



The Parish Churches of S Philip and S
Augustine and S Matthew with S Mary the
Virgin Newcastle

The Office
for the
Nativity of
Saint John the
Baptist
for use at home

Notes

If you say evensong on the Saturday evening before Trinity Sunday, you should use this order.

When reciting the office privately, you should move your lips with the words to ensure that your eyes do not just mindlessly move along the text.

Usually, people sit (or kneel) to recite the office privately – in front of a Crucifix, if possible. Some people may choose to light a candle.

The sign of the Cross made at, “ O Lord, open &c) is generally made on the lips with the thumb to seek a blessing on the words of our prayer.

The Responsory is provided in full, but if you are reciting it alone, you can omit the lines in blue.

The booklet is provided in two forms. Some will prefer to read it from their electronic toy; others may need to print it out. Hopefully the booklet format will let you do just that. Please save the file to your hard disk. Other booklets will be sent as and when the Liturgical season requires.

Intercessions will also be circulated so that we can pray for the same thing each day.

The **Te Deum** is said at one office on Sundays, preferably in the morning.

Angelus

The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.
And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with Thee; Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen

Behold the handmaid of the Lord.
Be it done unto me according to thy word.

Hail Mary. . .

And the Word was made flesh.
And dwelt among us.

Hail Mary. . .

Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.
That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts, that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ Thy Son was made known by the message of an angel, may by His + Cross and Passion be brought to the glory of His Resurrection. Through the same Christ Our Lord. Amen.

The Office

+ O Lord, open thou our lips.
And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.
+ O God, make speed to save us.
O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world
without end. Amen.

Praise ye the Lord.
The Lord's Name be praised.

*At Mattins, there follows the **Venite** with its antiphon:*

*Antiphon: John proclaimed the Lamb of God: O come, let us
adore Him.*

O come, let us sing unto the Lord :
let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation.
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving :
and show ourselves glad in him with psalms.

Antiphon

For the Lord is a great God :
and a great King above all gods.
In his hand are all the corners of the earth :
and the strength of the hills is his also.

Antiphon

The Office Hymn follows:

On this high feast day honour we the Baptist,
Greatest and last of Israel's line of prophets,
Kinsman of Jesus, herald of salvation,
Chosen forerunner.

Lo, from the heavens Gabriel descending,
Brings to thy father tidings of thy coming,
Telling thy name, and all thy life's high calling
Duly announcing.

When Zechariah doubted what was told him,
Dumbness assailed him, sealing firm the promise,
Till, at thy naming, lo, his voice resounded
Loud in God's praises.

Greater art thou than all the sons of Adam,
Lowly in spirit, faithfully proclaiming
Israel's Messiah, Jesus our Redeemer,
Thus we exalt thee.

Father eternal, Son and Holy Spirit,
God everlasting, hear Thy people's praises;
Let saints on earth with all the saints in glory,
Ever adore Thee.

There follow:

The Psalm:

(50) THE Lord, even the most mighty God, hath spoken : and called the world, from the rising up of the sun unto the going down thereof.

2 Out of Sion hath God appeared : in perfect beauty.

3 Our God shall come, and shall not keep silence: there shall go before him a consuming fire, and a mighty tempest shall be stirred up round about him.

4 He shall call the heaven from above : and the earth, that he may judge his people.

5 Gather my saints together unto me : those that have made a covenant with me with sacrifice.

6 And the heavens shall declare his righteousness : for God is Judge himself.

7 Hear, O my people, and I will speak : I myself will testify against thee, O Israel; for I am God, even thy God.

8 I will not reprove thee because of thy sacrifices, or for thy burnt-offerings : because they were not alway before me.

9 I will take no bullock out of thine house : nor he-goat out of thy folds.

10 For all the beasts of the forest are mine : and so are the cattle upon a thousand hills.

11 I know all the fowls upon the mountains : and the wild beasts of the field are in my sight.

12 If I be hungry, I will not tell thee : for the whole world is mine, and all that is therein.

13 Thinkest thou that I will eat bulls' flesh : and drink the blood of goats?

14 Offer unto God thanksgiving : and pay thy vows unto the most Highest.

15 And call upon me in the time of trouble : so will I hear thee, and thou shalt praise me.

16 But unto the ungodly said God : Why dost thou preach my laws, and takest my covenant in thy mouth;

17 Whereas thou hatest to be reformed : and hast cast my words behind thee?

18 When thou sawest a thief, thou consentedst unto him : and hast been partaker with the adulterers.

19 Thou hast let thy mouth speak wickedness : and with thy tongue thou hast set forth deceit.

20 Thou satest, and spakest against thy brother : yea, and hast slandered thine own mother's son.

21 These things hast thou done, and I held my tongue, and thou thoughtest wickedly, that I am even such a one as thyself : but I will reprove thee, and set before thee the things that thou hast done.

22 O consider this, ye that forget God : lest I pluck you away, and there be none to deliver you.

23 Whoso offereth me thanks and praise, he honoureth me : and to him that ordereth his conversation right will I shew the salvation of God.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

The Reading

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Jeremiah.

In the days of Josiah, the word of the LORD came to me saying, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations." Then I said, "Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, I do not know how to speak, for I am only a youth." But the LORD said to me, "Do not say, 'I am only a youth'; for to all to whom I send you you shall go, and whatever I command you you shall speak. Be not afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the LORD." Then the LORD put forth his hand and touched my mouth; and the LORD said to me, "Behold, I have put my words in your mouth. See, I have set you this day over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to break down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant."

