	Thursday:	<i>Feria</i> Low Mass: 10.00am <i>of the Precious Blood</i>
	Friday:	<i>Feria</i> Low Mass: 10.00am
	Saturday:	<i>Our Lady on Saturday</i> Holy Rosary: 11.00am Low Mass: 11.30am
	Sunday 21 st :	16th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Solemn Mass: 11.00am

Website:
ascensionlavenderhill.org.uk

Email:
ascensionsw11@gmail.com

Phone:
020 7228 5340

A warm welcome to the Ascension, Lavender Hill. We are a Parish of the Diocese of Southwark and under the Episcopal care of the Bishop of Fulham. If you would like to know more about the Ascension, have queries about baptisms, weddings and funerals, or any questions about the Christian Faith, please speak to the Parish Priest, Fr Philip, who will be pleased to assist you:

Fr Philip Kennedy

tel: 020 7228 5340

email: ascensionsw11@gmail.com

We are an excepted charity, and rely principally on donations to sustain our work. Please give as generously as you are able, either at the Offertory or by scanning the QR code below.

If you are a taxpayer and are able to gift-aid your donation please do so by either placing your cash donation into a blue envelope and filling in your details on the front, or ask one of the Churchwardens for a Gift Aid form.

Thank you for your support.



*We take the **safeguarding** of children and vulnerable adults very seriously. Here are the details of our Parish Safeguarding Officers, who should be the first point of contact for any concerns:*

MS RUTH CANSDALE
07737 116364

MR ALEX BANSON
020 7738 1916

*Our **Churchwardens** are the Bishop's representatives in the Parish (elected by the parishioners) and work together with Fr Philip to ensure the smooth running of the Parish. They can be contacted as follows:*

MRS ANN WARWICK
annwarwick1@aol.com

MS CHERYL HARPER
cherylharper1964@hotmail.com

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE HYMN

O Thou who camest from above,
The pure celestial fire to impart,
Kindle a flame of sacred love
On the mean altar of my heart.

There let it for thy glory burn
With inextinguishable blaze,
And trembling to its source return
In humble prayer, and fervent praise.

Jesus, confirm my heart's desire
To work, and speak, and think for thee;
Still let me guard the holy fire,
And still stir up the gift in me.

Ready for all thy perfect will,
My acts of faith and love repeat,
Till death thy endless mercies seal,
And make my sacrifice complete.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

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

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL ACT

The priest introduces the confession. Silence is kept for recollection of our sins.

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,
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.

ABSOLUTION

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

KYRIE ELEISON

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

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

**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.**

COLLECT

Let us pray.

O God, who show the light of your truth
to those who go astray,
so that they may return to the right path,
give all who for the faith they profess
are accounted Christians
the grace to reject whatever is contrary to the name of Christ
and to strive after all that does it honour.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING: AMOS 7: 12-15

Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, said to Amos, 'Go away, seer; get back to the land of Judah; earn your bread there, do your prophesying there. We want no more prophesying in Bethel; this is the royal sanctuary, the national temple.' 'I was no prophet, neither did I belong to any of the brotherhoods of prophets,' Amos replied to Amaziah 'I was a shepherd, and looked after sycamores: but it was the Lord who took me from herding the flock, and the Lord who said, "Go, prophesy to my people Israel."' "

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: PS 34

Verses sung by the cantor.

Response:



Lord, - let us see your kind - ness, and grant us your sal - va - tion.

SECOND READING: EPHESIANS 1: 3-14

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with all the spiritual blessings of heaven in Christ. Before the world was made, he chose us, chose us in Christ, to be holy and spotless, and to live through love in his presence, determining that we should become his adopted sons, through Jesus Christ for his own kind purposes, to make us praise the glory of his grace, his free gift to us in the Beloved, in whom, through his blood, we gain our freedom, the forgiveness of our sins.

Such is the richness of the grace which he has showered on us in all wisdom and insight. He has let us know the mystery of his purpose, the hidden plan he so kindly made in Christ from the beginning to act upon when the times had run their course to the end: that he would bring everything together under Christ, as head, everything in the heavens and everything on earth. And it is in him that we were claimed as God's own, chosen from the beginning, under the predetermined plan of the one who guides all things as he decides by his own will; chosen to be, for his greater glory, the people who would put their hopes in Christ before he came.

Now you too, in him, have heard the message of the truth and the good news of your salvation, and have believed it; and you too have been stamped with the seal of the Holy Spirit of the Promise, the pledge of our inheritance which brings freedom for those whom God has taken for his own, to make his glory praised.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

All stand to welcome the Gospel.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
*Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life;
you have the message of eternal life.*
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

GOSPEL READING: MARK 6: 7-13

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.
A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.'

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

All sit.

