



Saint Matthew's Church
Big Lamp ~ Summerhill Street
Newcastle

Text of the Mass for Lent III (8th March) 2026

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

*Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us:
for we have sinn'd against thee.*

1. To thee, Redeemer, on thy throne of glory:
lift we our weeping eyes in holy pleadings:
listen, O Jesu, to our supplications.
Hear us, O Lord, &c

2. O thou chief Corner-stone, Right Hand of the Father
Way of Salvation, Gate of Life Celestial
cleanse thou our sinful souls from all defilement. [Refrain]
Hear us, O Lord, &c

3. God, we implore thee, in thy glory seated
bow down and hearken to they children
pity and pardon all our grievous trespasses. [Refrain]
Hear us, O Lord, &c

4. Sins oft committed now we lay before thee
with true contrition, now no more we veil them
grant us, Redeemer, loving absolution. [Refrain]
Hear us, O Lord, &c

5. Innocent, captive, taken unresisting
falsely accused, and for us sinners sentenced,
save us, we pray thee, Jesu our Redeemer. [Refrain]
Hear us, O Lord, &c

The Lord be with you.
[And with thy spirit.](#)

The Sacrifice of God is a broken spirit: a broken and contrite heart He will not despise. Our sin is always before us; let us, therefore, confess our sins in penitence and Faith.

Lord Jesus Christ, You said: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven." Yet we are preoccupied with money and worldly goods and even try to increase them at the expense of justice. Kyrie eleison ... [Kyrie eleison.](#)

Lord Jesus Christ, You said: "Blessed are the gentle for they shall inherit the earth." Yet we are ruthless with one another, and our world is full of discord and violence. Christe eleison ... [Christe eleison.](#)

Lord Jesus Christ, You said: "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted." Yet we are impatient under our own burdens and unconcerned about the burdens of others. Kyrie eleison ... [Kyrie eleison.](#)

Lord Jesus Christ, You said: "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for justice, for they shall be filled." Yet we do not thirst for You, the fountain of all holiness, and are slow to spread Your influence in our private lives or in society. Christe eleison ... [Christe eleison.](#)

Lord Jesus Christ, You said: "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy." Yet we are slow to forgive and quick to condemn. Kyrie eleison ... [Kyrie eleison.](#)

Lord Jesus Christ, You said: Blessed are the clean of heart, for they shall see God." Yet we are prisoners of our senses and evil desires and dare not raise our eyes to You. Christe eleison ... [Christe eleison.](#)

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Lord Jesus Christ, You said: "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God." Yet we fail to make peace in our families, in our country and in the world. Kyrie eleison ... [Kyrie eleison](#).

Lord Jesus Christ, You said: "Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of justice, for the kingdom of God is theirs." Yet we prefer to practice injustice rather than suffer for the sake of right; we discriminate against our neighbours and oppress and persecute them. Christe eleison ... [Christe eleison](#).

Thou shalt purge me, O Lord, with hyssop, and I shall be clean: thou shalt wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. *Ps.* Have mercy upon me, O God: after thy great goodness. 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. Thou shalt purge me, O Lord, with hyssop, and I shall be clean: thou shalt wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

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

I will prove My holiness through you. I will gather you from the ends of the earth: I will pour clean water on you and wash away your sins. I will give you a new spirit within you, says the Lord. Unto You, O Lord, have I lifted up my soul: O my God, I trust in You, let me never be put to shame. Let none who look to You be put to shame: let not my enemies triumph over me. Make me to know Your ways, O Lord: and teach me Your paths. Lead me in Your Truth: and teach 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 will prove My holiness &c

Let us pray:

O God, living and true, look upon Your people, whose dry and stony hearts are parched with thirst. Unseal the living water of Your Spirit; let it become within us an ever-flowing spring, leaping up to eternal life. Thus may we worship You in spirit and in truth, through Christ, our Deliverance and Hope, 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 Exodus.

The people thirsted there for water, and the people murmured against Moses, and said, "Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our cattle with thirst?" So Moses cried to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." And the LORD said to Moses, "Pass on before the people, taking with you some of the elders of Israel; and take in your hand the rod with which you struck the Nile, and go. Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb; and you shall strike the rock, and water shall come out of it, that the people may drink." And Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. And he called the name of the place Massah and Mer'ibah, because of the faultfinding of the children of Israel, and because they put the LORD to the proof by saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

This is the Word of the Lord.

[Thanks be to God.](#)

O come, let us sing to the Lord; ♦ let us heartily rejoice in the rock of our salvation.

Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving ♦ and be glad in him with psalms.

Come, let us worship and bow down ♦ and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

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For he is our God; ♦ we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

O that today you would listen to his voice: ♦ ‘Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, on that day at Massah in the wilderness, ‘When your forebears tested me, and put me to the proof, ♦ though they had seen my works.

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

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in our hope of sharing the glory of God. More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit which has been given to us. While we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Why, one will hardly die for a righteous man -- though perhaps for a good man one will dare even to die. But God shows his love for us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel book is carried to the Lectern:

Praise to You, O Christ, King of eternal glory. Lord, You are really the Saviour of the world; give me the living water, so that I may never thirst. Praise to You, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

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

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

Jesus came to a city of Samar'ia, called Sy'char, near the field that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and so Jesus, wearied as he was with his journey, sat down beside the well. It was about the sixth hour. There came a woman of Samar'ia to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samar'ia?" For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans. Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep; where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, and his sons, and his cattle?" Jesus said to her, "Every one who drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst; the water that I shall give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw." Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me all that I ever did." So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of your words that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is indeed the Saviour of the world."

