

# **Solemn Evensong for the Eve of the Blessed Virgin Mary sung by the choir of Leicester Cathedral**

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**Truro  
Cathedral**

**Sunday 14th August  
2022  
at 4.00pm**

*Please remain seated as the choir sings the Introit*

## **Introit**

**'Angelus ad virginem' arr. Roberts**

Angelus ad virginem  
Subintrans in conclave.  
Virginis formidinem  
Demulcens inquit 'Ave.'  
Ave regina virginum,  
Coeli terraeque dominum  
Concipies  
Et paries Intacta  
Salutem hominum.  
Tu porta coeli facta  
Medela criminum.

'Quomodo conciperem,  
quae virum non cognovi?  
Qualiter infringerem,  
quae firma mente vovi?'  
'Spiritus sancti gratia  
Perficiet haec omnia;  
Ne timeas, sed gaudeas  
secura, quod castimonia  
Manebit in te pura  
Dei potentia.'

Ad haec virgo nobilis  
Respondens inquit ei;  
'Ancilla sum humilis  
Omnipotentis Dei.'  
Tibi coelesti nuntio,  
Tanta secreti conscio,  
Consentiens  
Et cupiens videre  
factum quod audio,  
Parata sum parere.  
Dei consilio.'

The angel, coming secretly  
to the Virgin's room.  
Calming the Virgin's fears,  
he said: 'Hail'.  
Hail, Queen of Virgins! You shall  
conceive the Lord of Heaven  
and Earth and give birth,  
without being touched,  
to the Salvation of mankind;  
you, made the Gateway of Heaven,  
the cure for sins'.

'How shall I conceive,  
seeing that I know not a man?  
How shall make an infraction I who  
made a vow with my firm mind?'  
'The grace of the Holy Ghost  
will do all this;  
don't be afraid but be pleased  
and safe because chastity  
will remain in you,  
pure power of God.'

To these words the noble virgin  
answered to him  
'I am the humble handmaiden'  
of the all-powerful God.'  
By your heavenly announcement  
I am made aware of such secrets'  
I am in agreement  
and I want to see  
what I hear done  
I'm ready to obey  
God's will.'

Eia Mater Domini,  
Quae pacem reddidisti  
Angelis et homini,  
Cum Christum genuisti;  
Tuum exora filium.  
Ut se nobis propitium  
Exhibeat, et deleat peccata;  
Praestans auxilium  
Vita frui beata  
Post hoc exsilium.

Come on, mother of the Lord  
who has given back peace  
to angels and man  
when you bore Christ.  
Pray your Son  
to be good to us  
Let him show and wash away our  
sins giving help  
to enjoy a happy life  
after this exile.

Words: 13th century Anon.

*Please stand for the entry of the Choir and Clergy.*

### **The Preces**

sung by the Officiant and the Choir to a setting by Philip Moore (b. 1943)

O Lord, open thou our lips.  
And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

O God, make speed to save us.  
O Lord, make haste to help us.

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.

Praise ye the Lord.  
The Lord's name be praised.

**Hail, O star that pointest  
Towards the gate of heaven.  
Thou to whom as maiden  
God for Son was given.**

**When the salutation  
Gabriel had spoken,  
Peace was shed upon us,  
Eva's bonds were broken.**

**Bound by Satan's fetters,  
Health and vision needing,  
God will aid and light us  
At thy gentle pleading.**

**Jesu's tender Mother,  
Make thy supplication  
Unto him who chose thee  
At his incarnation;**

**That, O matchless Maiden,  
Passing meek and lowly,  
Thy dear Son may make us  
Blameless, chaste and holy.**

**So, as now we journey,  
Aid our weak endeavour.  
Till we gaze on Jesus,  
And rejoice for ever.**

**Father, Son and Spirit,  
Three in One confessing,  
Give we equal glory,  
Equal praise and blessing.**

**Psalm 72**  
*sung by the Choir*

*Please sit as the choir chants the Psalm but stand for the singing of the Gloria.*

Give the King thy judgements, O God:  
and thy righteousness unto the King's son.  
Then shall he judge thy people according unto right:  
and defend the poor.  
The mountains also shall bring peace:  
and the little hills righteousness unto the people.  
He shall keep the simple folk by their right:  
defend the children of the poor, and punish the wrong-doer.  
They shall fear thee, as long as the sun and moon endureth:  
from one generation to another.  
He shall come down like the rain into a fleece of wool:  
even as the drops that water the earth.  
In his time shall the righteous flourish:  
yea, and abundance of peace, so long as the moon endureth.  
His dominion shall be also from the one sea to the other:  
and from the flood unto the world's end.  
They that dwell in the wilderness shall kneel before him:  
his enemies shall lick the dust.  
The kings of Tharsis and of the isles shall give presents:  
the kings of Arabia and Saba shall bring gifts.  
All kings shall fall down before him: all nations shall do him service.  
For he shall deliver the poor when he crieth:  
the needy also, and him that hath no helper.  
He shall be favourable to the simple and needy:  
and shall preserve the souls of the poor.  
He shall deliver their souls from falsehood and wrong:  
and dear shall their blood be in his sight.  
He shall live, and unto him shall be given of the gold of Arabia:  
prayer shall be made ever unto him, and daily shall he be praised.  
There shall be an heap of corn in the earth, high upon the hills:  
his fruit shall shake like Libanus, and shall be green in the city like  
grass upon the earth.  
His Name shall endure for ever; his Name shall remain under the  
sun among the posterities: which shall be blessed through him; and  
all the heathen shall praise him.  
Blessed be the Lord God, even the God of Israel:

which only doeth wondrous things;  
And blessed be the Name of his majesty for ever: and all the earth  
shall be filled with his majesty. Amen, Amen.  
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.

