

EVENSONG & BENEDICTION



Quinquagesima, or
the Next Sunday before Lent
15th February 2026

SAINT JOHN'S EAST MALVERN

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EVENSONG

Please stand when the bells are rung. The Ministers enter as a hymn is sung.

1. Let all mortal flesh keep silence
and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly-minded,
for with blessing in his hand
Christ our God to earth descending
comes full homage to demand.
2. King of kings, yet born of Mary,
as of old on earth he stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture,
in the body and the blood,
he will give to all the faithful
his own self for heavenly food.
3. Rank on rank the host of heaven
spreads its vanguard on the way,
as the Light of light comes shining
from the realms of endless day,
that the powers of hell may vanish
as the darkness clears away.
4. At his feet the six-winged seraphs,
cherubim with sleepless eye,
veil their faces to the presence,
as with ceaseless voice they cry,
alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia, Lord most high!

*From the Liturgy of St James c. 4th century
tr. Gerald Moultrie 1829-85 alt
TIS 497*

- V. O Lord, open thou our lips. *Here it is customary to trace a cross on the lips.*
R. And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

- V. O ✕ God, make speed to save us. *Here it is customary to make the Sign of the Cross*
R. O Lord, make haste to help us.

Here it is customary to make a low bow from the waist until the words ‘...Holy Ghost’

- V. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
R. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

- V. Praise ye the Lord.
R. The Lord’s name be praised.

The Officiant welcomes the congregation. Please sit as we sing together the PSALM.

PSALM 53

THE foolish body hath said in his heart :

There is no God.

Corrupt are they, and become abominable in their wickedness :

there is none that doeth good.

God looked down from heaven upon the children of men :

to see if there were any that would understand, and seek after God.

But they are all gone out of the way, they are altogether become abominable :

there is also none that doeth good, no not one.

Are not they without understanding, that work wickedness :

eating up my people as if they would eat bread?

they have not called upon God.

They were afraid where no fear was :

for God hath broken the bones of him that besieged thee; thou hast put

them to confusion, because God hath despised them.

O that the salvation were given unto Israel out of Sion :

O that the Lord would deliver his people out of captivity!

Then should Jacob rejoice :

and Israel should be right glad.

Here it is customary to bow until the words ‘...Holy Ghost’

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.

Remain seated for the FIRST LESSON from the Old Testament.

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah

[59.1-9]

See, the Lord's hand is not too short to save,
nor his ear too dull to hear.

Rather, your iniquities have been barriers
between you and your God,
and your sins have hidden his face from you
so that he does not hear.

For your hands are defiled with blood,
and your fingers with iniquity;
your lips have spoken lies,
your tongue mutters wickedness.

No one brings suit justly,
no one goes to law honestly;
they rely on empty pleas, they speak lies,
conceiving mischief and begetting iniquity.

They hatch adders' eggs,
and weave the spider's web;
whoever eats their eggs dies,
and the crushed egg hatches out a viper.

Their webs cannot serve as clothing;
they cannot cover themselves with what they make.

Their works are works of iniquity,
and deeds of violence are in their hands.

Their feet run to evil,
and they rush to shed innocent blood;
their thoughts are thoughts of iniquity,
desolation and destruction are in their highways.

The way of peace they do not know,
and there is no justice in their paths.

Their roads they have made crooked;
no one who walks in them knows peace.

Therefore justice is far from us,
and righteousness does not reach us;
we wait for light, and lo! there is darkness;
and for brightness, but we walk in gloom.

Here endeth the first lesson.

Please stand to sing the MAGNIFICAT, the Song of the Blessed Virgin Mary

SET B

W. KNYVETT. (from Handel)



MY ✕ soul doth | magnify the | Lord : *here it is customary to make the Sign of the Cross*
and my spirit hath re | joicèd in | God my | Saviour.

For he | hath re | garded :

 The | lowliness | of his | hand-maiden.

For be | hold, from | henceforth :

 all gene | rations shall | call me | blessedèd.

For he that is mighty hath | magni•fièd | me :

 And | holy | is his | Name.

And his mercy is on | them that | fear him :

 Through | out all | gene | rations.

He hath shewèd | strength • with his | arm :

 he hath scatterèd the proud in the imagi | nation | of their | hearts.

He hath put down the mighty | from their | seat :

 and hath ex | alted the | humble and | meek.

