



St Margaret's Church

The parish of Oxford Ss Philip & James with St Margaret

All-Age Eucharist for
Harvest Festival
with Baptism of Vita Pennant-Rea



Sunday 5th October 2025

Opening Hymn: 457

The King of Love, my Shepherd is

We Gather Together

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.

Introduction to Baptism

Our Lord Jesus Christ has told us
that to enter the kingdom of heaven
we must be born again of water and the Spirit,
and has given us baptism as the sign and seal of this new birth.
Here we are washed by the Holy Spirit and made clean.
Here we are clothed with Christ,
dying to sin that we may live his risen life.
As children of God, we have a new dignity
and God calls us to fullness of life.

Praise of God *is sung*

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. 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. 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.

Prayer for Today

Let us pray.

Creator God, you made the goodness of the land,
the riches of the sea and the rhythm of the seasons;
as we thank you for the harvest, may we cherish and respect
this planet and its peoples, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Readings

Please sit for the **First Reading**

Psalm 65

Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion;
to you that answer prayer shall vows be paid.
To you shall all flesh come to confess their sins;
when our misdeeds prevail against us, you will purge them away.
Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell
there.
We shall be satisfied with the blessings of your house, even of your
holy temple.
With wonders you will answer us in your righteousness, O God of our
salvation,
O hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas.
In your strength you set fast the mountains and are girded about with
might.
You still the raging of the seas, the roaring of their waves
and the clamour of the peoples.
Those who dwell at the ends of the earth tremble at your marvels;
the gates of the morning and evening sing your praise.
You visit the earth and water it; you make it very plenteous. The river
of God is full of water; you prepare grain for your people, for so you
provide for the earth.
You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;
you soften the ground with showers and bless its increase.

You crown the year with your goodness, and your paths overflow with plenty. May the pastures of the wilderness flow with goodness and the hills be girded with joy.

May the meadows be clothed with flocks of sheep and the valleys stand so thick with corn that they shall laugh and sing.

For the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual hymn:

For the fruits of all Creation (t. 245 in NEH)

**For the fruit of all creation,
thanks be to God.**

**gifts bestowed on every nation,
thanks be to God.**

**For the ploughing, sowing, reaping,
silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safekeeping,
thanks be to God.**

**In the just reward of labour,
God's will is done.
In the help we give our neighbour,
God's will is done.**

**In our worldwide task of caring
for the hungry and despairing,
in the harvests we are sharing,
God's will is done.**

**For the harvests of the Spirit,
thanks be to God.**

**For the good we all inherit,
thanks be to God.**

**For the wonders that astound us,
for the truths that still confound us,
most of all that love has found us,
thanks be to God.**

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Please sit for the **First Reading**

Galatians 6:8-10

Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow. If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh; but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit. So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest-time, if we do not give up. So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith.

For the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand for the **Gospel**

All **♪ Alleluia, alleluia.**

Lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are ripe for harvesting.
Gather the fruit for eternal life.

All **♪ Alleluia, alleluia.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

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

Matthew 13.31-2

Jesus put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Please sit for the **Talk**

Presentation of Candidate

Vita is presented to the congregation by her parents and godparents.

The president addresses the whole congregation:

Jesus said, 'Let the children come to me. Do not stop them'.

We thank God for Vita who has come to be baptised today. Christ loves her and welcomes her into the Church.

So, I ask you all:

Will you support Vita as she begins her journey of faith?

All **We will.**

Will you help her to live and grow within God's family?

All **We will.**

Godparents, will you do all that you can to help and support Rory and Rosie in the bringing up of Vita?

With the help of God, we will.

God knows each of us by name and we are his. Parents and godparents, you speak for Vita today. Will you pray for her, and help her to follow Christ?

We will.

The Decision

The president addresses the child through their parents and godparents.

We all wander far from God and lose our way: Christ comes to find us and welcomes us home. In baptism we respond to his call.

Therefore I ask: do you turn away from sin?

I do.

Do you reject evil?

I do.

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

I do.

Do you trust in him as Lord?

I do.

Signing with the Cross

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

Do not be ashamed of Christ. You are his for ever.

All **Stand bravely with him
against all the powers of evil,
and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.**

May almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness,
and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ.

All **Amen.**

Prayer over the Water

Praise God who made heaven and earth,
All **who keeps his promise for ever.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Profession of Faith

Friends, I ask you to affirm together the faith of the Church.

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

All **I 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 **I 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 **I 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.**

Baptism

The president baptises saying

Vita Vivienne, I baptise you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

The president anoints the candidate.

The Commission

We have brought Vita to baptism knowing that Jesus lived, died and rose for her and trusting in the promises of God. As she grows up, she will need the help and encouragement of the Christian community, so that she may learn to know God and God's love for her and to explore her own faith.

Vita, today God has touched you with his love
and given you a place among God's people.
God promises to be with you in joy and in sorrow,
to be your guide in life,
and to bring you safely to heaven.
In baptism God invites you on a life-long journey.
Together with all God's people
to explore the way of Jesus
and grow in friendship with God,
in love for God's people, and in serving others.
With us you will listen to the word of God
and receive the gifts of God.

