



Saint Matthew's Church  
Big Lamp ~ Summerhill Street  
Newcastle

**Text of the Mass for Sunday XVII (26<sup>th</sup> July) 2026**

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

The Church of God a kingdom is,  
Where Christ in power doth reign,  
Where spirits yearn till seen in bliss  
Their Lord shall come again.

Glad companies of saints possess  
This Church below, above;  
And God's perpetual calm doth bless  
Their paradise of love.

An Altar stands within the shrine  
Whereon, once sacrificed,  
Is set, immaculate, divine,  
The Lamb of God, the Christ.

There rich and poor, from countless lands,  
Praise Christ on mystic rood;  
There nations reach forth holy hands  
To take God's holy food.

There pure life-giving streams o'erflow  
The Sower's garden ground;  
And Faith and hope fair blossoms show,  
And fruits of love abound.

*(continued over the page)*

O King, O Christ, this endless Grace  
To us and all men bring,  
To see the vision of Thy face  
In joy, O Christ, our King.

Words: Lionel Muirhead 18454 - 1925

Music: Capel

English Traditional Carol

+ Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus  
Christ be with you.

[And with thy spirit.](#)

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep  
God's commandments and to live in love and peace with all.

We have sinned through our thoughts and through our thoughtlessness:  
Kyrie eleison.

[Kyrie eleison.](#)

We have sinned through our words and through our silence: Christe  
eleison.

[Christe eleison.](#)

We have sinned through our deeds and through our inaction: Kyrie  
eleison.

[Kyrie 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.

God is in His holy dwelling; He will give a home to the lonely; He gives power and strength to His people. Let God arise and let His enemies be scattered; and let those who hate Him flee before His face. 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.  
God is in His holy dwelling &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 of eternal Wisdom, You alone impart the gift of right judgement. Grant us an understanding heart, that we may value wisely the treasure of Your Kingdom and gladly forgo all lesser gifts to possess that Kingdom's incomparable joy; 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 Former Book of the Kings:

At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I shall give you." And now, O LORD my God, thou hast made thy servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And thy servant is in the midst of thy people whom thou hast chosen, a great people, that cannot be numbered or counted for multitude. Give thy servant therefore an understanding mind to govern thy people, that I may discern between good and evil; for who is able to govern this thy great people?" It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. And God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you.

This is the Word of the Lord.

[Thanks be to God.](#)

You only are my portion, O Lord; ♦ I have promised to keep your words.

The law of your mouth is dearer to me ♦ than a hoard of gold and silver.

*(continued over the page)*

Let your faithful love be my comfort, ♦ according to your promise  
to your servant.

Let your tender mercies come to me, that I may live, ♦ for your law  
is my delight.

Therefore I love your commandments ♦ above gold, even much fine  
gold.

Therefore I direct my steps by all your precepts, ♦ and all false  
ways I utterly abhor.

Your testimonies are wonderful; ♦ therefore my soul keeps them.

The opening of your word gives light; ♦ it gives understanding to  
the simple.

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

We know that in everything God works for good with those who love  
him, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he  
foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son,  
in order that he might be the first-born among many brethren. And  
those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he  
also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*The Gospel book is carried to the Lectern:*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Blessed are You, Father, Lord of Heaven  
and earth for revealing the Mysteries of the Kingdom to mere children.  
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 Matthew.  
Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

Jesus said to the crowds, "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

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.

*(continued over the page)*

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.

God has called us in Christ and gathered us here today; in response to His call, let us lay before Him the needs of the Church and the world:

Let us ask God to give His blessing to the Church:

[Petitions]

Lord our God, may those whom you have chosen according to Your Purpose, be true images of Your Son that we may be justified and share His Glory: Lord, hear us ... [Lord, graciously hear us.](#)

Let us ask God to give His blessing to our troubled world:

[Petitions]

*(continued over the page)*

Lord our God, may the leaders of our world have a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil that the peoples of earth may be governed in equity and peace: Lord, hear us ... [Lord, graciously hear us.](#)

Let us ask God to give His blessing to the people we meet:

[Petitions]

Lord our God, may we rule our lives by Your precepts and hate false ways that kindness may weave its way through our communities: Lord, hear us ... [Lord, graciously hear us.](#)

Let us ask God to give His blessing to all who suffer:

[Petitions]

