



Saint Matthew's Church
Big Lamp ~ Summerhill Street
Newcastle

Solemn Evensong and Benediction for Lent II (1st March) 2026

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 fast, as taught by holy lore,

We keep in solemn course once more:

The fast to all men known, and bound

In forty days of yearly round.

The law and seers that were of old

In divers ways this Lent foretold,

Which Christ, all seasons' King and Guide,

In after ages sanctified.

More sparing let us therefore make

The words we speak, the food we take,

Our sleep and mirth – and closer barred

Be every sense in holy guard.

In prayer together let us fall,

And cry for mercy, one and all,

And weep before the Judge's feet,

And his avenging wrath entreat.

Thy grace have we offended sore,

By sins, O God, which we deplore;

But pour upon us from on high,

O pardoning One, Thy clemency.

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Remember Thou, though frail we be,
That yet Thine handiwork are we;
Nor let the honour of Thy Name
Be by another put to shame.

Forgive the sin that we have wrought;
Increase the good that we have sought;
That we at length, our wanderings o'er,
May please Thee here and evermore.

We pray Thee, Holy Trinity,
One God, unchanging Unity,
That we from this our abstinence
May reap the fruits of penitence.

(74) O GOD, wherefore art thou absent from us so long : why is thy wrath so hot against the sheep of thy pasture?

2 O think upon thy congregation : whom thou hast purchased and redeemed of old.

3 Think upon the tribe of thine inheritance : and mount Sion, wherein thou hast dwelt.

4 Lift up thy feet, that thou mayest utterly destroy every enemy : which hath done evil in thy sanctuary.

5 Thine adversaries roar in the midst of thy congregations : and set up their banners for tokens.

6 He that hewed timber afore out of the thick trees : was known to bring it to an excellent work.

7 But now they break down all the carved work thereof : with axes and hammers.

8 They have set fire upon thy holy places : and have defiled the dwelling-place of thy Name, even unto the ground.

9 Yea, they said in their hearts, Let us make havock of them altogether : thus have they burnt up all the houses of God in the land.

10 We see not our tokens, there is not one prophet more : no, not one is there among us, that understandeth any more.

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11 O God, how long shall the adversary do this dishonour : how long shall the enemy blaspheme thy Name, for ever?

12 Why withdrawest thou thy hand : why pluckest thou not thy right hand out of thy bosom to consume the enemy?

13 For God is my King of old : the help that is done upon earth he doeth it himself.

14 Thou didst divide the sea through thy power : thou brakest the heads of the dragons in the waters.

15 Thou smotest the heads of Leviathan in pieces: and gavest him to be meat for the people in the wilderness.

16 Thou broughtest out fountains and waters out of the hard rocks : thou driedst up mighty waters.

17 The day is thine, and the night is thine : thou hast prepared the light and the sun.

18 Thou hast set all the borders of the earth : thou hast made summer and winter.

19 Remember this, O Lord, how the enemy hath rebuked : and how the foolish people hath blasphemed thy Name.

20 O deliver not the soul of thy turtle-dove unto the multitude of the enemies : and forget not the congregation of the poor for ever.

21 Look upon the covenant : for all the earth is full of darkness and cruel habitations.

22 O let not the simple go away ashamed : but let the poor and needy give praise unto thy Name.

23 Arise, O God, maintain thine own cause : remember how the foolish man blasphemeth thee daily.

24 Forget not the voice of thine enemies : the presumption of them that hate thee increaseth ever more and more.

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 Prophet Jeremiah.

Thus says the LORD: "Go down to the house of the king of Judah, and speak there this word, and say, `Hear the word of the LORD, O King of Judah, who sit on the throne of David, you, and your servants, and your people who enter these gates. Thus says the LORD: Do justice and righteousness, and deliver from the hand of the oppressor him who has been robbed. And do no wrong or violence to the alien, the fatherless, and the widow, nor shed innocent blood in this place. For if you will indeed obey this word, then there shall enter the gates of this house kings who sit on the throne of David, riding in chariots and on horses, they, and their servants, and their people. But if you will not heed these words, I swear by myself, says the LORD, that this house shall become a desolation. For thus says the LORD concerning the house of the king of Judah: "`You are as Gilead to me, as the summit of Lebanon, yet surely I will make you a desert, an uninhabited city. I will prepare destroyers against you, each with his weapons; and they shall cut down your choicest cedars, and cast them into the fire. "`And many nations will pass by this city, and every man will say to his neighbour, "Why has the LORD dealt thus with this great city?" And they will answer, "Because they forsook the covenant of the LORD their God, and worshiped other gods and served them.""

Here endeth the first lesson.

He shall deliver thee from the snare of the hunter;

He shall deliver thee from the snare of the hunter;

And from the noisome pestilence.

He shall deliver thee from the snare of the hunter;

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

He shall deliver thee from the snare of the hunter;

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

Behold now, is the accepted time; behold now is the day of Salvation: let us therefore in all things approve ourselves as the minister of God, in much patience, in vigil, in fasting; and by love unfeigned.

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.

Behold now, is the accepted time; behold now is the day of Salvation: let us therefore in all things approve ourselves as the minister of God, in much patience, in vigil, in fasting; and by love unfeigned.

A Reading from the Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

When Jesus came down from the mountain, great crowds followed him; and behold, a leper came to him and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, if you will, you can make me clean." And he stretched out his hand and touched him, saying, "I will; be clean."

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And immediately his leprosy was cleansed. And Jesus said to him, "See that you say nothing to any one; but go, show yourself to the priest, and offer the gift that Moses commanded, for a proof to the people." As he entered Caper'na-um, a centurion came forward to him, beseeching him and saying, "Lord, my servant is lying paralyzed at home, in terrible distress." And he said to him, "I will come and heal him." But the centurion answered him, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; but only say the word, and my servant will be healed. For I am a man under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another, 'Come,' and he comes, and to my slave, 'Do this,' and he does it." When Jesus heard him, he marvelled, and said to those who followed him, "Truly, I say to you, not even in Israel have I found such faith. I tell you, many will come from east and west and sit at table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven, while the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth." And to the centurion Jesus said, "Go; be it done for you as you have believed." And the servant was healed at that very moment.

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 God, who seest that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls; that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, God, throughout all ages, world without end.

[Amen.](#)

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who hatest nothing that thou hast made, and dost forgive the sins of all them that are penitent: Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we worthily lamenting our sins, and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of thee, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

[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.

Just as I am, without one plea
But that Thy Blood was shed for me,
And that Thou bidd'st me come to Thee,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, though tossed about
With many a conflict, many a doubt,
Fightings within and fears without,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, poor wretched, blind;
Sight, riches, healing of the mind,
Yea all I need, in Thee to find,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, Thou wilt receive,
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve:
Because Thy promise, I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am (Thy love unknown
Has broken every barrier down),
Now to be Thine, yea Thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, of that free love
The breadth, length, depth and height to prove,
Here for a season then above,
O lamb of God, I come.

Words: Charlotte Elliott 1780 - 1871
Music: Saffron Walden
Arthur Henry Brown 1830 - 1926

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,
habitatiónem 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

*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.*

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Benedictus Deus in Angelis suis,	<i>Blessed be God</i>
et in Sanctis suis	<i>in His angels and in His saints.</i>
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>
Laus 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.*

Omne delectamentum
in se habentem.

Containing in Itself all sweetness.

Oremus:

Let us pray:

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.

*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.

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