

# *Longford Eight Benefice*

## **Prayer during the Day for the Sunday next before Lent**

### **Greeting**

O Lord, open our lips

**All** and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Give us the joy of your saving help

**All** and sustain us with your life-giving Spirit.

### **Introduction**

*Welcome to you at home for this service of Daily Prayer for the Sunday next before Lent. Lent begins this coming Wednesday. Our readings show us God's glory and the reaction God demands of those who have had a vision of it. We are recording from St Michael & All Angels, Church Broughton in a beautifully warm church on a very cold day.*

### **Confession**

Jesus says, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' So let us turn away from our sin and turn to Christ, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

**All** Lord God,

**we have sinned against you;**

**we have done evil in your sight.**

**We are sorry and repent.**

**Have mercy on us according to your love.**

**Wash away our wrongdoing**

**and cleanse us from our sin.**

**Renew a right spirit within us**

**and restore us to the joy of your salvation;**

**through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**

## **Absolution**

May the Father of all mercies cleanse *you* from *your* sins,  
and restore *you* in his image to the praise and glory of his name,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All Amen.**

Blessed is the Lord,

**All for he has heard the voice of our prayer;**

therefore shall our hearts dance for joy

**All and in our song will we praise our God.**

*This opening prayer is said*

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us;  
let us pray with one heart and mind.

*Silence is kept.*

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,  
so may the light of your presence, O God,  
set our hearts on fire with love for you;  
now and for ever.

**Amen**

## **Hymn**

**St Martin's Voices** will sing the hymn

**Bright the vision that delighted**

Bright the vision that delighted  
once the sight of Judah's seer;  
sweet the countless tongues united  
to entrance the prophet's ear.

Round the Lord in glory seated  
cherubim and seraphim  
filled his temple, and repeated  
each to each the alternate hymn:

'Lord, thy glory fills the heaven;  
earth is with its fulness stored;  
unto thee be glory given,  
holy, holy, holy, Lord.'

Heaven is still with glory ringing,  
earth takes up the angels' cry,  
'Holy, holy, holy,' singing,  
'Lord of hosts, the Lord most high.'

With his seraph train before him,  
with his holy Church below,  
thus unite we to adore him,  
bid we thus our anthem flow:

'Lord, thy glory fills the heaven;  
earth is with its fulness stored;  
unto thee be glory given,  
holy, holy, holy, Lord.'

*Richard Mant (1776-1848)*

### **Psalm 50.1-6**

- <sup>1</sup> The Lord, the most mighty God, has spoken ◆  
and called the world from the rising of the sun to its setting.
- <sup>2</sup> **Out of Zion, perfect in beauty, God shines forth; ◆  
our God comes and will not keep silence.**
- <sup>3</sup> Consuming fire goes out before him ◆  
and a mighty tempest stirs about him.
- <sup>4</sup> **He calls the heaven above, ◆  
and the earth, that he may judge his people:**
- <sup>5</sup> 'Gather to me my faithful, ◆  
who have sealed my covenant with sacrifice.'

**6 Let the heavens declare his righteousness, ◆  
for God himself is judge.**

**All Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning is now  
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

## **Old Testament Reading**

*A reading from the 2<sup>nd</sup> book of Kings, chapter 2, beginning at the first verse.*

Now when the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, 'Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel.' But Elisha said, 'As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?' And he said, 'Yes, I know; keep silent.' Elijah said to him, 'Elisha, stay here; for the Lord has sent me to Jericho.' But he said, 'As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?' And he answered, 'Yes, I know; be silent.' Then Elijah said to him, 'Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan.' But he said, 'As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground. When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, 'Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.' Elisha said, 'Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.' He responded, 'You

have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.' As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, 'Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!' But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

*2 Kings 2.1-12*

This is the word of the Lord

**All Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel**

*A reading from the gospel according to Mark, chapter 9, beginning at the second verse.*

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!' Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

*Mark 9.2-9*

This is the word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

## **Homily**

## Prayers

Let us pray to the Lord.

**All Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace that comes from God alone,  
for the unity of all peoples,  
and for our salvation,

let us pray to the Lord.

**All Lord, have mercy.**

For the Church of Christ, for *Libby* our Bishop, for Malcolm Macnaughton, now licensed Bishop-designate of Repton,  
and for the whole people of God,

let us pray to the Lord.

**All Lord, have mercy.**

For the nations of the world, for collaboration between the nations to conquer the pandemic  
for Elizabeth our Queen, and for our government,  
and all in authority faced with making decisions for the flourishing of all people,

let us pray to the Lord.

**All Lord, have mercy.**

For the villages and communities of this benefice  
for our neighbours and our friends,

let us pray to the Lord.

**All Lord, have mercy.**

For the good earth which God has given us,  
and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, we pray for farmers  
and food producers, and all involved in conserving our land for  
future generations,

let us pray to the Lord.

**All Lord, have mercy.**

For the sick and suffering,  
especially those suffering from COVID-19 and for all in any need,

let us pray to the Lord.

**All Lord, have mercy.**

For the poor and the oppressed,  
for the unemployed and the destitute,  
for prisoners and captives,  
and for all who remember and care for them,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**All Lord, have mercy.**

For the dying, for those who mourn *the deaths of Mike, Margaret, Muriel and John*,  
for the faithful whom we entrust to the Lord in hope,  
as we look forward to the day when we share  
the fullness of the resurrection,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**All Lord, have mercy.**

Rejoicing in the communion of *all* the saints,  
let us commend ourselves, and one another,  
and all our life, to God.

*Silence is kept.*

For yours is the majesty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;  
yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory,  
now and for ever.

**All Amen.**

## **The Collect for the Sunday Next before Lent**

Almighty Father,  
whose Son was revealed in majesty  
before he suffered death upon the cross:  
give us grace to perceive his glory,  
that we may be strengthened to suffer with him  
and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Jesus taught us to call God our Father,  
so in faith and trust we pray,

**All Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.  
Amen.**

### **The Blessing**

The Lord bless us, and preserve us from all evil,  
and keep us in eternal life.

**All Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

### **Hymn**

**St Martin's Voices** will sing the hymn

**Shine, Jesus, shine**

Lord, the light of Your love is shining,  
in the midst of the darkness, shining:  
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us;  
set us free by the truth You now bring us -  
shine on me, shine on me.

*Shine, Jesus, shine,  
fill this land with the Father's glory;*

*blaze, Spirit, blaze,  
set our hearts on fire.  
Flow, river, flow,  
flood the nations with grace and mercy;  
send forth Your word,  
Lord, and let there be light!*

Lord, I come to Your awesome presence,  
from the shadows into Your radiance;  
by the blood I may enter Your brightness:  
set us free by the truth You now bring us  
shine on me, shine on me.

*Chorus*

As we gaze on Your kingly brightness  
so our faces display Your likeness,  
ever changing from glory to glory:  
mirrored here, may our lives tell your story -  
shine on me, shine on me.

*Chorus*

*Graham Kendrick (born 1950)*

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