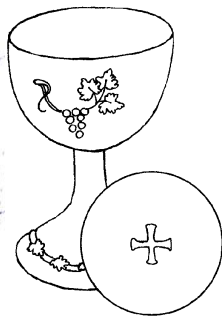
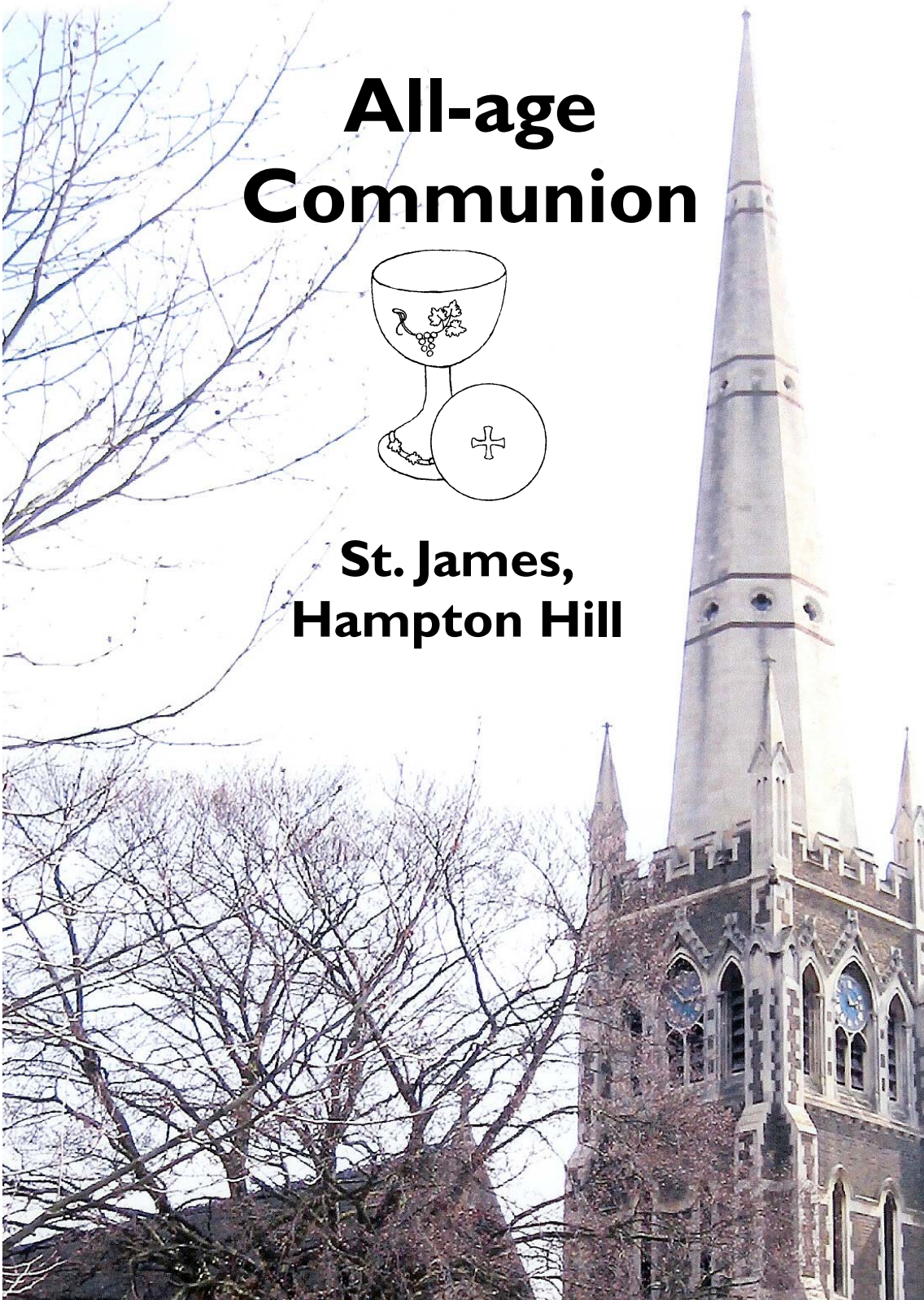


