

# All Saints' Margaret Street

## High Mass

Ash Wednesday

14<sup>th</sup> February, 2024, 6.30pm

*The Mass is sung today to the Missa Emendemus in melius by G. P. da Palestrina, 1525-94*

*All sing the response to* **THE LENTEN PROSE**



Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us:  
for we have sinned against thee.

**Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us:  
for we have sinned 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...**

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...**

God, we implore thee, in thy glory seated: bow  
down and hearken to thy weeping children:  
pity and pardon all our grievous trespasses.  
**Hear us, O Lord...**

*The choir sings* **THE INTROIT**  
Misereris omnium, Domine

### **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.**

### **THE COLLECT**

Almighty and everlasting God, who hatest  
nothing that thou hast made and dost forgive  
the sins of all them that are penitent: create  
and make in us new and contrite hearts that  
we, worthily lamenting our sins and  
acknowledging our wretchedness, may  
obtain of thee, the God of all mercy, perfect  
remission and forgiveness; through Jesus

Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and  
reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy  
Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **THE FIRST READING** Joel 2.1-2, 12-17

Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on  
my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of  
the land tremble, for the day of the Lord is  
coming, it is near—a day of darkness and  
gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness!  
Like blackness spread upon the mountains a  
great and powerful army comes; their like has  
never been from of old, nor will be again after  
them in ages to come. Yet even now, says the  
Lord, return to me with all your heart, with  
fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;  
rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return  
to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and  
merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in  
steadfast love, and relents from punishing.  
Who knows whether he will not turn and  
relent, and leave a blessing behind him, a  
grain-offering and a drink-offering for the  
Lord, your God? Blow the trumpet in Zion;  
sanctify a fast; call a solemn assembly; gather  
the people. Sanctify the congregation;  
assemble the aged; gather the children, even  
infants at the breast. Let the bridegroom leave  
his room, and the bride her canopy. Between  
the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the  
ministers of the Lord, weep. Let them say,  
'Spare your people, O Lord, and do not make  
your heritage a mockery, a byword among the  
nations. Why should it be said among the  
peoples, "Where is their God?"'

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

**PSALM 51.1-17** is sung by the choir

1. Have mercy upon me, O God, after thy great  
goodness : according to the multitude of thy  
mercies do away mine offences.

2. Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness : and cleanse me from my sin.

3. For I acknowledge my faults : and my sin is ever before me.

4. Against thee only have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight : that thou mightest be justified in thy saying, and clear when thou art judged.

5. Behold, I was shapen in wickedness : and in sin hath my mother conceived me.

6. But lo, thou requirest truth in the inward parts : and shalt make me to understand wisdom secretly.

7. Thou shalt purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean : thou shalt wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

8. Thou shalt make me hear of joy and gladness : that the bones which thou hast broken may rejoice.

9. Turn thy face from my sins : and put out all my misdeeds.

10. Make me a clean heart, O God : and renew a right spirit within me.

11. Cast me not away from thy presence : and take not thy holy Spirit from me.

12. O give me the comfort of thy help again : and stablish me with thy free Spirit.

13. Then shall I teach thy ways unto the wicked: and sinners shall be converted unto thee.

14. Deliver me from blood-guiltiness, O God, thou that art the God of my health : and my tongue shall sing of thy righteousness.

15. Thou shalt open my lips, O Lord : and my mouth shall shew thy praise.

16. For thou desirest no sacrifice, else would I give it thee : but thou delightest not in burnt-offerings.

17. The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit : a broken and contrite heart, O God, shalt thou not despise.

## THE SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 5.20-6.10

So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. As we work together

with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, 'At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you.' See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labours, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honour and dishonour, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see – we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

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

*All sing* **THE GRADUAL HYMN**  
**59 Now is the healing time decreed**

## THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

Make me a clean heart, O God : and renew a right spirit within me.

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

## THE HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 6.1-6, 16-21

The Lord be with you. **And with thy spirit.**

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

**Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

'Beware of practising your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven. So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the

synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

**THE SERMON** The Vicar, Fr. Peter Anthony

### **THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES**

Brethren, it has been the custom in the Church from ancient times to observe with great devotion the days of our Lord's Passion and Resurrection, and to prepare for the same by a season of penitence and fasting. To make a right beginning of repentance, and as a mark of our mortal nature, let us ask God our Father that he vouchsafe to bless these ashes with an abundance of his grace.

*The ashes are blessed:*

O God, who desirest not the death of a sinner, but rather that he should turn from his sin and be saved, mercifully look upon the mortality of our mortal nature, and of thy goodness vouchsafe to bless these ashes now to be set upon our heads in token of humility and to obtain pardon; that we knowing we are but dust and that for our unworthiness unto dust shall return, may through thy mercy be found meet to receive forgiveness of all our sins, and those good things which thou hast promised to the penitent, through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The faithful approach the celebrant, who places ashes on each person's forehead.*

*The choir sings* **THE MOTET** Nolo mortem peccatoris – Thomas Morley, 1557-1602

Nolo mortem peccatoris;

Hæc sunt verba Salvatoris.

*["I do not wish the death of a sinner."]*

*These are the words of the Saviour.]*

Father I am thine only Son, sent down from heav'n mankind to save. Father, all things fulfilled and done according to thy will, I have. Father, my will now all is this:

*Nolo mortem peccatoris.*

Father, behold my painful smart, taken for man on ev'ry side; Ev'n from my birth to death most tart, no kind of pain I have denied, but suffered all, and all for this:

*Nolo mortem peccatoris.*

*(John Redford)*

### **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**

In Christ Jesus, ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ, for he is our peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And with thy spirit.**

## THE OFFERTORY

*The choir sings* **THE MOTET** Emendemus in melius – William Byrd, 1543-1623

Let us amend for the better in those things in which we have sinned through ignorance; lest suddenly overtaken by the day of death, we seek space for repentance, and be not able to find it. Hearken, O Lord, and have mercy: for we have sinned against thee. Help us, O God of our salvation, and for the honour of thy name deliver us. (*Responsory for the day*)

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.**

Grant, we beseech thee, O Lord: that like as we do by these our oblations bring to remembrance the institution of this holy Sacrament, so we may by thee be enabled to offer the same according to thy will; 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, 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. (*twice*)

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**  
Qui meditabitur in lege Domini

*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**  
**62 Ah, holy Jesu**

## THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We beseech thee, Lord, mercifully to protect us who have now received this holy Sacrament: that this our fast may be acceptable in thy sight and profitable unto us for the healing of our souls; 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**  
**74 O for a heart to praise my God**

*A retiring collection is raised. The bar is closed.*

