

THE PARISH OF THE ASCENSION, LAVENDER HILL

Sunday 28 April
The Fifth Sunday of Easter
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:	ST CATHERINE OF SIENA Low Mass: 6.00pm
	Tuesday:	<i>St Pius V</i> Low Mass: 10.00am
	Wednesday:	<i>St Joseph the Worker</i> Low Mass: 7.30pm
	Thursday:	<i>St Athanasius</i> No Mass today
	Friday:	SS PHILIP & JAMES Low Mass: 10.00am
	Saturday:	THE ENGLISH MARTYRS [May Devotion: St Silas' NW5 at 12 noon]
	Sunday 5 th :	EASTER VI 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.



*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

*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

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Please stand when the bell rings.

ENTRANCE HYMN

**Ye choirs of new Jerusalem,
Your sweetest notes employ,
The Paschal victory to hymn
In strains of holy joy.**

**How Judah's Lion burst his chains,
And crushed the serpent's head;
And brought with him, from death's domains,
The long-imprisoned dead.**

**From hell's devouring jaws the prey
Alone our Leader bore;
His ransomed hosts pursue their way
Where he hath gone before.**

**Triumphant in his glory now
His sceptre ruleth all,
Earth, heaven, and hell before him bow,
And at his footstool fall.**

**While joyful thus his praise we sing,
His mercy we implore,
Into his palace bright to bring
And keep us evermore.**

**All glory to the Father be,
All glory to the Son,
All glory, Holy Ghost, to thee,
While endless ages run. Alleluya! Amen.**

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.**

SECOND READING: 1 JOHN 3: 18-24

My children, our love is not to be just words or mere talk, but something real and active; only by this can we be certain that we are children of the truth and be able to quieten our conscience in his presence, whatever accusations it may raise against us, because God is greater than our conscience and he knows everything. My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants. His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to. Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him. We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

All stand to welcome the Gospel.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Make your home in me, as I make mine in you.
Whoever remains in me bears fruit in plenty.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

GOSPEL READING: JOHN 15: 1-8

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples:
'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that bears no fruit he cuts away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes to make it bear even more. You are pruned already, by means of the word that I have spoken to you. Make your home in me, as I make mine in you. As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself, but must remain part of the vine, neither can you unless you remain in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty; for cut off from me you can do nothing. Anyone who does not remain in me is like a branch that has been thrown away – he withers; these branches are collected and thrown on the fire, and they are burnt. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask what you will and you shall get it.

It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit, and then you will be my disciples.'

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

All sit.

HOMILY: Fr Philip Kennedy, *Vicar*

THE NICENE CREED

All stand.

**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.

At the conclusion of the intercessions:

Amen.

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.

**Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour,
First-begotten from the dead,
Thou alone, our strong defender,
Liftest up thy people's head.
Alleluya,
Jesu, true and living Bread!**

**Here our humblest homage pay we;
Here in loving reverence bow;
Here for Faith's discernment pray we,
Lest we fail to know thee now.
Alleluya,
Thou art here, we ask not how.**

**Though the lowliest form doth veil thee
As of old in Bethlehem,
Here as there thine angels hail thee,
Branch and Flower of Jesse's stem.
Alleluya,
We in worship join with them.**

Paschal Lamb, thine Offering, finished
Once for all when thou wast slain,
In its fullness undiminished
Shall for evermore remain,
Alleluya,
Cleansing souls from every stain.

Life-imparting heavenly Manna,
Stricken Rock with streaming side,
Heaven and earth with loud hosanna
Worship thee, the Lamb who died,
Alleluya,
Risen, ascended, glorified!

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.

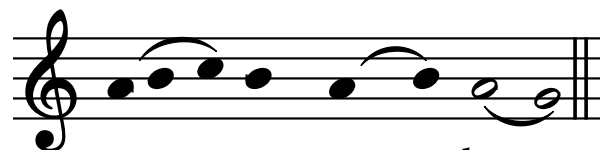
PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

O God, who by the wonderful exchange effected in this sacrifice have made us partakers of the one supreme Godhead, grant, we pray, that, as we have come to know your truth, we may make it ours by a worthy way of life. Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

PREFACE



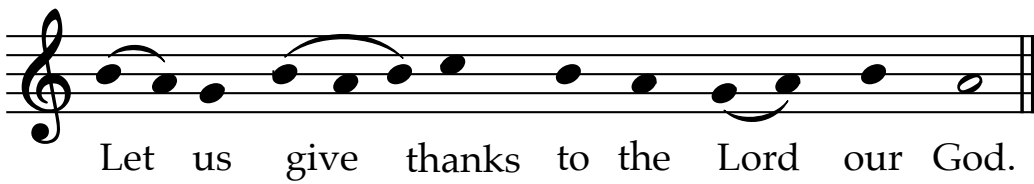
The Lord be with you.
And with your spi - rit.