All-age Communion



**St. James,
Hampton Hill**



The Christian Year

The Christian Year is made up of five seasons: **Advent**, **Christmas**, **Epiphany**, **Lent** and **Easter**. (The rest of the year is called 'Ordinary Time' as there is no special celebration.) The Christian Year also consists of Saints' Days, Festivals and Holy Days. These seasons and days make up the Christian calendar. Some festivals, like Christmas Day, happen on the same date every year, while others move around within a range of dates. All this has developed over time to help Christians remember important facts about our faith and how Christianity began.



Baby Jesus in the stable at Bethlehem



Jesus carrying the crucifixion cross

The seasons follow the life of Jesus like a story. This story begins with the season of **Advent**, at the very end of November, which is a time of preparation for the birth of Christ. This is followed by **Christmas** when Jesus was born and then **Epiphany** when the Wise Men followed the star to Bethlehem.

The story then follows the life of Jesus through to the preparation for his passion (suffering) and death on the cross during **Lent** and Holy Week, and the important time of his resurrection from the dead at **Easter** and ascension into Heaven.

After celebrating the ascension of Jesus, the story looks at the founding of the Church itself, with the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. The last period of the Christian Year before Advent comes round again is called Trinity when we learn more about our faith.

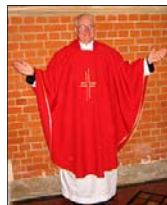
Colours in the Christian Year

Colour can be seen in the altar frontal, the embroidered scarves (stoles) and the brightly coloured outer vestment (chasuble) of the priest and colours vary according to the time of the Christian Year.

White and Gold (light, joy, purity)
is used for Christ, Mary and the Saints.



Red (blood, fire)
is used for the Holy Spirit, Martyrs and the Cross.



Purple or Blue (penitence, preparation)
is used during Advent and Lent.



Green (hope, creation)
is used for all other times of the year.



We gather

Please stand for the hymn or song

On a Parade Sunday the flags will be brought to the front of the church

Greeting

The priest welcomes people with a greeting which may include

The Lord be with you
All and also with you.

Saying sorry to God

The priest invites us to remember what we have done wrong and say sorry

Lord, have mercy.
All Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.
All Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.
All Lord, have mercy.

The priest declares God's forgiveness

While this hymn is being sung, the priest and servers move through the church. The flags of the uniformed groups are brought to the front of the church on a Parade Sunday. This helps to gather us all together – leading us to focus our attention on worshipping God.



The priest welcomes everybody.

We now think about the wrong things we have done, said and thought. We say sorry and ask God to forgive us.



The priest tells us that God forgives us.

Praise

This, or another song, may be sung

All **Glory to God in the highest,
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.
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, have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand
of the Father:
receive, receive our prayer.
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. Amen
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

The Collect

The priest says the Collect, the prayer of the day, which is printed on the weekly sheet. At the very end we say

All Amen.

Please sit



We sing a song of praise to God.

At most All-age services the Orchestra, St. James's Players, accompanies this and all the other sung parts of the service.



The Collect is a special prayer for this particular Sunday. There is a different one for every Sunday of the Christian year.

We listen to God's Word

First Reading

We listen to a reading from the Bible which is printed on the weekly sheet.

At the end the reader says

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Please stand

A hymn or song is sung

Gospel Reading

When the Gospel is announced the reader says

The Lord be with you

All and also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to N.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end the reader says

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Talk or Activity

The reading is an important part in our worship. At the end of the reading, the reader says *This is the word of the Lord* because God has been speaking to us through this reading.



A hymn or song is sung to greet the Gospel, which is a story about Jesus, or a story Jesus told. The Gospel Book is carried down the Nave and we turn to face the place from where the Gospel is read, if we can, and stand while it is being read. We do this because these are the words of Christ and so are treated with the importance they deserve.

The preacher talks to us. This talk is usually about what is happening at this particular time in the Christian Year.



Affirmation of Faith

Please stand

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist?

All We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again?

All We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world?

