



Saint Matthew's Church
Big Lamp ~ Summerhill Street
Newcastle

**Text of the Mass for the Conception of the BVM (8th December)
2025**

As the priest enters the church, the following is sung:

1. Hail, O star that pointest
Towards the port of Heaven,
Thou to whom as maiden
God for Son was given.

2. When the salutation
Gabriel had spoken,
Peace was shed upon us,
Eva's bonds were broken.

3. Bound by Satan's fetters,
Health and vision needing,
God will aid and light us
At thy gentle pleading.

4. Jesu's tender Mother,
Make thy supplication
Unto Him Who chose thee
At His Incarnation.

5. That, O matchless Maiden,
Passing meek and lowly,
Thy dear Son may make us
Blameless, chaste and holy.

6. So, as now we journey,
Aid our weak endeavour.
Till we gaze on Jesus,
And rejoice for ever.

7. Father, Son and Spirit,
Three in One confessing,
Give we equal glory,
Equal praise and blessing.

Words: C9 Latin
Tr Athelstan Riley 1858 - 1945
Music: Ave Maris Stella
Mode i

+ The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Born of a woman, born under the Law, Christ has redeemed us from the curse of sin: let us confess our sins that He may heal us and set us free.

For the times we have been slow or failed to acknowledge Christ's authority for our lives: Kyrie eleison.

Kyrie eleison.

For the times when we have hidden our discipleship of Christ: Christe eleison.

Christe eleison.

For the times we have been unprepared to serve our Lord: Kyrie eleison.

Kyrie eleison

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

Amen.

I exult for joy in the Lord, my soul rejoices in my God: for He has clothed me with the garment of salvation and robed me in the cloak of justice, like a bride adorned with jewels. I will extol You, O Lord, for You have lifted me up: and have not let my foes rejoice over 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.

I exult for joy &c

*During the **Gloria in excelsis**, the Altar, the symbol of God's Presence, may be honoured with incense.*

Glory be to God on high.

And in earth peace, goodwill towards men.

We praise Thee, we bless Thee,

we worship Thee, we glorify Thee,

we give thanks to Thee for Thy great glory,

O Lord God, heavenly King,

God the Father almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ:

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

that takest away the sins of the world,

have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sins of the world,

receive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right

hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For Thou only art holy, Thou only art the Lord;

Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,

art most high,

+ in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Let us pray:

Almighty and everlasting God, Who stooped to raise fallen humanity through the motherhood of the Blessed Virgin Mary: grant that we, who have seen Your glory revealed in our human nature and Your love made perfect in our weakness, may daily be renewed in Your image and conformed to the pattern of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, Who is alive and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Ghost, God, throughout all ages, world without end.

Amen.

A Reading from the Book of the Genesis.

After Adam had eaten of the tree, the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" And he said, "I heard the sound of thee in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate." Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent beguiled me, and I ate." The LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you above all cattle, and above all wild animals; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel." The man called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all living.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sing to the Lord a new song, ♦ for he has done marvellous things.
His own right hand and his holy arm ♦ have won for him the victory.
The Lord has made known his salvation; ♦ his deliverance has he
openly shown in the sight of the nations.
He has remembered his mercy and faithfulness towards the house of
Israel, ♦ and all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of
our God.
Sound praises to the Lord, all the earth; ♦ break into singing and
make music.

The Gospel book is carried to the Lectern:

Alleluia, alleluia! Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee!
Blessed art thou amongst women. Alleluia!

Christ's Presence in the words of the Gospel may be honoured with incense.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Hail, O favoured one, the Lord is with you!" But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and considered in her mind what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there will be no end." And Mary said to the angel, "How shall this be, since I have no husband?" And the angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. And behold, your kinswoman Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. For with God nothing will be impossible." And Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

A homily may follow.

As Mary obeyed God's will for her to become the Mother of His Son; so let us turn in obedience to Him and lay before Him the needs of the world and the Church:

Your prophet of old foretold a day when a virgin would conceive and bear a son who would be called God-with-us: help us to look forward to Your deliverance and seek the fullness of Your Kingdom: Lord, in Your mercy ... [hear our prayer](#).