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.**

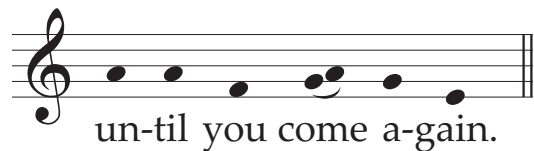
EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

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.**

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord.
Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.

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

Just as I am, without one plea
But that thy blood was shed for me,
And that thou bidd'st me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, though tossed about
With many a conflict, many a doubt,
Fightings within, and fears without,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;
Sight, riches, healing of the mind,
Yea all I need, in thee to find,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve:
Because thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come! I come!

Just as I am (thy love unknown
Has broken every barrier down),
Now to be thine, yea thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, of that free love
The breadth, length, depth and height to prove,
Here for a season then above,
O Lamb of God, I come.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

All stand.

Graciously be present to your people, we pray, O Lord,
and lead those you have imbued with heavenly mysteries
to pass from former ways to newness of life.
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

NOTICES

All sit.

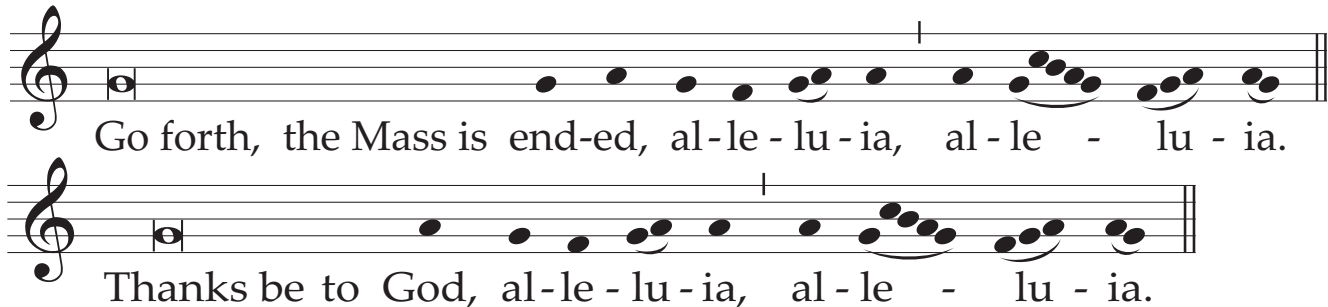
BLESSING & DISMISSAL

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.**



Go forth, the Mass is end-ed, al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Thanks be to God, al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

REGINA CAELI

Joy to thee, O Queen of Heaven, alleluia.

He whom thou wast meet to bear, alleluia.

As he promised, hath arisen, alleluia.

Pour for us to him thy prayer, alleluia.

V. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.

R. **For the Lord is risen indeed, alleluia.**

Let us pray.

O God, by the Resurrection of thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,
thou has brought joy to the whole world;

grant that aided by the prayers of His Mother Mary,
we may obtain the joys of everlasting life.

Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FINAL HYMN

O praise ye the Lord! praise Him in the height;

Rejoice in His Word, ye angels of light;

Ye heavens, adore Him by whom ye were made,

And worship before Him in brightness arrayed.

O praise ye the Lord! Praise Him upon earth,

In tuneful accord, ye sons of new birth;

Praise Him who hath brought you His grace from above,

Praise Him who hath taught you to sing of His love.

O praise ye the Lord! All things that give sound;
Each jubilant chord re-echo around;
Loud organs, His glory forth tell in deep tone,
And sweet harp, the story of what He hath done.

O praise ye the Lord! Thanksgiving and song
To Him be outpoured all ages along!
For love in creation, for Heaven restored,
For grace of salvation, O praise ye the Lord! Amen. Amen.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY: Trumpet Minuet
Alfred Hollins (1865-1942)

Please remain standing until the procession has left the church.

CCLI REGISTRATION NO: 1405641

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, Jim Warwick, 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, Paul Lever, George Goodson, David Ford, Peter Lawrence, Nel Coleshill

Anniversaries of death

28: John William Cuff, Leonard Charles Walden

22: Elsie Cowland, Rosemary Lambert

29: Herbert Harold Schofield (pr), Jane Tiffin

30: Stanley Joseph Forward, Edward Last

1: Florence Elizabeth Fretwell, Anne Hagen

2: Percy Reginald Hills, John Lamb

3: Mary Ann Hill, Thomas French

4: Horace Keast

NOTICES

ELECTORAL ROLL

The Electoral Roll (effectively our church membership list) is open for revision. If you have begun to worship with us regularly in the last year and are not yet on the roll, or if your details have changed, please look out for the forms which are available from Fr Philip.

