



Saint Matthew's Church
Big Lamp ~ Summerhill Street
Newcastle

Solemn Evensong and Benediction for the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (7th September) 2025

The angel of the 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 me 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.

O Lord, open thou our lips.

And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

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.

Praise ye the Lord.

The Lord's Name be praised.

The Lord Whom earth and sea and sky,

Adore and praise and magnify,

Who o'er their threefold fabric reigns,

The Virgin's spotless womb contains.

And He Whose will is ever done

By moon and seas, by star and sun,

Is borne upon a maiden's breast,

Whom God's foreseeing grace possessed.

How blest that Mother, in whose shrine

The very Word of God divine,

The Maker of the earth and sky,

Was pleased in fleshly form to lie.

Blest in the message Gabriel brought,

Blest in the work the Spirit wrought,

Blest evermore, who brought to birth

The long-Desired of all the earth.

O Jesu, Virgin-born- to Thee

Eternal praise and glory be,

Whom with the Father we adore

And Holy Spirit, evermore.

(72) GIVE the King thy judgements, O God : and thy righteousness unto the King's son.

2 Then shall he judge thy people according unto right : and defend the poor.

3 The mountains also shall bring peace : and the little hills righteousness unto the people.

4 He shall keep the simple folk by their right : defend the children of the poor, and punish the wrong-doer.

5 They shall fear thee, as long as the sun and moon endureth : from one generation to another.

6 He shall come down like the rain into a fleece of wool : even as the drops that water the earth.

7 In his time shall the righteous flourish : yea, and abundance of peace, so long as the moon endureth.

8 His dominion shall be also from the one sea to the other : and from the flood unto the world's end.

9 They that dwell in the wilderness shall kneel before him : his enemies shall lick the dust.

10 The kings of Tharsis and of the isles shall give presents : the kings of Arabia and Saba shall bring gifts.

11 All kings shall fall down before him : all nations shall do him service.

12 For he shall deliver the poor when he crieth : the needy also, and him that hath no helper.

13 He shall be favourable to the simple and needy : and shall preserve the souls of the poor.

14 He shall deliver their souls from falsehood and wrong : and dear shall their blood be in his sight.

15 He shall live, and unto him shall be given of the gold of Arabia : prayer shall be made ever unto him, and daily shall he be praised.

16 There shall be an heap of corn in the earth, high upon the hills : his fruit shall shake like Libanus, and shall be green in the city like grass upon the earth.

17 His Name shall endure for ever; his Name shall remain under the sun among the posterities: which shall be blessed through him; and all the heathen shall praise him.

(continued over the page)

18 Blessed be the Lord God, even the God of Israel : which only doeth wondrous things;

19 And blessed be the Name of his majesty for ever : and all the earth shall be filled with his majesty. Amen, Amen.

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.

A Reading from the Book of the Proverbs.

The LORD created me at the beginning of his work, the first of his acts of old. Ages ago I was set up, at the first, before the beginning of the earth. When there were no depths I was brought forth, when there were no springs abounding with water. Before the mountains had been shaped, before the hills, I was brought forth; before he had made the earth with its fields, or the first of the dust of the world. When he established the heavens, I was there, when he drew a circle on the face of the deep, when he made firm the skies above, when he established the fountains of the deep, when he assigned to the sea its limit,

so that the waters might not transgress his command, when he marked out the foundations of the earth, then I was beside him, like a master workman; and I was daily his delight, rejoicing before him always, rejoicing in his inhabited world and delighting in the sons of men.

Here endeth the first lesson.

The Virgin Mary has been exalted high above the angels.

The Virgin Mary has been exalted high above the angels.

Blessed is the Lord, Who raised her up.

The Virgin Mary has been exalted high above the angels.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;

The Virgin Mary has been exalted high above the angels.

As the MAGNIFICAT is sung, the Presence of God (signified by the Altar) is honoured with incense.

