

Holy Eucharist

28 November 2021

Advent Sunday



Synod of the Diocese of West Malaysia

St Mary's Cathedral

Making disciples of Jesus Christ

Welcome

Collects

(Please stand)

All: **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.**

Collect for Advent Sunday

**All: Almighty God,
give us grace to cast away the works of darkness
and to put on the armour of light,
now in the time of this mortal life,
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us
in great humility;
that on the last day,
when he shall come again in his glorious majesty
to judge the living and the dead,
we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.**

Old Testament Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16

(Please be seated)

¹⁴ “Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵ In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶ In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called: ‘The LORD is our righteousness.’

At the end of the reading the reader says

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

New Testament Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

(Please be seated)

⁹ For what thanksgiving can we return to God for you, for all the joy that we feel for your sake before our God, ¹⁰ as we pray most earnestly night and day that we may see you face to face and supply what is lacking in your faith?

¹¹ Now may our God and Father himself, and our Lord Jesus, direct our way to you, ¹² and may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you, ¹³ so that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

At the end of the reading the reader says

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading: Luke 21:25-36

After the reader announces the reading (the people all standing up), all shall say

Glory to Christ our Saviour

²⁵ “And there will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, ²⁶ people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷ And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. ²⁸ Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

²⁹ And he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree, and all the trees. ³⁰ As soon as they come out in leaf, you see for yourselves and know that the summer is already near. ³¹ So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³² Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all has taken place. ³³ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³⁴ “But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap. ³⁵ For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶ But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

At the end of the reading the reader shall say

This is the Gospel of Christ

All shall respond

Praise to Christ our Lord

Sermon: Jesus is Coming Again... So What?

Luke 21:25-36

1. The Signs of Christ's Coming (v5-28)

2. The Certainty of Christ's Coming (v29-33)

3. The Implications of Christ's Coming (v34-36)

The Nicene Creed

(Please stand)

**All: 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,
one in 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 was born of the Virgin Mary, and became man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered, died and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in fulfilment of 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,
With the Father and the Son
he is worshipped and glorified,
He 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.**

Prayers of Intercession

(Please kneel or be seated)

Leader: In joyful expectation of his coming again,
we pray to Jesus, saying,

Leader: Maranatha:

All: **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Leader: We pray for the church throughout the world...

prayers for the church in other nations

prayers for churches in our province and diocese

prayers for our cathedral

Help us to live in the light of your coming
and give us a longing for your rule.

Leader: Maranatha:

All: **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Leader: We pray for the nations of the world...

prayers for the nations
prayers for our nation

Lord Jesus, King of Kings,
before you rulers will stand in silence.
For you come to judge the earth.

Leader: Maranatha:

All: **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Leader: We pray for those who are sick or in grief...

prayers for the sick and suffering
prayers for those who mourn the death of loved ones
(and thanksgiving for their lives)

Hasten the day when sickness and death
shall be no more,
and there shall be no more mourning,
or crying or pain,
when the old order of things is done away.

Leader: Maranatha:

All: **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Leader: Come to us from heaven,
to lift us up to meet you,
and to be with you in glory
where you live and reign,
with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
one God for ever and ever.

All: **Amen.**

Leader: May the Lord, when he comes,
find us watching and waiting.

All: **Amen.**

Prayer of Confession

(Please remain kneeling or seated)

The minister may use this or another call to confession

When the Lord comes, he will bring to light things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart.

In light of that we confess our sins:

***All:* Almighty God, our Heavenly Father
We admit that we have sinned against you
in thought, word and deed,
and deserve your just punishment.
We truly repent and are sorry
for what we have done.
Have mercy on us, merciful Father.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past,
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name.
Amen.**

The minister declares God's forgiveness

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent
have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen.**

This Prayer of Humble Access may be said by all

**All: We do not presume
to come to this your table, merciful Lord,
trusting in our own righteousness,
but in your manifold and great mercies.
We are not worthy so much as to gather up
the crumbs under your table.
But you are the same Lord,
whose nature is always to have mercy.
Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ
and to drink his blood,
that we may evermore dwell in him
and he in us.
Amen.**

The Eucharist

(Please remain kneeling or seated)

Minister: Lift up your hearts

All: **We lift them to the Lord**

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

All: **It is right to give him thanks and praise**

The Minister prays

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father,
We thank you that in your love and mercy,
you gave your only Son Jesus Christ
to die on the cross for our redemption.

We thank you that by offering himself once for all,
he made a full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice for sin
and completely satisfied your holiness,
justice and love.

And he instructed us to remember his death together
until his coming again.

Hear us, merciful Father,
and grant that by your Holy Spirit,
we who eat and drink this bread and wine,
according to our Lord's command
may remember his death for us with faith,
trusting in him alone for our salvation
and so share in his body and blood.

