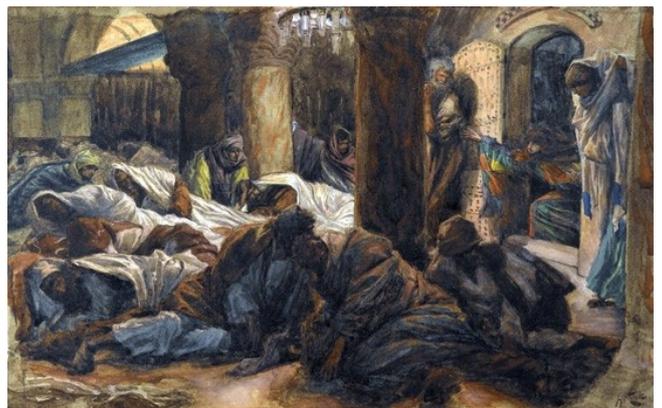
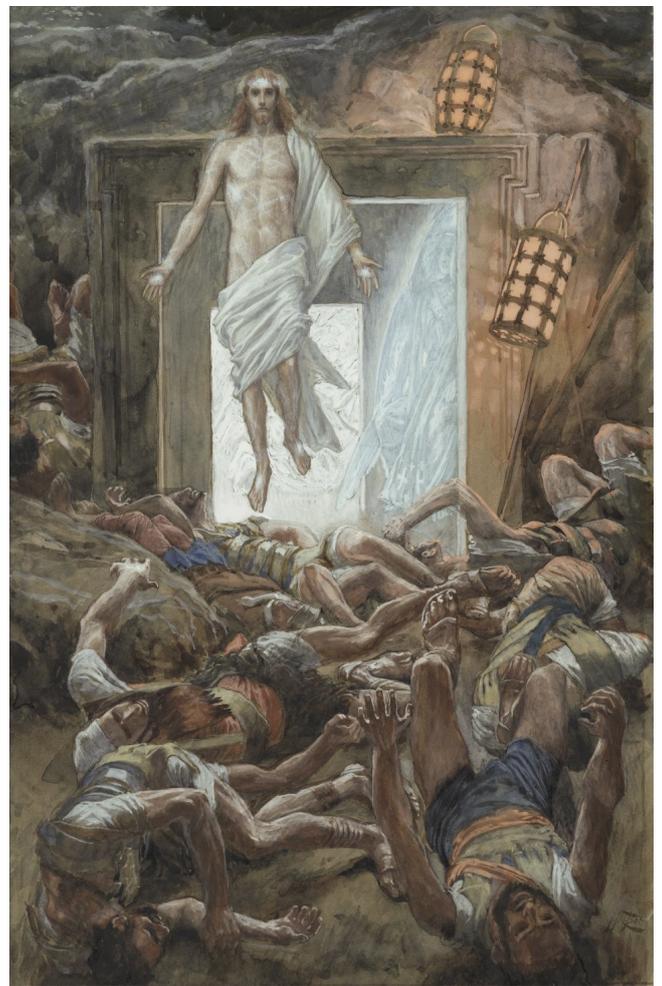




The Parish of
STONY STRATFORD
with
CALVERTON

The Office of Readings & Morning Prayer
The Office of Evening Prayer

'EASTER DAY'
4th April AD 2021



Can daily prayers change your life? Absolutely! You can develop a fuller relationship with God and live a better life through prayer. You have a better chance at finding fulfilment, from daily prayers than from the many distractions bombarding us these days!

Think of all the promises we hear on TV and elsewhere: you'll find happiness if you buy this car, this book, this exercise bike, or this pill (after checking with your doctor first on that last one)! Yet many times our souls feel as empty as our wallets or purses afterwards.

Developing a good prayer life can really change you for the better. Praying can become a most satisfying routine in many ways. It might not be an easy habit to start at first, but it's definitely one you won't want to break! Daily prayers can give you a sense of peace and purpose.

Prayer has often been called "the raising up of the mind and heart to God". We engage in a literally divine conversation with Him. You get a wonderful opportunity from prayer to strengthen and deepen your relationship with our Creator and with your fellow human beings by praying for their needs as well as your own.

"Those who have truly decided to serve the Lord God should practice the remembrance of God and uninterrupted prayer to Jesus Christ, mentally saying: "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me a sinner." ' (St. Seraphim of Sarov)

THE SEAL

Through the prayers of our holy Fathers and Mothers,
Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us and save us.

TRISAGION PRAYERS

O Heavenly King, the Paraclete, the Spirit of Truth,
who are present everywhere, filling all things,
Treasury of Good and Giver of Life, come and dwell in us,
cleansing us of every stain, and save our souls, O Good One.

✠ Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal have mercy on us.
(three times)

✠ Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
Now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

All-Holy Trinity, have mercy on us.
Lord forgive us our sins.
Master, pardon our transgressions.
Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for your name's sake.

Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison.

✠ Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
Now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

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 Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, of the
Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and
to the ages of ages.) ✠ Amen.

Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison.
Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison.

✠ Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
Now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

a godly and righteous life, blameless and peaceful, ever serving thee, that I may be accounted worthy at the last to enter into the Kingdom of Heaven.

