

Saint Thomas's Church

The Baptism of Our Lord

Sunday, January 7, 2024

Sung Mass at 9:30 am



The Baptism of Christ, Grigory Grigorievich Gagarin, c. 1840-1850
Russian State Library, Moscow

Saint Thomas's Anglican Church

383 Huron Street,

Toronto, Ontario M5S 2G5

416-979-2323

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Welcome!

On behalf of everyone who claims St. Thomas's as their spiritual home, we are happy you are with us, whether in person or via our livestream. If you are a visitor or newcomer, or even a longtime parishioner, but find it awkward or difficult to stand or kneel at the places indicated, remaining seated is perfectly acceptable. Please assume the posture most conducive to prayer throughout this service, or simply observe.

St. Thomas's has many peculiar ways that we cherish and are happy to share. If there seems to be no rhyme or reason for something, there might not be! But feel free to ask anyone after the service; it usually makes for entertaining conversation.

You are not obliged to engage any of us in conversation, though you should know that pretty much everyone here is happy to do so when we gather. You can always slip away without any judgement, though we hope you will avail yourself of **coffee hour in the parish hall** following this service, if possible. We seem to have a lot of introverts here, so we understand the energy it takes to put yourself out there. Even if you're a raging extrovert, the experience of church can be disorienting. Relax and be yourself. Believe it or not, whether from near or far, God has led you here today. We want to honour what God is up to in your life, and we are here for you as you (re-) discover the joy and the challenge of the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Fr. Nathan Humphrey, Rector

Low gluten communion hosts are available upon request. When you approach for communion, indicate to the priest that you require a low gluten host.



St. Thomas's relies on the generosity of those whose offerings reflect gratitude for God's own generosity to us. To make a secure gift online, simply scan the QR code with your phone's camera app, or visit qrco.de/smokytoms. Scroll to the bottom of the webpage to fill out the online form. **We no longer pass the plate, so if you want to give the old-fashioned way, an alms basin is available in the narthex.**

Celebrant: Fr. Nathan Humphrey
Homilist: The Rev'd Sr. Constance Joanna Gefvert, SSJD
Reader: John Stuart
Organist & Choirmaster: Elizabeth Anderson
Assistant Organist & Choirmaster: Manuel Piazza

MUSIC OF THE MASS

Community Mass, Richard Proulx (1937-2010)

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with you all.

And also with you.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, **to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you 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.**

The People and Choir sing:

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO

Glo - ry to God in the
high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth. Lord God, heav - en - ly

king, al - migh - ty God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we

give you thanks, we praise you for_ your glo - ry.

p
Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on

us; you are_ seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther:

re - ceive our pray'r, re - ceive, re - ceive our pray'r.

f
For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a -

lone_ are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus

Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.

A - - - men. A - - - men._____

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed him to be your Son, anointing him with the Holy Spirit, keep your children, born of water and the Spirit, faithful to their calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The People sit.

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 1.1-5

A reading from the book of Genesis.

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 29

The Choir sings the Refrain, which is repeated by the People. The Choir then sings the verses, and all repeat the Refrain where indicated.



Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. *Refrain.*

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; the Lord is upon the mighty waters. The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice; the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendour. *Refrain.*

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon; He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox. The voice of the Lord splits the flames of fire; the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh. The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare. And in the temple of the Lord all are crying, "Glory!" *Refrain.*

The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; the Lord sits enthroned as king for evermore. The Lord shall give strength to his people; the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace. *Refrain.*

SECOND LESSON

Acts 19.1-7

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the inland regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. He said to them, 'Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?' They replied, 'No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.' Then he said, 'Into what then were you baptized?' They answered, 'Into John's baptism.' Paul said, 'John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus.' On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came

upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied - altogether there were about twelve of them.

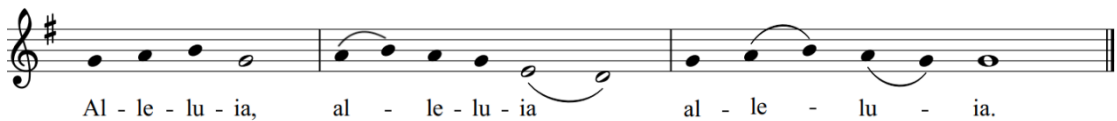
The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The People stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The Cantor sings the Alleluias, which are repeated by the People. The Cantor then sings the verse, and all repeat the Alleluias.



