



Saint Ninian, flanked by a layman (L) and winged angel holding a chalice-like object (R).  
From a 15<sup>th</sup> century Scottish Book of Hours, the *Hours of the Virgin and of Saint Ninian*  
University of Edinburgh Western Medieval Manuscript collection, MS 42  
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## ST. MARY'S SERVICE OF HOLY EUCHARIST

Including a reflection on the life and witness of

NINIAN,  
BISHOP, C. 430

Wednesday, September 16, 2026

<https://godsview.zoom.us/j/81608666258>

### COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant:* God be with you

*People:* ***And also with you.***

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

O God, who by the preaching of your blessed servant and bishop Ninian caused the light of the Gospel to shine in the land of Britain: Grant, we pray, that having his life and labors in remembrance we may show our thankfulness by following the example of his zeal and patience; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

### PSALM 97

*The St. Helena Psalter*

You reign, O God; let the earth rejoice;  
let the multitude of the isles be glad.

Clouds and darkness are round about you;  
righteousness and justice are the foundations of your throne.

A fire goes before you  
and burns up your enemies on every side.

Your lightnings light up the world;  
the earth sees it and is afraid.

The mountains melt like wax at your presence, O God,  
at your presence, O God of the whole earth.

The heavens declare your righteousness,  
and all the peoples see your glory.

Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight in false gods!  
Let all gods bow down before you.

Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice,  
because of your judgments, O God.

For you are God, most high over all the earth;  
you are exalted far above all gods.

You love those who hate evil;  
you preserve the lives of your saints and deliver them from the hand of the wicked.

Light has sprung up for the righteous  
and joyful gladness for those who are truehearted.

Rejoice in God, you righteous,  
and give thanks to God's holy Name.

## THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 28:16-20

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'

The Word of the Lord

*People: Thanks be to God.*

## REMEMBERING NINIAN

The dates of Ninian's life, and the exact extent of his work, are much disputed. The earliest, and possibly the best, account is the brief one in Bede's Ecclesiastical History.

Ninian was a Romanized Briton, born in the latter half of the fourth century in southern Scotland. He is said to have been educated in Rome and to have received ordination as a bishop. But the main influence on his life was Martin of Tours, with whom he spent some time, and from whom he gained his ideals of an episcopal-monastic structure designed for missionary work.

Around the time of Martin's death in 397, Ninian established his base at a place called Candida Casa ("White House") or Whithorn in Galloway, which he dedicated to Martin. Traces of place names and church dedications suggest that his work covered the Solway Plains and the Lake District of England. Ninian seems also to have converted many of the Picts of northern Scotland, as far north as the Moray Firth.

Ninian, together with Patrick, is one of the links of continuity between the ancient Roman-British Church and the developing Celtic Christianity of Ireland and Scotland.

## PRAYERS

*Prayers may be offered, silently or aloud.*

## HOLY EUCHARIST

Form A (*Enriching Our Worship*, p. 65)

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* ***And also with you.***

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* ***We lift them to the Lord.***

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* ***It is right to give God thanks and praise.***

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth, for the wonderful grace and virtue declared in all your saints, who have been the chosen vessels of your grace, and the lights of the world in their generations.

And so we join the saints and angels in proclaiming your glory, as we say,

*Celebrant and People*

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.***

***Hosanna in the highest.***

***Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.***

***Hosanna in the highest.***

And so, Loving God, we who have been redeemed by Christ, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.*

On the night before he died for us, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

*The Celebrant then continues*

We now celebrate, O God, the memorial of Christ our Savior. By means of this holy bread and cup, we show forth the sacrifice of Christ's death, and proclaim the resurrection, until Christ comes in glory. Gather us by this Holy Communion into one body in the Risen One, and make us a living sacrifice of praise. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

And now, in the words Christ taught us, we are bold to pray, saying,

*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, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.*

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

*Eternal and Life-Giving God, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

## **BLESSING**

## **THE PEACE**