Be mindful, O Lord, of all those who have fallen asleep in the hope of resurrection unto life eternal, especially N., NN.; pardon all their transgressions both voluntary and involuntary, whether in word, or deed, or thought. Shelter them in a place of brightness, a place of verdure, a place of repose, whence all sickness, sorrow and sighing have fled away, and where the sight of thy countenance rejoiceth all thy Saints from all the ages. Grant them thy heavenly Kingdom, and a portion in thine ineffable and eternal blessings, and the enjoyment of thine unending Life.

Hear my prayer, O Lord, for thou art merciful and compassionate, and lovest mankind, and to thee are due all glory, honour, and worship: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

The watercolour paintings on the front and back covers of this Booklet are by James Tissot and depict some of the events he painted of the Day of the Resurrection

They are of:

The Resurrection

The Magdalene runs to the Cenacle to Tell the Apostles that the Body of Jesus is no longer in the Tomb

St Peter & St John run to the Sepulchre

The Appearance of Christ at the Cenacle

The Pilgrims of Emmaus on the Road

All the paintings were painted between 1886-1894, and are very small in size. The maximum height of these paintings is just under 10" and the maximum width is just under 12" - some are much smaller.

James Tissot painted 350 Watercolour Paintings of the Life of Christ. For small paintings, the detail is remarkable.

the company of thy blessed Saints, may praise and glorify thee with thy Eternal Father and Life-giving Spirit. Amen.

Thanksgiving After Recovery from Sickness

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Source of life and Fountain of all good things, I bless thy Holy Name, and offer to thee most hearty thanks for having delivered me from my sickness and restored me to health. Grant me thy continuing grace, I pray thee, that I may keep my good resolutions and correct the errors of my past life, and improve in virtue, and live a new life in dutiful fear of thee, doing thy will in all things, and devoting this new life which thou has given me to thy service: that thus living for thee, I may be found ready when it pleaseth thee to call me to thee, O heavenly Father, to whom with thine Only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and thine all-holy and Life-giving Spirit, is due all honor, praise, glory, and thanksgiving: now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

A Prayer for the Sick

O holy Father, heavenly Physician of our souls and bodies, who hast sent thine Only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ to heal all our ailments and deliver us from death: do thou visit and heal thy servant N., granting *him/her* release from pain and restoration to health and vigour, that *he/she* may give thanks unto thee and bless thy holy Name, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

A Prayer for the Dead

Into thy hands, O Lord, I commend the souls of thy servants, NN., and beseech thee to grant them rest in the place of thy rest, where all thy blessed Saints repose, and where the light of thy countenance shineth forever. And I beseech thee also to grant that our present lives may be godly, sober, and blameless, that, we too may be made worthy to enter into thy heavenly Kingdom with those we love but see no longer: for thou art the Resurrection, and the Life, and the Repose of thy departed servants, O Christ our God, and unto thee we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

A General Intercession

O Lord Jesus Christ our God, who in thy mercy and loving-kindness dost regard the prayers of all who call upon thee with their whole heart, incline thine ear and hear my prayer, now humbly offered unto thee:

Be mindful, O Lord, of thy One, Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church; confirm and strengthen it, increase it and keep it in peace, and preserve it unconquerable forever;

Be mindful, O Lord, of our Bishop *Jonathan*, and of every Bishop of the Church: of Priests and Deacons, the Religious, and Lay Ministers of thy Church, which thou has established to feed the flock of the Word: and by their prayers have mercy upon me and save me, a sinner.

Be mindful, O Lord, of all civil Authorities, of our Armed Forces, of this city in which we dwell, and of every city and land; grant us peaceful times, that we may lead a calm and tranquil life in all godliness and sanctity.

Be mindful, O Lord, of my parents, my brothers and sisters, my relatives and friends, and all who are near and dear to me, (*name those whom you wish to remember*), and grant them mercy, life, peace, health, salvation and visitation, and pardon and remission of sins; that they may evermore praise and glorify thy holy Name.

Be mindful, O Lord, of those who travel by land, and sea, and air; of the young and the old; orphans and widows; the sick and the suffering, the sorrowing and the afflicted, all captives, and the needy poor; upon them all send forth thy mercies, for thou art the Giver of all good things.

Be mindful, O Lord, of me, thy humble servant; grant me thy grace, that I may be diligent and faithful; that I may avoid evil company and influence, and resist all temptation; that I may lead

THE REGINA CAELI

Traditionally in the morning, at noon, and in the evening in memory of the Resurrection of the Son of God, the faithful say the following prayers, during Eastertide:

Joy to thee, O Queen of Heaven. Alleluia!
He whom thou wast meet to bear. Alleluia!
As he promised hath arisen. Alleluia!
Pour for us to God thy prayer. Alleluia!

V/. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.

R/. For the Lord is risen indeed, alleluia.

Let us pray.

O God who by the resurrection of your Son,
our Lord Jesus Christ,
didst vouchsafe to bring joy to the whole world.
Grant that through his Mother, the Virgin Mary,
we may obtain the joys of everlasting life.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Easter Sunday

The Easter Alleluia

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Office of Readings

The Office of Readings today is only recited by those who have not been to the Easter Vigil. It starts immediately with the first reading, with no introduction preceding it.

