



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

# The Office for the Feast of Saint Stephen for use at home

## Notes

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.

## 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:* Today the Lord crowned His martyr Stephen: O  
come, let us adore Him. Alleluia!

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:*

Saint of God, elect and precious,  
Protomartyr Stephen, bright  
With thy love of amplest measure,  
Shining round thee like a light;  
Who to God commendedst, dying,  
Them that did thee all despite.

Glitters now the crown above thee,  
Figured in thy sacred name;  
O that we, who truly love thee,  
May have portion in the same;  
In the dreadful day of judgement  
Fearing neither sin nor shame.

Laud to God, and might and honour,  
Who with flowers of rosy dye  
Crowned thy forehead, and hath placed thee  
In the starry throne on high:  
He direct us, He protect us  
From death's sting eternally.

*There follow:*

(57) BE merciful unto me, O God, be merciful unto me, for  
my soul trusteth in thee : and under the shadow of thy wings  
shall be my refuge, until this tyranny be over-past.

2 I will call unto the most high God : even unto the God that  
shall perform the cause which I have in hand.

3 He shall send from heaven : and save me from the reproof of  
him that would eat me up.

4 God shall send forth his mercy and truth : my soul is among lions.

5 And I lie even among the children of men, that are set on fire : whose teeth are spears and arrows, and their tongue a sharp sword.

6 Set up thyself, O God, above the heavens : and thy glory above all the earth.

7 They have laid a net for my feet, and pressed down my soul : they have digged a pit before me, and are fallen into the midst of it themselves.

8 My heart is fixed, O God, my heart is fixed : I will sing, and give praise.

9 Awake up, my glory; awake, lute and harp : I myself will awake right early.

10 I will give thanks unto thee, O Lord, among the people : and I will sing unto thee among the nations.

11 For the greatness of thy mercy reacheth unto the heavens : and thy truth unto the clouds.

12 Set up thyself, O God, above the heavens : and thy glory above all the earth.

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.

(86) BOW down thine ear, O Lord, and hear me : for I am poor, and in misery.

2 Preserve thou my soul, for I am holy : my God, save thy servant that putteth his trust in thee.

3 Be merciful unto me, O Lord : for I will call daily upon thee.

4 Comfort the soul of thy servant : for unto thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul.

5 For thou, Lord, art good and gracious : and of great mercy unto all them that call upon thee.

6 Give ear, Lord, unto my prayer : and ponder the voice of my humble desires.

7 In the time of my trouble I will call upon thee : for thou hearest me.

8 Among the gods there is none like unto thee, O Lord : there is not one that can do as thou doest.

9 All nations whom thou hast made shall come and worship thee, O Lord : and shall glorify thy Name.

10 For thou art great, and doest wondrous things : thou art God alone.

11 Teach me thy way, O Lord, and I will walk in thy truth : O knit my heart unto thee, that I may fear thy Name.

12 I will thank thee, O Lord my God, with all my heart : and will praise thy Name for evermore.

13 For great is thy mercy toward me : and thou hast delivered my soul from the nethermost hell.

14 O God, the proud are risen against me : and the congregations of naughty men have sought after my soul, and have not set thee before their eyes.

15 But thou, O Lord God, art full of compassion and mercy : long-suffering, plenteous in goodness and truth.

16 O turn thee then unto me, and have mercy upon me : give thy strength unto thy servant, and help the son of thine handmaid.

17 Shew some token upon me for good, that they who hate me may see it and be ashamed : because thou, Lord, hast holpen me and comforted me.

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.

## A Reading from the Book of the Genesis.

Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, "I have gotten a man with the help of the LORD." And again, she bore his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, and Cain a tiller of the ground. In the course of time Cain brought to the LORD an offering of the fruit of the ground, and Abel brought of the firstlings of his flock and of their fat portions. And the LORD had regard for Abel and his offering, but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell. The LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry, and why has your countenance fallen? If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is couching at the door; its desire is for you, but you must master it." Cain said to Abel his brother, "Let us go out to the field." And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel, and killed him. Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is Abel your brother?" He said, "I do not know; am I my brother's keeper?" And the LORD said, "What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood is crying to me from the ground."

### The Responsory

Thou hast crowned him with glory and honour, O Lord.  
Thou hast crowned him with glory and honour, O Lord.  
And madest him to have dominion of the works of Thy hands.  
Thou hast crowned him with glory and honour, O Lord.  
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;  
Thou hast crowned him with glory and honour, O Lord.

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

*Antiphon:* Behold, I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God. Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.

+ 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:** The heavenly portals are unfolded to Christ's martyr, blessed Stephen. Alleluia!

+ 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**.*

Grant, O Lord, that, in all our sufferings here upon earth, for the testimony of Thy Truth, we may steadfastly look up to Heaven, and, by faith behold the glory that shall be revealed; and, being filled with the Holy Ghost, may learn to love and bless our persecutors, by the example of Thy first Martyr Saint Stephen, who prayed for his murderers to Thee, O blessed Jesu, Who standest at the right hand of God to succour all those that suffer for Thee, our only Mediator and Advocate, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee, in the unity of the 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 need only be said once every day.*

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.