



Saint Matthew's Church  
Big Lamp ~ Summerhill Street  
Newcastle

**Text of the Mass for the Visitation of the BVM (1<sup>st</sup> June) 2026**

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

1. Hail, O star that pointest  
Towards the port of Heaven,  
Thou to whom as maiden  
God for Son was given.

2. When the salutation  
Gabriel had spoken,  
Peace was shed upon us,  
Eva's bonds were broken.

3. Bound by Satan's fetters,  
Health and vision needing,  
God will aid and light us  
At thy gentle pleading.

4. Jesu's tender Mother,  
Make thy supplication  
Unto Him Who chose thee  
At His Incarnation.

5. That, O matchless Maiden,  
Passing meek and lowly,  
Thy dear Son may make us  
Blameless, chaste and holy.

*(continued over the page)*

6. So, as now we journey,  
Aid our weak endeavour.  
Till we gaze on Jesus,  
And rejoice for ever.

7. Father, Son and Spirit,  
Three in One confessing,  
Give we equal glory,  
Equal praise and blessing.

Words: C9 Latin  
Tr Athelstan Riley 1858 - 1945  
Music: Ave Maris Stella

+ 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 Saint Paul, "Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good." So let us confess our sins and failings to God our Father:

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.

Come, all of you who fear God: and hear the great things the Lord has done for me. My heart is astir with gracious words: as I amke my song for the King. 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.

Come, all of you &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:

Mighty God, by Whose grace Elizabeth rejoiced with Mary and greeted her as the Mother of the Lord: look with favour on Your lowly servants that, with Mary, we may magnify Your holy Name and rejoice to acclaim her Son our Saviour, 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.

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with brotherly affection; outdo one another in showing honour. Never flag in zeal, be aglow with the Spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in your hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints, practice hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; never be conceited.

This is the Word of the Lord.

[Thanks be to God.](#)

"Behold, God is my salvation; ♦ I will trust, and will not be afraid;  
For the LORD GOD is my strength and my song, ♦ and he has  
become my salvation."

With joy you will draw water ♦ from the wells of salvation.  
And you will say in that day: "Give thanks to the LORD, call upon his  
name; ♦ make known his deeds among the nations, proclaim that  
his name is exalted.

"Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously; ♦ let this be  
known in all the earth.

Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion, ♦ for great in your  
midst is the Holy One of Israel."

*The Gospel book is carried to the Lectern:*

Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed is the Virgin Mary who believed that the promise made to her by the Lord would be fulfilled. 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 those days 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.*

As we proclaim the greatness of the Lord, let us pray to the God, Who saves us:

Lord God, Your mercy is on this who fear You: grant that the Church may proclaim Your greatness now and in every generation:

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

Lord God, You show the strength of Your arm and cast down the mighty from their thrones: turn the hearts of tyrants to the Law of Love and bring Your Peace to our world:

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

Lord God, You lift up the lowly and fill the hungry with good things: protect the weak and vulnerable of our world and banish the greed that leaves many with insufficient on which to live:

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

Lord God, Who has spoken to Abraham and his descendants for ever: watch over all who are anticipating the birth of a child and those who yearn for children:

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

Lord God, You come to the aid of Your servants: hear in compassion all those who cry out in pain or anguish, grief of loneliness:

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

Lord God, You received Israel Your servant, remembering Your mercy: welcome into the glory of Your Kingdom all who seek a place in Your eternal love now that their life on earth is done:

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

*(continued over the page)*

In union with our Lady, Saint Elizabeth, Saint Matthew, Saint Philip, Saint Augustine and all the saints, we ask God our Father so to guide us in the way of humility and obedience that the whole world may become a hymn of praise to Him from Whom all good things come; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Steadfast love and faithfulness have met; righteousness and peace have kissed each other

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 soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord: and my spirit exults in God my Saviour.

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!

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.

*(continued over the page)*

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.

*(continued over the page)*

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  
Arr the Vicar  
Music: Grafton  
French Church Melody  
From Chants Ordinaires de l'Office divin  
1891

*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.

God of mercy, accept all we offer You this day as you accepted the love of Mary, the Mother of Your Son Jesus Christ, Who is Lord now and for ever.

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,

almighty and ever-living God,

to proclaim the wonders You have worked

in all Your saints;

and on this feast of Mary, ever blessed,

to echo her praise of Your loving kindness.

For You have done great things

and holy is Your Name;

and Your mercy is on those who fear You

in every generation.

When You looked with favour on Your lowly servant

You remembered Your promise of mercy

And through her gave the world Your Son,

our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Through Him the Host of Heaven adore You

and rejoice in Your Presence for ever.

May our voices join with theirs

in their triumphant hymn 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,  
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 is His Name.

*Holy Communion follows.*

1. Bles-sed Jesu, Mary's Son,  
For mankind to earth Thou camest,  
But the saving battle won,  
Now at God's right hand Thou reignest:  
On Thy people pour Thy blessing,  
Gathered here, Thy Name confessing.

2. By this sacramental sign,  
Token of Thy bitter Passion,  
Through these gifts of bread and wine  
Thine own image in us fashion:  
By this food Thy Grace doth send us  
From all ills of soul defend us.

*(continued over the page)*

3. In this Mystery of Grace  
Which we celebrate before Thee,  
Come, O Saviour, show Thy face  
To the faithful who adore Thee:  
All our sins by Thee forgiven,  
Grant us here the joys of Heaven.

Words: GB Timms b1910

Music: Liebster Jesu

Melody by JR Ahle 1625 – 73

Mulhausen 1664

Harmony by JS Bach 1685 - 1750

*After Holy Communion:*

Blessed is the Virgin Mary, who has carried the Son of the eternal  
Father.

Let us pray:

Gracious God, Who gave joy to Elizabeth and Mary as they recognised  
the signs of redemption at work within them: help us, who have shared  
in the joy of this Eucharist, to know the Lord deep within us and His  
love shining out in our lives, that the world may rejoice in Your  
salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

*Notices may follow.*

May God, Who sent Mary to visit Elizabeth to share with her the joy of  
the divine plan, give you grace to tell out 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.

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!

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.

1. 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.

2. 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.

3. 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.

*(continued over the page)*

4. 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

Music: Morning Hymn

Francois Barthelemon 1741 - 1808

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