First Reading

Exodus 14: 15-15 :1

The sons of Israel went on dry ground right into the sea

The Lord said to Moses, 'Why do you cry to me so? Tell the sons of Israel to march on. For yourself, raise your staff and stretch out your hand over the sea and part it for the sons of Israel to walk through the sea on dry ground. I for my part will make the heart of the Egyptians so stubborn that they will follow them. So shall I win myself glory at the expense of Pharaoh, of all his army, his chariots, his horsemen. And when I have won glory for myself, at the expense of Pharaoh and his chariots and his army, the Egyptians will learn that I am the Lord.'

Then the angel of God, who marched at the front of the army of Israel, changed station and moved to their rear. The pillar of cloud changed station from the front to the rear of them, and remained there. It came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel. The cloud was dark, and the night passed without the armies drawing any closer the whole night long.

Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove back the sea with a strong easterly wind all night, and he made dry land of the sea. The waters parted and the sons of Israel went on dry ground right into the sea, walls of water to right and to left of them. The Egyptians gave chase: after them they went, right into the sea, all Pharaoh's horses, his

chariots, and his horsemen.

In the morning watch, the Lord looked down on the army of the Egyptians from the pillar of fire and of cloud, and threw the army into confusion. He so clogged their chariot wheels that they could scarcely make headway. 'Let us flee from the Israelites,' the Egyptians cried. 'The Lord is fighting for them against the Egyptians!'

'Stretch out your hand over the sea,' the Lord said to Moses, 'that the waters may flow back on the Egyptians and their chariots and their horsemen.'

Moses stretched out his hand over the sea and, as day broke, the sea returned to its bed. The fleeing Egyptians marched right into it, and the Lord overthrew the Egyptians in the very middle of the sea. The returning waters overwhelmed the chariots and the horsemen of Pharaoh's whole army, which had followed the Israelites into the sea; not a single one of them was left. But the sons of Israel had marched through the sea on dry ground, walls of water to right and to left of them.

That day, the Lord rescued Israel from the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians lying dead on the shore. Israel witnessed the great act that the Lord had performed against the Egyptians, and the people venerated the Lord; they put their faith in the Lord and in Moses, his servant.

It was then that Moses and the sons of Israel sang this song in honour of the Lord:

Exodus 15

Hymn of victory after crossing the Red Sea

Antiphon: Let us sing to the Lord: glorious is his triumph.

I will sing to the Lord, glorious his triumph! *

Horse and rider he has thrown into the sea!

The Lord is my strength, my song, my salvation. †

This is my God and I extol him, *

my father's God and I give him praise.

The Lord is a warrior! *

'The Lord' is his name.

The chariots of Pharaoh he hurled into the sea, †
the flower of his army is drowned in the sea. *

The deeps hide them; they sank like a stone.

Your right hand, Lord, glorious in its power, *

your right hand, Lord, has shattered the enemy.

You will lead your people and plant them on your mountain, †

the place, O Lord, where you have made your home, *

the sanctuary, Lord, which your hands have made.

The Lord will reign *

for ever and ever.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ever shall be,

world without end. Amen.

Antiphon: Let us sing to the Lord: glorious is his triumph.

which I have committed every day of my life, in thought, word and deed; in body and soul alike. I am heartily sorry that I have ever offended thee, and I sincerely repent; with tears I humbly pray thee, O Lord: of thy mercy forgive me all my past transgressions and absolve me from them. I firmly resolve, with the help of Thy Grace, to amend my way of life and to sin no more; that I may walk in the way of the righteous and offer praise and glory to the Name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Prayer Before a Journey

O Lord Jesus Christ our God, the true and living way, be thou, O Master, my companion, guide and guardian during my journey; deliver and protect me from all danger, misfortune and temptation; that being so defended by Thy divine power, I may have a peaceful and successful journey and arrive safely at my destination. For in thee I put my trust and hope, and to thee, together with thy Eternal Father, and the All-holy Spirit, I ascribe all praise, honour and glory: now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

A Prayer in Time of Trouble

O God, our help and assistance, who art just and merciful, and who heareth the supplications of thy people; look down upon me, a miserable sinner, have mercy upon me, and deliver me from this trouble that besets me, for which, I know, I am deservedly suffering. I acknowledge and believe, O Lord, that all trials of this life are given by Thee for our chastisement, when we drift away from thee, and disobey thy commandments; deal not with me after my sins, but according to thy bountiful mercies, for I am the work of Thy hands, and thou knowest my weakness. Grant me, I beseech thee, thy divine helping grace, and endow me with patience and strength to endure my tribulations with complete submission to Thy Will. Thou knowest my misery and suffering and to Thee, my only hope and refuge, I flee for relief and comfort; trusting to thine infinite love and compassion that in due time, when thou knowest best, thou wilt deliver me from this trouble, and turn my distress into comfort, when I shall rejoice in thy mercy, and exalt and praise thy Holy Name, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Thanksgiving After Deliverance From Trouble

Almighty and merciful God, I most humbly and heartily thank thy divine majesty for thy loving kindness and tender mercies, that thou hast heard my humble prayer, and graciously vouchsafed to deliver me from my trouble and misery. Grant me, I beseech thee, thy helping grace, that I may obediently walk in thy holy commandments, and lead a sober, righteous and godly life, ever remembering thy mercies, and the blessings thou hast undeservedly bestowed upon me, that I may continually offer to thee the sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

