



**THE ORDER FOR MASS ON
THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT
(MOTHERING SUNDAY)**

15TH MARCH, 2026, 10.30AM

Parish Priest

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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 you will find this service easy to follow, but please also do not be afraid to ask if you are unsure what to do at any point. The building is fitted with an Induction Loop - sit away from the pillars for best results!*

Families with small children are very welcome to make use of the carpeted area at the back of church, where you will find books, crayons and soft toys. Older children should join Children's Church.

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: Heritage Mass.

Please stand when the bell rings, for the procession of the clergy and servers, and to sing hymn 440:

**Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
Be all else but naught to me, save that thou art,
Be thou my best thought in the day and the night,
Both waking and sleeping, thy presence my light.**

**Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word
Be thou ever with me, and I with thee, Lord,
Be thou my great Father, and I thy true son,
Be thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.**

**Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight,
Be thou my whole armour, be thou my true might,
Be thou my soul's shelter, be thou my strong tower,
O raise thou me heavenward, great power of my power.**

**Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
Be thou my inheritance now and always,
Be thou and thou only the first in my heart,
O Sovereign of heaven, my treasure thou art.**

**High King of heaven, thou heaven's bright Sun,
O grant me its joys after victory is won,**

**Great heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be thou my vision, O Ruler of all.**

Irish 8th Cent, tr Mary Byrne (1880-1931) versified Eleanor Hull (1860-1935)

Then 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 the Children's Church to their activities, and invites the people to recall and confess their sins:

Priest Through our sins we have fallen short of the glory of God and grieved his Holy Spirit. In penitence and faith let us turn from our sins and ask for his mercy and pardon.

People **Lord our God, in our sin we have avoided your call. Our love for you is like a morning cloud, like the dew that goes away early. Have mercy on us; deliver us from judgement; bind up our wounds and revive us; in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

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

People **Amen.**

Remain standing to sing the Kyrie Eleison:

Cantor Lord have mercy. **Lord have mercy.**

Cantor Christ have mercy. **Christ have mercy.**

Cantor Lord have mercy. **Lord have mercy.**

Then the Priest prays the Collect:

Priest O God, who through your Word reconcile the human race to yourself in a wonderful way, grant, we pray, that with prompt devotion and eager faith the Christian people may hasten toward the solemn celebrations to come. 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. (1 Samuel 16; 1b, 6-7, 10-13a)

Reader A reading from the first book of Samuel.

In those days: The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil, and go. I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.'

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed is before him.' But the Lord said to Samuel, 'Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.' And Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Are all your sons here?' And he said, 'There remains yet the youngest, but behold, he is keeping the sheep.' And Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send and get him, for we will not sit down till he comes here.' And he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. And the Lord said, 'Arise, anoint him, for this is he.' Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers. And the Spirit of the Lord rushed upon David from that day forward.

This is the Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23 follows. Please remain seated to sing:



Walford Davies

- 1 The Lord | is my | shepherd :
therefore | can I | lack_ | nothing.**
- 2 He shall feed me in a | green_ | pasture :
and lead me forth be- | side the | waters ' of | comfort.**

- 3 He shall con- | vert my | soul :
and bring me forth in the paths of righteousness, | for his | Name's_ |
sake.
- 4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will |
fear no | evil :
for thou art with me; thy | rod ' and thy | staff_ | comfort me.
- 5 Thou shalt prepare a table before me against | them that | trouble me :
thou hast anointed my head with oil, and my | cup_ | shall be | full.
- 6 Surely thy loving-kindness and mercy shall follow me all the | days of '
my | life :
and I will dwell in the | house ' of the | Lord for | ever.

Remain seated for the Second Reading. (Ephesians 5; 8-14)

Reader A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians.
Brothers and Sisters: At one time you were darkness, but now you
are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light, for the fruit of light
is found in all that is good and right and true, and try to discern
what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works
of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to
speak of the things that they do in secret. But when anything is
exposed by the light, it becomes visible, for anything that
becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, 'Awake, O sleeper, and
arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.'
This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

We pause for reflection. Then stand for the Gospel Acclamation,

Choir Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

People **Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Choir I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
whoever follows me will have the light of life.

People **Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Priest The Lord be with you

People **And also with you.**

Priest A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.
(John 9; 1-41)

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

Priest

At that time: As Jesus passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. And his disciples asked him, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?' Jesus answered, 'It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.' Having said these things, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man's eyes with the mud and said to him, 'Go, wash in the pool of Siloam' (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing.

The neighbours and those who had seen him before as a beggar were saying, 'Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'It is he.' Others said, 'No, but he is like him.' He kept saying, 'I am the man.' So they said to him, 'Then how were your eyes opened?' He answered, 'The man called Jesus made mud and anointed my eyes and said to me, "Go to Siloam and wash." So I went and washed and received my sight.' They said to him, 'Where is he?' He said, 'I do not know.'

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, 'He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see.' Some of the Pharisees said, 'This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.' But others said, 'How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?' And there was a division among them. So they said again to the blind man, 'What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?' He said, 'He is a prophet.'

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, 'Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?' His parents answered, 'We know that this is our son and that he was born blind. But how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.' His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess Jesus to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, 'He is of age; ask him.'

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, 'Give glory to God. We know that this man is a

sinner.’ He answered, ‘Whether he is a sinner I do not know. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.’ They said to him, ‘What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?’ He answered them, ‘I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?’ And they reviled him, saying, ‘You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.’ The man answered, ‘Why, this is an amazing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshipper of God and does his will, God listens to him. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.’ They answered him, ‘You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?’ And they cast him out.

Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, ‘Do you believe in the Son of Man?’ He answered, ‘And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?’ Jesus said to him, ‘You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.’ He said, ‘Lord, I believe’, and he worshipped him. Jesus said, ‘For judgement I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.’ Some of the Pharisees near him heard these things, and said to him, ‘Are we also blind?’ Jesus said to them, ‘If you were blind, you would have no guilt; but now that you say, “We see”, your guilt remains.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

People **Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Please sit for the Homily from Fr Henry.

Then stand to recite 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 We make our prayers to him from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.

Reader Lord, in your mercy or *Reader* Lord, hear us

People **hear our prayer** or *People* **Lord, graciously hear us**

At the prayer for the departed,

Reader Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord,

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

When the prayers of the saints are asked for,

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 Bless us with your grace, renew our hearts and satisfy us with your mercy. Merciful Father,

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

Please sit as bread and wine are brought to the altar, and the choir sing the anthem, "Irish Blessing" by Bob Chilcott (b.1955).

Stand to sing hymn 282, as a collection is taken. If you want to give by card, there is a card reader at the back of church.

**Sing we of the blessed Mother
Who received the angel's word,
And obedient to his summons
Bore in love the infant Lord;
Sing we of the joys of Mary
At whose breast that child was fed
Who is Son of God eternal
And the everlasting Bread.**

**Sing we, too, of Mary's sorrows,
Of the sword that pierced her through,
When beneath the cross of Jesus
She the weight of suffering knew,
Looked upon her Son and Saviour
Reigning high on Calvary's tree,
Saw the price of man's redemption
Paid to set the sinner free.**

**Sing again the joys of Mary
When she saw the risen Lord,
And in prayer with Christ's apostles,
Waited on his promised word:
From on high the blazing glory
Of the Spirit's presence came,
Heavenly breath of God's own being,
Manifest through wind and flame.**

**Sing the chiefest joy of Mary
When on earth her work was done,
And the Lord of all creation
Brought her to his heavenly home:
Virgin Mother, Mary blessed,**

**Raised on high and crowned with grace,
May your Son, the world's redeemer,
Grant us all to see his face.**

George Bourne Timms (1910-1997)

Then 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 We place before you with joy these offerings, which bring eternal remedy, O Lord, praying that we may both faithfully revere them and present them to you, as is fitting, for the salvation of all the world. Through Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

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 all sing the Sanctus and Benedictus,

People **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts. Heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest.**

Please kneel. The Eucharistic Prayer continues, until 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 Eucharistic Prayer concludes, and all sing,
People Amen, amen, amen.

Please stand for the Lord's Prayer,

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

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.

Now sing the Agnus Dei

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us. (repeated)**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
grant us 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 Lord anointed my eyes: I went, I washed, I saw and I believed in God.

The people come forward to receive communion.

*If you have **not** been baptised and confirmed, please come forward for a blessing instead of communion, carrying this Order of Service.*

During communion hymn 394 is sung, for which all remain seated or kneeling,

**O Food of men wayfaring,
The Bread of Angels sharing,
O Manna from on high!
We hunger; Lord, supply us,
Nor thy delights deny us,
Whose hearts to thee draw nigh.**

**O Stream of love past telling,
O purest Fountain, welling
From out the Saviour's side!
We faint with thirst; revive us,
Of thine abundance give us,
And all we need provide.**

**O Jesu, by thee bidden,
We here adore thee, hidden
'Neath forms of bread and wine.
Grant when the veil is riven,**

We may behold, in heaven,

Thy countenance divine. *Latin 17th cent. Tr Athelstan Riley (1858-1945)*

Please stand for the Post-Communion Prayer:

Priest O God, who enlighten everyone who comes into this world, illuminate our hearts, we pray, with the splendour of your grace, that we may always ponder what is worthy and pleasing to your majesty and love you in all sincerity. Through Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

Please sit for the Notices.

The flowers which have been prepared are blessed.

Priest Lord God, you sent your Son Jesus to live as the son in the Holy Family of Nazareth, and you fill our lives with beauty. Bless these flowers which we have prepared that they may be signs to us of the beauty of your love, and the love within families. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

Then stand for the Blessing & Dismissal,

Priest The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Priest Look upon those who call to you, O Lord, and sustain the weak; give life by your unfailing light to those who walk in the shadow of death, and bring those rescued by your mercy from every evil to reach the highest good. Through Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

Priest And may the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you for ever.

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 432 as the clergy and servers depart.

Amazing grace! – how sweet the sound –

That saved a wretch like me!

I once was lost, but now am found,

Was blind, but now I see.

‘Twas grace that taught my heart to fear

And grace my fears relieved;

How precious did that grace appear

The hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils and snares

I have already come;

**'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.**

**The Lord has promised good to me,
His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.**

**And when this heart and flesh shall fail
And mortal life shall cease,
I shall possess within the veil
A life of joy and peace.**

**When we've been there ten thousand years
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we first begun.**

vv 1-5 John Newton (1725-1807) v 6 John Rees (1828-1900)

The organist then plays "Allegro" from Voluntary viii, Opus 5, by John Stanley (1713-86).

Scripture readings 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. A card reader to give by contactless payment is also available at the back of church. Special thanks if you give by standing order, as this helps us to budget.

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