

St George
Bickley

The Order for Mass on
the THIRD SUNDAY in LENT

23rd March 2025 at 10.30am

Parish Priest
Fr Henry Everett SSC
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Welcome to St George's! This booklet contains all the material you will need for today's celebration of Mass. We hope that you will find this service easy to follow, but please do not be afraid to ask if you are unsure what to do at any point. The building is fitted with an induction loop and you will find the best results away from the pillars.

Families with small children are very welcome to make use of the carpeted play area at the back of church, where you will find books, crayons and soft toys. There are two further play stations in the side aisles. Older children should join Children's Church, who will go out to the Hall after the first hymn, and return in time for Communion.

A toilet is at the back of church, behind the screen. After Mass, please join us in the hall for refreshments. Before Mass, please try to maintain an atmosphere of quiet prayer.

Mass setting: Wood in the Phrygian Mode.

Please stand when the bell rings, for the procession of the clergy and servers, and to sing hymn 644, the Lent Prose:

Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us:
for we have sinn'd against thee.
To thee, Redeemer, on thy throne of glory:
lift we our weeping eyes in holy pleadings:
listen, O Jesu, to our supplications.

**Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us:
for we have sinn'd against thee.**

O thou chief Corner-stone, Right Hand of the Father
Way of Salvation, Gate of Life Celestial
cleanse thou our sinful souls from all defilement.

**Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us:
for we have sinn'd against thee.**

God, we implore thee, in thy glory seated
bow down and hearken to thy children
pity and pardon all our grievous trespasses.

**Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us:
for we have sinn'd against thee.**

Sins oft committed now we lay before thee
with true contrition, now no more we veil them
grant us, Redeemer, loving absolution.

**Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us:
for we have sinn'd against thee.**

Innocent, captive, taken unresisting
falsely accused, and for us sinners sentenced,
save us, we pray thee, Jesu our Redeemer.

**Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us:
for we have sinn'd against thee.**

The priest sings:

Priest In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy
Spirit.

People **Amen.**

Priest The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

*The priest introduces the Mass, sends Children's Church to their activities, and
invites the people to recall and confess their sins:*

Priest Although we have been brought low because of our sins,
yet with a contrite heart and a humble spirit may we be
accepted by the Lord. So let us turn to the Lord in
penitence for our sins.

People **I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and
sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in
my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed
to do, through my fault, through my fault, through my
most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-
Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers
and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.**

Priest May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life,

People **Amen.**

Choir Kyrie eleison, kyrie eleison, kyrie eleison.
Christe eleison, Christe eleison, Christe eleison.
Kyrie eleison, kyrie eleison, kyrie eleison.

Then the priest prays the collect:

Priest O God, author of every mercy and of all goodness, who in fasting, prayer and almsgiving have shown us a remedy for sin, look graciously on this confession of our lowliness, that we, who are bowed down by our conscience, may always be lifted up by your mercy. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

People **Amen.**

Now sit to listen to the first reading:

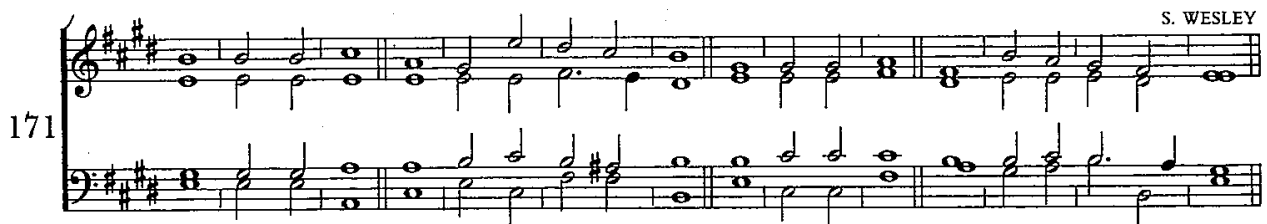
Reader A reading from the book of Exodus. (*Exodus 3; 1-8, 13-15*)
In those days: Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian, and he led his flock to the west side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. And the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush. He looked, and behold, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed. And Moses said, 'I will turn aside to see this great sight, why the bush is not burned.' When the Lord saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, 'Moses, Moses!' And he said, 'Here I am.' Then he said, 'Do not come near; take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.' And he said, 'I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.' And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. Then the Lord said, 'I have surely seen the affliction of my