A Prayer of a Sick Person

O Lord Jesus Christ, our Saviour, Physician of souls and bodies, who didst become man and suffer death on the Cross for our salvation, and through thy tender love and compassion didst heal all manner of sickness and affliction; do thou O Lord, visit me in my suffering, and grant me grace and strength to bear this sickness with which I am afflicted, with Christian patience and submission to thy will, trusting in thy loving kindness and tender mercy. Bless, I pray thee, the means used for my recovery, and those who administer them. I know O Lord, that I justly deserve any punishment thou mayest inflict upon me for I have so often offended thee and sinned against thee, in thought, word and deed. Therefore, I humbly pray thee, look upon my weakness, and deal not with me after my sins, but according to the multitude of thy mercies. Have compassion on me, and let mercy and justice meet; and deliver me from this sickness and suffering I am undergoing. Grant that my sickness may be the means of my true repentance and amendment of my life according to thy will, that I may spend the rest of my days in thy love and fear: that my soul, being helped by thy grace and sanctified by thy Holy Mysteries, may be prepared for its passage to the Eternal Life, and there, in

OCCASIONAL PRAYERS

Prayer on Entering the Church

I will come into thy house in the multitude of thy mercy: and in thy fear I will worship toward thy holy temple. Lead me, O Lord, in thy righteousness because of mine enemies; make thy way straight before me, that with a clear mind I may glorify thee forever, One Divine Power worshipped in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Prayer on Leaving a Church

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; a light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel.

The "Jesus" Prayer

O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

A Prayer to Your Guardian Angel

O Angel of Christ, holy guardian and protector of my soul and body, forgive me everything wherein I have offended thee every day of my life, and protect me from all influence and temptation of the evil one. May I nevermore anger God by any sin. Pray for me to the Lord, that He may make me worthy of the grace of the All-holy Trinity, and of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary, and of all the Saints. Amen.

Prayers at the Table

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
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, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (Thrice)

Then

O Christ our God, bless the food and drink of thy servants, for thou art Holy always; now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Or

They that hunger shall eat and be satisfied, they that seek after the Lord shall praise him; their hearts shall live forever. Amen.

Or

Bless us, O Lord, and these thy gifts of which we are about to partake, for thou art blessed and glorified; now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

After Meals

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (Thrice)

Then

Blessed is God, who is merciful unto us and nourisheth us from His bounteous gifts by His Grace and compassion, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Or

We thank thee, O Christ our God, that thou hast satisfied us with thy earthly gifts, deprive us not of thy Heavenly Kingdom; but as thou entered into the midst of thy disciples, O Saviour, and gave them peace, enter also among us and save us. Amen.

Or

We thank thee, O God, the Giver of all good things, for these gifts and all thy mercies, and we bless thy Holy Name, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

A Prayer of Repentance

O Lord our God, good and merciful, I acknowledge all my sins

O God, through the light of the New Testament you have revealed to us the meaning of the miracles you performed in the earliest times.

The Red Sea was a symbol of the baptismal font, and the people freed from servitude prefigured the sacraments of the Christian people.

Grant that all nations who have received Israel's privileges as a reward for their faith

may be regenerated by sharing in your Spirit.

Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Second Reading

Ezekiel 36:16-28

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: 'Son of man, the members of the House of Israel used to live in their own land, but they defiled it by their conduct and actions; to me their conduct was as unclean as a woman's menstruation. I then discharged my fury at them because of the blood they shed in their land and the idols with which they defiled it. I scattered them among the nations and dispersed them in foreign countries. I sentenced them as their conduct and actions deserved. And now they have profaned my holy name among the nations where they have gone, so that people say of them, "These are the people of the Lord; they have been exiled from his land." But I have been concerned about my holy name, which the House of Israel has profaned among the nations where they have gone. And so, say to the House of Israel, "The Lord says this: I am not doing this for your sake, House of Israel, but for the sake of my holy name, which you have profaned among the nations where you have gone. I mean to display the holiness of my great name, which has been profaned among the nations, which you have profaned among them. And the nations will learn that I am the Lord - it is the Lord who speaks - when I display my holiness for your sake before their eyes. Then I am going to take you from among the nations and gather you together from all the foreign countries, and bring you home to your own land. I shall pour clean water over you and you will be cleansed; I shall cleanse you of all your defilement and all your idols. I shall give you a new heart, and put a new spirit in you; I shall remove the heart of stone from your bodies and give you a heart of flesh instead. I shall put my spirit in you, and make you keep my laws and sincerely respect my observances. You will live in the land which I gave your ancestors. You shall be my people and I will be your God.'

Psalm 42: 2-3, 5, 42 :3-4

Longing for the Lord and his temple

Antiphon: Like a deer that yearns for running streams, so my soul is yearning for you, my God.

Like the déer that yéarns *
for rúnning stréams,
só my sóul is yéarning *
for yóu, my Gód.

My sóul is thírsting for Gód, *
the Gód of my life;
whén can I énter and sée *
the fáce of Gód?

Thése things will Í reméber *
as I póur out my sóul:
how I would léad the rejóicing crówd *
into the hóuse of Gód,
amid críes of gládness and thanksgiving, *
the thróng wild with jóy.

