St Andrew’s CE Primary School

**Ash Wednesday Eucharist (approx 45 mins 2016)**

**Preparing to Worship God**

Priest: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit

**All: Amen**

Priest: The Lord be with you

**All: And also with you**

**The Collect** –

Holy God, you know each one of us:

save us from all that is bad in our world

and through the death of your Son

bring us healing and make us whole

in Jesus Christ our Lord **Amen**

**Hearing the Word of God**

All stand for the GOSPEL READING:

Priest: Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

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

*At the end of the Gospel:*

Priest: This is the Gospel of the Lord

**All: Praise to you O Christ**

*Sit for a* ***short talk****, or presentation of work, about the readings and the theme.*

**Saying Sorry to God**

Priest: To prepare ourselves to praise and thank God, let us say we are sorry for the ways in which we hurt Him.

*After a short periods of silence, we think of the things we are sorry for:*

**All: Father, I am sorry for the things I have done wrong:**

**for being unkind and greedy**

**for wanting the best for myself and not for others,**

**for making people unhappy.**

**For these things**

**and the things I can no longer remember,**

**Father, please forgive,**

**through your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen**

**The Imposition of Ashes**

Priest: As a sign of the spirit of penitence with which we shall keep this season of Lent, I invite you to receive on your head in ash the sign of the cross, the symbol of God’s saving love.

God our Father, you create us from the dust of the earth: grant that these ashes may be for us a sign of our penitence and a symbol of our mortality; for it is by your goodness alone that we receive eternal life in Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen**

*The congregation is invited to come forward to receive the imposition of ashes. At the imposition, the priest says to each person:*

Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return. Turn away from sin and be faithful to Christ.

*or for the children:* Turn away from doing wrong and follow Jesus every day

*When all who wish have received the imposition of ashes:*

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. **Amen**

*EXPLAIN the RESPONSE: [Remain seated for]* The Prayers.

After each prayer: Lord, in your mercy

**All: Hear our prayer**

*After the prayers, there is a short period of silence, and the priest may say a final prayer. He ends with the words:* Merciful Father,

**All: accept these prayers,**

**for the sake of your Son, Our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen**

**The Peace**

Priest: We are the Body of Christ

**All: In the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body. Let us then pursue all that makes for peace and builds up our common life.**

Priest: The peace of the Lord be always with you

**All: And also with you.**

Priest: Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*Everyone is invited to share the peace with one another.*

**Our Offering to God**

If we want to offer ourselves to God then we must live in peace with one another. The priest says a sentence and invites everyone to share the peace and love of Christ by shaking hands with those next to them.

Bread and wine are brought to the altar and the altar is prepared. The bread and wine represent our offering to God.

*We sing our second hymn:* ***Lord of the Dance***

I danced in the morning when the world was begun,  
And I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,  
And I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth,  
At Bethlehem I had my birth.

*Dance, then, wherever you may be;  
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.  
And I’ll lead you all wherever you may be,  
And I’ll lead you all in the dance, said he.*

I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee,  
But they would not dance and they would not follow me;  
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John;  
They came to me and the dance went on.  
  
I danced on the Sabbath when I cured the lame,  
The holy people said it was a shame;  
They whipped and they stripped and they hung me high;  
And they left me there on a cross to die.  
  
I danced on a Friday and the sky turned black;  
It’s hard to dance with the devil on your back;  
They buried my body and they thought I’d gone,  
But I am the dance and I still go on.  
  
They cut me down and I leapt up high,  
I am the life that’ll never, never die;  
I’ll live in you if you’ll live in me;  
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.

**The Eucharistic Prayer**

Priest: The Lord is here

**All: His Spirit is with us**

Priest: Lift up your hearts

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

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

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

*The priest then recounts some of the wonderful acts of God in our world. The Sanctus and Benedictus may be said:*

**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.**

Priest: Great is the mystery of faith:

All: Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.

*After the Eucharistic Prayer, we say the Lord’s Prayer:*

Priest: Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour taught us

**All: Our Father...**

*In silence, the priest breaks the consecrated host for Communion. He then says:*

Priest: The gifts of God for the people of God

**All: Jesus Christ is holy,**

**Jesus Christ is Lord,**

**to the glory of God the Father. Amen**

*If you are confirmed, or have been admitted to Communion, you may now receive the bread and wine; otherwise, the priest will give you God’s blessing.*

**Going out**

*All say together the final prayer*

**All: Almighty God,**

**we offer you our souls and bodies**

**to be a living sacrifice**

**through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Send us out in the power of your Spirit**

**to live and work to your praise and glory.**

**Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

*The priest gives God’s blessing before sending us out into the world:*

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness, to deny yourselves, take up your cross and follow him; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen

Priest: Let us live in peace, loving and serving the Lord

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

Prayer One

The Lord is here  
***All* His Spirit is with us.**

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 always right to give you thanks, God our Creator, loving and faithful, holy and strong.

You made us and the whole universe, and filled your world with life.

You sent your Son to live among us, Jesus our Saviour, Mary's child.

He suffered on the cross; he died to save us from our sins; he rose in glory from the dead.

You send your Spirit to bring new life to the world, and clothe us with power from on high.

And so we join the angels to celebrate and sing:

***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.**

Father, on the night before he died, Jesus shared a meal with his friends.

He took the bread, and thanked you. He broke it, and gave it to them, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this to remember me.

After the meal, Jesus took the cup of wine. He thanked you, and gave it to them, saying: Drink this, all of you. This is my blood, the new promise of God's unfailing love. Do this to remember me.

Great is the mystery of faith:  
***All* Christ has died:  
Christ is risen:  
Christ will come again.**

Father, as we bring this bread and wine, and remember his death and resurrection, send your Holy Spirit, that we who share these gifts may be fed by Christ's body and his blood.

Pour your Spirit on us that we may love one another, work for the healing of the earth, and share the good news of Jesus, as we wait for his coming in glory.

For honour and praise belong to you, Father, with Jesus your Son, and the Holy Spirit: one God, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**