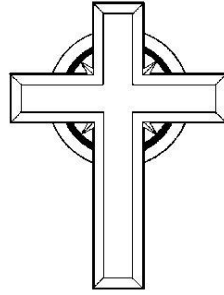


ST MARY'S, BATLEY & ST PATRICK'S, BIRSTALL

The Office for the Dead



Morning Prayer of the Church

○ God, come to our aid.
○ 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.

Opening Hymn

Remember those, O Lord,
Who in your peace have died,
Yet may yet gain love's high reward
Till love is purified.

With you they face death's night,
Sealed with your victory sign,
Soon may the splendour of your light
On them forever shine.

Sweet is their pain, yet deep,
Till perfect love be born;
Their lone night-watch they gladly keep
Before the radiant morn.

Your love is their great joy;
Your will their one desire;
As finest gold without alloy
Refine them in loves fire.

For them we humbly pray:
Perfect them I your love.
O may we share eternal day
With them in Heaven above.

Antiphon 1: The bones you have crushed will rejoice in you, Lord.

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.
In your compassion blot out my offence.
O wash me more and more from my guilt
and cleanse me from my sin.

My offences truly I know them;
my sin is always before me.
Against you, you alone, have I sinned;
what is evil in your sight I have done.

That you may be justified when you give sentence
and be without reproach when you judge,
O see, in guilt I was born,
a sinner was I conceived.

Indeed you love truth in the heart;
then in the secret of my heart teach me wisdom.
O purify me, then I shall be clean;
O wash me, I shall be whiter than snow.

Make me hear rejoicing and gladness,
that the bones you have crushed may revive.
From my sins turn away your face
and blot out all my guilt.

A pure heart create for me, O God,
put a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
nor deprive me of your holy spirit.

Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervour sustain me,
that I may teach transgressors your ways
and sinners may return to you.

O rescue me, God, my helper,
and my tongue shall ring out your goodness.

O Lord, open my lips
and my mouth shall declare your praise.

For in sacrifice you take no delight,
burnt offering from me you would refuse,
my sacrifice, a contrite spirit.
A humbled, contrite heart you will not spurn.

In your goodness, show favour to Sion:
rebuild the walls of Jerusalem.
Then you will be pleased with lawful sacrifice,
holocausts offered on your altar.

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 1: The bones you have crushed will rejoice in you, Lord.

Antiphon 2: Rescue my soul, Lord, from the gate of death.

I said, In the noontide of my days I must depart;
I am consigned to the gates of Sheol
for the rest of my years.

I said, I shall not see the Lord
in the land of the living;
I shall look upon man no more
among the inhabitants of the world.

My dwelling is plucked up and removed from me
like a shepherd's tent;
like a weaver I have rolled up my life;
he cuts me off from the loom.

From day to night you bring me to an end;
I cry for help until morning;
like a lion he breaks all my bones;
from day to night you bring me to an end.

Like a swallow or a crane I clamour,
I moan like a dove.
My eyes are weary with looking upward.
O Lord, I am oppressed; be my security.

Lo, it was for my welfare
that I had great bitterness;
but you have held back my life
from the pit of destruction,
for you have cast all my sins
behind your back.

For Sheol cannot thank you,
death cannot praise you;
those who go down to the pit
cannot hope for your faithfulness.

The living, the living, he thanks you,
as I do this day;
the father makes known to the children your faithfulness.

The Lord will save me,
and we will sing to stringed instruments
all the days of our life,
at the house of the Lord.

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 2: Rescue my soul, Lord, from the gate of death.

Antiphon 3: I will praise God all my days.

My soul, give praise to the Lord;
I will praise the Lord all my days,
make music to my God while I live.

Put no trust in Princes,
in mortal men in whom there is no help.
Take their breath, they return to clay

and their plans that day come to nothing.

He is happy who is helped by Jacobs God,
whose hope is in the Lord his God,
who alone made heaven and earth,
the seas and all they contain.

It is he who keeps faith forever,
who is just to those who are oppressed.
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,
the Lord, who sets prisoners free,

the Lord gives sight to the blind,
who raises up those who are bowed down,
the Lord, who protects the stranger
and upholds the widow and orphan.

It is the Lord who loves the just
but thwarts the path of the wicked.
The Lord will reign forever,
Sion's God, from age to age.

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 3: I will praise God all my days.

Scripture Reading - 1 Thessalonians 4:14

We believe that Jesus died and rose again,
and that it will be the same for those who have died in Jesus:
God will bring them with him.

Short Responsory

I will praise you, Lord. You have rescued me.
- I will praise you, Lord. You have rescued me.

You have changed my mourning into gladness.
- I will praise you, Lord. You have rescued me.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
- I will praise you, Lord. You have rescued me.

Benedictus Antiphon:

*I am the resurrection and the life:
he who believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live,
and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die.*

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel!
He has visited his people and redeemed them.

He has raised up for us a mighty saviour
in the house of David 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.

Benedictus Antiphon

*I am the resurrection and the life:
he who believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live,
and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die.*

Prayers and intercessions

God, the Father almighty, raised Jesus from the dead and he will give life to our own mortal bodies. We pray to him in faith:

- Lord, bring us to life in Christ.

Holy Father, we have been buried with your Son in baptism to rise with him in glory;

may we always live in Christ and not see death for ever.

- Lord, bring us to life in Christ.

Father, you have given us the living bread from heaven to be eaten with faith and love;

grant that we may have eternal life and be raised up on the last day.

- Lord, bring us to life in Christ.

Lord, when your Son was in agony you sent an angel to console him;

at the hour of our death take away all fear and fill our hearts with hope.

- Lord, bring us to life in Christ.

You delivered the three young men from the blazing furnace;

free the souls of the dead from the punishments their sins have deserved.

- Lord, bring us to life in Christ.

God of the living and the dead, you brought Jesus back to life;

raise up the faithful departed, and let us come with them into your heavenly glory.

- Lord, bring us to life in Christ.

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.

Concluding Prayer

Grant, Lord, we pray,
that as our faith is built on the Risen Christ,
so too our hope may be steadfast
as we await the resurrection of all the faithful departed.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

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

From the Divine Office of the Church.