All We believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

**All This is our faith.
We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

We pray

Please kneel or sit

The prayers of intercession may include the following response

Lord, in your mercy.

All Hear our prayer.



We stand to say the important things we believe in. The first part acknowledges God as our Father and creator, the second part stresses that the Jesus whom we worship became human, was crucified, rose again and ascended into heaven. We believe he is the Son of God. Finally, in the third part we speak of God the Holy Spirit.

○ ° What is prayer?



Prayer is when we talk to God. We don't even have to talk, we can just think or feel a connection with him. We can pray for other people or for ourselves, we can say sorry for what we have done wrong and we can thank God for all he has given us.



This is the time when we pray for others. We pray for the Church all over the world, the Queen, people in authority and our community. We pray for peace among nations. We pray for our family, friends and neighbours, people who are ill, in pain, sad, lonely or in need. We also remember those who have died.

We share in Holy Communion

The Peace

Please stand

The priest introduces the Peace and then says

The peace of the Lord be always with you

All and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

We share a sign of peace

Preparation of the Table

*The bread and wine are brought forward, a collection is taken
and the altar is prepared*

We sing a hymn or song

The Thanksgiving Prayer

The Lord be with you

All and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is right to praise you, Father,

Lord of all creation;

in your love you made us for yourself.

When we turned away you did not reject us,

but came to meet us in your Son.

**All You embraced us as your children
and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.**

In Christ you shared our life

that we might live in him and he in us.

**All He opened his arms of love upon the cross
and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.**

God asks us to love each other as he loves us. So we turn and greet each other in love and friendship. This greeting is shown by a hand clasp and by saying *Peace be with you.*



The gifts are brought through the body of the congregation up to the altar and at this point the altar is prepared for communion.



The chalice, or cup, holds the wine for communion.



The ciborium, a container, holds the wafers for communion.

The priest gives thanks to God for his gifts and especially for the gift of his Son. He uses Jesus' own words at the Last Supper and prays for the coming of the Holy Spirit.



On the night he was betrayed,
at supper with his friends
he took bread, and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to them, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

**All Father, we do this in remembrance of him:
his body is the bread of life.**

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,
he gave you thanks, and said:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you for the
forgiveness of sins;
do this in remembrance of me.

**All Father, we do this in remembrance of him:
his blood is shed for all.**

As we proclaim his death and celebrate
his rising in glory, send your Holy Spirit that this
bread and this wine may be to us the body and
blood of your dear Son.

**All As we eat and drink these holy gifts
make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.**

With your whole Church throughout the world
we offer you this sacrifice of praise
and lift our voice to join
the eternal song of heaven:

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

When Jesus had the Last Supper he took some bread, broke it and shared it with the disciples.



He passed a cup of wine round the group.

He told them that he must die to save the world and they must always share the bread and wine to remember him.



We sing a song of praise.

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray
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 for ever.
 Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
All **Though we are many, we are one body,**
 because we all share in one bread,

All **Lamb of God,**
 you take away the sins of the world,
 have mercy, have mercy on us.
 Lamb of God,
 you take away the sins of the world,
 have mercy, have mercy on us.
 Lamb of God,
 you take away the sins of the world,
 grant us, grant us peace.

When Jesus' disciples asked him to teach them to pray, he taught them a prayer that has come to be called "The Lord's Prayer". It is a basic Christian prayer and is used everywhere in the church's life.



- Why use the Lord's Prayer?

- Jesus was a man of prayer and he teaches us how to pray by using the Lord's Prayer as an example and guide. He shows us the things to bring into our own prayers and he encourages us to act on these things in our everyday life.



We remember Jesus sharing bread with his disciples and we get ready to do the same.

Giving of Communion

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

All **Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

Please come forward for communion or a blessing

*All who are communicant members of a Christian church
and are baptised are welcome to receive communion*

If you would like a blessing, please keep your head bowed

Prayer after Communion

The priest says a prayer

*A hymn or song is sung and on a Parade Sunday the flags are
returned*

We go out to serve God

The Lord be with you
All **and also with you.**

The priest says the Blessing which always ends

... and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you, and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

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

The priest invites us to receive the sacrament (the bread and wine). We then go to the altar and receive communion or a blessing.



