



**Richmond
Team Ministry**



Sung Eucharist

**With Holy Baptism of
Veronica & Theodora**

I I am

Third Sunday before Lent

16 February 2025

Team Vicar: The Rev'd Joe Moore

Preacher: Canon Ruth Martin

Churchwardens: Mary Ricketts & Fiona Morgan

Visiting Organist: Robert Sholl

The Church of St John the Divine

Kew Road

Richmond

TW9 2NA

richmondteamministry.org/st-john-the-divine

WELCOME to St John's this morning on the Third Sunday before Lent, and welcome to Veronica and Theodora who are being baptized today!



Baptism marks the beginning of a journey with God which continues for the rest of our lives, the first step in response to God's love.

For all involved, particularly the candidates but also parents, godparents and supporters, it is a joyful moment when we rejoice in what God has done for us in Christ, making serious promises and declaring the faith. The wider community of the local church and friends welcome the new Christian, promising support and prayer for the future. Hearing and doing these things provides an opportunity to remember our own baptism and reflect on the progress made on that journey, which is now to be shared with this new member of the Church.

The service paints many vivid pictures of what happens on the Christian way.

There is the sign of the cross, the badge of faith in the Christian journey, which reminds us of Christ's death for us. Our 'drowning' in the water of baptism, where we believe we die to sin and are raised to new life, unites us to Christ's dying and rising, a picture that can be brought home vividly by the way the baptism is administered. Water is also a sign of new life, as we are born again by water and the Spirit. This reminds us of Jesus' baptism. And as a sign of that new life, there may be a lighted candle, a picture of the light of Christ conquering the darkness of evil. Everyone who is baptized walks in that light for the rest of their lives.

As you pray for Veronica and Theodora, picture them with yourself and the whole Church throughout the ages, journeying into the fullness of God's love.

Jesus said, 'I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.'

John 10.10

To sign up to the Richmond Team Ministry Weekly Newsletter, please visit:
richmondteamministry.org/news

This act of worship is livestreamed on our Facebook page, please do 'follow' us on Facebook: St John the Divine, Richmond Team Ministry.

Richmond Team Ministry

St John the Divine • St Matthias • St Mary Magdalene

RTM Parish Office

020 8940 0362

richmondteamministry.org

Mass Setting: *Mass of St Thomas*
Thorne

Prelude

The organ is played before our worship.

The Gathering

*When the bell rings we stand to sing the **Gathering Hymn**.*

1 Come down, O Love divine,
seek thou this soul of mine,
and visit it with thine own ardour glowing;
O Comforter, draw near,
within my heart appear,
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

2 O let it freely burn,
till earthly passions turn
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
and let thy glorious light
shine ever on my sight,
and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

3 Let holy charity
mine outward vesture be,
and lowliness become mine inner clothing:
true lowliness of heart,
which takes the humbler part,
and o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.

**4 And so the yearning strong,
with which the soul will long,
shall far outpass the power of human telling;
for none can guess its grace,
till he become the place
wherein the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling.**

Discendi, amor santo

BIANCO DA SIENA (d. 1434)

translated by RICHARD FREDERICK LITTLEDALE (1833–1890)

A&M 238

The Greeting

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

Amen.

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Joe welcomes the congregation.

Prayer of Preparation

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name: through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Presentation of the Candidates

Veronica and Theodora come forward to be introduced to the congregation.

Veronica and Theodora, do you wish to be baptized?

I do.

Joe says to the congregation:

Faith is the gift of God to his people. In baptism the Lord is adding to our number those whom he is calling.

People of God, will you welcome Veronica and Theodora and uphold them in their new life in Christ?

With the help of God, we will.

Joe addresses the parent(s) and godparent(s):

Parent(s) and godparent(s), the Church receives Veronica and Theodora with joy. Today we are trusting God for her growth in faith. Will you pray for them, draw them by your example into the community of faith and walk with her in the way of Christ?

With the help of God, we will.

In baptism Veronica and Theodora begin their journey in faith.

Will you care for them, and help them to take their place within the life and worship of Christ's Church?

With the help of God, we will.

Godparents must be baptised themselves. However, if there are unbaptised people or people of other living faiths, who the parent(s) wish to play a supportive role in their child's spiritual and ethical development, they make the following declaration:

I pledge my love, care and support for Veronica and Theodora this day. I welcome their baptism into the Christian faith and I promise to share the best of myself and the highest of my values with them, today and always.

The Gloria

Refrain:

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. Refrain**

**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. Refrain**

**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. Refrain**

The Collect

Joe introduces a period of silent prayer with the words 'Let us pray'.