For on the night he was betrayed, he took bread, and when he had given 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 when he had given 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.”

All: **Amen.**

The Distribution

Minister:

Eat and drink this in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

Hymn: Psalm 96 - Sing To The Lord Ye Distant Lands

Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

Sing to the Lord, ye distant lands,
in every tone and tongue;
God's all-embracing grace demands
a new and nobler song.

Let heaven proclaim a joyful day!
Let joy be felt and seen!
Let cities shine in bright array,
and fields wear cheerful green.

Let an unusual joy surprise
the islands of the sea;
let mountains sink, let valleys rise,
prepare the Lord his way.

Say to the nations, Jesus reigns,
God's own almighty Son.
Yield to his rule; for Love sustains,
and grace surrounds his throne.

See how he comes! Christ comes to bless,
to share the love of God;
he shows the world God's righteousness,
and sends the truth abroad.

Sing to the Lord, ye distant lands,
in every tone and tongue;
God's all-embracing grace demands
a new and nobler song.

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Hymn: O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Latin Advent Antiphons

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here,
until the Son of God appear:

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free
thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell thy people save,
And give them victory o'er the grave:

O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer
our spirits by thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadows put to flight:

O come, thou Key of David, come,
and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery:

O come, O come, thou Lord of Might,
who to thy tribes, on Sinai's height,
in ancient times didst give the law
in cloud and majesty and awe:

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Hymn: Lo! He Comes With Clouds Descending

Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

Lo! he comes with clouds descending,
once for favoured sinners slain;
thousand thousand saints attending
swell the triumph of his train:
Alleluia!
God appears on earth to reign.

Every eye shall now behold him
robed in dreadful majesty;
those who set at naught and sold him,
pierced, and nailed him to the Tree,
deeply wailing,
shall the true Messiah see.

Those dear tokens of his passion
still his dazzling body bears,
cause of endless exultation
to his ransomed worshippers:
with what rapture
gaze we on those glorious scars!

Yea, Amen, let all adore thee,
high on thine eternal throne;
Saviour, take the power and glory,
claim the kingdom for thine own:
Alleluia!
Thou shalt reign, and thou alone.

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Hymn: The Advent Of Our King

Charles Coffin, 1676-1749

The advent of our King
our prayers must now employ,
and we must hymns of welcome sing
in strains of holy joy.

The everlasting Son,
incarnate deigns to be;
himself a servant's form puts on,
to set his servants free.

Daughter of Sion, rise
to meet thy lowly King;
nor let a faithless heart despise
the peace he comes to bring.

As judge, on clouds of light,
he soon will come again,
and his true members all unite
with him in heaven to reign.

All glory to the Son,
who comes to set us free,
with Father, Spirit, ever One,
through all eternity.

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Prayers of Response

(Please kneel or be seated)

**All: 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 forever.
Amen.**

**All: Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the spiritual food
of the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out into the world
in the power of your Spirit,
to live and work
to your praise and glory.
Amen.**

Announcements

Dismissal

The gathering ends with a blessing.

Minister: Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you,
scatter the darkness from your path,
and make you ready to meet him
when he comes in glory;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All: **Amen.**

Minister: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

Connect with us

Thank you for joining our service. If you would like for us to get in touch with you, or have any feedback for us, please fill in our Connection Card at stmarys.my/connect

Giving

Online transfer

Bank name: **Standard Chartered Bank Malaysia Bhd**

Account name: **St Mary's Cathedral**

Account number: **312 142 334 691**

Recipient reference: If giving a pledge, enter ***your 3-digit pledge number.***

Otherwise, enter **Online Service**

For one-off giving, please email the bank-in slip or online transfer receipt to: **collections@stmaryscathedral.org.my**

Boost e-wallet

Scan the following QR code using the Boost App. Be sure to confirm "St Mary's Cathedral" is listed as the payee.



St Mary's Cathedral

Note: This method of giving is analogous to putting cash into the offertory bag/box. Your donation will go to the General Fund. You will not be given a receipt. Do not use this to give a pledge.

Details on our webpage: stmarys.my/give

Stewardship Month

November is our stewardship month at the Cathedral and it's a good time for us to consider our response to God's grace in how we steward the money that He has entrusted us with. If you would like to consider carefully about partnering with us, please visit this webpage where you will find some biblical principles about giving, as well as practical information about supporting the ministry: stmarys.my/give

Onsite & Online Services

Here are the details of our English onsite services:

- English Liturgical Service – 10.00 am
- English Contemporary (SMACC) Service – 5.00 pm

If you would like to book to come, you can do so at stmarys.my/booking. Bookings will open at 2.00 pm on Sunday and will close at noon on Friday or when all the seats are taken, whichever comes first. If you find it hard to book online, you can call the Cathedral Office on 011 5760 3484 during office hours and Mrs Nesamani will help with the booking. **You will need to have a confirmed booking before you can come on Sunday.**

If you are joining us online on Sundays, both the English services above will be livestreamed from the Cathedral (Liturgical at 10.00 am, SMACC at 5.00 pm).

