

All Saints' Margaret Street

High Mass

The Fourth Sunday in Lent 19th March, 2023, 11am

The Mass is sung today to the Mass in G by Franz Schubert (1797-1828)

The choir sings **THE INTROIT:**
Lætare Ierusalem

THE INTRODUCTION & GREETING

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

The Lord be with you
And with thy spirit.

ASPERGES

Dear brothers and sisters, let us prepare our hearts for the celebration of this Mass by reminding ourselves of the forgiveness we received through the waters of baptism, and our need of God's healing and mercy.

God our Father, thy gift of water brings life and freshness to the earth; in baptism it is a sign of the washing away of our sins and the gift of life eternal. Sanctify this water, we pray. Renew the living spring of thy life within us, that we may be free from sin and filled with thy saving health, through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The people are sprinkled whilst the choir sings:

Thou shalt purge me, O Lord, with hyssop, and I shall be clean: thou shalt wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Have mercy upon me, O God: after thy great goodness.

May the God of love and power forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by his Spirit, and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord.

Amen.

KYRIE ELEISON is sung by the choir:

Kyrie eleison	Lord, have mercy
Christe eleison	Christ, have mercy
Kyrie eleison	Lord, have mercy

THE COLLECT

O Lord, we beseech thee, absolve thy people from their offences, that through thy bountiful goodness we may all be delivered from the bands of those sins which by our frailty we have committed; grant this, O heavenly Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our blessed Lord and Saviour, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING:

1 Samuel 16.1-13

The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the Lord said, "Take a heifer with you and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do, and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." Samuel did what the Lord commanded and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably. I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely his anointed is now

before the Lord." 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 does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him, for we will not sit down until he comes here." He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. The Lord said, "Rise and anoint him, for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

This is the word of the Lord:
Thanks be to God.

PSALM 23 *is sung by the choir*

1. The Lord is my shepherd : therefore can I lack nothing.
2. He shall feed me in a green pasture : and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort.
3. He shall convert 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. But 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.

THE SECOND READING:

Ephesians 5.8-14

For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Walk as children of light, for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness; rather, expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly, but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

This is the word of the Lord:
Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.
Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

They that put their trust in the Lord shall be even as the mount Sion: which may not be removed, but standeth fast for ever.

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

THE HOLY GOSPEL:

John 9.1-41

The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Glory be to thee, O Lord.

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed 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." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went

and washed and came back able to see. The neighbours and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am he." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then 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. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath." Others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." 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 we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would 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 they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. 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?" Then 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, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out. Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see may see and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to thee, O Christ.

THE SERMON

Fr. Alan Rimmer

All sing **THE CREED**

Text and music are found on p562 of the hymnal

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The response is:

Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

The prayer concludes:

Merciful Father, **accept these prayers for the sake of thy Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

THE PEACE

“Where two or three are gathered together in my name”, saith the Lord, “there am I in the midst of them”.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And with thy spirit.

THE OFFERTORY

Please note that a collection is raised at the end of the service, rather than at this point.

The choir sings **THE MOTET:**

Robert Parsons (1535-72), Ave Maria

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb. Amen.

(Marian prayer)

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

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

We beseech thee, O Lord, mercifully to have respect unto these our oblations: that they may be profitable unto us for our increase in all godliness, and for the advancement of everlasting salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.
It is meet and right so to do.

The preface continues.

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS *are sung by the 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.

The canon continues.

Jesus Christ is Lord: **O Saviour of the world, who by thy cross and precious blood hast redeemed us, save us, and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.**

The canon concludes:

O Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

AGNUS DEI *is sung by the choir*

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

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

Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldst come under my roof, but speak the word only and my soul shall be healed.

The choir sings **THE COMMUNION CHANT:**
Dominus inivit oculos meos

Please use either of the two Communion stations. Gluten-free hosts are available at the Lady Altar station. Those with mobility issues are advised to use the Lady Altar station.

All sing **THE COMMUNION HYMN:**
294 Just as I am, without one plea

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord God, whose blessed Son our Saviour gave his back to the smiters and hid not his face from shame: give us grace to endure the sufferings of this present time with sure confidence in the glory that shall be revealed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE BLESSING

To which all respond: **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

Go in the peace of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

All sing **THE FINAL HYMN:**
64 Be thou my guardian and my guide

All sing **THE ANGELUS:**

The Angel of the Lord brought tidings to Mary.
And she conceived by the Holy Ghost.

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.

Behold the handmaid of the Lord.
Be it unto me according to thy word.

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.

And the Word was made flesh.
And dwelt among us.

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.

Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.
That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

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.**

VOLUNTARY: Felix Mendelssohn (1809-47),
i. Con moto maestoso *from* Organ Sonata no. 3
in A

A retiring collection is raised. Please make donations in the collection plate or tap your debit or credit card on the machine.

The bar is open for one hour after Mass.