He hath fillèd the hungry with | good | things :

 and the rich he | hath sent | empty a | way.

He re | membering his | mercy :

 hath | holpen his | servant | Israel.

As he promised | to our | fore•fathers :

 Abraham | and his | seed for | ever.

Here it is customary to make a low bow from the waist until the words '...Holy Ghost'

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. A | -- | men.

Please sit for the SECOND LESSON from the New Testament.

All have turned aside, together they have become worthless;
 there is no one who shows kindness,
 there is not even one.'

'Their throats are opened graves;
 they use their tongues to deceive.'

'The venom of vipers is under their lips.'

'Their mouths are full of cursing and bitterness.'

'Their feet are swift to shed blood;
 ruin and misery are in their paths,
 and the way of peace they have not known.'

'There is no fear of God before their eyes.'

Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. For 'no human being will be justified in his sight' by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin. But now, irrespective of law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe.

Here endeth the second lesson.

Please stand to sing NUNC DIMITTIS, the Song of Simeon

SET C

G. A. MACFARREN.

LORD now lettest thou thy servant de | part in | peace :
 ac | cording | to thy | word.

For mine eyes have | seen thy sal | vation :
 which thou hast preparèd before the | face of | all | people.

To be a light to | lighten the | Gentiles :
 and to be the | glory • of thy | people | Israel.

Here it is customary to make a low bow from the waist until the words '...Holy Ghost'

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. A | - - | men.

The APOSTLES' CREED is said as all face the window of 'Christ the Light of the World'

I BELIEVE in God the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: and in *here it is customary to make a slight bow* Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, 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 Ghost; the holy catholick Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection **¶** *here it is customary to make the Sign of the Cross* of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The VERSICLES AND RESPONSES are sung.

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And with thy spirit.

All kneel or sit

V. Let us pray.

V. Lord, have mercy upon us.

R. **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

V. Lord, have mercy upon us.

The LORD'S PRAYER is sung

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.

V. O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.

R. **And grant us thy salvation.**

V. O Lord, save the King.

R. **And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.**

V. Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.

R. **And make thy chosen people joyful.**

V. O Lord, save thy people.

R. **And bless thine inheritance.**

V. Give peace in our time, O Lord.

R. **Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.**

V. O God, make clean our hearts within us.

R. **And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.**

The Officiant sings the COLLECTS: the first of the day, the second for Peace, the third for Aid against all Perils

O LORD, who hast taught us that all our doings without charity are nothing worth: Send thy Holy Ghost, 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.**

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.**

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.**

Please sit for the MUSICAL REFLECTION

Please stand to sing the hymn as the Blessed Sacrament is placed upon the altar

1. Sweet Sacrament divine,
hid in thy earthly home,
lo, round thy lowly shrine,
with suppliant hearts we come;
Jesu, to thee our voice we raise,
in songs of love and heartfelt praise,
Sweet Sacrament divine,
Sweet Sacrament divine.
2. Sweet Sacrament of peace,
dear home for every heart,
where restless yearnings cease,
and sorrows all depart,
there in thine ear all trustfully
we tell our tale of misery,
Sweet Sacrament of peace,
Sweet Sacrament of peace.
3. Sweet Sacrament of rest,
Ark from the ocean's roar,
within thy shelter blest
soon may we reach the shore;
save us, for still the tempest raves;
save, lest we sink beneath the waves,
Sweet Sacrament of rest,
Sweet Sacrament of rest.
4. Sweet Sacrament divine,
earth's light and jubilee,
in thy far depths doth shine
the Godhead's majesty;
sweet light, so shine on us, we pray,
that earthly joys may fade away,
Sweet Sacrament divine,
Sweet Sacrament divine.

*Francis Stanfield 1835-1914
New English Hymnal 307*

BENEDICTION

It is customary to kneel throughout the rite of Benediction, kneelers are provided for this purpose in the front row of chairs in the chapel. However those unable to kneel may remain seated. This hymn is sung kneeling as the Blessed Sacrament is exposed and honoured with incense

**O saving Victim, opening wide
The gate of heaven to man below;
Our foes press hard on every side,
Thine aid supply, thy strength bestow.**

**All praise and thanks to thee ascend
For evermore, blest One in Three;
O grant us life that shall not end,
In our true native land with thee. Amen.**

St Thomas Aquinas 1227-74, tr. J. M. Neale 1818-66
NEH 2

A LITANY or prayers are offered

Lord Jesus, our faith is grounded in you,
hear us as we pray in your name, saying:
Lord, make haste to help us.