Lord our God, in Your mercy may all who suffer know Your consolation that they might see the light of Your love and find relief from their burdens: Lord, hear us ... [Lord, graciously hear us.](#)

Let us ask God to give His blessing to those who have died:

[Petitions]

Lord our God, through Your power and might may all who have died find a home in Your holy dwelling: Lord, hear us ... [Lord, graciously hear us.](#)

Let us ask God to bless those for whom we offer our private prayers: ... Lord, hear us ... [Lord, graciously hear us.](#)

In union with our Lady, Saint Anne, Saint Joachim, Saint Matthew, Saint Philip, Saint Augustine, Saint Ignatius of Loyola and all the saints, we make our prayers not of any merit of our own, but trusting in the love and compassion of Jesus Christ our Lord.

[Amen.](#)

Let the Peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one Body, you are called to 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:*

I will extol You, O Lord, for You have drawn me up and have not allowed by enemies to rejoice over me; O Lord, I called out unto You and You healed me.

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.*

Draw nigh and take the Body of the Lord,  
And drink the holy Blood for you outpoured,  
Saved by that Body, hallowed by that Blood,  
Whereby refreshed we render thanks to God.

Salvation's Giver, Christ the only Son,  
By that His Cross and Blood the Victory won.  
Offered was He for greatest and for least:  
Himself the Victim and Himself the Priest.

Victims were offered by the law of old,  
That, in a type, celestial mysteries told.  
He, Ransomer from death and Light from shade,  
Giveth His holy Grace His saints to aid.

*(continued over the page)*

Approach ye then with faithful hearts sincere,  
And take the safeguard of salvation here.  
He that in this world rules His saints and shields,  
To all believers life eternal yields.

With heavenly bread makes them that hunger whole,  
Gives living waters to the thirsty soul.  
Alpha and Omega, to Whom shall bow  
All nations at the doom, is with us now.

Words: C7 Latin  
Tr JM Neale 1818 - 66  
Music: Farley Castle  
Harry Lawes 1596 - 1662

*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 grace, accept our sacrifice this day as we look forward to the  
glory You have promised 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 truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,

always and everywhere to give you thanks,

holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

From sunrise to sunset this day is holy,

for Christ has risen from the tomb

and scattered the darkness of death

with light that will not fade.

This day the risen Lord walks with your gathered people,

unfolds for us your word,

and makes himself known in the breaking of the bread.

And though the night will overtake this day

you summon us to live in endless light,

the never-ceasing Sabbath of the Lord.

And so, with choirs of angels

and with all the heavenly host,

we proclaim your glory

and join their unending song of praise:

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

Happy are they who show mercy; mercy shall be theirs: happy are the pure of heart, for they shall see God.

*Holy Communion follows.*

Author of life divine,  
Who hast a table spread,  
Furnished with mystic wine  
And everlasting bread,  
Preserve the life thyself hast given,  
preserve the life thyself hast given,  
And feed and train us up for heaven.

Our needy souls sustain  
With fresh supplies of love,  
Till all thy life we gain,  
And all thy fulness prove,  
And strengthened by thy perfect grace,  
and, strengthened by thy perfect grace,  
Behold without a veil thy face.

Words: Charles Wesley 1797 - 88

Music: Lovely (Rhosymedre)

John Edwards 1805 - 85

*After Holy Communion:*

O bless the Lord, my soul; and remember all His kindness.

Let us pray:

Holy Father, Who gathered us here around the table of Your Son to share this meal with the whole household of God: in that new world where You reveal the fullness of Your peace, gather people of every race and language to share in the eternal Banquet of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

*Notices may follow.*

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; 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.

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

*(continued over the page)*

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.

"Thy kingdom come!" on bended knee  
the passing ages pray;  
and faithful souls have yearned to see  
on earth that kingdom's day.

But the slow watches of the night  
not less to God belong;  
and for the everlasting right  
the silent stars are strong.

And lo, already on the hills  
the flags of dawn appear;  
gird up your loins, ye prophet souls,  
proclaim the day is near:

The day to whose clear shining light  
all wrong shall stand revealed,  
when justice shall be throned in might,  
and every heart be healed;

*(continued over the page)*

When knowledge, hand in hand with peace,  
shall walk the earth abroad;  
the day of perfect righteousness,  
the promised day of God.

Words: Frederick Hosmer 1840 - 1929  
Music: Irish  
anon

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