More information about our services can be found here: stmarys.my/services

Onsite Service Volunteers

We are looking for volunteers to help out at our onsite services. If you are a regular at St Mary's Cathedral and would like to volunteer, please fill in the form at stmarys.my/volunteer

Virtual Tea Terrace

Our Virtual Tea Terrace will be open after the livestream of today's English Liturgical Service. This Virtual Tea Terrace provides a place that people can come to chat with each other after church. Please do join us on this link that will take you straight into the Zoom meeting: stmarys.my/vtt

Christmas With Us

The Cathedral Christmas guest night has always been a wonderful opportunity for our friends and family to hear the good news about Jesus.

This year, we are doing things differently -

Celebrate **Christmas With Us** on 18 December 2021 by hosting small gatherings and inviting your friends and families wherever you're able to (in-person or online) and then join in with others on Zoom for a live broadcast of a Christmas message at 9.30 pm, followed by Q&As.

Partner with us as a host and register here:

stmarys.my/christmaswithus.host

Briefing for hosts will be on 8 December 2021. So hurry and sign up!

For more information, you can find the FAQ at

stmarys.my/christmaswithus.faq

Can't host on 18 December? Want to contribute in other ways? Contact Pastor Dinesh Natorajan on 012 612 1410.

Online Public Tour of St Mary's Cathedral

Learn about the history of the Cathedral and its connection with Malaysia's past. Embark on a fascinating guided tour of this early English Gothic style church. This tour will take you through over 10 stations in the Cathedral. See the official seat of the Anglican Bishop of West Malaysia, a pipe organ designed and built by the famous Englishman Henry Willis, historical plaques hung in memory of notable people, and, of course, amazing stained-glass windows.

Sign up by 8 December for a free online public tour of the Cathedral on Saturday, 11 December 2021 at 11.00 am.

Please visit stmarys.my/tours for more details on how to sign up.

The Cathedral Electoral Roll

We encourage all our baptised and confirmed members who come regularly to our church (whether online or onsite) to be on our Electoral Roll. Joining the Electoral Roll will enable you to vote at our Annual General Meetings (AGM).

If you would like to sign up to be on the roll, please fill in the form here: stmarys.my/electoralroll

The electoral roll for 2022 will close on **31 December 2021**.

Online Seminar: Understanding Indoor Air Quality and Ventilation

(an awareness session for churches)

by Assoc Prof Dr Ir Bernard Saw, UTAR and Prof Dr Ng Kwan Hoong, University of Malaya

Ever since we have come to realise the airborne transmission nature of the SARS-CoV-2 viruses, our attention has been drawn to the adequacy of our indoor air quality and ventilation. Church buildings are complex structures that need to meet various demands such as thermal comfort, room acoustics, health safety, and regulatory requirements. This seminar will attempt to explain the basics and various ways that we can employ to improve indoor air quality, including the use of ultraviolet germicidal irradiation.

Date : Saturday, 11 December 2021

Time: 11.00 am - 12.30 pm

Registration link: stmarys.my/ventilationseminar

(Please register early as space is limited)

A Zoom link will be emailed to those who have registered closer to the date of the online seminar.

Diocesan English Virtual Youth Camp

The Diocesan Youth Council will be conducting the annual youth camp virtually again (for youth ages 13-20). It will be held on Saturday 4 December 2021, from 10.00 am – 5.00 pm over Zoom. The camp theme is based on Ephesians 4:15-16, with Rev Jesvinder Singh as the speaker.

The day's programme includes games, activities, workshops, and small group discussions. More information can be found at this registration link:

bit.ly/DEYC2021

T-shirts are also available to order at bit.ly/DYC2021tshirt

Girls' Christian Camp

The Girls' Christian Camp is held annually for girls aged between 9-17. The theme for this year's online camp is "If God Is For Us...", based on Romans 8.

Here are the details:

Date: 16 & 17 December 2021 (Thursday & Friday)

Camp schedule for both days: 9.00 am – 12.00 pm,
8.00pm – 10.00 pm

Camp fees: RM 20

Across these two days, there will be theme talks, workshops and group discussions. To find out more about this camp that is organized for girls from different churches in the Klang Valley and beyond, please visit this website: girlschristiancamp.org

The Daily Office

We invite you to join us for the Daily Office - a short daily service with systematic Bible readings and set prayers. This will take place every day at 7.30 am by Zoom (except Sunday).