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.

With confidence and trust in God, remembering that all we have comes from Him and without Him we are nothing, let us lay our thanks and prayers before the Throne of Grace:

Let us fix our eyes on the Lord and pray for the Church:

[Petitions]

Look mercifully, O God, upon Your Church and give us a new spirit that You may prove Your holiness through us: Lord, in Your mercy ... [Hear our prayer.](#)

Let us fix our eyes on the Lord and pray for the world:

[Petitions]

Look mercifully, O God, upon the world and give it a new spirit that none may thirst for justice or peace: Lord, in Your mercy ... [Hear our prayer.](#)

Let us fix our eyes on the Lord and pray for the people we meet:

[Petitions]

Look mercifully, O God, upon our communities and give us a new spirit that we may live quietly with one another to find contentment and flourishing: Lord, in Your mercy ... [Hear our prayer.](#)

Let us fix our eyes on the Lord and pray for all who suffer:

[Petitions]

Look mercifully, O God, upon all who suffer and give them a new spirit that they may be released from the snare of feeling wretched or alone: Lord, in Your mercy ... [Hear our prayer.](#)

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Let us fix our eyes on the Lord and pray for those who have died:

[Petitions]

Look mercifully, O God, upon all who have died and give them a new spirit that they may achieve the hope of life eternal: Lord, in Your mercy ... [Hear our prayer.](#)

Let us fix our eyes on the Lord and lay before Him our private prayers: ... Lord, in Your mercy ... [Hear our prayer.](#)

In union with our Lady, Saint Joseph, Saint Matthew, Saint Philip, Saint Augustine, Saint Cyril of Jerusalem, Saint Patrick and all the saints, we ask for grace to put our trust in You and learn always to bow before Your Will for the same of Jesus Christ our Lord.

[Amen.](#)

Being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, Who has given us access to His Grace.

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 Ordinances of the Lord are right, bringing joy to all hearts, sweeter than honey or the honeycomb: therefore, Your servant shall observe them.

Let us here who represent Cherubim guards around God's throne, As they cry out their thrice holy hymn, Praising the life-giving Trinity, Lay aside all earthly care. Borne by the power of angels' wings To His people now comes the King of kings. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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.

Gracious God, Who has power to triumph over our weakness, grant that we who ask forgiveness may be ready to forgive one another in and 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
to give you thanks and praise,
almighty God and everlasting Father,
through Jesus Christ your Son.

For in these forty days
you lead us into the desert of repentance
that through a pilgrimage of prayer and discipline
we may grow in grace
and learn to be your people once again.

Through fasting, prayer and acts of service
you bring us back to your generous heart.

Through study of your holy word
you open our eyes to your presence in the world
and free our hands to welcome others
into the radiant splendour of your love.

As we prepare to celebrate the Easter feast
with joyful hearts and minds
we bless you for your mercy
and join with saints and angels
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.

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.

Let us ask God to forgive us our sins and bring us to forgive those who
sin against us:
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.

Whoever drinks the water that I shall give him, says the Lord will have a spring inside him, welling up for eternal life.

Holy Communion follows.

Guide me, O Thou great Redeemer,
Pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but Thou art mighty,
Hold me with Thy powerful hand:
Bread of Heaven, Bread of Heaven,
Feed me now and evermore,
Feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain
Whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through:
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,
Be Thou still my strength and shield,
Be Thou still my strength and shield.

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When I tread the verge of Jordan,
Bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death, and hell's destruction
Land me safe on Canaan's side:
Songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever give to Thee,
I will ever give to Thee.

Words: William Willaims 1717 - 91
Tr Peter Williams 1727 - 96 and others
Music: Cwm Rhondda
John Hughes 1873 - 1932

After Holy Communion:

My eyes are fixed on the Lord, for He releases my feet from the snare:
O look at me and be merciful, for I am wretched and alone.

Let us pray:

Merciful Lord, grant Your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the Devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow You, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Notices may follow.

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness, to deny yourselves daily, take up your cross and follow Him; 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 peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the Name of Christ. Amen.

The Angel of Lord brought the tidings to Mary;
and she conceived by the Holy Ghost.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee:

Blessed art thou amongst 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 unto my according to Thy Word.

Hail Mary &c

The Word was made flesh;

and dwelt among us.

Hail Mary &c

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.

Jesu, lover of my soul,
Let me to Thy bosom fly,
While the nearer waters roll,
While the tempest still is high.
Hide me, O my Saviour, hide,
Till the storm of life is past;
Safe into the haven guide;
Oh, receive my soul at last.

(continued over the page)

Other refuge have I none,
Hangs my helpless soul on Thee;
Leave, ah! leave me not alone,
Still support and comfort me.
All my trust on Thee is stayed,
All my help from Thee I bring;
Cover my defenseless head
With the shadow of Thy wing.

Thou, O Christ, art all I want,
More than all in Thee I find;
Raise the fallen, cheer the faint,
Heal the sick, and lead the blind.
Just and holy is Thy Name,
Source of all true righteousness;
Thou art evermore the same,
Thou art full of truth and grace.

Plenteous grace with Thee is found,
Grace to cover all my sin;
Let the healing streams abound;
Make and keep me pure within.
Thou of life the fountain art,
Freely let me take of Thee;
Spring Thou up within my heart;
Rise to all eternity.

Words: Charles Wesley 1707 - 88
Music Hollingside
JB Dykes 1823 - 76

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