Your angel declared to Mary that she was to the Mother of the Saviour: help every Christian person to be open to Your Word and obedient to Your will: Lord, in Your mercy ... [hear our prayer](#).

In Mary, You exalted the lowly and made her the first of all: bless the work of all who strive to protect the weak and vulnerable of our world: Lord, in Your mercy ... [hear our prayer](#).

Mary rejoiced with Elizabeth and sang Your praise, "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord": help us live lives that sing Your praise. Lord, in Your mercy ... [hear our prayer](#).

At the foot of the Cross stood His Mother, and from the Cross she received his lifeless Body in her arms: give comfort and healing to all who suffer and all who watch the suffering of those they love: Lord, in Your mercy ... [hear our prayer](#).

As he held Christ in his arms, Simeon warned Mary that a sword would pierce her soul. Enfold in Your love all who endure abuse and anguish and give them hope: Lord, in Your mercy ... [hear our prayer](#).

The Apostle John saw a vision of a woman in Heaven, robed with the sun: bring us will all who have died to share the joy of Heaven with our Lady and all the saints: Lord, in Your mercy ... [hear our prayer](#).

In union with our Lady, Saint Matthew, Saint Philip, Saint Augustine, Saint Anne, Saint Joachim and all the saints, we pray that the whole world may come to praise and magnify God's holy Name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

God has set His sanctuary in our midst for evermore; and established a covenant of peace.

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

And with thy spirit.

As the bread and wine are brought to the Altar and prepared for the Mass, the following is sung:

Blessed be the Virgin Mary by the Lord, the most high: beyond all women on the earth

Here, while the Cherubim within the veil, adore the blest, life-giving Trinity, we in earth's worship echoing their part, hymn the thrice-holy in their company. So let all earthly cares be laid aside, that we may welcome Him Who draweth nigh, the King of Glory entering His courts, girt by the hidden armies of the sky. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

1. Ye who own the Faith of Jesus
Sing the wonders that were done,
When the love of God the Father
O'er our sin the vict'ry won,
When He made the Virgin Mary
Mother of His only Son.

2. Blessed were the chosen people
Our of whom the Lord did come,
Blessed was the land of promise
Fashioned for His earthly home;
But more blessed far the Mother
She who bare Him in the womb.

(continued over the page)

3. Wherefore let all faithful people
Tell the honour of her name,
Let the Church in her foreshadowed
Part in her thanksgiving claim;
What Christ's Mother sang in gladness
Let Christ's people sing the same.

4. Let us weave our supplications,
She with us and we with her,
For the advancement of the faithful
For each faithful worshipper,
For the doubting, for the sinful
For each heedless wanderer,

5. For the sick and for the aged,
For our dear ones far away,
For the hearts that mourn in secret,
All who need our prayers today,
For the faithful gone before us,
In this Eucharist we pray.

6. With her let us praise the Father,
Praise her Saviour and her Son,
Praise the everlasting Spirit,
Who hath made her ark and throne
With the greatest of God's people
Let us praise the Three in One.

Words: VS Stuckley Coles 1845 – 1929

Adapted RGSD

Music: Grafton

French Tantum Ergo

in Chants Ordinaires d'office Divin Paris 1881

The preparation of the Altar continues; incense may be used to honour the place where Christ will become present. At the end:

Thine, O Lord, is the greatness, the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty. All that is in Heaven and earth is Thine:

All things come of Thee, O Lord, and of Thine own do we give Thee.

Lord our God, Whose servant, the Blessed Virgin Mary, was chosen from the first moment to be the Mother of Your Son, accept our sacrifice and strengthen us to proclaim Christ as Lord of our lives to all the world; we ask this through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The priest begins the great prayer of thanksgiving:

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Lift up your hearts;

We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

It is meet and right so to do.

Father, all powerful and ever-living God,

We do well always and everywhere to give You thanks

As we celebrate the Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Full of Grace, she was to be a worthy mother of Your Son,

Your sign of favour to the Church at its beginning

And the promise of its perfection as the Bride of Christ.

