



## EVENING PRAYER FOR USE AT HOME

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2021

The Sunday before Lent

### OPENING RESPONSES:

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.

### PSALM: 73

Truly God is loving unto Israel \*  
even unto such as are of a clean heart.  
Nevertheless, my feet were almost gone \*  
my treadings had well-nigh slipt.  
And why? I was grieved at the wicked \*  
I do also see the ungodly in such prosperity.  
For they are in no peril of death \*  
but are lusty and strong.  
They come in no misfortune like other folk \*  
neither are they plagued like other men.  
And this is the cause that they are so holden with pride \*  
and overwhelmed with cruelty.  
Their eyes swell with fatness \*  
and they do even what they lust.  
They corrupt other, and speak of wicked blasphemy \*  
their talking is against the most High.  
For they stretch forth their mouth unto the heaven \*  
and their tongue goeth through the world.  
Therefore fall the people unto them \*  
and thereout suck they no small advantage.  
Tush, say they, how should God perceive it \*  
is there knowledge in the most High?  
Lo, these are the ungodly, these prosper in the world, and these have riches in possession \*  
and I said, Then have I cleansed my heart in vain, and washed mine hands in innocency.  
All the day long have I been punished \*  
and chastened every morning.  
Yea, and I had almost said even as they \*  
but lo, then I should have condemned the generation of thy children.  
Then thought I to understand this \*  
but it was too hard for me,  
Until I went into the sanctuary of God \*  
then understood I the end of these men;  
Namely, how thou dost set them in slippery places \*  
and castest them down, and destroyest them.  
O how suddenly do they consume \*  
perish, and come to a fearful end!

Yea, even like as a dream when one awaketh \*  
so shalt thou make their image to vanish out of the city.  
Thus my heart was grieved \*  
and it went even through my reins.  
So foolish was I, and ignorant \*  
even as it were a beast before thee.  
Nevertheless, I am alway by thee \*  
for thou hast holden me by my right hand.  
Thou shalt guide me with thy counsel \*  
and after that receive me with glory.  
Whom have I in heaven but thee \*  
and there is none upon earth that I desire in comparison of thee.  
My flesh and my heart faileth \*  
but God is the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever.  
For lo, they that forsake thee shall perish \*  
thou hast destroyed all them that commit fornication against thee.  
But it is good for me to hold me fast by God, to put my trust in the Lord God \*  
and to speak of all thy works in the gates of the daughter of Sion.

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.

#### **FIRST LESSON: I Kings 19:1-16**

Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, 'So may the gods do to me, and more also, if I do not make your life like the life of one of them by this time tomorrow.' Then he was afraid; he got up and fled for his life, and came to Beer-sheba, which belongs to Judah; he left his servant there.

But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: 'It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors.' Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, 'Get up and eat.' He looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank, and lay down again. The angel of the LORD came a second time, touched him, and said, 'Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be too much for you.' He got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food for forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God. At that place he came to a cave, and spent the night there.

Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, 'What are you doing here, Elijah?' He answered, 'I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.'

He said, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by.' Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, 'What are you doing here, Elijah?' He answered, 'I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.' Then the LORD said to him, 'Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. Also you

shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place.'

**MAGNIFICAT:**

My soul doth magnify the Lord:  
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.  
For he hath regarded:  
the lowliness of his handmaiden.  
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.

**SECOND LESSON: 2 Peter 1:16-21**

We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honour and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, 'This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.' We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

**NUNC DIMITTIS:**

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.

### **THE APOSTLES' CREED:**

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 Spirit, 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 Spirit, the holy catholic 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 Queen.  
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.

### **THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

O Lord, who hast taught us that all our doings without charity are nothing worth; send thy Holy Spirit, and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of charity, the very bond of peace and of all virtues, without which whosoever liveth is counted dead before thee; grant this for thine only Son Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

## **COLLECT FOR PEACE**

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.

## **COLLECT FOR AID AGAINST ALL PERILS**

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.

## **PRAYERS**

O Christ, my Lord, again and again I have said with Mary Magdalene, 'They have taken away my Lord and I know not where they have laid him.' I have been desolate and alone. And you have found me again, and I know that what has died is not you, my Lord, but only my idea of you, the image which I have made to preserve what I have found, and to be my security. I shall make another image, O Lord, better than the last. That, too, must go, and all successive images, until I come to the blessed vision of yourself, O Christ, my Lord.

*George Appleton*

Fix thou our steps, O Lord, that we stagger not at the uneven motions of the world, but steadily go on to our glorious home; neither censuring our journey by the weather we meet with, nor turning out of the way for anything that befalls us. The winds are often rough, and our own weight presses us downwards. Reach forth, O Lord, thy hand, thy saving hand, and speedily deliver us. Teach us, O Lord, to use this transitory life as pilgrims returning to their beloved home; that we may take what our journey requires, and not think of settling in a foreign country.

*John Wesley*

Circle us, Lord; keep protection near and danger far.

Circle us, Lord; keep hope within, keep despair without.

Circle us, Lord; keep light near and darkness afar

Circle us, Lord; keep peace within and evil out.