TODAY

Rupert Tyler and Charles Rutherford are opening their garden at 51 The Chase SW4 as part of the National Garden Scheme until 5.00pm. All are welcome to visit. £5 entry, with proceeds to charitable causes. Garden also open this Tuesday evening between 5.30pm and 8.00pm.

NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE

Monday 27 May – day pilgrimage to Walsingham by coach from the Ascension. Adults: £25; Children: £12.50. £10 non-refundable deposit to secure your place. Please see Barbara Marcham.

SOCIETY OF MARY MAY DEVOTION: SATURDAY 4 MAY

The May Devotion takes place as usual at St Silas', Kentish Town NW5 at 12 noon, followed by an outdoor procession of Our Lady to Holy Trinity, Hartland Road NW1. There will be no public worship here that day.

AMP & APCM

The Annual Meeting of Parishioners and Annual Parochial Church Meeting will take place after the Parish Mass on Sunday 19 May. Application forms are now available for prospective PCC members.

ASCENSION CELEBRATIONS 2024

Saturday 11 May at 5.00pm: Solemn First Vespers (five copes) & Benediction, followed by supper in the Clergy House. *A sign-up sheet for supper after this service is now available at the back of church.*

Sunday 12 May at 5.00pm: Parish Mass, followed by a party in church
Visiting preacher: Fr Harri Williams SSC, Vicar of Walsingham

There will be a short Low Mass on Sunday 12 May at 11.00am for anyone unable to attend the principal celebration in the evening

BAPTISM & CONFIRMATION: SUNDAY 2 JUNE 2024

Bp Jonathan will be with us on Sunday 2 June (the Solemnity of Corpus Christi) to administer the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation. The next preparation session: **today** after the Parish Mass.

FRIDAY 7 JUNE: THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS

Sung Mass at 7pm. Our visiting preacher that evening will be Fr Geoffrey Owen, Parish Priest of Christ Church & St Stephen, Battersea and sometime Area Dean.

SUNDAY 9 JUNE

We look forward to welcoming Br Michael Jacob SSF as our visiting preacher at the Parish Mass on Sunday 9 June. Br Michael is a life-professed member of the Society of St Francis, and has lived and worked most recently in the Society's house in Leeds

Pope Benedict XVI on St Athanasius, whose feast day falls this week:

Athanasius was undoubtedly one of the most important and revered early Church Fathers. But this great Saint was above all the impassioned theologian of the Incarnation of the *Logos*, the Word of God who - as the Prologue of the fourth Gospel says - "became flesh and dwelt among us" (Jn 1: 14).

For this very reason Athanasius was also the most important and tenacious adversary of the Arian heresy, which at that time threatened faith in Christ, reduced to a creature "halfway" between God and man, according to a recurring tendency in history which we also see manifested today in various forms.

The young cleric took part with his Bishop in the Council of Nicaea, the first Ecumenical Council, convoked by the Emperor Constantine in May 325 A.D. to ensure Church unity. The Nicene Fathers were thus able to address various issues and primarily the serious problem that had arisen a few years earlier from the preaching of the Alexandrian priest, Arius.

With his theory, Arius threatened authentic faith in Christ, declaring that the *Logos* was not a true God but a created God, a creature "halfway" between God and man who hence remained for ever inaccessible to us. The Bishops gathered in Nicaea responded by developing and establishing the Creed which, completed later at the First Council of Constantinople, has endured in the traditions of various Christian denominations and in the liturgy as the *Niceno-Constantinopolitan Creed*.

In this fundamental text - which expresses the faith of the undivided Church and which we also recite today, every Sunday, in the Eucharistic celebration - the Greek term *homooúsios* is featured, in Latin *consubstantialis*: it means that the Son, the *Logos*, is "of the same substance" as the Father, he is God of God, he is his substance. Thus, the full divinity of the Son, which was denied by the Arians, was brought into the limelight.

In 328 A.D., when Bishop Alexander died, Athanasius succeeded him as Bishop of Alexandria. He showed straightaway that he was determined to reject any compromise with regard to the Arian theories condemned by the Council of Nicaea. Athanasius was obliged to abandon his city, spending 17 years in exile and suffering for the faith. But during his forced absences from Alexandria, the Bishop was able to sustain and to spread in the West, first at Trier and then in Rome, the Nicene faith as well as the ideals of monasticism, embraced in Egypt by the great hermit, Anthony, with a choice of life to which Athanasius was always close.