O sénd forth your líght and your trúth; *
let thése be my gúide.
Let them bríng me to your hóly móuntain, *
to the pláce where you dwéll.

And I will cóme to the áltar of Gód, *
the Gód of my jóy.
My redéemer, I will thánk you on the hárp, *
O Gód, my Gód.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

*Antiphon: Like a deer that yearns for running streams, so my
soul is yearning for you, my God.*

Psalm-prayer

Lord God, never-failing fountain of life eternal, by the saving waters of baptism you called us from the depths of sin, to the depths of mercy. Do not forget the trials of our exile, but from the wellspring of the Word, satisfy our thirst for you so we may come rejoicing to your holy mountain.

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light,
look kindly upon your sacrament that is the Church in
this world,
and carry through the work of salvation smoothly according to your eternal plan.

May the whole world see and experience how
what is fallen is stood upright once more;
what was corrupted by age is once more made new;
and how all things are made whole through Christ, to
whom they owe their creation,
who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Third Reading

Romans 6:3-11

**Christ, having been raised from the dead,
will never die again**

When we were baptised in Christ Jesus we were baptised in his death; in other words, when we were baptised we went into the tomb with him and joined him in death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the Father's glory, we too might live a new life.

If in union with Christ we have imitated his death, we shall also imitate him in his resurrection. We must realise that our former selves have been crucified with him to destroy this sinful body and to free us from the slavery of sin.

When a Christian dies, of course, he has finished with sin. But we believe that having died with Christ we shall return to life with him: Christ, as we know, having been raised from the dead will never die again. Death has no power

Antiphon: On the evening of that Sunday, when the disciples were gathered behind locked doors, Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you.' Alleluia.

Prayers and intercessions

Let us pray with joy to Christ the Lord. He rose from the dead and is living now to intercede for us.

- **Victorious king, hear us.**

Christ, you are the light of the world and the salvation of nations;
set us on fire with your Spirit as we proclaim the wonder of your resurrection.

- **Victorious king, hear us.**

Let Israel recognize in you the Messiah it has longed for;
fill all men with the knowledge of your glory.

- **Victorious king, hear us.**

Keep us united in the communion of saints;
may we find rest with them, when life's work is done.

- **Victorious king, hear us.**

You have overcome death, the last enemy of man;
destroy everything in us that is at enmity with God.

- **Victorious king, hear us.**

Christ, our Saviour, you became obedient to death, but God raised you to the heights;
receive our brothers into the kingdom of your glory.

- **Victorious king, hear us.**

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.

Let us pray.

On this day, Lord God,
you opened for us the way to eternal life
through your only Son's victory over death.

Grant that as we celebrate the feast of his resurrection
we may be renewed by your Holy Spirit
and rise again in the light of life.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

Amen.

The Easter Alleluia

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

Antiphon: Jesus said: 'Do not fear. Go, and tell my brethren
that they are to leave for Galilee: they will see me there.'
Alleluia.

Short Reading

Hebrews 10:12-14

Christ has offered one single sacrifice for sins, and then
taken his place forever, at the right hand of God, where he
is now waiting until his enemies are made into a footstool
for him. By virtue of that one single offering, he has
achieved the eternal perfection of all whom he is sanctify-
ing.

Short Responsory

This is the day which was made by the Lord: let us rejoice
and be glad, alleluia.

Canticle

Magnificat

My soul rejoices in the Lord

Antiphon: On the evening of that Sunday, when the disciples
were gathered behind locked doors, Jesus came and stood
among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you.' Alleluia.

My soul glórífies the Lórd, *
my spirit rejóices in Gód, my Sáviour.
He looks on his sérvant in her lówliness; *
henceforth all áges will cáll me bléssed.

The Almíghty works márvels for me. *
Hóly his náme!
His mércy is from age to áge, *
on thóse who féar him.

He púts forth his árm in stréngth *
and scátters the proud-héarted.
He casts the míghty from their thrónes *
and ráises the lówly.

He fills the stárving with good thínghs, *
sends the rich away émpty.

He protects Ísrael, his sérvant, *
remémbering his mércy,
the mércy prómised to our fáthers, *
to Ábraham and his sóns for éver.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

over him any more. When he died, he died, once for all, to
sin, so his life now is life with God; and in that way, you
too must consider yourselves to be dead to sin but alive for
God in Christ Jesus.

Psalm 118: 1-2, 16-17, 22-23

A cry of rejoicing and triumph

"This is the stone which was rejected by you builders,
but which has become the cornerstone" (Acts 4:11).

Antiphon: Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Give thánks to the Lórd for he is góod, *
for his lóve endures for éver.
Let the sóns of Ísrael sáy: *
'His lóve endures for éver.'

The Lórd's ríght hánd has tríumphed; *
his ríght hand ráised me.
I shall not díe, I shall líve *
and recóunt his déeds.

The stóne which the búilders rejécted *
has becóme the córner stone.
Thís is the wórk of the Lórd, *
a márvel in our éyes.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

Antiphon: Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Psalm-prayer

Lord God, you have given us the great day of rejoicing:
Jesus Christ, the stone rejected by the builders, has become
the cornerstone of the Church, our spiritual home. Shed
upon your Church the rays of your glory, that she may be
seen as the gate of salvation open to all nations. Let cries of
joy and exultation ring out from her tents, to celebrate the
wonder of Christ's resurrection.

