



*St Thomas of
Canterbury, the
Parish Church for
Brentwood*

Vespers on the Eighth
Sunday after Trinity

Sunday 26th July 2026

Vespers (Evening Prayer)

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

Praise to the Holiest in the height,
And in the depth be praise,
In all his words most wonderful,
Most sure in all his ways.

O loving wisdom of our God!
When all was sin and shame,
A second Adam to the fight
And to the rescue came.

O wisest love! that flesh and blood
Which did in Adam fail,
Should strive afresh against their foe,
Should strive and should prevail.

And that a higher gift than grace
Should flesh and blood refine,
God's presence and his very self,
And essence all divine.

O generous love! that he who smote
In man for man the foe
The double agony in man
For man should undergo.

And in the garden secretly
And on the cross on high,
Should teach his brethren, and inspire
To suffer and to die.

Praise to the Holiest in the height,
And in the depth be praise,
In all his words most wonderful,
Most sure in all his ways.

Psalm 109 (110)

*The Lord will send his mighty sceptre from Sion, and he will rule for ever,
alleluia.*

The Lord's revelation to my Master:
 'Sit on my right:
 your foes I will put beneath your feet.'

The Lord will wield from Sion
 your sceptre of power:
 rule in the midst of all your foes.

A prince from the day of your birth
 on the holy mountains;
 from the womb before the dawn I begot you.

The Lord has sworn an oath he will not change.
 'You are a priest for ever,
 a priest like Melchizedek of old.'

The Master standing at your right hand
 will shatter kings in the day of his wrath.

He shall drink from the stream by the wayside
 and therefore he shall lift up his head.

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.

*The Lord will send his mighty sceptre from Sion, and he will rule for ever,
alleluia.*

Psalm 113A (114)

The earth trembled before the Lord, alleluia.

When Israel came forth from Egypt,
Jacob's sons from an alien people,
Judah became the Lord's temple,
Israel became his kingdom.

The sea fled at the sight:
the Jordan turned back on its course,
the mountains leapt like rams
and the hills like yearling sheep.

Why was it, sea, that you fled,
that you turned back, Jordan, on your course?
Mountains, that you leapt like rams;
hills, like yearling sheep?

Tremble, O earth, before the Lord,
in the presence of the God of Jacob,
who turns the rock into a pool
and flint into a spring of water.

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.

The earth trembled before the Lord, alleluia.

Canticle

(Apocalypse 19)

The Lord is King, our God, the Almighty! 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.

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.

The Lord is King, our God, the Almighty! Alleluia.

Scripture Reading

2 Corinthians 1:3-4

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, a gentle Father and the
God of all consolation, who comforts us in all our sorrows, so that we can offer
others, in their sorrows, the consolation that we have received from God
ourselves.

Short Responsory

Blessed are you, O Lord, in the vault of heaven.

– *Blessed are you, O Lord, in the vault of heaven.*

You are exalted and glorified above all else for ever.

– *Blessed are you, O Lord, in the vault of heaven.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

– *Blessed are you, O Lord, in the vault of heaven.*

Every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.

My soul glorifies the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.
He looks on his servant in her lowliness;
henceforth all ages will call me blessed.

The Almighty works marvels for me.
Holy his name!

His mercy is from age to age,
on those who fear him.

He puts forth his arm in strength
and scatters the proud-hearted.
He casts the mighty from their thrones
and raises the lowly.

He fills the starving with good things,
sends the rich away empty.

He protects Israel, his servant,
remembering his mercy,
the mercy promised to our fathers,
to Abraham and his sons for 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.

Every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.

Prayers and intercessions

Christ is the Head of his body, the Church, and we are the members of that body; gathered this evening to pray in his name, we say:

– *Your kingdom come!*

May your Church be a light to the nations, the sign and source of your power to unite all men: may she lead mankind to the mystery of your love.

– *Your kingdom come!*

Guide the Pope and all the bishops of your Church: grant them the gifts of unity, of love, and of peace. – *Your kingdom come!*

Lord, give peace to our troubled world; and give to your children security of mind and freedom from anxiety. – *Your kingdom come!*

Help us to bring your compassion to the poor, the sick, the lonely, the unloved; lead us to find you in the coming week. – *Your kingdom come!*

Awaken the dead to a glorious resurrection: may we be united with them at the end of time. – *Your kingdom come!*

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.

Lord God, protector of those who hope in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing holy, support us always with your love. Guide us so to use the good things of this world, that even now we may hold fast to what endures for ever. 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.

V

S Alve Re-gí-na, * ma-ter mi-se-ri-córdi-æ, Vi-ta, dul-
cé-do, et spes nostra, salve. Ad te clamá-mus, éxsu-
les, fí-li- i Hevæ. Ad te suspi-rá-mus, geméntes et flen-
tes in hac lacrimá-rum valle. E-ia ergo, Advo-cá-ta
nostra, illos tu-os mi-se-ri-córdes ó-cu-los ad nos con-
vér-te. Et Je-sum, be-ne-díctum fructum ventris tu- i,
no-bis post hoc exsí-li-um osténde. O cle- mens:
O pi- a: O dulcis Virgo Ma-rí- a.