Verse: A voice came from heaven, saying, “This is my beloved Son with whom I am well pleased.” *Repeat Alleluias.*

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 1.4-11

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Mark.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, ‘The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.’

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The People sit.

SERMON

After the Sermon, the People remain seated for a period of silent reflection, standing when the Celebrant stands.

THE NICENE CREED

Let us confess our faith, as we say,

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, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: *(Bow.)* by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. *(Rise.)*

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with 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. 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.

The People remain standing.

INTERCESSIONS

Celebrant: Sisters and Brothers in Christ, let us respond to the exhortation to rejoice always and pray without ceasing for the needs of all humanity.

For the Church in the world, _____ in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, _____ in the Diocesan Cycle, for all who proclaim the word of truth, Andrew, Riscylla, and Kevin our bishops, and for those who worship, volunteer and minister in our church, let us ask the infinite wisdom of Christ. *(Silence.)*

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

For all who have consecrated their lives to the kingdom of God, those with anniversaries of baptism or ordination this week _____, for all struggling to follow the way of Christ and for whom we are asked to pray _____ let us ask the gifts of the life-giving Spirit. *(Silence.)*

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Guide, bless and protect those who live in the shadow of war, in particular Palestine, Israel, Ukraine, Sudan; for our country, province, city; those affected by weather-related disasters, for all who suffer from prejudice, unrest or calamity, deliver this world and delay no longer. *(Silence.)*

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

For scholars and researchers, for medical care-givers, that their work may comfort the sick named today _____ let us ask the light and love of the Lord. For all care-givers, volunteers of the Friday Food Ministry and food banks in the world, that their work may benefit those who suffer from lack. Help us Lord that we may honour one another and place the common good before personal gains. *(Silence.)*

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We give thanks for the people, neighbours and friends of this parish, those who are with us in person or via livestream, and for newcomers and visitors this morning. [We give thanks especially on this day for _____.] And for other thanksgivings we now name, silently or aloud _____. *(Silence.)*

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

I ask your prayers for the souls of the departed, especially _____ who have died in recent days, and on their year's mind for _____, that they may share with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed Thomas, and all the saints in God's eternal kingdom. *(Silence.)*

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Celebrant: Lord, help us be mindful of the blessings already present in our lives, and look with hope and gratitude towards the grace that awaits us in the eternal kingdom. **Amen.**

INVITATION, CONFESSION, & ABSOLUTION

Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; he welcomes sinners and invites them to his table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

The People bow or kneel. Silence is kept.

Most merciful God, **we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as**

ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.

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

THE PEACE

All standing, the Celebrant bids the Peace.

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

The People remain standing for the hymn during the Offertory.

OFFERTORY HYMN 96

Songs of thankfulness and praise

All 1 Songs of thankfulness and praise,
Jesu, Lord, to thee we raise,
Manifested by the star
To the sages from afar;
Branch of royal David's stem
In thy birth at Bethlehem;
Anthems be to thee address,
God in Man made manifest.

Upper 2 Manifest at Jordan's stream,
Voices Prophet, Priest, and King supreme;
And at Cana wedding-guest
In thy Godhead manifest;
Manifest in power divine,
Changing water into wine;
Anthems be to thee address,
God in Man made manifest.

All 3 Manifest in making whole
Palsied limbs and fainting soul;
Manifest in valiant fight,
Quelling all the devil's might;
Manifest in gracious will,
Ever bringing good from ill;
Anthems be to thee address,
God in Man made manifest.

Lower 4 Sun and moon shall darkened be,
Voices Stars shall fall, the heavens shall flee;
Christ will then like lightning shine,
All will see his glorious sign;
All will then the trumpet hear,
All will see the Judge appear;
Thou by all wilt be confest,
God in Man made manifest.

All 5 Grant us grace to see thee, Lord,
Mirrored in thy holy Word;
May we imitate thee now,
And be pure, as pure art thou;
That we like to thee may be
At thy great Epiphany;
And may praise thee, ever blest,
God in Man made manifest.