Fourth Reading

Matthew 28: 1-10

He has risen from the dead and now he is going before
you into Galilee

After the sabbath, and towards dawn on the first day of the
week, Mary of Magdala and the other Mary went to visit
the sepulchre. And all at once there was a violent earth-
quake, for the angel of the Lord, descending from heaven,
came and rolled away the stone and sat on it. His face was
like lightning, his robe white as snow. The guards were so
shaken, so frightened of him, that they were like dead men.
But the angel spoke; and he said to the women, 'There is
no need for you to be afraid. I know you are looking for
Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here, for he has risen, as
he said he would. Come and see the place where he lay,
then go quickly and tell his disciples, "He has risen from
the dead and now he is going before you to Galilee; it is
there you will see him." Now I have told you.' Filled with

awe and great joy the women came quickly away from the tomb and ran to tell the disciples.
And there, coming to meet them, was Jesus. 'Greetings' he said. And the women came up to him and, falling down before him, clasped his feet. Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers that they must leave for Galilee; they will see me there.'

Canticle

We praise you, O God:
we acclaim you as the Lord.

Everlasting Father,
all the world bows down before you.

All the angels sing your praise,
the hosts of heaven and all the angelic powers,

all the cherubim and seraphim
call out to you in unending song:

Holy, Holy, Holy,
is the Lord God of angel hosts!

The heavens and the earth are filled
with your majesty and glory.

The glorious band of apostles,
the noble company of prophets,

the white-robed army who shed their blood for Christ,
all sing your praise.

And to the ends of the earth
your holy Church proclaims her faith in you:

Father, whose majesty is boundless,
your true and only Son, who is to be adored,
the Holy Spirit sent to be our Advocate.

You, Christ, are the king of glory,
Son of the eternal Father.

When you took our nature to save mankind
you did not shrink from birth in the Virgin's womb.
You overcame the power of death
opening the Father's kingdom to all who believe in you.

Enthroned at God's right hand in the glory of the Father,
you will come in judgement according to your promise.

You redeemed your people by your precious blood.
Come, we implore you, to our aid.

Grant us with the saints
a place in eternal glory.

Te Deum

Jacob's sons from an alien people,
Júdah became the Lord's temple, *
Ísrael became his kingdom.

The sea fléed at the sight: *
the Jórdan turned bák on its course,
the móuntains léapt like ráms *
and the hills like yéarling shéep.

Whý was it, séa, that you fléed, *
that you túrned back, Jórdan, on your cóurse?
Móuntains, that you léapt like ráms; *
hills, like yéarling shéep?

Trémble, O éarth, before the Lórd, *
in the présence of the Gód of Jácob,
who túrns the róck into a póol *
and flínt into a spring of wáter.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

Antiphon: Come and see where the Lord was laid, alleluia.

Psalm-prayer

Almighty God, ever-living mystery of unity and Trinity, you gave life to the new Israel by birth from water and the Spirit, and made it a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a people set apart as your eternal possession. May all those you have called to walk in the splendour of the new light render you fitting service and adoration.

Canticle

(Apocalypse 19)

The wedding of the Lamb

Antiphon: Jesus said: 'Do not fear. Go, and tell my brethren that they are to leave for Galilee: they will see me there.'
Alleluia.

Alleluia.
Salvation and glory and power belong to our God, *
his judgements are true and just.
Alleluia.

Alleluia.
Praise our God, all you his servants, *
you who fear him, small and great.
Alleluia.

Alleluia.
The Lord our God, the Almighty, reigns, *
let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory.
Alleluia.

Alleluia.
The marriage of the Lamb has come, *
and his bride has made herself ready.
Alleluia.

O thou, from whom hell's monarch flies,
O great, O very Sacrifice,
Thy captive people are set free,
And endless life restored in thee.

To thee who, dead, again dost live,
All glory, Lord, thy people give:
All glory, as is ever meet,
To Father and to Paraclete.

Psalm 110

The Messiah, king and priest

*"He must be king so that he may put all his enemies
under his feet" (1 Cor 15: 25).*

*Antiphon: Mary Magdalen came with the other Mary to see the
tomb where the Lord had been laid, alleluia.*

The Lórd's revelátiún to my Máster: †
'Sit on my right: *
your fóes I will pút beneath your féet.'

The Lórd will wield from Síon †
your scéptre of pówer: *
rúle in the midst of all your fóes.

A prínce from the dáy of your birth †
on the hóly móuntains; *
from the wómb before the dáwn I begót you.
The Lórd has sworn an óath he will not chángé. †
'You are a priest for éver, *
a priest like Melchízedeck of óld.'

The Máster stánding at your right hand *
will shatter kings in the dáy of his wráth.

He shall drink from the stréam by the wáyside *
and thérefore he shall lift up his héad.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

*Antiphon: Mary Magdalen came with the other Mary to see the
tomb where the Lord had been laid, alleluia.*

Psalm-prayer

Almighty God, bring the kingdom of Christ, your anointed one, to its fullness. May the perfect offering of your Son, eternal priest of the new Jerusalem, be offered in every place to your name and make all nations a holy people for you.