That we may look upon the needs of others and put on your compassion:
Lord, make haste to help us.

That we may put to death all arrogance and pride and put on your humility:
Lord, make haste to help us.

That we may be set free from anger and put on your patience:
Lord, make haste to help us.

That we may leave behind all bitterness and resentment and put on your
forgiveness:
Lord, make haste to help us.

That in all we do or say we may be filled with your love:
Lord, make haste to help us.

That we may pass unharmed through the hour of death and put on your glory.
Lord, make haste to help us.

Lord in you alone is the Father perfectly glorified. At this evening hour may your Spirit in us praise the marvels of our salvation.

Silence

The LITANY concludes with the following response repeated three times

Blessed, praised and hallowed be Jesus Christ upon His Throne of Glory
and in the most Holy Sacrament of the Altar.

The priest and people sing together as the Blessed Sacrament is honoured with incense

**5. Therefore we, before him bending,
This great sacrament revere:
Types and shadows have their ending,
For the newer rite is here;
Faith, our outward sense befriending,
Makes the inward vision clear.**

**6. Glory let us give and blessing
To the Father and the Son,
Honour, might and praise addressing,
While eternal ages run;
Ever too his love confessing,
Who, from both, with both, is one. Amen.**

*St Thomas Aquinas 1227-74
tr. J. M. Neale 1818-66
NEH 268*

**V. Thou gavest them bread from heaven.
R. Containing in itself all sweetness.**

Let us pray.

O God, who in a wonderful sacrament hast left us a memorial of thy passion; grant us, so to worship the sacred mysteries of thy Body and Blood, that we may ever perceive within ourselves the fruit of thy redemption: who livest and reignest, world without end. **Amen.**

Then BENEDICTION is given with the Blessed Sacrament. Bow down in profound adoration while the Priest gives Benediction. Make the sign of the Cross, and ask for your Saviour's blessing on yourself and on the whole Church.

While the bell rings, say in your heart:

Blessed and praised every moment be the Most Holy and Divine Sacrament.

The priest then says, with the people repeating each line, the DIVINE PRAISES

Blessed be God.

Blessed be God.

Blessed be His Holy Name.

Blessed be His Holy Name.

Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God and true Man.

Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God and true Man.

Blessed be the Name of Jesus.

Blessed be the Name of Jesus.

Blessed be Jesus Christ in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar.

Blessed be Jesus Christ in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar.

Blessed be the Holy Ghost, the Comforter.

Blessed be the Holy Ghost, the Comforter.

Blessed be the Mother of God, Mary most holy.

Blessed be the Mother of God, Mary most holy.

Blessed be the Name of Mary, Virgin and Mother.

Blessed be the Name of Mary, Virgin and Mother.

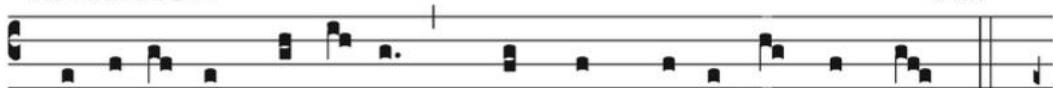
Blessed be God in His Angels and in His Saints.

Blessed be God in His Angels and in His Saints.

The following is sung

ANTIPHON

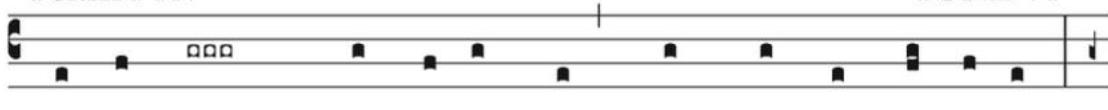
Fine



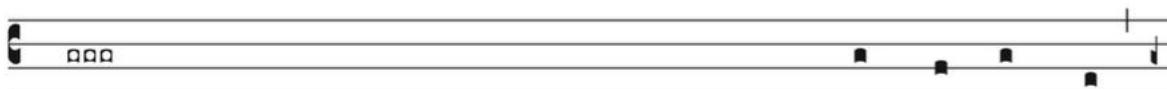
Let us a-dore for e-ver * **the most ho-ly sac-ra-ment.**

