

# The Blessed Virgin Mary

16 August 2020

## Hymn

The choir sings



**Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!  
Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice;  
Tender to me the promise of his Word;  
In God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.**

**Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his name!  
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;  
His mercy sure, from age to age the same;  
His holy Name, the Lord, the mighty One.**

**Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might!  
Powers and dominions lay their glory by;  
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight;  
The hungry fed, the humble lifted high.**

**Tell out, my soul, the glories of his Word!  
Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.  
Tell out my soul, the greatness of the Lord  
To children's children and for evermore!**

Timothy Dudley-Smith b.1926

## THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

### Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Rev 12.1

A great sign appeared in heaven:  
a woman clothed with the sun,  
and the moon beneath her feet,  
and on her head a crown of twelve stars.

### Greeting

✠ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

## Penitential Act

The choir sings

Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison.

The priest, deacon, or another minister says

Brothers and sisters, let us acknowledge our sins,  
and so prepare to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

Silence. Then all say

**Merciful God,  
our maker and our judge,  
we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,  
and in what we have failed to do:  
we have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;  
we repent, and are sorry for all our sins.  
Father, forgive us.  
Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

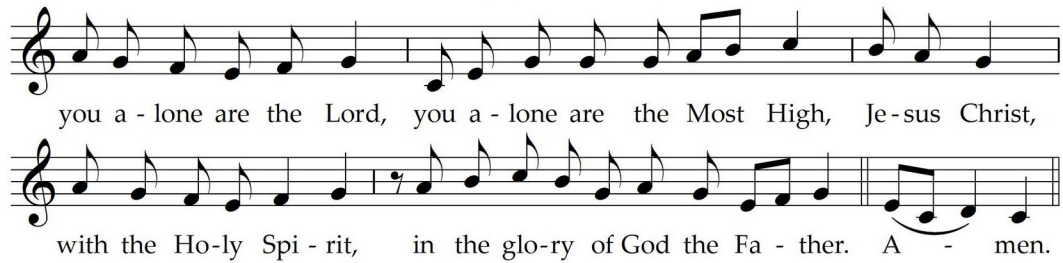
The priest says:

Almighty God,  
who has promised forgiveness  
to all who turn to him in faith:  
pardon ✠ you and set you free from all your sins,  
strengthen you in all goodness,  
and keep you in eternal life,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## Hymn of Praise



The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff. It begins with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature (C). The melody is simple and hymn-like, consisting of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are written below the staff, aligned with the notes. The score is divided into two parts: 'Priest or Cantor' and 'All'. The lyrics are: 'Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth. Lord God, hea-ven-ly King, al-migh-ty God and Fa - ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us; you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re-ceive our prayer. For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One,'



## Collect

Let us pray.

Loving God,  
who chose the blessed virgin Mary  
to be the mother of your incarnate Son:  
grant that we, who are redeemed by his blood,  
may share with her in the glory of your eternal kingdom;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

### First Reading

Isaiah 61.10 – 62.3

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

For the word of the Lord,  
**thanks be to God.**

### Psalm

Psalm 113.1-8

- 1 Praise the Lord, O sing praises, you that are his servants:  
O praise the name of the Lord.
- 2 Let the name of the Lord be blessed:  
from this time forward and for ever.
- 3 From the rising of the sun to its going down:  
let the name of the Lord be praised.
- 4 The Lord is exalted over all the nations:  
and his glory is above the heavens.
- 5 Who can be likened to the Lord our God:  
in heaven or upon the earth,
- 6 Who has his dwelling so high:  
yet condescends to look on things beneath?

- 7 He raises the lowly from the dust:  
and lifts the poor from out of the ash-heap;  
8 He gives them a place among the princes:  
even among the princes of his people.

## Second Reading

Galatians 4.4-7

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Galatians.

When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!' So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

For the word of the Lord,  
**thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation

Assumpta est Maria

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

Mary has been taken up into heaven;  
all the choirs of angels are rejoicing.

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

## Gospel

Luke 2.1-7

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

✠ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

A decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child.

While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

For the Gospel of the Lord,

**praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## Homily

Fr Graeme Kaines

Our Lady, the Blessed Virgin Mary, is honoured and revered as the Mother of our Lord, and we now have her very prominently in our liturgical Calendar in the Anglican Church. It is helpful to identify why we think so highly of her, almost apart from the fact that she is such an important mother.

