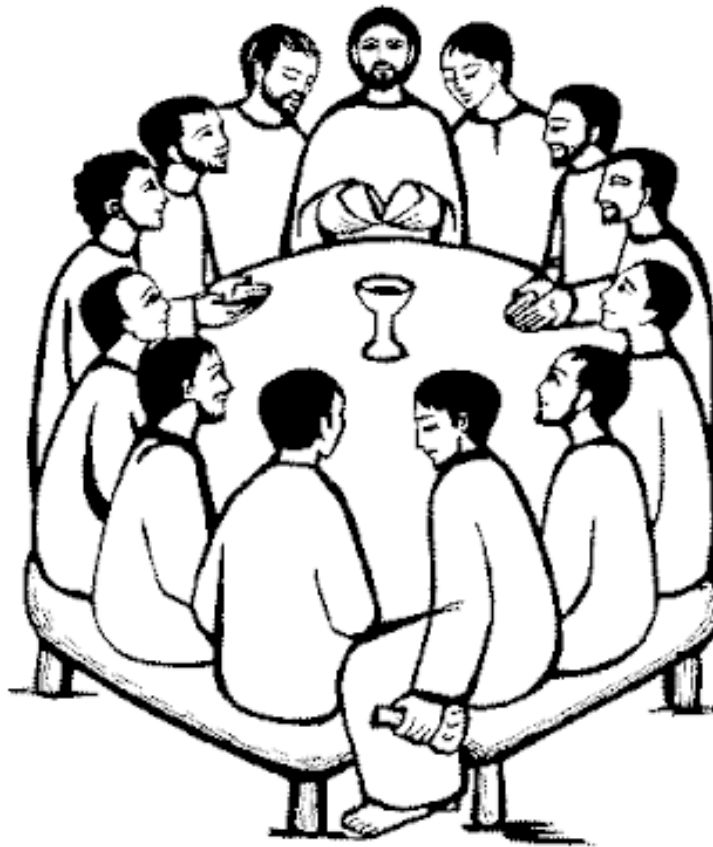


**St John The Baptist,  
New Alresford,  
The Arle Valley Benefice**



**A Friday Eucharist for Saints' Days**

## A Friday Eucharist for Saints' Days

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

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

*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.**

Christ calls us to share the heavenly banquet of his love  
with all the saints in earth and heaven.

Knowing our unworthiness and sin,  
let us ask from him both mercy and forgiveness.

We have not always worshipped God, our creator.  
Lord, have mercy.

*All:* **Lord, have mercy.**

We have not always followed Christ, our Saviour.  
Christ, have mercy.

*All:* **Christ, have mercy.**

We have not always trusted in the Spirit, our guide.

Lord, have mercy.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

The almighty and merciful Lord  
grant you pardon and forgiveness of all your sins,  
time for amendment of life,  
and the grace and strength of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

## **The Collect**

Bountiful God, giver of all gifts,  
who poured your Spirit upon your servant Barnabas  
and gave him grace to encourage others:  
help us, by his example,  
to be generous in our judgements  
and unselfish in our service;  
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.

**All Amen.**

## **The First Reading**

*Acts 11.19-30*

<sup>19</sup>Those who were scattered because of the persecution that took place over Stephen travelled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch, and they spoke the word to no one except Jews. <sup>20</sup>But among them were some men of Cyprus and Cyrene who, on coming to Antioch, spoke to the Hellenists also, proclaiming the Lord Jesus. <sup>21</sup>The hand of the Lord was with them, and a great

number became believers and turned to the Lord. <sup>22</sup>News of this came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. <sup>23</sup>When he came and saw the grace of God, he rejoiced, and he exhorted them all to remain faithful to the Lord with steadfast devotion; <sup>24</sup>for he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were brought to the Lord. <sup>25</sup>Then Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul, <sup>26</sup>and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. So it was that for an entire year they met with the church and taught a great many people, and it was in Antioch that the disciples were first called 'Christians'.

<sup>27</sup>At that time prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch.

<sup>28</sup>One of them named Agabus stood up and predicted by the Spirit that there would be a severe famine over all the world; and this took place during the reign of Claudius. <sup>29</sup>The disciples determined that according to their ability, each would send relief to the believers living in Judea; <sup>30</sup>this they did, sending it to the elders by Barnabas and Saul.