*Please sit*

## **The First Lesson**

### **Proverbs 8: 22 - 31**

Here begins the twenty second verse of the eighth chapter of the book of Proverbs.

The Lord created me at the beginning of his work, the first of his acts of long ago. Ages ago I was set up, at the first, before the beginning of the earth. When there were no depths I was brought forth, when there were no springs abounding with water. Before the mountains had been shaped, before the hills, I was brought forth—when he had not yet made earth and fields, or the world's first bits of soil. When he established the heavens, I was there, when he drew a circle on the face of the deep, when he made firm the skies above, when he established the fountains of the deep, when he assigned to the sea its limit, so that the waters might not transgress his command, when he marked out the foundations of the earth, then I was beside him, like a master worker; and I was daily his delight, rejoicing before him always, rejoicing in his inhabited world and delighting in the human race.

Here ends the first lesson.

*Please stand*

## **Magnificat**

*sung by the choir to the setting in E by Herbert Murrill (1909-1952)*

My soul doth magnify the Lord:  
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.  
For he hath regarded:  
the lowliness of his hand-maiden.  
For behold, from henceforth:  
all generations shall call me blessed.  
For he that is mighty hath magnified me:  
and holy is his name.  
And his mercy is on them that fear him:  
throughout all generations.  
He hath shewed strength with his arm:  
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.  
He hath put down the mighty from their seat:  
and hath exalted the humble and meek.  
He hath filled the hungry with good things:  
and the rich he hath sent empty away.  
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel:  
as he promised to our forefathers Abraham and his seed, for ever.  
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.

*Please sit*

## **The Second Lesson John 19: 23-27**

Here begins the twenty third verse of the nineteenth chapter of the gospel according to St John.

When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. So they said to one another, 'Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it.' This was to fulfil what the scripture says, 'They divided my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots.' And that is what the soldiers did. Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the

wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.' Then he said to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

Here ends the second lesson.

*Please stand*

**Nunc Dimittis**  
*sung by the Choir*

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

**The Apostles' Creed**

*All* I believe in God,  
**the Father Almighty,**  
**Maker of heaven and earth:**  
**And in 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 Catholic Church;  
The Communion of Saints;  
The Forgiveness of sins;  
The Resurrection of the body,  
And the life everlasting.  
Amen.**

### **The Responses**

*sung by the Officiant and the Choir*

The Lord be with you.  
And with thy spirit.

*Please sit or kneel.*

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Christ, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy upon 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. Amen.

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.  
And grant us thy salvation.

O Lord, save the Queen.  
And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.  
And make thy chosen people joyful.

O Lord, save thy people.  
And bless thine inheritance.

Give peace in our time, O Lord.  
Because there is none other that fighteth for us,  
but only thou, O God.

O God, make clean our hearts within us.  
And take not thy holy Spirit from us.

### **The Collect for the Blessed Virgin Mary**

Heavenly Father, who chose the Virgin Mary to be the mother of Our Lord and Saviour: grant that we may in all things accept thy holy will, and with her rejoice in thy salvation; through the same Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord. Amen.

### **The Collect for peace**

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.

### **The Collect for help in danger**

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.

### **Anthem**

#### **'The Heart-in-Waiting' by Bob Chilcott (b. 1955)**

*sung by the choir*

Jesus walked through whispering wood:  
'I am pale blossom, I am blood berry,  
I am rough bark, I am sharp thorn.  
This is the place where you will be born.

Jesus went down to the skirl of the sea:  
'I am long reach, I am fierce comber,

I am keen salt spray, I am spring tide.'  
He pushed the cup of the sea aside.

And heard the sky which breathed-and-blew:  
'I am the firmament, I am the shape-chenger,  
I cradle and carry and kiss and roar,  
I am infinite roof and floor.

All day he walked, he walked all night,  
Then Jesus came to the heart at dawn.  
'Here and now,' said the heart-in-waiting,  
'This is the place where you must be born.'

Words: Kevin Crosley-Holland (b. 1941)

## **The Sermon and Prayers**

Canon Emma Davies, Canon Precentor, Leicester Cathedral

*Please stand*

## **Hymn**

*during which the Collection will be taken*

**Sing we of the blessèd Mother  
Who received the angel's word,  
And obedient to his summons  
Bore in love the infant Lord;  
Sing we of the joys of Mary  
At whose breast that child was fed  
Who is Son of God eternal  
And the everlasting Bread.**

**Sing we, too, of Mary's sorrows,  
Of the sword that pierced her through,  
When beneath the cross of Jesus  
She his weight of suffering knew,  
Looked upon her Son and Saviour  
Reigning high on Calvary's tree,  
Saw the price of man's redemption  
Paid to set the sinner free.**

**Sing again the joys of Mary  
When she saw the risen Lord,  
And in prayer with Christ's apostles,  
Waited on his promised word:  
From on high the blazing glory  
Of the Spirit's presence came,  
Heavenly breath of God's own being,  
Manifest through wind and flame.**

**Sing the chiefest joy of Mary  
When on earth her work was done,  
And the Lord of all creation  
Brought her to his heavenly home:  
Virgin Mother, Mary blessèd,  
Raised on high and crowned with grace,  
May your Son, the world's redeemer,  
Grant us all to see his face.**

### **The Blessing**

May the angels of God watch over you, Our Lady and all the saints pray for you; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.

*All* **Amen.**

### **Organ Voluntary**

*Please remain standing as the choir and clergy depart.*

***Please take this order of service away with you.***

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