In the Gospels we can read only snippets of information about Mary. The Gospels are principally about Jesus and references to others in his earthly story are for interest. So the Gospels have no interest in Mary for her own sake but only in relation to Jesus.

*The Visit to Cousin Elisabeth.* Mary does this to confirm the message she received from the

Archangel, Gabriel is true. The fact that Elisabeth is expecting a child confirms for Mary that the Archangel was not a dream but Elisabeth is a sign to her that her own pregnancy is real and a birth will happen. Nevertheless we can also see in this visit an indication of Mary's thoughtfulness and generosity in going to look after Elisabeth.

*Barren Women Pregnant.* There is no suggestion that Mary is naturally incapable of giving birth to children. Elisabeth had never given birth previously and hers was an unexpected pregnancy. She belongs to a line of childless women who eventually gave birth to great biblical people who carried out God's plans in history. The birth of Jesus is of a different order which is unique.

*Jesus Praises Mary for Who and What She Is.* A woman in a crowd suddenly cries out to Jesus, "Happy the womb which bore you!" and so on and Jesus responds "Still happier are they who hear the word of God and keep it!" Some take this as a put down of Mary but just as easily it affirms Mary as a model disciple for reasons which matter. We might say to someone how wonderful they are because of something they have done and someone else might reply that people who do a number of things, all of which the person has done, are wonderful.

Mary is regarded as first among the disciples – not because she is the mother of Jesus but because she was attentive to the Jesus' words and put them into action. If we are looking for an ideal follower of Christ to imitate, Mary is our example and in her entrance into the heavenly presence of God we can see the future glory which God has in store for those who try their best to follow the way of Jesus.

## **Profession of Faith**

Let us together affirm the faith of the Church:

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation,  
he came down from heaven;  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
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.**

**We 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 worshipped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life for the world to come. Amen.**

## **Prayers of the People**

**Leonie Zadow**

The beginning of spring is upon us. Every year I am in awe at the bursting forth of the daffodils you see before you. They remind me that in the earth, cradled in darkness, and dirt, the bulbs sit for nine months seemingly they die, but then life begins to open in them.

And from this core of brown, uninspiring clod, comes a brilliant, perfectly formed, beautifully arrayed yellow piece of wonder.

Pretty much every time this happens I am moved to pray that every person could see themselves in this wonder-filled act of life - the bringing forth of beauty and light from dirt, dark, ordinariness even apparent death.

I invite you today, if you feel so inclined, to keep your eyes open and dwell in the beauty of this flower that I hope might represent our prayers for the world much more effectively than my words.

Let us pray:

In the winding around of so many difficulties at this time in the world's history - of the pandemic, and its devastation in deaths, in illness, in fear, in social disarray, in human disconnection: that intertwined with the rising world unrest that seems to reflect both geopolitical and socio-racial distress, plus the incredible challenge of economic instability; capped by the continued alarm that is climate change; and all this straddled by the daily toll of life on our dear planet - Beirut, a disaster that should never have happened but has, refugees, homelessness, and our personal garden varieties of distress and challenge ... relational, physical emotional, so many needs.

In all that, creator God, we would want to see in the simple daffodil before us the hope and promise of a life that is lived under the proposition of you in our lives - that there is a beauty and a hope so astounding that it can change everything for each human' each creature, each piece of flora, the very earth herself.

And while we are blessed in such a way that we see that beauty and wonder in this simple flower and know it tells a greater story -we would pray now that every one comes to know that story too, and that in recognising it, they and we are transformed by it; that it might bring courage, wisdom, comfort, possibility, creativity and love.

We ask that you sustain this world with your power.

It might seem trite but this daffodil is the work of The Creator of our world, and of every

one of us. If this daffodil is, then we can believe in the prayers of our hearts for every person, creature, plant, and rock on our planet today.

Because this daffodil is a miracle, then the miracles we ask for in the name of those most in need, are more than a hope, they are a wonder we can hold.

Lord hear our prayers.

## Greeting of Peace

We are the body of Christ.

**God's Spirit is with us.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

## THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

During the preparation of the gifts, the chant is sung. Please note that there will be no Collection taken up: offerings of money can be left in the Collection plates at the front and rear of the pews.