Almighty God, who alone can bring order to the unruly wills and passions of sinful humanity: give your people grace so to love what you command and to desire what you promise, that, among the many changes of this world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; 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.

Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

Please sit for the readings and the psalmody.

The First Reading

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah (17. 5-10).

Thus says the Lord:

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals
and make mere flesh their strength,
whose hearts turn away from the Lord.

They shall be like a shrub in the desert,
and shall not see when relief comes.

They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness,
in an uninhabited salt land.

Blessed are those who trust in the Lord,
whose trust is the Lord.

They shall be like a tree planted by water,
sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes,
and its leaves shall stay green;

in the year of drought it is not anxious,
and it does not cease to bear fruit.

The heart is devious above all else;
it is perverse—

who can understand it?

I the Lord test the mind
and search the heart,

to give to all according to their ways,
according to the fruit of their doings.

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

The Psalmody

The Choir sings **Psalm 1** and the congregation are invited to join in singing the **Response**.

Response: For the Lord know the way, the way of the righteous.

1 Blessed are they who have not walked
in the counsel of the wicked,
nor lingered in the way of sinners,
nor sat in the assembly of the scornful.

2 Their delight is in the law of the Lord
and they meditate on his law day and night. **R**

3 Like a tree planted by streams of water
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither,
whatever they do, it shall prosper.

4 As for the wicked, it is not so with them;
they are like chaff which the wind blows away. **R**

5 Therefore the wicked shall not be able to stand in the judgement,
nor the sinner in the congregation of the righteous.

6 For the Lord knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked shall perish. **R**

The Second Reading

A reading from St Paul's first letter to the Corinthians (15.12-20).

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*We stand to sing the **Gradual Hymn.***

**I Amazing grace how sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!**

**I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.**

**2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!**

**3 Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come:
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.**

**4 The Lord has promised good to me,
his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.**

**5 Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail,
and mortal life shall cease:
I shall possess, within the veil,
a life of joy and peace.**

**6 The earth shall soon dissolve like snow,
the sun forbear to shine;
but God, who called me here below,
will be forever mine.**

JOHN NEWTON (1725–1807)
A&M 587

*Gospel acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.***

*A seasonal sentence is sung. **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.***

The Gospel Reading

Please remain standing and turn to face the reader.

The reader says:

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke
(6.17-26). **Glory to you, O Lord.**

He came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

‘Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.

‘Blessed are you who are hungry now,
for you will be filled.

‘Blessed are you who weep now,
for you will laugh.

‘Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

‘But woe to you who are rich,
for you have received your consolation.

‘Woe to you who are full now,
for you will be hungry.

‘Woe to you who are laughing now,
for you will mourn and weep.

‘Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon

Canon Ruth Martin

Reader, Richmond Team Ministry

Please sit for the sermon. After the sermon a brief silence is kept.

The Baptism of Veronica & Theodora

The Decision

Joe addresses Veronica and Theodora:

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light. To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him. Therefore I ask, Veronica and Theodora:

Do you turn to Christ?

I turn to Christ.

Do you repent of your sins?

I repent of my sins.

Do you renounce evil?

I renounce evil.

Joe makes the sign of the cross with the Oil of Baptism on Veronica and Theodora's foreheads, saying:

Christ claims you for his own. Receive the sign of his cross.

Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.

Fight valiantly as a disciple of Christ against sin, the world and the devil, and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.

May almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness, restore in you the image of his glory, and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ. **Amen.**

On moving to the font, the choir lead:

Behold, behold I make all things new, beginning with you and starting from today.

Behold, behold I make all things new, my promise is true, for I am Christ the Way.

Prayer over the Water

Joe stands before the water of baptism and says:

Praise God who made heaven and earth,

who keeps his promise for ever.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ was baptized in the river Jordan: we thank you for the gift of water to cleanse us and revive us. We thank you that through the waters of the Red Sea you led your people out of slavery to freedom in the Promised Land. We thank you that through the deep waters of death you brought your Son, and raised him to life in triumph. Bless this water, that your servants who are washed in it may be made one with Christ in his death and in his resurrection, to be cleansed and delivered from all sin. Send your Holy Spirit upon them, bring them to new birth in the household of faith, and raise them with Christ to full and eternal life; for all might, majesty, authority, and power are yours, now and for ever.

Amen.

Profession of Faith

Joe addresses all the baptized in church today:

Let us affirm, together with Veronica and Theodora, our common faith in Jesus Christ.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose

again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Baptism and Giving of a Lighted Candle

Joe baptizes Veronica and Theodora and prays for them:

May God, who has received you by baptism into his Church, pour upon you the riches of his grace, that within the company of Christ's pilgrim people you may daily be renewed by his anointing Spirit, and come to the inheritance of the saints in glory. **Amen.**

Joe then gives the candidates a lighted candle, lit from the Paschal Candle, and says:

God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness and has given us a place with the saints in light.

