



Saint Matthew's Church
Big Lamp ~ Summerhill Street
Newcastle

Text of the Mass for the Dormition of the BVM (15th August) 2026

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

A great sign appeared in Heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, the moon beneath her feet; and a crown of twelve stars upon her head. Sing unto the Lord a new song: for He has accomplished wonderful deeds. 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 great sign &c

+ 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.

We have done what was wrong in the Lord's sight and chosen what displeased Him. Yet as a mother comforts her child, so shall the Lord Himself comfort us. So let us come to Him Who knows our every deed and thought.

We are often slow to follow the example of Christ: Kyrie eleison.

Kyrie eleison.

We often fail to be known as Christ's disciples: Christe eleison.

Christe eleison.

We often fail to walk the way of the Cross: 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.

+Let us go forth in peace.
In the Name of Christ. Amen.

O glorious Maid, exalted far
Beyond the light of burning star,
From Him Who made thee thou hast won
Grace to be Mother of His Son.

That which was lost in hapless Eve
Thy holy offspring did retrieve:
The tear-worn sons of Adam's race
Through thee have seen the heavenly place.

At the shrine of the Blessed Virgin Mary:

Behold the Handmaid of the Lord:
Be it unto me according to Your Word.

Let us pray:

Heavenly Father,
Who chose the Virgin Mary, full of grace,
to be the Mother of our Lord and Saviour:
fill us with Your Grace,
that in all things we may accept Your holy Will
and with her rejoice in Your salvation;
through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Thou wast the gate of Heaven's high Lord,
The door through which the light hath poured.
Christians rejoice, for through a Maid
To all mankind is life conveyed.

O Jesu, Virgin-born to Thee
Eternal praise and glory be,
Whom with the Father we adore
And Holy Spirit, evermore.

Words: Latin Venantius Fortunatus 530 - 609

Tr Percy Dearmer 1867 - 1936

Music: Morning Hymn

Francois Barthelemon 1741 - 1808

*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:

God our Father, You have taken to Yourself the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of Your incarnate Son. May we who have been redeemed by His Blood, share with her the glory of Your eternal Kingdom; in and through Jesus Christ Your Son our Lord; Who is alive and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, God, throughout all ages world without end.

[Amen.](#)

A Reading from the Book of the Apocalypse.

God's temple in heaven was opened, and the ark of his covenant was seen within his temple; and there were flashes of lightning, voices, peals of thunder, an earthquake, and heavy hail. And a great portent appeared in heaven, a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars; she was with child and she cried out in her pangs of birth, in anguish for delivery. And another portent appeared in heaven; behold, a great red dragon, with seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems upon his heads. His tail swept down a third of the stars of heaven, and cast them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to bear a child, that he might devour her child when she brought it forth; she brought forth a male child, one who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron, but her child was caught up to God and to his throne, and the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, in which to be nourished for one thousand two hundred and sixty days. And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God.

This is the Word of the Lord.

[Thanks be to God.](#)

Kings' daughters are among your honourable women; ♦ at your right hand stands the queen in gold of Ophir.

Hear, O daughter; consider and incline your ear; ♦ forget your own people and your father's house.

So shall the king have pleasure in your beauty; ♦ he is your lord, so do him honour.

With joy and gladness shall they be brought ♦ and enter into the palace of the king.

A Reading from the former Letter of Saint Paul to the Church in Corinth.

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel book is carried to the Lectern:

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Mary has been taken up into Heaven: all the choirs of angels are rejoicing. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, 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.

Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a city of Judah, and she entered the house of Zechari'ah and greeted Elizabeth. And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and she exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! And why is this granted me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For behold, when the voice of your greeting came to my ears, the babe in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her from the Lord." And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has regarded the low estate of his handmaiden. For behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed; for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name. And his mercy is on those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm, he has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts, he has put down the mighty from their thrones, and exalted those of low degree; he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent empty away. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his posterity for ever." And Mary remained with her about three months, and returned to her home.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

A homily may follow.

We believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
Maker of Heaven and earth,
and of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds.
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,
begotten not made;
being of one substance with the Father,
by Whom all things were made;
Who for us men and for our salvation
came down from Heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost
of the Virgin Mary, and was made man.
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried,
and the third day He rose again
according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into Heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of the Father.
And He shall come again in glory
to judge both the quick and the dead;
Whose Kingdom shall have no end.
And we believe in the Holy Ghost,
the Lord, the Giver of life,
Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son,
Who with the Father and the Son together
is worshipped and glorified,
Who spake by the prophets.
And we believe
one Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church,
We acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins.
And we look for the resurrection of the dead,
+ and the life of the world to come. Amen.

