



Saint Matthew's Church
Big Lamp ~ Summerhill Street
Newcastle

Text of the Mass for S Joseph (19th March) 2026

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

1. To Joseph now by hosts on high
and choirs of Christians, laud be paid!
saintly of life, - by purest tie
joined unto her, the glorious Maid.
2. When he didst doubt his wife's repute,
and mark her great with motherhood,
the angel taught him that her fruit
came from the Holy Ghost of God.
3. To clasp the Son, the Lord, a sign,
to share His flight to Egypt's shore,
with tears, to seek in Salem's shrine
Him lost, - with joy, to find once more.
4. Death brings to other Saints their rest;
through toil they win the victor's place;
he happier, like the Angels blest,
alive, hast seen God face to face.
5. Spare us, O Trinity most High!
grant that, with Joseph, we may gain
Thy starry realm, and ceaselessly
there raise to Thee our thankful strain.

Words: anon
Music: Winchester New
Adapted from a chorale in
Musicalisches Hand-Buch Hamburg 1690

+ 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.

Hear the words of the angel to Joseph: "You shall call His Name Jesus, for He will save the people from their sins." Therefore, let us seek the forgiveness of God through Jesus the Saviour of the world:

Wash us thoroughly from our wickedness and cleanse us from our sin:
Kyrie eleison.

Kyrie eleison.

Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us:
Christe eleison.

Christe eleison.

Cast us not away from Your Presence and taken not Your Holy Spirit from us: 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.

The righteous man shall flourish like the palm tree; he shall grow like the cedar of Libanus: for he is planted in the house of the lord, in the courts of our God. It is good to give praise to the Lord: and to sing to the honour of Your Name, O Most High. 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.

The righteous man &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:

God our Father, Who from the family of Your servant David raised up Joseph the carpenter to be the guardian of Your incarnate Son and husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary: give us grace to follow him in faithful obedience to Your commands; in and through Jesus Christ Your Son 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 Letter of Saint Paul to the Church in Rome.

The promise to Abraham and his descendants, that they should inherit the world, did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants -- not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham, for he is the father of us all, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations" -- in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations; as he had been told, "So shall your descendants be." That is why his faith was "reckoned to him as righteousness."

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:

Praise to You, O Christ, King of eternal glory! They are happy who
dwell in Your house, O Lord: for ever singing Your praise. 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 Matthew.

Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

Jacob was the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called Christ. Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit; and her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit; she will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took his wife.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

A homily may follow.

As we pray for the Church and the world, let us ask that, inspired by the example of Saint Joseph, we may grow in holiness and follow ever more closely the way of Christ:

God our Father, You called Joseph to overcome his anxiety and reluctance to marry Mary: guide and strengthen all whom you call to serve the proclamation of the Gospel:
Lord, in Your mercy ... [hear our prayer](#).

(continued over the page)

God our Father, You called Joseph to be the husband of Mary and guardian of Jesus: strengthen family life and support with you love and power all who have the care of children:
Lord, in Your mercy ... [hear our prayer](#).

God our Father, You called Joseph to shield Mary from public disgrace; give us the gifts of integrity and compassion and make us careful of the reputations of others:
Lord, in Your mercy ... [hear our prayer](#).

God our Father, You called Joseph to flee to Egypt with his family: watch over all who must leave their homes and live far from those they love:
Lord, in Your mercy ... [hear our prayer](#).

God our Father, You called Joseph to sustain his family by work as a carpenter; bless all who make their living by the work of their hands:
Lord, in Your mercy ... [hear our prayer](#).

God our Father, You called Joseph to shield Jesus from the jealous and fearful wrath of Herod: give us the courage to protect the weak and vulnerable of our world:
Lord, in Your mercy ... [hear our prayer](#).

God our Father, You called Joseph to bring his family back to their homeland; guide those who have died to find a place in their true native land with You:
Lord, in Your mercy ... [hear our prayer](#).

In union with our Lady, Saint Joseph, Saint Matthew, Saint Philip, Saint Augustine and all the saints, we pray that by Your grace we may, like them, be made perfect in Your love; through, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
[Amen](#).