The priest gives each person a wafer which represents the bread.

Each person is then given a sip of wine from a special communion cup called a chalice.



The blessing pronounces God's favour and goodwill. It shows that worship leads on naturally to our daily life in the world.

What Priests Wear

There are special terms for the clothes worn by priests and others when they are 'on duty'.



Clergy Shirt

A clergy shirt is traditionally a black shirt with white tabs or a collar.

Round their necks priests wear a white clerical, or Roman collar. The dog collar is its nickname and it is worn with a clergy shirt.



Cassock

The priest wears a cassock. This is a plain, black, lightweight, ankle-length garment with long sleeves and fastening up to the neck.

Bishops wear a purple cassock.

Our choir members wear blue cassocks with white surplices and our servers wear red cassocks.



Surplice and Preaching Scarf

Over the cassock the priest puts on a surplice which is a loose tunic of white linen or cotton material, with wide or moderately wide sleeves, reaching to the hips or to the knee.

Over the surplice the priest wears a long black scarf.



Hood

When wearing the black scarf, the priest may also wear a hood.



Alb

For Holy Communion the priest wears an alb instead of the cassock and surplice. This is a plain, white, lightweight, ankle-length tunic with long sleeves. It is generally worn with a rope girdle tied around the waist.

Stole

Over the alb the priest wears a long, narrow garment, the stole, draped around the neck and hanging down in front of the wearer. This can be one of four colours depending on the time in the Church Year.



Chasuble

Over the alb and stole the priest wears a chasuble. It is an ornate circular garment with a hole in the centre for the head. This can be one of four colours depending on the time in the Church Year.



Cope

The cope is a very long cloak, open in front and of any liturgical colour. It may be worn on festal occasions, at any act of worship or during a procession which has a special liturgical function, for example, Palm Sunday. The often highly ornamented band or clasp is called a morse.

Around the Church



The Pulpit

This is the large raised platform in the central part of the nave where the preacher gives the sermon. It is made of stone and is hexagonal (six-sided) with beautifully decorated panels.

The Lectern

This is used as a reading stand and is made of brass. It is in the shape of an eagle with out-stretched wings, standing on a ball. The ball represents the world and the Bible on the eagle's back represents the Gospel being carried on wings to the corners of the earth.



The Baptismal Font

This is the large octagonal (eight-sided) bowl-shaped stone which holds the water used in baptism. This water has been sanctified (made holy) by the priest. The eight sides of the font are beautifully carved, each with a different symbol design.

The Altar

This is the raised table in the Sanctuary representing the table where Jesus shared the last supper with his disciples. Another table is carried to the front of the Chancel to act as an altar for the Parish Communion.



Stained Glass Windows

Stained glass was used to add beauty and colour to our church. Many of our windows show biblical scenes, and these helped to teach the people about religion in the days when most of them could not read. Small pieces of coloured glass were arranged to form patterns or pictures, held together by strips of lead and supported by a rigid frame. Look around the church and see how many pictures you recognise in the windows.

Symbols in and around the Church



Cockle shells can be found on the beaches in Northern Spain where Saint James's relics were taken on the way to Compostela. They were adopted as symbols of Saint James (our Patron Saint) from Medieval times up until the present day.

IHS or **IHC** are the first three letters of the Greek for Jesus (IHCOYC).



A and **O** (alpha and omega) are the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet and mean the beginning and the end. They remind us that God is the beginning and the end of all things.

A cross is the most important Christian symbol and reminds us that Jesus died for us.



A dove was seen at the baptism of Jesus. It is a symbol of the Holy Spirit.



Candles are lit during services. They show that Christ is the "Light of the world".



XP are the first two letters of the Greek word for Christ (XPICTOC) and are symbols of God the Son, Jesus Christ.



Christians believe that the One God is made up of three Persons or aspects, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

This is called the Trinity or the Triune (three-in-one) God. The symbols of the Trinity always have three parts, like the **clover leaf**.