The nativity of the virgin-mother of God hath proclaimed joyful tidings unto the whole world: for out of her hath arisen the Sun of Righteousness, even Christ our God; Who taking away our sin hath bestowed a blessing; and, confounding death, hath given unto us life everlasting.

MY soul doth magnify the Lord : and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

For he hath regarded : the lowliness of his hand-maiden.

For behold, from henceforth : all generations shall call me blessed.

For he that is mighty hath magnified me : and holy is his Name.

And his mercy is on them that fear him : throughout all generations.

He hath shewed strength with his arm : he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

He hath put down the mighty from their seat : and hath exalted the humble and meek.

He hath filled the hungry with good things : and the rich he hath sent empty away.

He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel : as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed, for ever.

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 nativity of the virgin-mother of God hath proclaimed joyful tidings unto the whole world: for out of her hath arisen the Sun of Righteousness, even Christ our God; Who taking away our sin hath bestowed a blessing; and, confounding death, hath given unto us life everlasting.

A Reading from the Gospel according to Saint John.

When the soldiers had crucified Jesus they took his garments and made four parts, one for each soldier; also his tunic. But the tunic was without seam, woven from top to bottom; so they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see whose it shall be." This was to fulfil the scripture, "They parted my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots." So the soldiers did this. But standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Mag'dalene. When Jesus saw his mother, and the disciple whom he loved standing near, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son!" Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.

Here endeth the second lesson.

LORD, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace : according to thy word.

For mine eyes have seen : thy salvation;

Which thou hast prepared : before the face of all people;

To be a light to lighten the Gentiles : and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

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 BELIEVE in God

the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; The third day he rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; The holy Catholick Church; The Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of sins;

The Resurrection of the body,
And the Life everlasting. Amen.

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

OUR Father,

which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us;

And lead us not into temptation,

But deliver us from evil. Amen.

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.

And grant us thy salvation.

O Lord, save the King.

And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.

And make thy chosen people joyful.

O Lord, save thy people.

And bless thine inheritance.

Give peace in our time, O Lord.

Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.

O God, make clean our hearts within us.

And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

Almighty and everlasting God, Who didst stoop to raise fallen humanity through the motherhood of the Blessed Virgin Mary: grant that we, who have beholden Thy glory revealed in our human nature and Thy love made perfect in our weakness, may daily be renewed in Thine image and conformed to the pattern of Thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the same Holy Ghost, God, throughout all ages, world without end.

Amen.

O GOD, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that both our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee we being defended from the fear of our enemies may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

[Amen.](#)

LIGHTEN our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

[Amen.](#)

The Lord be with you.

[And with thy spirit.](#)

Let us bless the Lord.

[Thanks be to God.](#)

May the souls of the departed, through the mercy and love of God, rest in peace.

[Amen.](#)

The Altar is prepared for Benediction during the hymn that precedes the Liturgy. A bell rings and the Sacrament is brought to the Altar.

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.

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.

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 b 1910
Music: Liebster Jesu
Melody by JR Ahle 1625 - 73
Harmony by JS Bach 1685 - 1750

The Presence of Christ in the Sacrament is honoured with incense as the following hymn is sung:

O salutaris Hostia,
Quae caeli pandis ostium:
Bella premunt hostilia,
Da robur, fer auxilium.

*O saving Victim, opening wide
The gate of Heaven to man below, Our
foes press hard on every side, Thine aid
supply, Thy strength bestow.*

Uni trinoque Domino
Sit sempiterna gloria,
Qui vitam sine termino
Nobis donet in patria.
Amen.

*All praise and thanks to Thee ascend
For evermore, blest One in Three,
And grant us life that shall not end,
In our true native land with Thee.
Amen.*

A Period of silence follows.

Visita, quæsumus, Dómine,
habitationem istam, et omnes
insídias inimíci ab ea longe
repélle: Angeli tui sancti hábitent
in ea, qui nos in pace custódiant;
et benedíctio tua sit super nos
semper. Per Dóminum nostrum
Jesum Christum.

