



Saint Matthew's Church
Big Lamp ~ Summerhill Street
Newcastle

Text of the Mass for Lady Day (25th March) 2026

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

As Christ came into the world, He said: "Behold, I have come to do Your Will, O God. Alleluia! The Heavens declare the Glory of God: and the firmament proclaims the work of Your hands. 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.

As Christ came into the world &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.

The Grace of God has dawned upon the world through our Saviour Jesus Christ, Who has sacrificed Himself for us to purify a people as His own. Let us, therefore, confess our sins.

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

Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison.

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

Christe eleison, Christe, eleison, Christe eleison.

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

Kyrie eleison, 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.

Sing We Of The Blessed Mother
Who Received The Angel's Word,
And Obedient To The Summons
Bore In Love The Infant Lord;
Sing We Of The Joys Of Mary
At Whose Breast The Child Was Fed
Who Is Son Of God Eternal
And The Everlasting Bread.

Sing We, Too, Of Mary's Sorrows,
Of The Sword That Pierced Her Through,
When Beneath The Cross Of Jesus
She His Weight Of Suffering Knew,
Looked Upon Her Son And Saviour
Reigning From The Awful Tree,
Saw The Price Of Our Redemption
Paid To Set The Sinner Free.

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Behold the Handmaid of the Lord.

[Be it unto me according to Thy 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; in and through Jesus Christ our Lord.

[Amen.](#)

Sing the Greatest Joy Of Mary
When On Earth Her Work Was Done,
And The Lord Of All Creation
Brought Her To His Heavenly Home;
Virgin Mother, Mary Blessed,
Raised On High And Crowned With Grace,
May Your Son, The World's Redeemer,
Grant Us All To See His Face.

Words: GB Timms b 1910
Music: Abbot's Leigh
Cyril Taylor b 1907

*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:

We beseech You, O Lord, pour Your Grace into our hearts, 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 Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, Who lives with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, throughout all ages, world without end.

Amen.

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

The LORD spoke to Ahaz, "Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven." But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test." And he said, "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, a young woman shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Imman'u-el, a Name which means, "God-is-with-us."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sacrifice and offering you do not desire ♦ but my ears you have opened;

Burnt offering and sacrifice for sin you have not required; ♦ then said I: 'Lo, I come.

'In the scroll of the book it is written of me that I should do your will, O my God; ♦ I delight to do it: your law is within my heart.'

I have declared your righteousness in the great congregation; ♦ behold, I did not restrain my lips, and that, O Lord, you know.

Your righteousness I have not hidden in my heart; I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation; ♦ I have not concealed your loving-kindness and truth from the great congregation.

A Reading from the former Letter to the Hebrews.

It is impossible that the blood of bulls and goats should take away sins. Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings thou hast not desired, but a body hast thou prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings thou hast taken no pleasure. Then I said, 'Lo, I have come to do thy will, O God,' as it is written of me in the roll of the book."

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When he said above, "Thou hast neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "Lo, I have come to do thy will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel book is carried to the Lectern:

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! The Word was made flesh and lived among us: and we have seen His Glory. 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.

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 favored 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?"

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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.

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.

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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.

As Mary obeyed God's Will for her to become the mother of His Son,
let us turn in obedience to Him and lay before Him the needs of the
world and the Church:

Lord God, Who chose the Virgin Mary to be the Mother of Your Son:
strengthen in holiness all who seek by their lives to praise and magnify
Your holy Name: Lord, in Your mercy ... [hear our prayer](#).

Lord God, Who through the Angel Gabriel brought a message of peace
and joy to Mary: hasten the day when all the world may rejoice in the
Peace of salvation: Lord, in Your mercy ... [hear our prayer](#).

Lord God, Whose Word dwelt among us by the consent of Your
handmaid and the power of the Holy Spirit: open the ears of many to
the voice of Christ and their hearts to His Truth: Lord, in Your mercy ...
[hear our prayer](#).

Lord God, Whose servant conceived Your Son at Your invitation: bless
all who work as midwives and hear the pleading of those who crave the
gift of a child: Lord, in Your mercy ... [hear our prayer](#).

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Lord God, Whose Will it is to raise the lowly and fills the hungry with good things: encourage the downhearted, come to the aid of those in need and comfort those close to death: Lord, in Your mercy ... [hear our prayer](#).

Lord God, Who does great things for us; mindful of Your mercy receive those who have died into Your glorious Kingdom: Lord, in Your mercy ... [hear our prayer](#).

In union with our Lady, Saint Matthew, Saint Philip, Saint Augustine 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:

The rod of Jesse has put forth buds; the Virgin has given birth to the God-Man: God has re-established peace; in Himself He has reconciled earth with Heaven. Alleluia!

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. Miserere, miserere, miserere nobis!

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.

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.

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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.

Almighty God, so fill us with Your Grace, that we in all things may accept Your holy Will and with the Virgin Mary, full of Grace, rejoice in Your salvation; through 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.

It is indeed right and good,

our duty and our salvation,

always and everywhere to give you thanks,

holy Father, almighty and eternal God,

through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

We give you thanks and praise

that the Virgin Mary heard with faith the message of the angel,

and by the power of your Holy Spirit

conceived and bore the Word made flesh.

From the warmth of her womb

to the stillness of the grave

he shared our life in human form.

In him new light has dawned upon the world

and you have become one with us

that we might become one with you

in your glorious kingdom.

Therefore earth unites with heaven

to sing a new song of praise;

we too join with angels and archangels

as they proclaim your glory without end:

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.

Lord, by Your Cross and Resurrection, You have set us free; You are
the Saviour of the world.

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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,
Amen,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
Amen,
all honour and glory are Yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever.
Amen, 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.

Turn to us with mercy, Lord; for we have sinned against You: help us, God our Saviour; rescue us for the honour of Your Name. Alleluia!

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.

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

Words: Bishop R Heber 1783 - 1826
Music Mon Dieu, Prete moi l'oreille
Melody contributed by L Bourgeois c1510 - 61
To the French Psalter 1542
Harmony by Ralph Vaughan Williams

After Holy Communion:

Those who meditate day and night on the Law of the Lord will yield fruit in due season. Alleluia!

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 God, Whose Spirit overshadowed Mary and made her 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.

In the Name of Christ. Amen.

Incense is used to honour Mary.

Salve, Regina, Mater misericordiæ, vita, dulcedo, et spes nostra, salve. Ad te clamamus exules filii Hevæ, Ad te suspiramus, gementes et flentes in hac lacrimarum valle. Eia, ergo, advocata nostra, illos tuos misericordes oculos ad nos converte; Et Jesum, benedictum fructum ventris tui, nobis post hoc exilium ostende. O clemens, O pia, O dulcis Virgo Maria.

[O, holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, Hail our life, our sweetness and our hope. To thee do we cry, Poor banished children of Eve; To thee do we send up our sighs, Mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn then, most gracious advocate, Thine eyes of mercy toward us; And after this our exile, Show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.]

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.

Words: Timothy Dudley Smith b 1926
Music: Woodlands
Walter Greatorex 1877 - 1949

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