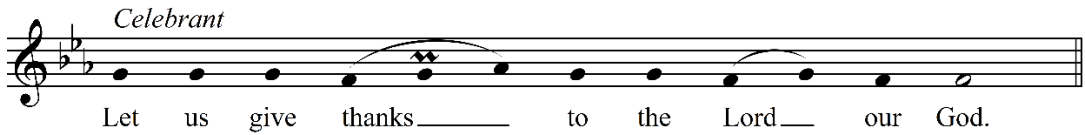
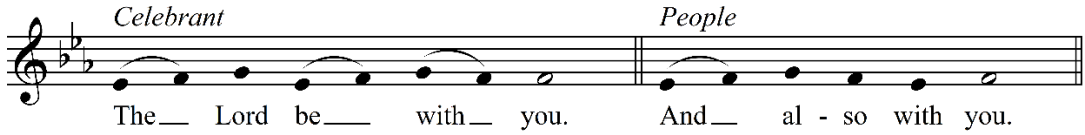
SALZBURG
Jakob Hintze (1678)

Bishop Christopher Wordsworth, 1862

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

God of life and freedom, we celebrate the revelation of Jesus as the Christ who makes all creation new. Accept all we offer you this day and make us new in him, who is Lord for ever and ever. **Amen.**

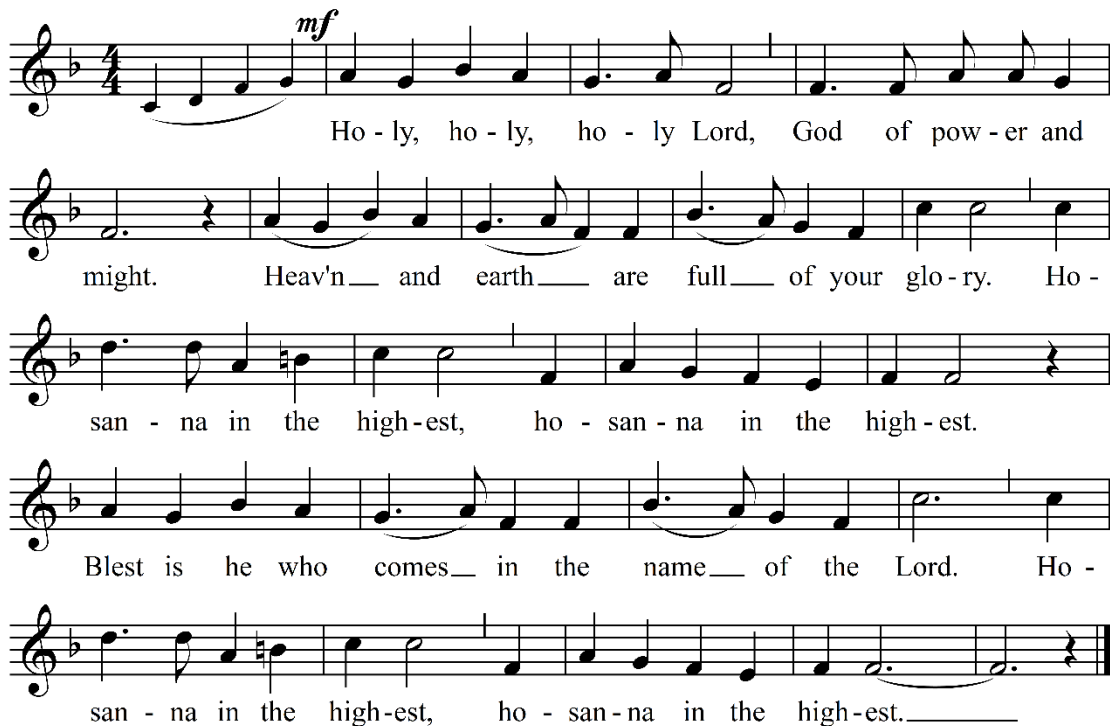
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; you have revealed your eternal plan of salvation, and have shown your Son Jesus Christ to be the light of all peoples. Therefore with angels and archangels we raise our voices in joyful praise to proclaim the glory of your name.

The People and Choir sing,

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS



mf

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might. Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

The People remain standing.

We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love you have made known to us in creation; in calling Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, a death he freely accepted, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "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. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, Father, according to his command:

**We remember his death,
we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory.**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts, that they may be the sacrament of the body of Christ and his blood of the new covenant.

Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we, made acceptable in him, may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ, and make them new, and bring us to that city of light where you dwell with all your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Music by McNeil Robinson

Celebrant *People*

As our Sa - viour taught us, let us pray, Our Fa - ther in heav - en,
hal - lowed be your name, your king - dom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heav - en. Give us to - day our dai - ly bread, For - give us our sins
as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of trial,
and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow - er,
and the glo - ry are ___ yours, now and for ev - er. A - men.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.