people who are in Egypt and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters. I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey.’ Then Moses said to God, ‘If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, “The God of your fathers has sent me to you”, and they ask me, “What is his name?” what shall I say to them?’ God said to Moses, ‘I Am Who I Am.’ And he said, ‘Say this to the people of Israel: “I Am has sent me to you.” ’ God also said to Moses, ‘Say this to the people of Israel: “The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you.” This is my name for ever, and thus I am to be remembered throughout all generations.’

This is the word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Remain seated to sing Psalm 103.



- 1 Praise the Lord, | O my | soul :
and all that is within me | praise his | holy | Name.
- 2 Praise the Lord, | O my | soul :
and for- | get not | all his | benefits;
- 3 Who forgiveth | all thy | sin :
and | healeth | all ' thine in- | firmities;
- 4 Who saveth thy | life ' from de- | struction :
and crowneth thee with | mercy ' and | loving- | kindness;

- 6 The Lord executeth | righteousness ' and | judgement :
for all them that are op- | pressed_ | with_ | wrong.
- 7 He shewed his ways | unto | Moses :
his works | unto ' the | children ' of | Israel.
- 8 The Lord is full of com- | passion ' and | mercy :
long-suffering, | and of | great_ | goodness.
- 11 For look how high the heaven is in comparison | of the | earth :
so great is his mercy also to- | ward_ | them that | fear him.

Remain seated for the second reading:

Reader A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the
Corinthians. (*1 Corinthians 10; 1-6, 10-12*)

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptised into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ. Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did, nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer. Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come. Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall.

This is the word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Stand for the gospel acclamation.

Choir Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God.
People **Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God.**
Choir Repent, says the Lord,
for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.
People **Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God.**

Priest The Lord be with you,
People **And also with you.**

Priest A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke. (*Luke 13; 1-9*).

People **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Priest There were some present at that very time who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. And he answered them, 'Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans because they suffered in this way? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish. Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them: do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who lived in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.'

And he told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. And he said to the vine dresser, "Look, for three years now I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down. Why should it use up the ground?" And he answered him, "Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig round it and put on manure. Then if it should bear fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down." '

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God.

Please sit for the Homily from Fr David.

All stand to say the Nicene Creed:

People I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father, through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Please remain standing for the Prayers of Intercession.

The Priest introduces and concludes the prayers.

Priest On this day that the Lord has made, let us give God the glory and pray for the people he has redeemed.

Reader Lord, in your mercy, / Lord, hear us.

People **Hear our prayer. / Lord, graciously hear us.**

At the prayer for the departed,

Reader Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord.

People **and let light perpetual shine upon them.**

When the prayers of the saints are asked,

Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among 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.

In conclusion to the prayers:

Priest Rejoicing, we commend ourselves and one another and all for whom we pray to Christ our God: that God's mercy and compassion may descend upon us all to save and defend us. Merciful Father,

People **Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Please sit, as the Choir sing "Lord, for thy Tender Mercies' Sake", by Richard Farrant (c.1530-1580), and bread and wine are brought to the altar.

Stand to sing hymn 571, as the altar is prepared and the collection is taken. If you want to give by card, there is a card reader at the back of church.

**Take my life, and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to thee;
Take my moments and my days,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.**

**Take my hands, and let them move
At the impulse of thy love;
Take my feet, and let them be
Swift and beautiful for thee.**

**Take my voice, and let me sing
Always, only, for my King;
Take my lips, and let them be
Filled with messages from thee.**

**Take my will, and make it thine:
It shall be no longer mine;
Take my heart: it is thine own;
It shall be thy royal throne.**

**Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure-store;
take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee.**

Frances Ridley Havergal (1836-79)

The Priest says

Priest Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

People **May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his holy Church.**

Priest Be pleased, O Lord, with these sacrificial offerings, and grant that we who beseech pardon for our own sins, may take care to forgive our neighbour. Through Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

The Priest sings the opening of the Eucharistic Prayer:

Priest The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Priest Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

The Priest prays the Preface to the Eucharistic Prayer, and then the Choir sing the Sanctus and Benedictus:

Choir 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.