*David Adam*

## *Pause for* **SILENT REFLECTION**

## **A PRAYER OF ST JOHN CHRYSOSTOM**

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise that when two or three are gathered together in thy Name thou wilt grant their requests: Fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be most expedient for them; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. Amen.

## **THE GRACE**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen.

*Bible passages in this service are from the New Revised Standard Version.*

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[belfastcathedral.org](http://belfastcathedral.org)

## Hymns suitable for use at home:

### ICH 431

Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour,  
first-begotten from the dead.  
thou alone, our strong defender,  
liftest up thy people's head.  
Alleluia ,alleluia,  
Jesus, true and living bread.

Here for faith's discernment praying,  
lest we fail to know thee now,  
here our deepest homage paying,  
we in loving reverence bow;  
alleluia, alleluia,  
thou art here, we ask not how.

Now through lowliest form do veil thee  
as of old in Bethlehem,  
angels in thy mystery hail thee;  
we in worship join with them.  
Alleluia, alleluia,  
branch and flower of Jesse's stem.

Paschal Lamb, thine offering, finished  
once for all when thou wast slain,  
in its fullness undiminished  
shall for evermore remain,  
alleluia ,alleluia,  
cleansing souls from every stain.

Great High Priest of our profession,  
through the veil thou wentest in,  
by thy mighty intercession  
grace and peace for us to win;  
alleluia, alleluia,  
only sacrifice for sin.

Life-imparting, heavenly manna,  
stricken Rock with streaming side,  
heaven and earth with loud hosanna  
worship thee, the Lamb that died.  
alleluia ,alleluia,  
Risen, ascended, glorified!

*Words: George Hugh Bourne (1840-1925)*

*Tune: ST. HELEN George C. Martin (1844-1916)*

### ICH 643

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

Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word,  
I ever with thee, and thou with me, Lord;  
thou my great Father, and I thy true heir;  
thou in me dwelling, and I in thy care.

Be thou my breast-plate, my sword for the fight;  
be thou my armour, and be thou my might;  
thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tower,  
raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor vain empty praise,  
thou mine inheritance through all my days;  
thou, and thou only, the first in my heart.  
High King of heaven, my treasure thou art!

High King of heaven, when the battle is done,  
Grant heaven's joy to me, O bright heaven's sun,  
Christ of my own heart, whatever befall,  
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

*Words: Early Irish tr. Mary Byrne (1880-1931), versified Eleanor Hull (1860-1935)*

*Tune: SLANE Irish traditional melody harmony by Erik Routley (1917-1982)*

## NOTICES

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2021: The First Sunday in Lent**  
11.00am Livestreamed Morning Prayer: A Service of the Word.  
*Preacher: Canon M. Niblock, Dean's Vicar*

Under current restrictions most of the cathedral staff will also be "home working"  
and so the Cathedral Offices will not be routinely open.  
In case of pastoral emergency, please contact Rev. Janice Elsdon, the Dean's Vicar or the Dean.

### **Ash Wednesday Service – 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2021**

Please tune in at **7.30pm** to the Belfast Cathedral Facebook page for a livestreamed **Service of Choral Eucharist for Ash Wednesday** to mark the beginning of Lent 2021.

Music includes: W. Byrd "A Mass for Four Voices", A. Scarlatti "Miserere mei, Deus" and R. Farrant "Call to Remembrance, O Lord"

### **Please remember that you can continue to make your FWO contribution to the Cathedral via On-line Banking.**

Bank Details for the Cathedral Account which you will need to make an On-line Banking Transfer are as follows:

Cathedral Bank Branch:

**Bank of Ireland, City Centre Branch, 1 Donegall Square South, Belfast. BT1 5LR.**

Name of Account: **Parochial No 1 Current Account**

Sort Code: **90-21-27**

Account Number: **10006051**

Please give your own name as the Payment Reference.

*Thank you for your continuing financial support for Belfast Cathedral*

### **A Form of Declaration to Register as an Accustomed Member of the General Vestry of the Cathedral Parish of St Anne Belfast is printed below**

**If you are over the age of 18, have contributed to the cathedral finances, and wish your name to be added to the Register of Vestry Members, please complete this form, scan a copy and e-mail it to the Dean ( [dean@belfastcathedral.org](mailto:dean@belfastcathedral.org) ) by 7.00pm Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> February, 2021.**

**The Meeting to revise the Register of Vestry Members will be held on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> February, 2021**



### **Form of Declaration to apply as an Accustomed Member for the General Vestry of the Cathedral Parish of St Anne, Belfast.**

I, *(Insert your Full Names)*.....

Of *(Insert your full address)*.....

do hereby solemnly declare that I am a member of the Church of Ireland, and that I have for three calendar months last past been, and now am, an accustomed member of the congregation attending the Cathedral Church of St Anne, Belfast, in the parish of St Anne, Belfast, in the diocese of Connor, and that I am not registered as a vestry member in any other church or chapel or church hall in Ireland as an accustomed member of the congregation.

Signed.....

Name (in block capitals).....

Address.....

..... Date.....