God here among us, light in the midst of us, bring us to light and life.

HOLY COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

The People and Choir sing:

AGNUS DEI

mp
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the
world, have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sins of the world, grant us — peace.

COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS

All baptized Christians are warmly invited to receive Communion as directed by the Sidespeople. Please receive the host (bread) on the right palm of the hand (supported underneath by the left palm). To receive the cup, gently guide with your hand the base of the chalice. Please refrain from intinction (dipping the host into the cup), as diocesan policy does not allow us to do so.

Low gluten communion hosts are available upon request. When you approach for communion indicate to the priest that you require a low gluten host.

If you have not been baptized or are not receiving communion, please cross your arms over your chest in the shape of an X to receive a blessing. If you are not receiving from the cup, please pause to reverence it with a bow before returning to your pew.

If you wish to inquire about baptism for yourself or your child, we would love to speak with you!

MOTET

Tomorrow shall be my dancing day
Arranged by Martin Shaw (1875-1958)

Tomorrow shall be my dancing day: I would my true love did so chance to see the legend of my play, to call my true love to my dance: *Sing O my love, O my love, my love, my love; this have I done for my true love.* Then was I born of a virgin pure, of her I took fleshly substance; thus was I knit to man's nature, to call my true love to my dance: *Sing O my love...* In a manger laid and wrapp'd I was, so very poor, this was my chance, betwixt an ox and a silly poor ass, to call my true love to my dance: *Sing O my love...* Then afterwards baptized I was; The Holy Ghost on me did glance, My Father's voice heard from above, to call my true love to my dance: *Sing O my love, O my love, my love, my love; this have I done for my true love.*

(English traditional carol)

COMMUNION DEVOTIONS

An Act of Spiritual Communion, which may be prayed silently by those not receiving:

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament. And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I humbly ask you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to you, and embrace you with all the affections of my soul. Let me never be separated from you. Let me live and die in your love. Amen.

ANIMA CHRISTI

The following devotion may be prayed silently by communicants and non-communicants.

Soul of Christ, sanctify me.
Body of Christ, save me.
Blood of Christ, inebriate me.
Water from the side of Christ, wash me.
Passion of Christ, strengthen me.
O good Jesu, hear me.
Within thy wounds hide me.
Suffer me not to be separated from thee.
From the malicious enemy defend me.
In the hour of my death call me.
And bid me come to thee,
That with thy saints I may praise thee,
For ever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Gracious God, lover of all, by this sacrament you make us one family in Christ your Son, one in the sharing of his body and blood, one in the communion of his Spirit. Help us to grow in love for one another and come to the full maturity of the Body of Christ. We ask this in his name. **Amen.**

DOXOLOGY

Glory to God,
whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.

BLESSING

The peace of God which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God almighty, the ✠ Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

CONCLUDING HYMN 479

Spirit Divine, attend our prayers

All 1 Spirit Divine, attend our prayers,
And make this house thy home;
Descend with all thy gracious powers,
O come, great Spirit, come.

Upper 2 Come as the light; to us reveal
Voices Our emptiness and woe:
And lead us in those paths of life,
Where all the righteous go.

- Lower* 3 Come as the fire, and purge our hearts
Voices Like sacrificial flame;
Let our whole soul an offering be
To our Redeemer's Name.
- All* 4 Come as the dew, and sweetly bless
This consecrated hour;
May barrenness rejoice to own
Thy fertilizing power.
- All* 5 Spirit Divine, attend our prayers;
Make a lost world thy home;
Descend with all thy gracious powers,
O come, great Spirit, come.

GRÄFENBURG
Johann Crüger, 1653

Rev. Andrew Reed, 1829

Coffee Hour follows this service in the Parish Hall.

Please join us at 5:00 pm for our Procession with Epiphany Carols during the course of Evensong & Benediction. This service will be followed by a small reception.

*The Altar flowers are given to the honour and glory of Almighty God.
In memory of Robert Gordon and Kathryn Wilma Alice Gordon, and their children
Kathryn Alice Agnes Gordon Tulk and Roberta Holmes Gordon McEachern;*

and

*Those at the Lady Altar in loving memory of Sarah and Harold Millar,
by their granddaughter Charis Kelso.*

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