The Responsory

He shall be great in the sight of God.

He shall be great in the sight of God.

He shall prepare a way before the Lord.

He shall be great in the sight of God.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;

He shall be great in the sight of God.

*At Mattins, there follows the **Benecticus**:*

Antiphon:

Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and he prophesied saying, Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel.

+ Blessed be the Lord God of Israel : for he hath visited and redeemed his people;

And hath raised up a mighty salvation for us : in the house of his servant David;

As he spake by the mouth of his holy Prophets : which have been since the world began;

That we should be saved from our enemies : and from the hand of all that hate us.

To perform the mercy promised to our forefathers : and to remember his holy Covenant;

To perform the oath which he sware to our forefather Abraham : that he would give us;

That we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies : might serve him without fear;

In holiness and righteousness before him : all the days of our life.

And thou, Child, shalt be called the Prophet of the Highest : for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways; To give knowledge of salvation unto his people : for the remission of their sins,

Through the tender mercy of our God : whereby the day-spring from on high hath visited us;

To give light to them that sit in darkness, and in the shadow of death : and to guide our feet into the way of peace. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son : and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be : world without end. Amen.

Antiphon

*At Evensong, there follows the **Magnificat**:*

Antiphon:

When Zechariah went into the Temple, there appeared unto him the Angel Gabriel, standing on the right side of the Altar of incense.

+ MY soul doth magnify the Lord : and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

For he hath regarded : the lowliness of his hand-maiden.

For behold, from henceforth : all generations shall call me blessed.

For he that is mighty hath magnified me : and holy is his Name.

And his mercy is on them that fear him : throughout all generations.

He hath shewed strength with his arm : he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

He hath put down the mighty from their seat : and hath exalted the humble and meek.

He hath filled the hungry with good things : and the rich he hath sent empty away.

He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel : as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed, for ever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son : and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be : world without end. Amen.

Antiphon

The office continues:

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth:
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
Born of the Virgin Mary,
Suffered under Pontius Pilate,
Was crucified, dead, and buried:
He descended into hell;
The third day he rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven,
And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost;
The holy Catholick Church;
The Communion of Saints;
The Forgiveness of sins;
The Resurrection of the body,
+ And the Life everlasting. Amen.

Let us pray.
Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father, which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. Amen.

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.

And grant us thy salvation.

O Lord, save the Queen.

And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.

And make thy chosen people joyful.

O Lord, save thy people.

And bless thine inheritance.

Give peace in our time, O Lord.

Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.

O God, make clean our hearts within us.

And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

*There follows the **Collect of the Day**:*

Almighty God, by Whose providence Thy servant John Baptist was wonderfully born, and sent to prepare the way of Thy Son our Saviour, by preaching of repentance: Make us so to follow his doctrine and holy life, that we may truly repent according to his preaching, and after his example constantly speak the truth, boldly rebuke vice and patiently suffer for the Truth's sake; through the same Thy Son Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the same Holy Ghost, God, throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

At Mattins:

O God, Who art the Author of peace and Lover of concord, in knowledge of Whom standeth our eternal life, Whose service is perfect freedom: Defend us Thy humble servants in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in Thy defence, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O Lord our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, Who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this day: Defend us in the same with Thy mighty power; and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger; but that all our doings may be ordered by Thy governance, to do always that is righteous in Thy sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Any intercessions follow and a period of silence

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. Amen.

At Evensong:

O God, from Whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: Give unto Thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that both our hearts may be set to obey Thy commandments, and also that by Thee, we being defended from the fear of our enemies may pass our time in rest and quietness: through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

Lighten our darkness, we beseech Thee, O Lord; and by Thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of Thy only Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

* * *

The Te Deum is said on Sundays and red letter feasts.

WE praise thee, O God : we acknowledge thee to be the Lord.
All the earth doth worship thee : the Father everlasting.
To thee all Angels cry aloud : the heavens, and all the powers therein.

To thee Cherubin and Seraphin : continually do cry,
Holy, Holy, Holy : Lord God of Sabaoth;
Heaven and earth are full of the Majesty : of thy glory.

The glorious company of the Apostles : praise thee.

The goodly fellowship of the Prophets : praise thee.

The noble army of Martyrs : praise thee.

The holy Church throughout all the world : doth acknowledge thee;

The Father : of an infinite Majesty;

Thine honourable, true : and only Son;

Also the Holy Ghost : the Comforter.

(continued over the page)

Thou art the King of Glory : O Christ.
Thou art the everlasting Son : of the Father.
When thou tookest upon thee to deliver man : thou didst not
abhor the Virgin's womb.
When thou hadst overcome the sharpness of death : thou didst
open the kingdom of heaven to all believers.
Thou sittest at the right hand of God : in the glory of the
Father.
We believe that thou shalt come : to be our Judge.
We therefore pray thee, help thy servants : whom thou hast
redeemed with thy precious blood.
Make them to be numbered with thy Saints : in glory
everlasting.
O Lord, save thy people : and bless thine heritage.
Govern them : and lift them up for ever.
Day by day : we magnify thee;
And we worship thy Name : ever world without end.
Vouchsafe, O Lord : to keep us this day without sin.
O Lord, have mercy upon us : have mercy upon us.
O Lord, let thy mercy lighten upon us : as our trust is in thee.
O Lord, in thee have I trusted : let me never be confounded.

Any intercessions follow and a period of silence

+ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and
the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore.
Amen.