Canon

1. Ma-gni-fi-cat, ma-gni-fi-cat, 2. ma-gni-fi-cat a-ni-ma me-a Do-mi-num.

3. Ma-gni-fi-cat, ma-gni-fi-cat, 4. ma-gni-fi-cat a-ni-ma me - a.

Jacques Berthier 1923-1994

When all is prepared, the priest says,

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

**May the Lord accept our sacrifice  
for the praise and glory of God's name,  
for our good, and the good of all God's holy Church.**

## Prayer over the Offerings

God of mercy,

receive all we offer you this day.

May we share with the Virgin Mary

the joys of your eternal kingdom,

and live with you in unending love.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

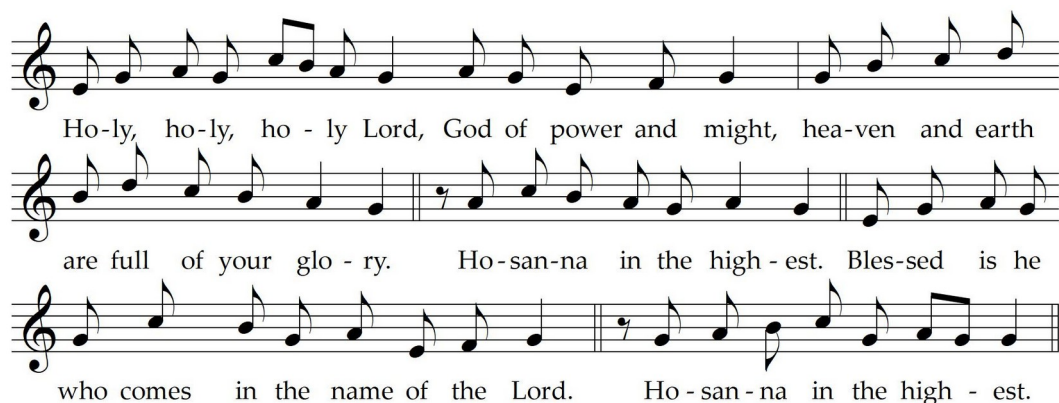
**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,  
to praise your mighty deeds in the exaltation of all the Saints,  
and especially, as we celebrate the memory of the Blessed Virgin Mary,  
to proclaim your kindness as we echo her thankful hymn of praise.

For truly even to earth's ends you have done great things  
and extended your abundant mercy from age to age:  
when you looked on the lowliness of your handmaid,  
you gave us through her the author of our salvation,  
your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Through him the host of Angels adores your majesty  
and rejoices in your presence for ever.

May our voices, we pray, join with theirs  
in one chorus of exultant praise, as we acclaim:



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, hea-ven and earth  
are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the high - est. Bles-sed is he  
who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

You are indeed Holy, O Lord,  
the fount of all holiness.

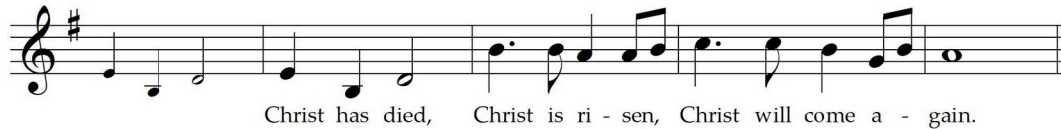
Make holy, therefore, these gifts, we pray,  
by sending down your Spirit upon them like the dewfall,  
so that they may become for us  
the Body and Blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

At the time he was betrayed  
and entered willingly into his Passion,  
he took bread and, giving thanks, broke it,  
and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take this, all of you, and eat of it  
for this is my bod  
which will be given up for you.



In a similar way, when supper was ended,  
he took the cup  
and, once more giving thanks,  
he gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take this, all of you, and drink from it,  
for this is the cup of my blood,  
the blood of the new and eternal covenant,  
which will be poured out for you and for many  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this in memory of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:



Therefore, as we celebrate  
the memorial of his Death and Resurrection,  
we offer you, Lord,  
the Bread of life and the Cup of salvation,  
giving thanks that you have held us worthy  
to be in your presence and minister to you.

Humbly we pray  
that, partaking of the Body and Blood of Christ,  
we may be gathered into one by the Holy Spirit.