If you think this would be a helpful part of your daily routine over this segment of the lockdown, please join us by simply going to stmarys.my/dailyoffice at about 7.25 am each day for a 7.30 am start. That will take you directly to the Zoom room where the service takes place. The service will finish well before 8.00 am.

If you can't use Zoom for any reason, but you are keen to be involved, then give our office a call during office hours on 011 5760 3484 and we will be happy to discuss special arrangements with you.

Pastoral 'Clinics'

In addition to whatever ways of contacting the pastoral team that are already available, Rev Gordon Kong and Rev Lee Kon Yim are also available on Thursdays at the following times if you would like to talk to a pastor:

- Rev Gordon Kong – 9.00 am – 12.00 pm
- Rev Lee Kon Yim – 2.00 pm – 5.00 pm

If you are a regular at St Mary's Cathedral and would like to book a half hour appointment slot with anyone of them, please call the Cathedral office on 011 5760 3484 by the previous day.

Small Groups

Looking to connect with a Christian community to share lives and grow spiritually? Please do consider joining one of our online small groups to study God's Word, as well as to support and encourage one another.

Do fill in this form and we will connect you to a small group: stmarys.my/smallgroups

Kids' Church

Kids' Church meets online every week at the following times:

- 3-4 year olds on Sunday at 10.20 am
- 5-6 year olds on Sunday at 9.00 am
- 7-9's on Saturday at 2.00 pm
- 10-12's on Sunday at 2.00 pm

If you would like to enrol your child or find out more about Kids' Church, please visit stmarys.my/kids

Youth Fellowship

Our Youth Fellowship (ages 13-18) meets on Sundays at 2.00 pm. If you would like to join us, please sign up at stmarys.my/youth

Youth Confirmation Programme

If you would like to indicate interest in our Youth Confirmation Programme for your teenager aged 13-17, please let us know at stmarys.my/youthconfirmation and we will inform you when the next one starts.

Zoom Prayer Meeting

We will be having our Zoom prayer meeting on the second and fourth Saturdays of each month. You can join this prayer meeting at stmarys.my/prayermeeting

Subscribe to our Mailing List

To receive emails about latest updates and important news about the Cathedral, fill in the form at

stmarys.my/subscribe

Work Care Panel

We have a panel to help our Cathedral community look for work or advise about work and training opportunities. If you're looking for work and wouldn't mind a helping hand, fill in our Connection Card at stmarys.my/connect, indicating that you would like someone from the Work Care Panel to contact you.

Pastoral Emergencies

If you or someone you know is finding this time a particularly challenging one, or would like someone to pray with you, please do call one of your leaders or congregational pastors. Please also remember that you can use our Emergency Pastoral Care Hotline on 011 5762 8524.

Please do reach out if you need help with food or other essentials like groceries. You can let us know by filling in a Connection Card at stmarys.my/connect.

Appendix

Luke 21:5-36

⁵ And while some were speaking of the temple, how it was adorned with noble stones and offerings, he said, ⁶ “As for these things that you see, the days will come when there will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down.” ⁷ And they asked him, “Teacher, when will these things be, and what will be the sign when these things are about to take place?” ⁸ And he said, “See that you are not led astray. For many will come in my name, saying, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is at hand!’ Do not go after them. ⁹ And when you hear of wars and tumults, do not be terrified, for these things must first take place, but the end will not be at once.”

¹⁰ Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. ¹¹ There will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and pestilences. And there will be terrors and great signs from heaven. ¹² But before all this they will lay their hands on you and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors for my name's sake. ¹³ This will

be your opportunity to bear witness. ¹⁴ Settle it therefore in your minds not to meditate beforehand how to answer, ¹⁵ for I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which none of your adversaries will be able to withstand or contradict. ¹⁶ You will be delivered up even by parents and brothers and relatives and friends, and some of you they will put to death. ¹⁷ You will be hated by all for my name's sake. ¹⁸ But not a hair of your head will perish. ¹⁹ By your endurance you will gain your lives.

²⁰ “But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation has come near. ²¹ Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, and let those who are inside the city depart, and let not those who are out in the country enter it, ²² for these are days of vengeance, to fulfill all that is written. ²³ Alas for women who are pregnant and for those who are nursing infants in those days! For there will be great distress upon the earth and wrath against this people. ²⁴ They will fall by the edge of the sword and be led captive among all nations, and Jerusalem will be trampled underfoot by the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.

²⁵ “And there will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of

the roaring of the sea and the waves, ²⁶ people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷ And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. ²⁸ Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

²⁹ And he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree, and all the trees. ³⁰ As soon as they come out in leaf, you see for yourselves and know that the summer is already near. ³¹ So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³² Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all has taken place. ³³ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³⁴ “But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap. ³⁵ For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶ But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”