Blessed are the peace-makers; they shall be called children of God. We meet in the Name of Christ and share His 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:

My fidelity and My mercy are with him; and in My Name shall his horn be exalted.

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. With solemn Faith we offer up,
And spread before Thy glorious eyes
That only ground of all our hope,
That all-sufficient Sacrifice,
Which brings Thy Grace on sinners down,
Perfecting all our souls in one.

2. Father, behold Thy dying Son,
And hear the Blood that speaks above;
On us let all Thy Grace be shown,
Peace, righteousness and joy and love:
Thy Kingdom come to every heart,
And all Thou hast and all Thou art.

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3. Victim Divine, Thy grace we claim
While thus Thy precious Death we show;
Once offered up, a spotless Lamb,
In Thy great temple here below,
Thou didst for all mankind atone,
And standest now before the throne.

4. Thou standest in the holiest place,
As now for guilty sinners slain;
Thy Blood of sprinkling speaks and prays
All-prevalent for helpless man;
Thy Blood is still our ransom found,
And spreads salvation all around.

5. We need not now go up to Heaven
To bring the long-sought Saviour down;
Thou art to all already given,
Thou dost e'en now Thy banquet crown:
To every faithful soul appear,
And show Thy real presence here.

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

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, accept our sacrifice this day, and give us generous hearts to serve You in all who claim our help. We ask this 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 joy,

Always and everywhere to give You thanks,

Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Today we honour Joseph,

The just man whom you gave as husband

To the Virgin Mother of Your Son,

The wise and faithful servant

Whom You placed over Your household.

With a father's love he cared for Jesus, Your only Son,

Conceived by the overshadowing of the Holy Spirit.

Through Christ the choirs of angels

And all the powers of Heave

Worship in ase before Your Presence.

May our voices blend with theirs

As they sing with joy the hymn of Your Glory.

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.

(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.

Joseph, Son of David, fear not to receive Mary as your wife: for that which is conceived in her comes from the Holy Spirit.

Holy Communion follows.

1. Jesu, the very thought of Thee
With sweetness fills my breast;
But sweeter far Thy face to see,
And in Thy Presence rest.

2. Nor voice can sing, nor heart can frame,
For can the memory find,
A sweeter sound than Thy blest Name,
O Saviour of mankind.

3. O hope of every contrite heart,
O joy of all the meek,
To those who fall, how kind Thou art!
How good to those who seek!

(continued over the page)

4. But what to those who find? Ah, this
Nor tongue nor pen can show;
The love of Jesus, what it is
None but His loved ones know.

5. Jesu, our only joy be Thou,
As Thou our prize wilt be;
Jesu, be Thou our glory now,
And through eternity.

Words: Latin C12
Music: S Botolph
Gordon Slater 1896 1979

After Holy Communion:

Come, good and faithful servant: share the joy of Your Lord.

Let us pray:

Heavenly Father, Whose Son grew in wisdom and stature in the home of Joseph the carpenter of Nazareth and on the wood of the Cross perfected the work of the world's salvation: help us, strengthened by this Sacrament of His Passion, to count the wisdom of the world as foolishness, and to walk with Him in simplicity and trust; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Notices may follow.

The love of our incarnate Lord draw You to Himself, the power of our incarnate Lord strengthen You in His service, the joy of the incarnate Lord fill Your hearts with joy; 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.

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.]

1. Be Thou my Guardian and my Guide,
And hear me when I call;
Let not my slippery footsteps slide,
And hold me lest I fall.

2. The world, the flesh, and Satan dwell
Around the path I tread;
O, save me from the snares of hell,
Thou Quickener of the dead.

3. And if I tempted am to sin,
And outward things are strong,
Do Thou, O Lord, keep watch within,
And save my soul from wrong.

4. Still let me ever watch and pray,
And feel that I am frail;
That if the tempter cross my way,
Yet he may not prevail.

Words: Isaac Williams 1802 - 65

Music: Abridge

Isaac Smith 1734 - 1805

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