



Patronal Festival

27th September 2026

♪ Hymn ♪

In every generation
Some rise to claim the hour
and break oppression's silence
By speaking the truth to power.
When courage meets with conflict
Our hearts must still be stirred,
That in our words and actions
God's love is seen and heard.

We claim a shared vocation
As stewards of this earth,
Affirming all God's people
In dignity and worth.
May all our children's children
Take their intended place
In all that God has purposed:
One equal, human race.

O God, in whose great kingdom
The first and last shall meet,
With love and justice freeing
The mighty from their seat;
May all your kingdom-builders
Continue true and strong,
Creating, in our own day,
A place where all belong.

*These words are an adapted version of a hymn
I originally wrote to the tune 'Ewing' (Jerusalem the
golden) (c) Ally Barrett*

♪ Hymn ♪

You came to raise the last and least,
to set the long-held captive free,
to fill the hungry with a feast,
and give the poor their dignity.
You let the silenced voices speak,
and helped the lowly sing their song,
embraced the outcast, blessed the
meek,
revealed a world where all belong.

You showed your strength in stooping
low
and humbly washing dusty feet,
forsaking heav'n for earth, to show
how power can choose to leave its seat.
Teach us this same humility,
renew our hearts that we might learn
how we can set each other free
from tables you would overturn.

You brought the news of kingdom
come,
a feast where all are found and fed,
where no-one needs the fallen crumb,
for all will share the living bread:
a kingdom where division ends,
where first and last can sit and eat:
when all are one, you call us friends,
your work of love at last complete.

*words (c) Ally Barrett / Jubilate
Music 'Ye banks and braes'*

♪ Hymn (460) ♪

O Thou, who at Thy Eucharist didst pray
that all Thy Church
might be for ever one,
grant us at every Eucharist to say
with longing heart and soul,
'Thy will be done.'

O may we all one bread, one body be,
through this blest Sacrament of unity.

For all Thy Church, O Lord,
we intercede;
make Thou our sad
divisions soon to cease;
draw us the nearer each to each,
we plead,
by drawing all to Thee,
O Prince of Peace;
thus may we all one bread, one body be,
through this blest Sacrament of unity.

We pray Thee too for wanderers
from Thy fold;
O bring them back,
good Shepherd of the sheep,
back to the faith
which saints believed of old,
back to the Church
which still that faith doth keep;
soon may we all one bread,
one body be,
through this blest Sacrament of unity.

So, Lord, at length
when sacraments shall cease,
may we be one
with all Thy Church above,
one with Thy saints
in one unbroken peace,
one with Thy saints
in one unbounded love;
more blessed still,
in peace and love to be
one with the Trinity in Unity.

*William Henry Turton, (1856-1938), based on John
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♪ Chant (600) ♪

Bless the Lord, my soul,
And bless God's holy name.
Bless the Lord, my soul,
Who leads me into life.

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♪ Hymn (236) ♪

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
fill me with life anew,
that I may love what Thou dost love,
and do what Thou wouldst do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
until my heart is pure;
until with Thee I will one will,
to do and to endure.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
till I am wholly Thine,
until this earthly part of me
glows with Thy fire divine.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
so shall I never die,
but live with Thee the perfect life
of Thine eternity.

Edwin Hatch (1835-1889)

♪ Hymn (296) ♪

For all the saints
who from their labours rest,
who Thee by faith
before the world confessed,
Thy Name, O Jesu, be forever blest.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Thou wast their Rock,
their Fortress and their Might;
Thou, Lord, their Captain
in the well-fought fight;
Thou, in the darkness,
still their one true Light.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

O may Thy soldiers,
faithful, true and bold,
fight as the saints
who nobly fought of old,
and win with them
the victor's crown of gold.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

O blest communion, fellowship divine!
we feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
yet all are one in Thee, for all are Thine.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

And when the strife is fierce,
the warfare long,
steals on the ear
the distant triumph-song,
and hearts are brave again,
and arms are strong.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

The golden evening
brightens in the west;
soon, soon to faithful
warriors comes their rest;
sweet is the calm of paradise the blest.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

But lo! there breaks
a yet more glorious day;
the saints triumphant
rise in bright array:
the King of glory passes on His way.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

From earth's wide bounds,
from ocean's farthest coast,
through gates of pearl
streams in the countless host,
singing to Father, Son and Holy Ghost:
Alleluia, Alleluia!

William Walsham How (1823-1897)

First Reading

Proverbs 3. 3-18

³Do not let loyalty and faithfulness
forsake you;
bind them round your neck,
write them on the tablet of your
heart.

⁴So you will find favour and good repute
in the sight of God and of people.

⁵Trust in the Lord with all your heart,
and do not rely on your own insight.

⁶In all your ways acknowledge him,
and he will make straight your paths.

⁷Do not be wise in your own eyes;
fear the Lord, and turn away from evil.

⁸It will be a healing for your flesh
and a refreshment for your body.

⁹Honour the Lord with your substance
and with the first fruits of all your
produce;

¹⁰then your barns will be filled with
plenty,
and your vats will be bursting with
wine.

¹¹My child, do not despise the Lord's
discipline

or be weary of his reproof,

¹²for the Lord reproves the one he
loves,

as a father the son in whom he
delights.

¹³Happy are those who find wisdom,
and those who get understanding,

¹⁴for her income is better than silver,
and her revenue better than gold.

¹⁵She is more precious than jewels,
and nothing you desire can compare
with her.

¹⁶Long life is in her right hand;
in her left hand are riches and honour.

¹⁷Her ways are ways of pleasantness,
and all her paths are peace.

¹⁸She is a tree of life to those who lay
hold of her;

those who hold her fast are called
happy.

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 4. 1-6

Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. ²We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practise cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God. ³And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. ⁶For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness', who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Gospel

Matthew 9. 9-13

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, 'Follow me.' And he got up and followed him.

¹⁰And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax-collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples.

¹¹When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, 'Why does your teacher eat with tax-collectors and sinners?' ¹²But when he heard this, he said, 'Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. ¹³Go and learn what this means, "I desire mercy, not sacrifice." For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners.'

The Collect

Almighty God,
you have made us for yourself,
and our hearts are restless till they find
their rest in you:
pour your love into our hearts and
draw us to yourself,
and so bring us at last to your heavenly
city
where we shall see you face to face;
through Jesus Christ your Son our
Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Post Communion Prayer

Lord, we pray that your grace
may always precede and follow us,
and make us continually to be given to
all good works;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.