Psalm 114

Israel set free from Egypt

*"You, who have renounced this world,
have also been led forth from Egypt" (St Augustine).*

Antiphon: Come and see where the Lord was laid, alleluia.

When Ísrael came fóρθ from Égypt, *

Lord, save your people
and bless your inheritance.

Rule them and uphold them
for ever and ever.

Day by day we praise you:
we acclaim you now and to all eternity.

In your goodness, Lord, keep us free from sin. *
Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.

May your mercy always be with us, Lord,
for we have hoped in you.

In you, Lord, we put our trust:
we shall not be put to shame.

Let us pray.

On this day, Lord God,
you opened for us the way to eternal life
through your only Son's victory over death.
Grant that as we celebrate the feast of his resurrection
we may be renewed by your Holy Spirit
and rise again in the light of life.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

Let us praise the Lord.
– **Thanks be to God.**

The Easter Alleluia

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Morning Prayer (Lauds)

The Easter Alleluia

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Introduction

Invitatory Psalm

Psalm 95

*"Every day, as long as this 'today' lasts,
keep encouraging one another" (Heb 3:13).*

Antiphon: The Lord has truly risen, alleluia.

Come, ring out our jóy to the Lórd; *
háil the Gód who sáves us.
Let us cóme before him, gíving thánks, *
with sóngs let us háil the Lórd.

A míghty Gód is the Lórd, *
a gréat king abóve all góds.
In his hánd are the dépths of the éarth; *
the héights of the móuntains are his.

To him belongs the séa, for he máde it *
and the dry land sháped by his hánds.

Come in; let us bów and bend lów; *
let us knéel before the Gód who máde us:
for hé is our Gód and wé †
the péople who belóng to his pásture, *
the flóck that is léd by his hánd.

O that todáy you would listen to his vóice! †
‘Hárden not your héarts as at Meribah, *
as on that dáy at Mássah in the désert
when your fáthers pút me to the tést; *
when they tried me, thóugh they saw my wórk.

For forty yéars I was wéaried of these péople †
and I sáid: “Their héarts are astráy, *
these péople do not knów my wáys.”
Thén I took an óath in my ánger: *
“Néver shall they énter my rést.”

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

Antiphon: The Lord has truly risen, alleluia.

Hymn

Light’s glittering morn bedecks the sky,
Heav’n thunders forth its victor cry:
The glad earth shouts her triumph high,
And groaning hell makes wild reply.

While he, the King of sovereign might,
Treads down death’s strength in death’s despite,
And trampling hell by victor’s right,
Brings forth his sleeping saints to light.

Fast barred beneath the stone of late,
In watch and ward where soldiers wait,
Now shining in triumphant state,
He rises victor from death’s gate.

Hell’s pains are loosed and tears are fled:
Captivity is captive led:
The angel, crowned with light, hath said:
‘The Lord is risen from the dead.’

Author of all, be thou our guide
In this our joy of Eastertide;
Whene’er assaults of death impend,
Thy people strengthen and defend.

To thee who, dead, again dost live,
All glory, Lord, thy people give:
All glory, as is ever meet,
To Father and to Paraclete.

Psalm 63
Thirsting for God

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.

Let us pray.

On this day, Lord God,
you opened for us the way to eternal life
through your only Son’s victory over death.
Grant that as we celebrate the feast of his resurrection
we may be renewed by your Holy Spirit
and rise again in the light of life.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

The Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us
to everlasting life.
Amen.

The Easter Alleluia

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Vespers (Evening Prayer)

The Easter Alleluia

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Introduction

- ✠ O God, come to our aid.
- O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Alleluia.

Hymn

The Lamb’s high banquet we await,
In snow-white robes of royal state;
And now, the Red Sea’s channel past,
To Christ our Prince we sing at last.

Upon the altar of the Cross
His body hath redeemed our loss;
And tasting of his scarlet blood,
Our life is hid with him in God.

Now Christ our paschal Lamb is slain,
The Lamb of God that knows no stain,
The true oblation offered here,
Our own unleavened bread sincere.

He has raised up for us a mighty saviour *
in the house of Dávid his servant,
as he promised by the lips of holy men, *
those who were his prophets from of old.

A saviour who would free us from our foes, *
from the hands of all who hate us.
So his love for our fathers is fulfilled *
and his holy covenant remembered.

He swore to Abraham our father to grant us, *
that free from fear, and saved from the hands of our
foes,
we might serve him in holiness and justice *
all the days of our life in his presence.

As for you, little child, *
you shall be called a prophet of God, the Most High.
You shall go ahead of the Lord *
to prepare his ways before him,

To make known to his people their salvation *
through forgiveness of all their sins,
the loving-kindness of the heart of our God *
who visits us like the dawn from on high.

He will give light to those in darkness, †
those who dwell in the shadow of death, *
and guide us into the way of peace.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

*Antiphon: Very early on the Sunday morning, just after the sun
had risen, they came to the tomb, alleluia.*

Prayers and intercessions

Let us pray to Christ, the author of life. God raised him
from the dead, and he himself will raise us to life by
his own power.

- **Christ, our life, save us.**

Christ, you are the light that drives out darkness and draws
men to holiness;

let us make this day a living hymn of praise.

- **Christ, our life, save us.**

Lord, you followed the way of suffering, even to the cross;
grant that we may die with you and come to life with
you.