On this day when Mary took her place in Heaven, let us offer our prayers for the Church and world before the throne of God's glory:

God of Glory, through Mary You brought Your Son into the world. May the bishops and all Your Church be so joined with You that we may faithfully carry Christ in our lives:

Lord, hear us ... [Lord, graciously hear us.](#)

God of Glory, in Mary You have exalted the lowly. May people of power seek to raise the poor and the weak to dignity and respect:

Lord, hear us ... [Lord, graciously hear us.](#)

God of Glory, Mary showed us the extent of human love and selfless service. May all people of earth learn to embrace one another in love and compassion.

Lord, hear us ... [Lord, graciously hear us.](#)

God of Glory, You entrusted Your Son to the care of Mary and Joseph. May all with the care of children see in them an example of constancy and commitment:

Lord, hear us ... [Lord, graciously hear us.](#)

God of Glory, Mary, bent her will before Yours. May we be open to your plans for us with a listening heart and respond with a generous spirit:

Lord, hear us ... [Lord, graciously hear us.](#)

God of Glory, Mary knew the anguish of human life. Comfort with Your loving power all who struggle to cope with darkness in their lives:

Lord, hear us ... [Lord, graciously hear us.](#)

God of Glory, 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, hear us ... [Lord, graciously hear us.](#)

In union with our Lady, Saint Matthew, Saint Philip, Saint Augustine and all the saints, we pray for a hastening the day when all creation will be re-created and perfected in Your image; 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:

Mary has been taken up into Heaven: the angels rejoice, praising the Lord; together and blessing Him.

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!

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

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.

(continued over the page)

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.

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.

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,

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.

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

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.

God of mercy, receive all we offer You this day. May we share with the Virgin Mary the joys of Your eternal Kingdom and live with You in unending joy. We ask this in the Name of 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 everliving God,

We do well always and everywhere to give You thanks

Though Jesus Christ our Lord

Today, the Virgin Mary of God took her place in Heaven

To be the beginning and the pattern of the Church in its perfection;

And a sign of hope and comfort

For Your people on their pilgrim way.

We honour her for she gave birth to Your Son, the Lord of all life,

In the glory of the Incarnation.

And so with her, with the angels and archangels

And all the choirs of Heaven,

We praise and magnify Your holy Name,

For ever 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.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

(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.

All generations shall call me blessed: for the almighty has done great things for me.

Holy Communion follows.

Virgin born, we bow before Thee:
Blessed was the womb that bore Thee:
Mary, Mother meek and mild,
Blessed was she in her child.

Blessed she by all creation,
Who brought forth the world's Salvation,
And blessed they for ever blest,
Who love Thee most and serve Thee best.

Blessed was the breast that fed Thee;
Blessed was the hand that bore Thee;
Blessed was the parent's eye
That watched Thy slum'bring infancy.

Virgin born, we bow before Thee:
Blessed was the womb that bore Thee:
Mary, Mother meek and mild,
Blessed was she in her child.

Attribution over the page

Words: Bishop R Heber 1783 – 1826
Music: Mon Dieu, Pretre moi l'oreille
Melody contributed by L Bourgeois c 1510 – 61
To the French Psalter 1542 (Ps 86)
Harmony by R Vaughan Williams

After Holy Communion:

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; and my spirit rejoices in
God my Saviour.

Let us pray:

God of grace, today we raise our voices to magnify Your holy Name,
and, in our generation to call her blessed who became the Mother of our
Saviour Jesus Christ. May we who have shared this holy good continue
with her in Your glorious Kingdom, founded and established in Jesus
Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Notices may follow.

Christ the Son of God, born of Mary, fill you with His Grace to trust
His promises and obey His Will; 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.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord:
Unnumbered blessings, give my spirit voice;
Tender to me the promise of His Word;
In God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of His Name:
Make known His might, the deeds His arm has done;
His mercy sure, from age to age the same;
His holy Name, the Lord, the Mighty One.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might:
Powers and dominions lay their glory by;
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,
The hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

Tell out, my soul, the glories of His Word:
Firm is His promise, and His mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
To children's children and for evermore.

(Attribution over the page)

Words: Timothy Dudley Smith b 1926

Music: Woodlands

Walter Greated 1877 - 1949

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