Water from the font is sprinkled over the people.

May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith,
that you may be rooted and grounded in love
and bring forth the fruit of the Spirit.

All **Amen.**

We return from the font for **The Welcome and Peace**

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

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

The peace is introduced by the president

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Opening Hymn: 262

We plough the fields and scatter

Please bring up any gifts to the altar.

Blessing of the Gifts

God of the harvest, bless this offering we have to set before you
Bless those who grew, prepared and transported this food,
And may your blessing rest on those who will receive it.
In the name of the father, and of the son and of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

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.**

Lord of all life,
you created the universe,
where all living things reflect your glory.
You give us this great and beautiful earth,
to discover and to cherish.
You give us living water
That all may be renewed,
And we may live in hope.
And you give us at this table,
Your very self in bread and wine.
In these we taste your kingdom
A feast for all your children.
You made us all,
each wonderfully different,
to join with the angels
and sing your praise:

All ♪ **Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts,
heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord most high.
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

We thank you, loving Father,
because, when we turned away,
you sent Jesus, your Son.
He gave his life for us on the cross
and shows us the way to live.

Send your Holy Spirit
that these gifts of bread and wine
may be for us Christ's body and his blood.
On the night before he died,
when darkness had fallen,
Jesus took bread.
He gave thanks, broke it,
and shared it with his disciples, saying:
'This is my body, given for you.
Do this to remember me.'

After they had eaten, he took the cup of wine,
gave thanks, and shared it with his disciples, saying:
'This is my blood, poured out for you and for many,
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this to remember me.'

Great is the mystery of faith

All **Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

So Father, with this bread and this cup
we celebrate his love, his death, his risen life.
As you feed us with these gifts,
send your Holy Spirit,
and change us more and more
to be like Jesus our Saviour.
Help us, Father, to love one another,
as we look forward to that day
when suffering is ended,
and all creation is gathered in your loving arms.
And now with Margaret, Philip, James all your saints we give you
glory,
through Jesus Christ,
in the strength of the Spirit,
today and for ever.

All **Amen.**

Silence is kept.

The Lord's Prayer

All **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.**

Breaking of the Bread

The president breaks the consecrated 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.**

The Agnus Dei is used as the bread is broken.

All **♪ O Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world, have mercy
upon us. O Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world, have
mercy upon us. O Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the
world, grant us peace.**

Giving of Communion

All **God's holy gifts, for God's holy people.
Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

Communion Anthem

Ubi Caritas, Ola Gjeilo

Where charity and love are, God is there

Prayer after Communion

Lord of the harvest, with joy we have offered thanksgiving for your
love in creation
and have shared in the bread and the wine of the kingdom:
by your grace plant within us a reverence for all that you give us
and make us generous and wise stewards
of the good things we enjoy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Notices

Giving of a Lighted Candle

God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness
and has given us a place with the saints in light. *Vita* you have
received the light of Christ; walk in this light all the days of your life.

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

Closing Hymn: 333

All my hope on God is founded

The Blessing

May God our creator,
who clothes the lilies and feeds the birds of the air,
bestow on you his care and increase the harvest of your
righteousness;

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

All **Amen.**

The Dismissal

Freely you have received, freely give.
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

Notices

As work on the church continues, please take extra care and respect the cordoned off areas

Worship and faith planning group meeting on Tue 30 Sep, open to all on the electorall roll: talk to Daniel.

URGENT: Scientists – would you be prepared to talk to Year 6 pupils about faith and science? Talk to Eva.

Call for small glass or plastic bottles - talk to Eva.

First Communion classes for children aged 7+ starting on 15 Oct; admission on 23 Nov. Talk to Daniel.

Tea & Talks at SMI: Wed 1 Oct 1:45pm talk on crystals. Entry £2.

Daily Prayer:

- Morning Prayer

Tue-Fri 8:30am at the Vicarage

- Individual quiet prayer

Mon-Fri 12-2pm at St Giles'

Services on Sunday 5 October

8:00am – **BCP Communion** (St Giles')

10:30am – **Parish Eucharist**

6:30pm – **Choral Evensong** (St Giles')

More at: www.StGilesStMargarets.org

Prayer Requests

Sick: Julia, Caroline, Christina, Rosemary

Year's Mind:

5th Jack Faber (2015)

6th Michael Blackler (2012)

10th Doulas Woolston (2003)

11th Richard Branton (2005)

Prayer Diary

Monday - Clergy and Leaders

Tuesday - Ss Philip and James
Primary School

Wednesday - Community and Elderly
work

Thursday - The work of the St
Margaret's Institute

Friday - Children and Families work

Saturday - St Giles' Church and the
work of the Gatehouse

Please Support Our Church

The work of St Margaret's is largely funded by donations from members of the congregation and the public – we receive no funding from national or local government, nor the Church of England at national or diocesan level.

You can donate through the link here:



bit.ly/3yuuQva