It is our joy to echo her song of thanksgiving

As we contemplate the wonders You have worked

Throughout the world,

Allowing all generations to share the greatness of Your love.

Therefore may our voices be one with the angels of Heaven,

Who rejoice in Your eternal Presence,

As we offer our prayer of adoration,

Evermore praising You and saying:

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 praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command,
send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his Apostles
and, taking bread, he praised you.
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

The priest holds up the consecrated Host for the people to see.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, 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.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

The priest holds up the chalice of consecrated wine for the people to see.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross.
Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection
until he comes in glory.

Dying You destroyed our death, rising You restored our life; Lord
Jesus, come in glory.

(continued over the page)

Lord of all life,
help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.
Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with [*N and*] all the saints
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
By Whom and with Whom and in Whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,
for ever and ever.

Amen.

Instructed by saving precepts and taught by divine example, we are bold
to say:

Our Father,
*Who art in Heaven,
hallowed by 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.*

We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.
*Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.*

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us Thy peace.

The priest holds up the consecrated elements and invites people to receive Holy Communion:

+ Behold the Lamb of God; behold Him, Who takes away the sin of the world; happy are they who are called to His Supper.

Lord, I am not worthy to receive You; but only say the Word and my soul will be healed.

Blessed be the Mother of God, the glory of Jerusalem: the joy of Israel and the honour of our people.

Holy Communion follows.

1. Once, only once, and once for all,
His precious life He gave;
Before the Cross our spirits fall,
And own it strong to save.

2. 'One offering, single and complete,'
With lips and hearts we say;
But what He never can repeat
He shows forth day by day.

3. For, as the Priest of Aaron's line
Within the Holiest stood,
And sprinkled all the mercy-shrine
With sacrificial blood;

(continued over the page)

4. So He Who once atonement wrought,
Our Priest of endless power,
Presents Himself for those He bought
In that dark noontide hour.

5. His Manhood pleads where now it lives
On Heaven's eternal throne,
And where in mystic rite He gives
Its Presence to His own.

6. And so we show Thy Death, O Lord,
Till Thou again appear;
And feel, when we approach Thy board,
We have an altar here.

7. All glory to the Father be,
All glory to the Son,
All glory, Holy Ghost, to Thee,
While endless ages run.

Words: William Bright 1824 - 1901

Music: Albano

Vincent Novello 1781 - 1861

After Holy Communion:

All honour to the Blessed Virgin Mary: from her arose the Sun of
Justice, Christ our God.

Let us pray:

God most high, Whose handmaid bore the Word made flesh: we thank
that in this Sacrament of our redemption You visit us with Your Holy
Spirit and overshadow us by Your power; strengthen us to walk with
Mary the joyful path of obedience and so to bring forth the fruits of
holiness; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Notices may follow.

May the Holy Spirit by Whose overshadowing Mary became the God-bearer, give you grace to carry the Good News of Christ; and the + blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

The Mass is ended. Go in the Peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

O, higher than the Cherubim, more glorious than the Seraphim, lead their praises, alleluia! Thou, bearer of the eternal Word, most gracious magnify the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia, (alleluia, alleluia,) alleluia!

Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray:

Pour forth Your Grace into our hearts, we beseech You O Lord, that as we have known the Incarnation of Your Son, Jesus Christ, by the message of an angel, so by His + Cross and Passion, we may be brought to the glory of His Resurrection; in and through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

1. The angel Gabriel from heaven came
His wings as drifted snow his eyes as flame
"All hail" said he "thou lowly maiden Mary,
Most highly favoured lady," Gloria!

(continued over the page)

2. "For know a blessed mother thou shalt be,
All generations laud and honor thee,
Thy Son shall be Emanuel, by seers foretold
Most highly favoured lady," Gloria!

3. Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head
"To me be as it pleaseth God," she said,
"My soul shall laud and magnify his holy name."
Most highly favoured lady. Gloria!

4. Of her, Emanuel, the Christ was born
In Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn
And Christian folk throughout the world will ever say: 1
"Most highly favoured lady," Gloria!

Words: S Baring-Gould b 1834
Music: Basque Carol

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