HOMILY: Fr Philip Kennedy

All stand

THE NICENE CREED

**I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.**

**I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God,
Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

All bow at the memorial of the Incarnation:

**and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became
man. *All rise***

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
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.**

**I 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
adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.**

**I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one
Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the
resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

THE PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

The reader leads the people in intercession.

The response to each prayer:

**Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.**

At the end of the intercessions we pray together:

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death.

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

THE OFFERTORY

All stand to sing the offertory hymn as the altar is prepared. A collection is taken to help with the ministry and mission of the Church.

**Come, ye faithful, raise the anthem,
Cleave the skies with shouts of praise;
Sing to him who found the ransom,
Ancient of eternal days,
God eternal, Word incarnate,
Whom the heaven of heaven obeys.**

**Ere he raised the lofty mountains,
Formed the sea, or built the sky,
Love eternal, free, and boundless,
Forced the Lord of life to die,
Lifted up the Prince of princes
On the throne of Calvary.**

**Now on those eternal mountains
Stands the sapphire throne, all bright,
With the ceaseless alleluias
Which they raise, the sons of light;
Sion's people tell his praises,
Victor after hard-won fight.**

**Bring your harps, and bring your incense,
Sweep the string and pour the lay;
Let the earth proclaim his wonders,
King of that celestial day;
He the Lamb once slain is worthy,
Who was dead, and lives for ay.**

**Laud and honour to the Father,
Laud and honour to the Son,
Laud and honour to the Spirit,
Ever Three and ever One,
Consubstantial, co-eternal,
While unending ages run. Amen.**

When the altar is prepared the Priest says:

Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

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.

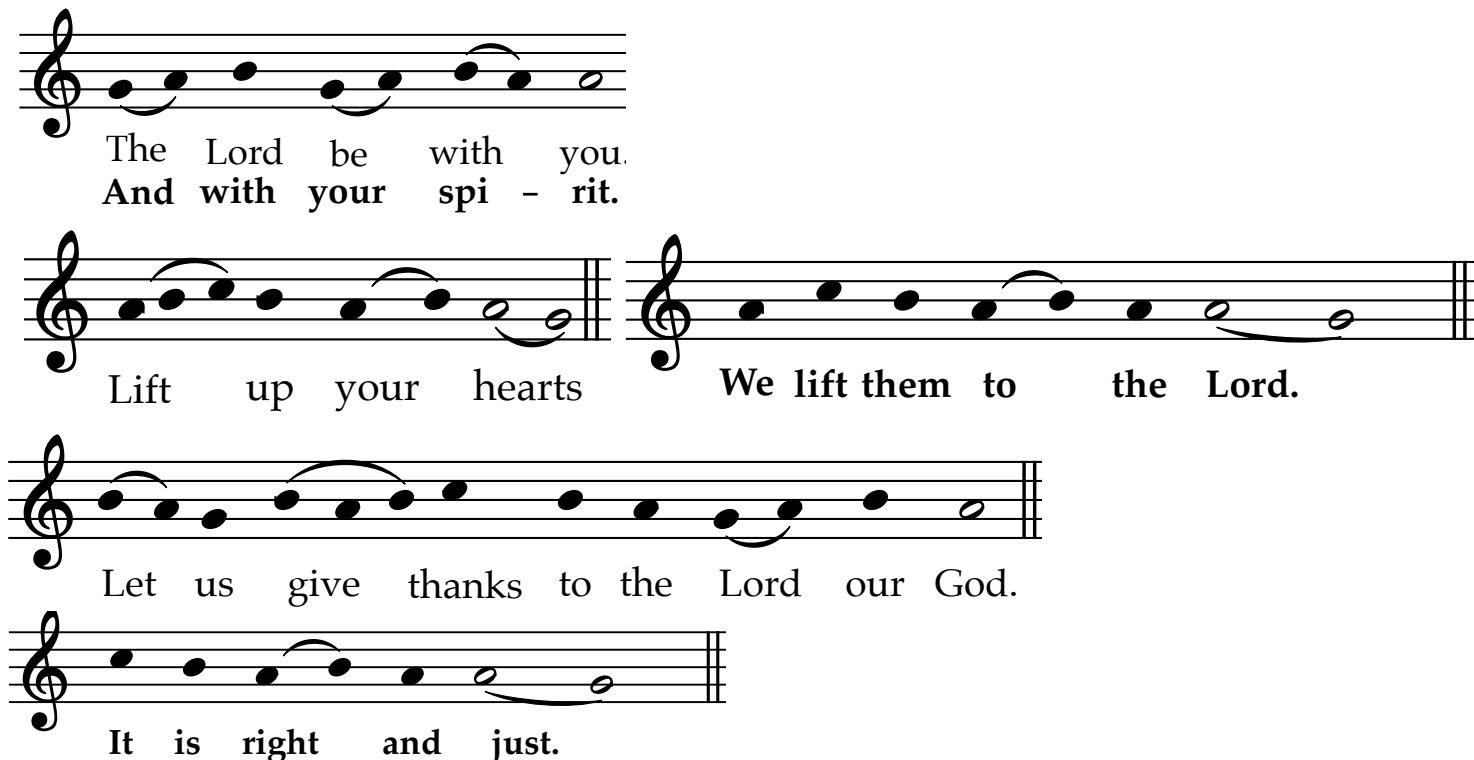
PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Look upon the offerings of the Church, O Lord,
as she makes her prayer to you,
and grant that, when consumed by those who believe,
they may bring ever greater holiness.

Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PREFACE



The Lord be with you.
And with your spi - rit.

Lift up your hearts We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right and just.

The priest sings the Preface, after which we sing:

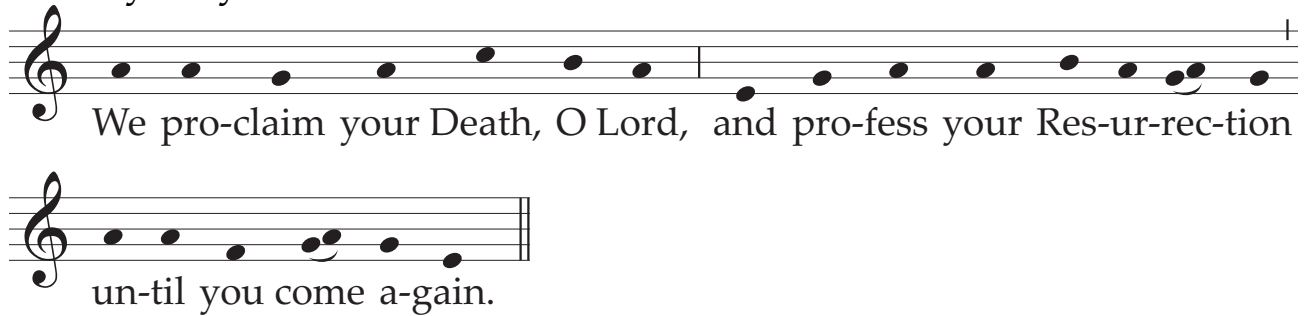
SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

**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.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

All kneel or sit as the Eucharistic Prayer continues.

The mystery of faith:



We pro-claim your Death, O Lord, and pro-fess your Res-ur-rec-tion
un-til you come a-gain.

The prayer concludes "...for ever and ever" to which all reply:
Amen.

COMMUNION RITE

All stand as the priest invites the people to pray:

**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 always be 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.**

THE PEACE

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 always with you.
And with your spirit.

AGNUS DEI

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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.

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

The priest and ministers receive Holy Communion.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young:
by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they
who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise.

HOLY COMMUNION

If you are baptised in the name of the Trinity and normally receive Holy Communion in your own Church, you are welcome to receive the Sacrament here today. If you would prefer to receive a blessing, please come to the altar rail and cross your arms or bring this order of service with you as a sign to the priest.

COMMUNION HYMN

**O Bread of Heaven! beneath this veil
Thou dost my very God conceal;
My Jesus, dearest Treasure, hail!
I love Thee, and adoring kneel:
The loving soul by Thee is fed
With Thy own self in form of bread!**

**O Food of Life! Thou who dost give
The pledge of immortality!
I live;—no, 'tis not I that live,
God gives me life, God lives in me:
He feeds my soul, He guides my ways,
And every grief with joy repays.**

O Bond of Love! that dost unite
The servant to his loving Lord!
Could I dare live, and not requite
Such love,—then death were meet reward:
I cannot live, unless to prove
Some love for such unmeasured love.

Beloved Lord! in Heaven above,—
There, Jesus, Thou awaitest me
To gaze on Thee with changeless love.
Yes, thus I hope,—thus shall it be:
For how can He deny me heaven,
Who here on earth Himself hath given?

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

All stand.

Having consumed these gifts, we pray, O Lord,
that, by our participation in this mystery,
its saving effects upon us may grow.
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

BANNS OF MARRIAGE & NOTICES

All sit.

BLESSING & DISMISSAL

All stand.

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.

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



V. Go forth, the Mass is end-ed.

R. Thanks be to God.

THE ANGELUS

The Angel of the Lord brought tidings to Mary.
And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb,
Jesus.

**Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour
of our death. Amen.**

Behold the handmaid of the Lord.
Be it unto me according to thy word.
Hail Mary...

And the Word was made Flesh.
And dwelt among us.
Hail Mary...

Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.
That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray.

