

**Welcome to worship in
Port Talbot Ministry Area
St Agnes' Church
Proper 20 - year A**

**Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour,
first begotten from the dead,
thou alone, our strong defender,
liftest up thy people's head.
Alleluia, alleluia,
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.
Alleluia, alleluia,
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.
Alleluia, alleluia,
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,
Alleluia, alleluia,
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.
Alleluia, alleluia,
risen, ascended, glorified!**

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

**Grace and peace be with you.
And keep you in the love of Christ.**

Our generous God calls us to work in the vineyard. Whether early in the day or late in the afternoon, we are never too late to contribute in the kingdom of heaven.

**Father of glory, holy and eternal, look upon us
now in power and mercy. May your strength
overcome our weakness, your radiance
transform our blindness, and your Spirit draw
us to that love shown and offered to us by
your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy.

Christ have mercy, Christ have mercy.

Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy.

God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, that everyone who believes in him may not die but have eternal life. Trusting in that love we come to God.

Silence

**Heavenly Father, we have sinned in thought,
word and deed, and have failed to do what
we ought to have done. We are sorry and
truly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus
Christ who died for us, forgive us all that is
past and lead us in his way to walk as children
of light. Amen.**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy on you and set you free from sin, strengthen you in goodness and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Glory to God, Glory to God,
Glory to God in the highest.
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**

**Glory to God, Glory to God,
Glory to God in the highest.
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.**

**Glory to God, Glory to God,
Glory to God in the highest.
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.
Glory to God, Glory to God,
Glory to God in the highest.**

The Collect

The priest prays the collect for the day

Sit

A reading from the prophet Jonah 3.10 - 4.11

When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the Lord and said, 'O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die

than to live.' And the Lord said, 'Is it right for you to be angry?' Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

The Lord God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, 'It is better for me to die than to live.'

But God said to Jonah, 'Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?' And he said, 'Yes, angry enough to die.' Then the Lord said, 'You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labour and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?'

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 145

**Let us exalt our King,
offer our finest praise;
daily, and evermore,
let us applaud his ways!
How right that he should be adored —
our great, unfathomable Lord.**

**Tell of his majesty,
splendours of dazzling light;
speak of the awesome power
shown in his acts of might!
As on these things we meditate,
how can we help but celebrate?**

A reading from St Paul's letter to the Philippians 1. 21-30

To me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well—since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Blessings on the King who comes, in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heavens!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to St Matthew 20. 1-16

Glory to you O Lord

Jesus said to his disciples, 'The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; and he said to them, "You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right." So they went. When he went out again

about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, "Why are you standing here idle all day?" They said to him, "Because no one has hired us." He said to them, "You also go into the vineyard." When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, "Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first." When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, "These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat." But he replied to one of them, "Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?" So the last will be first, and the first will be last.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The Sermon

Stand

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;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from 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.**

The Intercessions

Lord, in your mercy.
Hear our prayer.

The prayers end with:

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

Stand

The Peace

Jesus said, This is my commandment: love one
another as I have loved you.

The Peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Scan to make
a donation to
St Agnes'
Church



The Offertory Hymn

**Fight the good fight with all thy might;
Christ is thy strength, and Christ thy right:
lay hold on life, and it shall be
thy joy and crown eternally.**

**Run the straight race through God's good
grace,
lift up thine eyes, and seek his face;
life with its way before us lies,
Christ is the path, and Christ the prize.**

**Cast care aside; lean on thy guide
his boundless mercy will provide;
trust, and thy trusting soul shall prove,
Christ is its life, and Christ its love.**

**Faint not, nor fear, his arms are near;
he changeth not, and thou art dear;
only believe, and thou shalt see
that Christ is all in all to thee.**

Pray, my brothers and sisters, that our sacrifice
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.**

The Thanksgiving

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 our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy at all
times and in all places to give you thanks and
praise, holy Father, heavenly King, almighty,
everlasting God, through Jesus Christ your only
Son our Lord.

He is your eternal Word: through him you
created the universe and formed us men and
women in your own image. You sent him to be
our Saviour, born of Mary through the power
of the Spirit. Upon the cross he opened wide
his arms of mercy, embracing us in perfect
love, destroying the power of evil, suffering
and death.

On the first day of the week you raised him
from the dead and opened to us the gate of
everlasting life. Through him you have given us
your holy and life-giving Spirit, and made us
your own sons and daughters.

Therefore with angels and archangels and with
all the company of heaven we proclaim your
great and glorious name, for ever praising you
and saying:

**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.**

Hear us, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. Through him accept our sacrifice of praise, and grant that, by the power of your Spirit, these gifts of bread and wine may be for us his body and his blood; who in the same night that he was betrayed took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper, he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying, Drink from this, all of you; for this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come in glory.

Therefore, Father, remembering the saving death and resurrection of your Son we offer to you in thanksgiving this bread and this cup, your gifts to us, and we thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send your Holy Spirit upon all of us who share this bread and this cup. Strengthen our faith, make us one and welcome us and all your people into the glorious kingdom of your Son.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Let us pray with confidence to the Father in the words our Saviour gave us:

**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.**

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

Though we are many, we are one body for we all share in one bread.

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.

Behold the lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world: Happy 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.

During Communion

Such love, pure as the whitest snow;
such love weeps for the shame I know;
such love, paying the debt I owe;
O Jesus, such love.

Such love, stilling my restlessness;
such love, stilling my emptiness;
such love, showing me holiness;
O Jesus, such love.

Such love, springs from eternity;
such love, streaming through history;
such love, fountain of life to me;
O Jesus, such love.

Stand

The Sending Out

Give thanks to the Lord for he is gracious:
his love is everlasting.

**Eternal God, comfort of the afflicted and
healer of the broken, you have fed us at the
table of life and hope: teach us the ways of
gentleness and peace, that all the world may
acknowledge the kingdom of your Son, Jesus
Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Sit for the notices etc.

Stand

The Blessing

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace
in believing, that by the power of the Holy Spirit
you may be filled with hope and the blessing of
God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy
Spirit, be among you and remain with you
always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

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 amongst 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.**

Behold, the handmaid of the Lord.
Be it unto to me according to your 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 you, O Lord, to pour your grace
into our hearts; that as we have known the
Incarnation of your Son Jesus Christ by the
message of an angel, so by his cross and
passion + we may be brought to the glory of
his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Recessional Hymn

**Father, hear the prayer we offer:
not for ease that prayer shall be,
but for strength that we may ever
live our lives courageously.**

**Not for ever in green pastures
do we ask our way to be:
but the steep and rugged pathway
may we tread rejoicingly.**

**Not for ever by still waters
would we idly rest and stay;
but would smite the living fountains
from the rocks along our way.**

**Be our strength in hours of weakness,
in our wanderings be our guide;
through endeavour, failure, danger,
Father, be thou at our side.**