PSALM 117

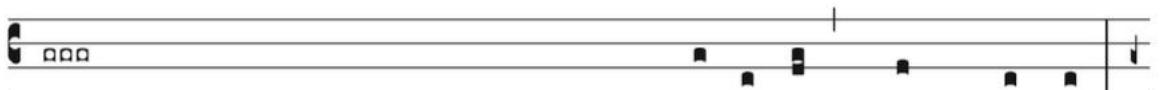
TONE VI



O praise the Lord, all ye hea-then: **praise him, all ye na-tions.**

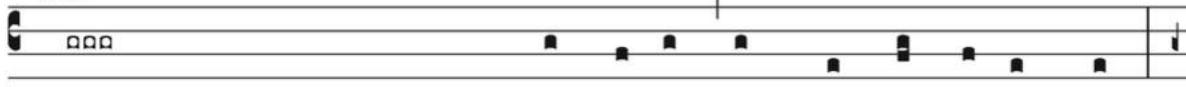


For his merciful kindness is ever more and more to-wards us:



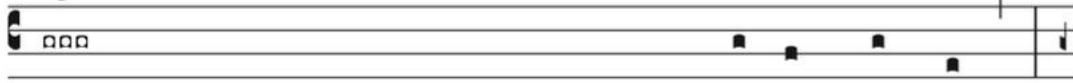
and the truth of the Lord endureth for ev-er. Praise the Lord.

Bow



Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Ho-ly Ghost;

Up



as it was in the beginning, is now, and ev-er shall be:

Return to top



world with-out end. A-men. Let us a-dore...

The organist plays the POSTLUDE

Please join us for cheese and wine after the service



Saint John's Finch Street

www.saintjohns.org.au

ASH WEDNESDAY MASS WITH IMPOSITION OF ASHES

featuring Byrd's Mass for Three Voices and the
Motet "Remember not, Lord, our offences" by
Henry Purcell

WEDNESDAY 18TH FEBRUARY
6PM

followed by a simple
Lenten meal and the
first of our Lenten
Studies

SAINT JOHN'S FINCH STREET
WWW.SAINTOHNS.ORG.AU

WHAT'S ON?

Finch St Concerts

St John's East Malvern

**FEB
12**

WATTLESEED ENSEMBLE

Celebrating the beauty of nature with baroque, folk, and contemporary music.

**FEB
27**

JOSH LAYNE

'Harp genius' who has performed extensively across Canada, US, Europe, South America.

**FEB
28**

ROWAN SWARBRICK & CHAI JIE-LOW

Double Bass & Piano recital featuring works by Schubert and Herti.

**FEB
28**

MALVERN CHAMBER FESTIVAL:

Australia's leading wind ensembles Arcadia Winds & Trio Arapiles.

**MAR
8**

JASON JI & PO GOH

Saxophone & Piano recital premiering Japanese works alongside Western Classics

**MAR
13**

EDMUND MANTELLI

Viola Recital featuring the Cedar Collective Quartet.

**MAR
15**

OCEAN SAX QUARTET

Featuring new music by Asian-Australian composers & string quartet arrangements

**MAR
22**

MARCUS HO & PETER DE JAGER

Saxophone & Piano recital featuring Western staples





SAINT JOHN'S FINCH STREET

MUSIC HIGHLIGHTS 2026

ASH WEDNESDAY *Wednesday February 18, 6pm*

TENEBRAE *Tuesday March 31, 7:30pm*

MAUNDY THURSDAY *Thursday April 2, 7pm*

GOOD FRIDAY DEVOTION *Friday April 3, 10am*

EASTER SUNDAY *Sunday April 5, 9:30am*

BACH CANTATA EVENSONG *Sunday May 3, 6pm*

SCHOLARS' SOIREE *Friday May 22, 7pm*

MIDWINTER COMPLINE *Sunday June 28, 8pm*

CHOIR SHOWCASE CONCERT *Friday July 31, 7pm*

CATHEDRAL EVENSONG *Sunday August 30, 4pm*

ALL SOULS' REQUIEM *Sunday November 1, 7pm*

NINE LESSONS & CAROLS *Sunday December 20, 7:30pm*

MIDNIGHT MASS *Thursday December 24, 11pm*

CHRISTMAS MORNING *Friday December 25, 9:30am*

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