- **Christ, our life, save us.**

Our master and our brother, you have made us a kingdom
of priests to serve God our Father;
let us offer you with joy the sacrifice of praise.

- **Christ, our life, save us.**

King of glory, we look forward to the day of your coming,
then we shall see your face and share in your splen-
dour.

- **Christ, our life, save us.**

Our Father, who art in heaven,

*“Let the man who has put away the deeds of the night
watch for God.”*

*Antiphon: Christ has risen: he is the light of his people, whom he
has redeemed with his blood. Alleluia.*

O God, you are my God, for you I long; *
for you my soul is thirsting.

My body pines for you *
like a dry, weary land without water.

So I gaze on you in the sanctuary *
to see your strength and your glory.

For your love is better than life, *
my lips will speak your praise.

So I will bless you all my life, *
in your name I will lift up my hands.

My soul shall be filled as with a banquet, *
my mouth shall praise you with joy.

On my bed I remember you. *
On you I muse through the night

for you have been my help; *
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.

My soul clings to you; *
your right hand holds me fast.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

*Antiphon: Christ has risen: he is the light of his people, whom he
has redeemed with his blood. Alleluia.*

Psalm-prayer

Father, creator of unfailing light, give that same light to
those who call to you. May our lips praise you; our lives
proclaim your goodness; our work give you honour, and
our voices celebrate you for ever.

Canticle

Daniel 3: 57-88, 56

All creatures, bless the Lord

“Praise our God, all you his servants” (Rev 19:5).

*Antiphon: Christ, our Redeemer, has risen from the tomb: let us
sing a hymn to the Lord, our God. Alleluia.*

O all you works of the Lord, O bless the Lord. *
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, angels of the Lord, O bless the Lord. *
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, the heavens of the Lord, O bless the Lord. *
And you, clouds of the sky, O bless the Lord.

And you, all armies of the Lord, O bless the Lord. *
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, sun and moon, O bless the Lord. *

And you, the stars of the heavens, O bless the Lord.

And you, showers and rain, O bless the Lord. *
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, all you breezes and winds, O bless the Lord. *
And you, fire and heat, O bless the Lord.
And you, cold and heat, O bless the Lord. *
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, showers and dew, O bless the Lord. *
And you, frosts and cold, O bless the Lord.
And you, frost and snow, O bless the Lord. *
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, night-time and day, O bless the Lord. *
And you, darkness and light, O bless the Lord.
And you, lightning and clouds, O bless the Lord. *
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

O let the earth bless the Lord. *
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, mountains and hills, O bless the Lord. *
And you, all plants of the earth, O bless the Lord.
And you, fountains and springs, O bless the Lord. *
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, rivers and seas, O bless the Lord. *
And you, creatures of the sea, O bless the Lord.
And you, every bird in the sky, O bless the Lord. †
And you, wild beasts and tame, O bless the Lord. *
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, children of men, O bless the Lord. *
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

O Israel, bless the Lord, O bless the Lord. *
And you, priests of the Lord, O bless the Lord.
And you, servants of the Lord, O bless the Lord. *
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, spirits and souls of the just, O bless the Lord. *
And you, holy and humble of heart, O bless the Lord.
Ananias, Azarias, Mizael, O bless the Lord. *
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

Let us praise the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit: *
To you be highest glory and praise for ever.
May you be blessed, O Lord, in the heavens: *
To you be highest glory and praise for ever.

Antiphon: Christ, our Redeemer, has risen from the tomb: let us sing a hymn to the Lord, our God. Alleluia.

Psalm 149

The saints rejoice

"The members of the Church, God's new people, will rejoice in their king, who is Christ" (Hesychius).

Antiphon: Alleluia. The Lord has risen, as he promised. Alleluia.

Sing a new song to the Lórd, *

his práise in the assémbly of the fáithful.
Let Ísrael rejóice in its Máker, *
let Síon's sons exúlt in their kÍng.
Let them práise his náme with dáncing *
and make músic with tímbrel and hárp.

For the Lórd takes delÍght in his péople. *
He crówns the póor with salvátion.
Let the fáithful rejóice in their glóry, *
shout for jÓy and táke their rést.
Let the práise of Gód be on their líps *
and a twó-edged swórd in their hánd,

to déal out véngeance to the nátions *
and púnishment on áll the péoples;
to bínd their kÍngs in cháins *
and their nóbles in fétters of íron;
to cárry out the séntence pre-ordáined: *
this hónour is for áll his fáithful.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

Antiphon: Alleluia. The Lord has risen, as he promised. Alleluia.

Psalm-prayer

Lord Jesus, you came to your own people and gave to all who welcomed you power to become children of God. In your merciful love watch over the Church and through her ministry bring salvation to the meek and lowly. May we avoid the snares of the impious, and come to rejoice in glory with your saints.

Short Reading

Acts 10:40-43

God raised Jesus to life on the third day and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses – we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead – and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.

Short Responsory

This is the day which was made by the Lord: let us rejoice and be glad, alleluia.

Canticle

Benedictus

The Messiah and the one who was sent before him

Antiphon: Very early on the Sunday morning, just after the sun had risen, they came to the tomb, alleluia.

Blesséd be the Lórd, the Gód of Ísrael! *
He has vísited his péople and redéemed them.