This is the Word of the Lord

All: **Thanks be to God.**

**The Gospel** – *all may stand*

All: **Glory to you, O Lord**

*John 15.12-17*

Jesus said to his disciples: <sup>12</sup>'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup>No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. <sup>14</sup>You are my friends if you do what I command you. <sup>15</sup>I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. <sup>16</sup>You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go

and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. <sup>17</sup>I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

*All:*      **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Time for Prayer and Reflection**

United in the company of all the faithful and looking for the coming of the kingdom, let us offer our prayers to God, the source of all life and holiness.

Merciful Lord, strengthen all Christian people by your Holy Spirit, that we may live as a royal priesthood and a holy nation to the praise of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

*All:*      **Lord, hear us.**

Bless *N* our bishop and all ministers of your Church, that by faithful proclamation of your word we may be built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets into a holy temple in the Lord.

*All:*      **Lord, hear us.**

Give to the world and its peoples the peace that comes from above, that they may find Christ's way of freedom and life.

*All:*      **Lord, hear us.**

Hold in your embrace all who witness to your love in the service of the poor and needy;  
all those who minister to the sick and dying;  
and all who bring light to those in darkness.

**All: Lord, hear us.**

Touch and heal all those whose lives are scarred by sin  
and disfigured by pain, that, raised from death to life in Christ,  
their sorrow may be turned to eternal joy.

**All: Lord, hear us.**

Remember in your mercy all those gone before us,  
who have been well-pleasing to you from eternity;  
preserve in your faith your servants on earth, guide us to  
your kingdom, and grant us your peace at all times.

**All Lord, hear us.**

We give you thanks for the whole company of your saints in  
glory, with whom in fellowship we join our prayers and  
praises; by your grace may we, like them, be made perfect  
in your love.

*A time of silence may be observed for personal prayer*

Almighty God, by your Holy Spirit you have made us one  
with your saints in heaven and on earth: grant that in our  
earthly pilgrimage we may always be supported by this fellowship  
of love and prayer, and know ourselves surrounded by their  
witness to your power and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## **THE BLESSING OF THE GIFTS**

Pour upon the poverty of our love,  
and the weakness of our praise,  
the transforming fire of your presence.

**All:**     **With humble spirit and contrite heart  
may we be accepted by you O Lord  
and may our sacrifice be so offered  
in your sight this day  
that it may be pleasing to you. Amen**

              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 indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.  
We rejoice in the glorious splendour of your majesty  
for you have given us a share with *N*  
in the inheritance of the saints in light.  
In the darkness of this passing age  
they proclaim the glory of your kingdom.  
Chosen as lights in the world,  
they surround our steps as we journey on  
towards the city of eternal light  
where they sing the everlasting song of triumph.  
In communion with angels and archangels

and all who have served you on earth  
and worship you now in heaven,  
we raise our voices to proclaim your glory,  
for ever praising you and saying:

**All:     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.**

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.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

**All: Dying you destroyed our death,  
rising you restored our life:  
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

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 St John Baptist *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.**

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, so we pray:

**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.**

Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
**All: we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

### **THE INVITATION**

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.**

### **HOLY COMMUNION IS RECEIVED**

### **AFTER COMMUNION**

A Post-Communion Prayer may be said

Almighty God,  
who on the day of Pentecost  
sent your Holy Spirit to the apostles  
with the wind from heaven and in tongues of flame,  
filling them with joy and boldness to preach the gospel:  
by the power of the same Spirit  
strengthen us to witness to your truth  
and to draw everyone to the fire of your love;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All:** You have opened to us the **Scriptures**, **O Christ**.  
And you have made yourself known  
in the breaking of the bread.  
Abide with us, we pray,  
that, blessed by your royal presence,  
we may walk with you  
all the days of our life,  
and at its end behold you  
in the glory of the eternal Trinity,  
one **God** for ever and ever. **Amen**.

### **THE BLESSING**

God, who has prepared for us a city with eternal foundations,  
bring you with all the saints,  
to the eternal and triumphant joy of the city;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**.

Go forth in the peace of Christ.

**All:** **Thanks be to God**.