We beseech thee, O Lord, pour thy grace into our hearts; that as we
have known the Incarnation of thy Son, Jesus Christ, by the message of
an angel, so by his Cross and Passion may we be brought to the glory of
his Resurrection. Through the same Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FINAL HYMN

**Firmly I believe and truly
God is Three, and God is One;
And I next acknowledge duly
Manhood taken by the Son.**

**And I trust and hope most fully
In that Manhood crucified;
And each thought and deed unruly
Do to death, as he has died.**

**Simply to his grace and wholly
Light and life and strength belong,
And I love supremely, solely,
Him the holy, him the strong.**

**And I hold in veneration,
For the love of him alone,
Holy Church as his creation,
And her teachings are his own.**

**Adoration ay be given,
With and through the angelic host,
To the God of earth and heaven,
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Please remain standing until the procession has left the church.

FOR OUR PRAYERS

Those in need

Elly Kostur, Jean Tester, Cath Papangelou, Maureen Papangelou, Shabnam Mehdi-Poor, Alvin Rhodon, Andrew Woods, Carol Farley, Luke Guthrie, Alan, Roy Norton, Robin Farquhar-Thomson, Victoria, Ann Guthrie, Vicki Guthrie, Becky Saint, Joanne Donaghy.

We pray for peace in the Holy Land.

Recently departed

Daphne Wright, Albert Douglas, Barbara Parsons, Jean North

Anniversaries of death

15: Leighton Watson (pr), Winifred Lock, Alice Maud Walsh

16: John Wilkinson (pr), Ina Fay Barwick

17: Charlotte Midmore, Sheila Cordeaux

18: William Rix, Ella Faire, Edward Symonds (pr)

19: Muriel Phillips, Susan Townley

20: Elsie Mabel Coe, Lilian Clout

NOTICES

TODAY AFTER MASS

please do stay for cake and fizz at the back of church

MANY THANKS

to all who supported yesterday's summer fair!

PLEASE NOTE

the Mass times for this week, particularly on Tuesday and Wednesday.

PLEASE PRAY

for Fr Kevin Smith (until recently Administrator at Walsingham), to be inducted as Vicar of St Augustine's, Belvedere in the Diocese of Rochester on Wednesday evening.

FR LUKE DEMETRI

will be licensed as Priest-in-Charge of St Alphage, Burnt Oak by Bishop Jonathan on Monday 5 August at 7.00pm. Please remember him in your prayers. We are invited to join him on the day.

From *The Journey of the Mind to God* by St Bonaventure,
whose feast day falls this week

Christ is both the way and the door. Christ is the staircase and the vehicle, like the *throne of mercy over the Ark of the Covenant*, and the *mystery hidden from the ages*. A man should turn his full attention to this throne of mercy, and should gaze at him hanging on the cross, full of faith, hope and charity, devoted, full of wonder and joy, marked by gratitude, and open to praise and jubilation. Then such a man will make with Christ a *pasch*, that is, a passing-over. Through the branches of the cross he will pass over the Red Sea, leaving Egypt and entering the desert. There he will taste the hidden manna, and rest with Christ in the sepulchre, as if he were dead to things outside. He will experience, as much as is possible for one who is still living, what was promised to the thief who hung beside Christ: *Today you will be with me in paradise*.

For this passover to be perfect, we must suspend all the operations of the mind and we must transform the peak of our affections, directing them to God alone. This is a sacred mystical experience. It cannot be comprehended by anyone unless he surrenders himself to it; nor can he surrender himself to it unless he longs for it; nor can he long for it unless the Holy Spirit, whom Christ sent into the world, should come and inflame his innermost soul. Hence the Apostle says that this mystical wisdom is revealed by the Holy Spirit.

If you ask how such things can occur, seek the answer in God's grace, not in doctrine; in the longing of the will, not in the understanding; in the sighs of prayer, not in research; seek the bridegroom not the teacher; God and not man; darkness not daylight; and look not to the light but rather to the raging fire that carries the soul to God with intense fervour and glowing love. The fire is God, and the furnace is in Jerusalem, fired by Christ in the ardour of his loving passion. Only he understood this who said: *My soul chose hanging and my bones death*. Anyone who cherishes this kind of death can see God, for it is certainly true that: *No man can look upon me and live*.

Let us die, then, and enter into the darkness, silencing our anxieties, our passions and all the fantasies of our imagination. Let us pass over with the crucified Christ *from this world to the Father*, so that, when the Father has shown himself to us, we can say with Philip: *It is enough*. We may hear with Paul: *My grace is sufficient for you*; and we can rejoice with David, saying: *My flesh and my heart fail me, but God is the strength of my heart and my heritage for ever. Blessed be the Lord for ever, and let all the people say: Amen. Amen!*