You have received the light of Christ; walk in this light all the days of your life.

Shine as a light in the world to the glory of God the Father.

We welcome Veronica & Theodora:

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism:
by one Spirit we are all baptized into one body.

**We welcome you into the fellowship of faith;
we are children of the same heavenly Father; we welcome you.**

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

Please stand. Joe introduces the peace with the following sentence:

God has called us to live in peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*We stand to sing the **Offertory Hymn.***

**1 O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
consider all the works thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
thy power throughout the universe displayed:**

*Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to thee,
‘How great thou art! How great thou art!’
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to thee,
‘How great thou art! How great thou art!’*

**2 When through the woods and forest glades I wander
and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,
and hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze:**

3 And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,

sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,
that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
he bled and died to take away my sin:

**4 When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
and take me home — what joy shall fill my heart!
Then shall I bow in humble adoration
and there proclaim, ‘My God, how great thou art!’**

STUART K. HINE (1899–1989)

A&M 546

*If you would like to give financially to the life and work of the
Richmond Team Ministry, please scan the QR Code below with your
smart device. There is also a card reader and cash plate at the back of
church. Thank you!*



*The gifts of the people are gathered and presented. The altar is prepared
and bread and wine are placed upon it.*

Joe says:

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation.

In your loving care you spread before us the table of life
and give us the cup of salvation to drink.

Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer

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 thanks and praise.

Father, we give you thanks and praise through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, your living Word, through whom you have created all things; who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our Saviour.

By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh; as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin, he lived on earth and went about among us; he opened wide his arms for us on the cross; he put an end to death by dying for us; and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life; so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.

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

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna, in the highest.**

Please sit or kneel.

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness; grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit, and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ; 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 this, all of you; 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.

Great is the mystery of faith

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross, his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world; rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, we bring before you this bread and this cup and we thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you. Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup, so that we, in the company of the Blessed Virgin Mary, John the Divine, Mary Magdalene, Matthias and all the saints, may praise and glorify you for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught 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.

The Breaking of the Bread

Joe breaks the consecrated bread.

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

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

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

The Giving of Holy Communion

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Blessed 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.

Joe and the people receive Holy Communion. You are welcome to receive Holy Communion at St John's today, but if you would prefer to receive a blessing then please carry this order of service with you.

During the distribution of Holy Communion the choir sing:

Jesu, joy of man's desiring by J.S. Bach

The Prayer after Holy Communion

Silence is kept.

The Post Communion Prayer is said together.

**Merciful Father,
who gave Jesus Christ to be for us the bread of life,
that those who come to him should never hunger:
draw us to the Lord in faith and love,
that we may eat and drink with him
at his table in the kingdom,
where he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.
Amen.**

The Notices

Information about our life together is shared.

*We stand to sing the **Post Communion Hymn.***

**1 One more step along the world I go,
one more step along the world I go;
from the old things to the new,
keep me travelling along with you:**

***And it's from the old I travel to the new;
keep me travelling along with you.***

**2 Round the corners of the world I turn,
more and more about the world I learn;**

**all the new things that I see
you'll be looking at along with me.**

**3 As I travel through the bad and good,
keep me travelling the way I should;
where I see no way to go
you'll be telling me the way, I know.**

**4 Give me courage when the world is rough,
keep me loving though the world is tough;
leap and sing in all I do,
keep me travelling along with you.**

**5 You are older than the world can be,
you are younger than the life in me;
ever old and ever new,
keep me travelling along with you.**

SYDNEY CARTER (1915–2004)
A&M 757

The Blessing

The God of all grace,
who called you to his eternal glory in Christ Jesus,
establish, strengthen and settle you in the faith;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

Postlude



Please remain standing until the procession reaches the back of church.

**You are warmly invited to stay with us
for refreshments after the service.**

Please take this order of service away with you.

LOOKING AHEAD...

Ash Wednesday 5th March

‘Ashes to go’ at Richmond Station
Offered to those on their way to work or
passing by
7:30am-8:15am

Said Eucharist
with
Imposition of Ashes
10am at St Mary Magdalene

Team Sung Eucharist
with
Imposition of Ashes

7:30pm at St John the Divine

Regular Worship at St John's



You are always welcome!

Sunday

Sung Eucharist

11:00am - 12:15pm

Tuesday

Morning Prayer

8:30am - 8:50am

Silent Contemplation before the Blessed Sacrament

6:30pm - 6:50pm

Said Eucharist

7:00pm - 7:30pm

Open Church

Most Saturdays

10am - 12 Noon