Amen.

*Visit, we beseech Thee, O Lord,
this dwelling and drive far from it
all assaults of the enemy; let Your
holy angels dwell herein that we
may be kept in peace and Your
blessing always rest upon us,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

Amen.

Benedictus Deus.
Benedictum Nomen Sanctum eius
Benedictus Iesus Christus,
verus Deus et verus homo
Benedictum Nomen Iesu
Benedictus Iesus
in sanctissimo altaris Sacramento
Benedictus Sanctus Spiritus,
Paraclitus
Benedictus Deus in Angelis suis,
et in Sanctis suis

*Blessed be God.
Blessed be His holy Name.
Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God
and true man.
Blessed be the Name of Jesus.
Blessed be Jesus in the most holy
Sacrament of the Altar.
Blessed be the Holy Ghost,
the Paraclete.
Blessed be God
in His angels and in His saints.*

Sit	Benedicatus	laudatusque	<i>Blessed, praised, hallowed and</i>
sanctificatusque	et adoratus	Jesus	<i>adored be Jesus Christ on His</i>
Christus in cathedram gloriae	Suae.		<i>throne of glory.</i>
Et in sanctissimo altaris	Sacramento		<i>And in the most holy Sacrament</i>
			<i>of the Altar.</i>

The Presence of Christ is then honoured with incense again during the following hymn:

Tantum ergo Sacramentum	<i>Therefore, we before Him bending,</i>
Veneremur cernui:	<i>This great Sacrament revere;</i>
Et antiquum documentum	<i>Types and shadows have their ending,</i>
Novo cedat ritui:	<i>For the newer rite is here;</i>
Præstet fides supplementum	<i>Faith our outward sense befriending</i>
Sensuum defectui.	<i>Makes the inward vision clear.</i>
Genitori, Genitoque	<i>Glory let us give and blessing,</i>
ahojLaus et Jubilatio,	<i>To the Father and the Son,</i>
Salus, honor, virtus quoque	<i>Honour, might and praise addressing</i>
Sit et benedictio:	<i>While eternal ages run;</i>
Procedenti ab utroque	<i>Ever to His love confessing,</i>
Compar sit laudatio.	<i>Who from Both with Both is One.</i>
Amen.	<i>Amen.</i>

Panem do caelo praestitisti eis

*Thou gavest them Bread
from Heaven.
Containing in Itself all sweetness.*

Omne delectamentum
in se habentem.

Oremus:

Deus, qui nobis sub Sacramento
mirabili Passionis, mortisque et
Resurrectionis gloriosae tuae
memoriam reliquisti; tribue, ita
nos Corporis et Sanguinis tui sacra
mysteria venerari, ut redemptionis
tuae fructum in nobis iugiter
sentiamus: Qui vivis et regnas in
saecula saeculorum.

Amen.

Let us pray:

*O God, Who under a wonderful
Sacrament hast left unto us a
memorial of Thy wonderful
Passion and Death and glorious
Resurrection; grant us so to
venerate the Sacred Mysteries of
Thy Body and Blood that evermore
perceive within ourselves the fruit
of Your Redemption: Who lives
and reigns for ever and ever.*

Amen.

*The priest goes to the Altar and gives Benediction, during which a bell
rings three times.*

As the Sacrament is returned to the Tabernacle, all sing:

Adoremus in aeternum
sanctissimum Sacramentum.

*Let us adore for ever
the most holy Sacrament.*

Laudate Dominum omnes gentes :
laudate eum omnes populi.
Quoniam confirmata est super nos
misericordia ejus : et veritas
Domini manet in aeternum.
Gloria Patri et Filio : et Spiritui
Sancto;
Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et
semper : et in saecula saeculorum.
Amen.

*O praise the Lord all ye nations,
praise Him all ye peoples. Let us
adore for ever the most holy
Sacrament.*

*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. Let us adore for ever the
most holy Sacrament.*

Adoremus &c

Adoremus &c