Remember, Lord, your Church,  
spread throughout the world,  
and bring her to the fullness of charity,  
together with Geoffrey our Bishop  
and all those whose lives bring hope to this world.

Remember also our brothers and sisters  
who have fallen asleep in the hope of the resurrection,  
and all who have died in your mercy:  
welcome them into the light of your presence.

Have mercy on us all, we pray,  
that with the blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God,  
Mary Magdalene and all the Saints  
who have pleased you throughout the ages,  
we may be worthy to stand in your presence  
and may praise and glorify you  
through your Son, Jesus Christ.

Through whom, and with whom, and in whom  
O God, Father almighty, in the unity of the Holy Spirit  
is all honour and glory for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## THE COMMUNION RITE

### The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray:

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.**

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil,  
graciously grant peace in our days,  
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.

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

### The Breaking of the Bread

The priest breaks the bread, saying –

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.  
We who are many are one body,  
**for we all share in the one bread.**

While the bread is broken Agnus Dei is sung –



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world: grant us peace.

All receive Holy Communion. Communion will be administered in one kind only. Communicants are asked to approach the priest in single file, maintaining physical distance, returning to their places via the side aisles.

Those who are not to receive the Blessed Sacrament are invited to unite themselves with Jesus by making a Spiritual Communion.

### Act of Spiritual Communion

St Alphonsus Liguori

*My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there, and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.*

**During Communion the choir will sing**

Virgin-born, we bow before thee;  
blessèd was the womb that bore thee;  
Mary, mother meek and mild,  
blessèd was she in her child.  
Blessèd was the breast that fed thee;  
blessèd was the hand that led thee;  
blessèd was the parent's eye  
that watched thy slumbering infancy.

Blessèd she by all creation,  
who brought forth the world's Salvation,  
and blessèd they for ever blest,  
who love thee most and serve thee best.  
Virgin-born, we bow before thee;  
blessèd was the womb that bore thee;  
Mary, mother meek and mild,  
blessèd was she in her child.

Reginald Heber 1783-1826

Luke 1.48-49

**Communion Antiphon**

All generations will call me blessed,  
for he who is mighty has done great things for me.

**Prayer after Communion**

God of grace,  
today we raise our voices to magnify your holy name,  
and, in our own generation, to call her blessed  
who became the mother of our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
May we who have shared this holy food  
continue, with her, in your glorious kingdom,  
founded and established in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
We ask this in his name. **Amen.**

THE CONCLUDING RITES

**Blessing and Dismissal**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

God give you grace to follow Mary and all the saints  
in faith and hope and love;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

**The priest, deacon, or another minister says**

Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

# Hymn

The choir sings

Ma-ry, we hail you, full of God's fa - vour, Bless-ed are you, and  
bless-ed your Son; He will be called the child of the high - est,  
Sav-iour of all, the ho - ly one.

**Heavenly message, brought by an angel  
Coming to lift the hopes of the earth;  
Bringing to Mary humble and lowly,  
God's invitation to give the Christ birth.**

*Mary, we hail you, full of God's favour,  
Blessed are you, and blessed your Son;  
He will be called the child of the highest,  
Saviour of all, the holy one.*

**Mary replied to Gabriel's message,  
"I am the servant, maid of the Lord.  
Let it be done just as you have spoken.  
My soul rejoices in God's saving word."**

**In the beginning, when God had spoken,  
Through God's own Word all things came to be;  
Now by that Word, embodied through Mary,  
God's glory blazes, that our eyes may see.**

Paul Gibson b.1932

At the Shrine of Our Lady:

**The Angelus**

**Leader:** The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.

**Response:** **And she conceived by the Holy Ghost.**

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.

Blessèd art thou among women,

and blessèd is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

**Holy Mary, mother of God,**

**pray for us sinners, now, and at the hour of our death.**

**Leader:** Behold the handmaid of the Lord.

**Response:** **Be it unto me according to thy word.**

Hail Mary ... **Holy Mary** ...

**Leader:** And the Word was made Flesh.

**Response:** **And dwelt among us.**

Hail Mary ... **Holy Mary** ...

**Leader:** Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

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

Let us pray.

We beseech thee, O Lord, pour thy grace into our hearts : that, as we have known the incarnation of thy 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; through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.