Please kneel. The Eucharistic Prayer continues, until the Words of Institution.

Then all make the Memorial Acclamation:

Priest Great is the mystery of faith.

People **Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your cross and resurrection you have set us free.**

The Priest concludes the Eucharistic Prayer, and all sing:

People **Amen!**

Please stand for the Lord's Prayer.

Priest At the Saviour's command, and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say,

People **Our Father, who art in heaven hallowed be 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.**

Priest Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our day, that by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

People **For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever.**

Priest Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your apostles: Peace I leave you, my peace I give you; look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will. Who live and reign for ever and ever.

People **Amen.**

Priest The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Priest Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

The Choir sing the Agnus Dei

Choir O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world:
have mercy upon us. *(repeated)*

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world:
grant us thy peace.

Then kneel.

Priest Behold the Lamb of God. Behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

People **Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

Priest The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young: by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise.

The people come forward to receive Communion. If you have not been baptized and confirmed, please come forward for a blessing instead of Communion, carrying this order of service.

During Communion hymn 93 is sung, all remaining seated or kneeling.

Lord, in this thy mercy's day,
Ere it pass for ay away,
On our knees we fall and pray.

Lord, on us thy Spirit pour,
Kneeling lowly at the door,
Lest it close for evermore.

By thy night of agony,
By thy supplicating cry,
By thy willingness to die.

By thy tears of bitter woe,
For Jerusalem below,
Let us not thy love forego.

Grant us 'neath thy wings a place,
Lest we lose the day of grace,
Ere we shall behold thy face.

Isaac Williams (1802-65) altd.

All stand for the Post-Communion Prayer:

Priest As we receive the pledge of things yet hidden in heaven
and are nourished while still on earth with the Bread that
comes from on high, we humbly entreat you, O Lord, that
what is being brought about in us in mystery may come to
true completion. Through Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

Please sit for the notices.

Then stand for the blessing and dismissal

Priest The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Priest Direct, O Lord, we pray, the hearts of your faithful, and in your kindness grant your servants this grace: that, abiding in the love of you and their neighbour, they may fulfil the whole of your commands. Through Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

Priest May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

People **Amen.**

Priest Go forth, the Mass is ended.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The clergy and servers go to the shrine of Our Lady for the Angelus:

Priest The angel of the Lord brought tidings to Mary,

People **And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.**

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among 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.**

Priest Behold the handmaid of the Lord,

People **Be it unto me according to thy word.** Hail Mary...

Priest And the word was made flesh,

People **And dwelt among us.** Hail Mary...

Priest Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

People **That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.**

Priest Let us pray. We beseech you, O Lord, pour your grace into our hearts, so that as we have known the incarnation of your Son Jesus Christ through the message of an angel, so, by his cross and passion, we may be brought to the glory of his resurrection. Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

Remain standing to sing hymn 562 as clergy and servers depart:

**Rock of ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in thee;
Let the water and the blood,
From thy riven side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure,
Cleanse me from its guilt and power.**

**Not the labours of my hands
Can fulfil thy law's demands;
Could my zeal no respite know,
Could my tears for ever flow,
All for sin could not atone;
Thou must save, and thou alone.**

**Nothing in my hand I bring,
Simply to thy cross I cling;
Naked, come to thee for dress;
Helpless, look to thee for grace;
Foul, I to the fountain fly;
Wash me, Saviour, or I die.**

**While I draw this fleeting breath,
When mine eyes are closed in death,
When I soar through tracts unknown,
See thee on thy judgement throne;
Rock of ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in thee.**

Augustus Montague Toplady (1740-78) altd.

The organist plays "Fugue sur les Jeux d'Anches" by François Couperin (1668-1733).

Scripture readings are taken from the English Standard Version, Catholic Edition.

Collection: we take a collection during the second hymn, towards the cost of providing services and the upkeep of this church. If you are a UK taxpayer please place your offering in one of the envelopes in the pews (completed with your name and address) and place it in the collection plate when it is circulated during the hymn. Pens are in the pews. A card reader to give by contactless payment is available at the back of church. Special thanks if you give by standing order, as this helps us to budget.

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