

## **Worshipping at Home** during the coronavirus pandemic **for families**



This order of service is designed to help families who are self-isolating or unable to come to church on a Sunday to worship at home.

Prayer is never something which is done alone. Whenever we pray, we do so *in communion*. We pray in communion with the Church throughout the world, and we are united with our brother and sister Christians everywhere. And when we pray we do so in communion with heaven, with the saints who worship God face to face.

We suggest using this Service at the same time as the Sunday service you usually attend. We hope that, by using prayers and texts in common with those who are praying in near by, that you will feel a special union with your friends at St John's. Please know that we are praying for you, as you pray with us.

In addition to this booklet, you will need a Bible ([bible.oremus.org](http://bible.oremus.org)) for this service. You might also like to light a candle, and place a crucifix, cross, or icon on a table, as a focus for your prayers.

At the end of this booklet you will find some other resources to help you worship while you are unable to come to church.

*Nominate one person to lead the service (saying the words in normal type) while everyone else says the words in **bold type**.*

## **The Introduction**

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

The Lord is here.  
**His spirit is with us.**

*From Easter Day to Pentecost this acclamation follows*  
Alleluia. Christ is risen.  
**He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

*We say the **Confession**:*

Let us call to mind our sins,  
and ask for God's mercy and forgiveness.

In the wilderness we find your grace;  
you love us with an everlasting love.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

There is none but you to uphold our cause;  
our sin cries out and our guilt is great.  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Heal us, O Lord, and we shall be healed;  
restore us and we shall know your joy.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

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

**Amen.**

## Sharing the Word

Read the **Gospel reading** set for the day. ([bible.oremus.org](http://bible.oremus.org)).

If you have small children you might want to use just a portion of the Gospel reading set. If it is useful to have the story illustrated, search for the reading on [www.freebibleimages.org](http://www.freebibleimages.org) or [www.bricktestament.com](http://www.bricktestament.com)

<i>Sunday 5 April (PALM SUNDAY)</i>	Matthew 21: 1-11 <i>and</i> Matthew 27: 11-54
<i>MAUNDY THURSDAY</i>	John 13: 1-17,31-35
<i>GOOD FRIDAY</i>	John 18: 1 – end of John 19
<i>Sunday 12 April (EASTER DAY)</i>	John 20: 1-18
<i>Sunday 19 April (Easter 2)</i>	John 20: 19-end
<i>Sunday 26 April (Easter 3)</i>	Luke 24: 13-35
<i>Sunday 3 May (Easter 4)</i>	John 10: 1-10
<i>Sunday 10 May (Easter 5)</i>	John 14: 1-14
<i>Sunday 17 May (Easter 6)</i>	John 14: 15-21
<i>ASCENSION DAY</i>	Luke 24: 44-end
<i>Sunday 24 May (Easter 7)</i>	John 17: 1-11
<i>Sunday 31 May (PENTECOST)</i>	John 20: 19-23 <i>(and Acts 2: 1-21)</i>

*After the Gospel has been read, you may wish to spend some time talking about the reading. Look out for Junior Church resources on our Facebook feed and website.*

You may wish to sing a song, for example, '**We are marching**' below - **why not** make up your own verses!

**We are marching in the light of God,  
we are marching in the light of God.  
We are marching in the light of God,  
we are marching in the light of God.**

*We are marching, we are marching, Oh oh  
we are marching in the light of God.  
We are marching, we are marching, Oh oh  
we are marching in the light of God.*

**We are living in the love of God,  
we are living in the love of God.  
We are living in the love of God,  
we are living in the love of God.**

**We are moving in the power of God,  
we are moving in the power of God.  
We are marching in the light of God,  
we are moving in the power of God.**

*Siyahamba 483 AM*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yn16ABWn20c>

For the **Prayers of Intercession** either use the set form below, or make your own prayers.

Father, we pray for the Church,  
for her mission and unity.

Strengthen all Christians with the good news of your love.

Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Father, we pray for the world,  
for peace among the nations,  
and for the welfare of creation.

Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Father, we pray for our church family in this Parish,  
especially for our friends at St John's,  
and for us and others who join in worship  
by praying at home.

Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Father, we pray for the sick,  
especially at this time  
for those suffering from coronavirus,  
for all who are isolating or under quarantine at this time, (*and  
for us praying here before you;*)  
and for healthcare professionals, the government,  
and all in positions of responsibility.

Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Father, we pray for those who have died,  
and for those who grieve for them.

Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

*You may wish to add your own prayers, or pray in silence, before saying the Lord's Prayer.*

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.  
Amen.**

## **Spiritual Communion**

*If you are a communicant you may wish to make a Spiritual Communion using the following words when you are not able to receive the Sacrament of the Eucharist.*

**My Jesus,  
I believe that you are present  
in the most holy Sacrament.  
I love you above all things,  
and I desire to receive you into my soul.  
Since I cannot at this moment  
receive you sacramentally,  
come at least spiritually into my heart.  
I embrace you as if you were already there,  
and unite myself wholly to you.  
Never permit me to be separated from you.**

## The Conclusion

*You may wish to say the prayer the Church of England has published for all those affected by coronavirus:*

Keep us, good Lord,  
under the shadow of your mercy.  
Sustain and support the anxious,  
be with those who care for the sick,  
and lift up all who are brought low;  
that we may find comfort knowing  
that nothing can separate us from your love  
in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**Amen.**

*Conclude with **the Grace:***

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
be with us all evermore.**

**Amen.**

***Our worship has ended; let our service begin.  
Thanks be to God!***

## Television and Radio resources

*You may wish to join in worship during this time through television and radio:*

### **Songs of Praise**

BBC 1, Sunday afternoon, variable times

### **Sunday Worship**

BBC Radio 4, Sunday, 8.10am

### **Choral Evensong**

BBC Radio 3, Wednesday

### **Daily Service**

BBC Radio 4 (Longwave only), weekdays, 9.45am

### **Big Sunday Service**

Premier Christian Radio, Sunday, 7am, 8am, 10am

### **Easter Sunday Eucharist**

A service is usually broadcast on the BBC on Easter morning

## Online resources

### **Church of England Daily Prayer**

<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer>

### **EWTN Daily Mass**

<https://www.ewtn.com/>

**Our website and Facebook** (We'll try to post resources for services each week: a sermon, newsletter, hymns, etc)

[www.stjohnsboxmoor.org.uk](http://www.stjohnsboxmoor.org.uk)

[www.facebook.com/stjohnschurchboxmoor](https://www.facebook.com/stjohnschurchboxmoor)