

Welcome to
ST PETER'S EASTERN HILL
Diocese of Melbourne - Anglican Church of Australia
Parish Church of the City since 1846



James Tissot (1836—1902): Woe unto You, Scribes and Pharisees

ASH
WEDNESDAY
2ND MARCH 2022

BLESSING OF THE ASHES

Mass setting: William Byrd (c.1543-1623): *Mass for Four Voices*

*Please stand for the beginning of the Mass. The people's responses are printed in **bold**.*

The celebrant and his ministers, in violet vestments, go up to the altar for the blessing of the ashes. During the procession the choir sings:

ANTIPHON *Psalm 68. 17, 2*

Exudi nos, Domine, quoniam
benigna est misericordia tua: est
secundum multitudinem
miserationum tuarum respice nos.

*Hear us, O Lord, for Thy mercy is
kind: look upon us, O Lord, according
to the multitude of Thy tender mercies.*

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

FIRST PRAYER

Almighty and everlasting God, spare those who are penitent, be merciful to those who implore You, and vouchsafe to send Your holy Angel from heaven, to bless+ and sanctify+ these ashes, that they may be a wholesome remedy to all who humbly implore Your holy Name, and who accuse themselves, conscious of their sins, deploring their misdeeds before Your divine mercy, or humbly and earnestly beseeching Your sovereign goodness: and grant through the invocation of Your most holy Name that whosoever shall be sprinkled with them for the remission of their sins may receive both health of body and safety of soul.

Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

SECOND PRAYER

O God, who desires not the death, but the repentance of sinners, look down most graciously upon the frailty of human nature; and in Your goodness vouchsafe to bless these ashes which we purpose to put upon our heads in token of our lowliness and to obtain forgiveness: so that we who know that we are but ashes, and for the demerits of our wickedness are to return to dust, may deserve to obtain of Your mercy, the pardon of all our sins, and the rewards promised to the penitent.

Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THIRD PRAYER

O God, who is moved by humiliation, and appeased by satisfaction: incline the ear of Your goodness to our prayers and mercifully pour forth upon the heads of Your servants, sprinkled with these ashes, the grace of Your blessing: that You may both fill them with the spirit of compunction, and effectually grant what they have justly prayed for: and ordain that what You have granted may be permanently established and remain unchanged.

Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

FOURTH PRAYER

Almighty and everlasting God, who did vouchsafe Your healing pardon to the Ninevites doing penance in sackcloth and ashes, mercifully grant that we may so imitate them in our outward attitude as to follow them in obtaining forgiveness. Through our Lord.

Amen.

The sanctuary party receives the ashes first, followed by the congregation, who receive the ashes at the chancel rail.

During the distribution of the ashes, the following antiphons and responsory are sung by the choir.

ANTIPHON *Joel 2. 13*

Immutemur habitu, in cinere et cilicio: jejunemus, et ploremus ante Dominum: quia multum misericors est dimittere peccata nostra Deus noster.

Let us change our garments for ashes and sackcloth: let us fast and lament before the Lord: for plenteous in mercy is our God to forgive our sins.

ANTIPHON *Joel 2. 17; Est. 13. 17*

Juxta vestibulum et altare plorabunt sacerdotes et levitae ministri domini et dicent parce domine parce populo tuo et ne dissipes ora clamantium ad te Domine.

At the entrance to the altar, the priests and the Levites, the ministers of the Lord, will weep and say, 'Spare, Lord, spare your people; and do not destroy the mouths of those who cry to you, Lord.'

RESPONSORY

Emendemus in melius quæ
ignoranter peccavimus;
ne subito præoccupati die mortis,
quæramus spatium pœnitentiæ, et
invenire non possimus. Attende,
Domine, et miserere; quia
peccavimus tibi.
Adjuva nos, Deus salutaris noster,
et propter honorem nominis tui
libera nos.

*Let us amend for the better in those
things in which we have sinned through
ignorance; lest suddenly overtaken by the
day of death,
we seek space for repentance and be not
able to find it.
Hearken, O Lord, and have mercy: for
we have sinned against thee.
Help us, O God of our salvation,
and for the honour of thy name deliver
us.*

After the distribution of ashes, the celebrant intones:

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Grant us, O Lord, to begin with holy fasts the campaign of our Christian warfare: that, as we do battle with the spirits of evil, we may be protected by the help of self-denial. Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The celebrant vests for the Mass, with the assistance of the sacred ministers.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

The choir intones the Introit as the sacred ministers cense the altar.

INTROIT *Wisdom 11. 24, 25, 27*

Misereris omnium, Domine, et nihil
odisti eorum quae fecisti, dissimulans
peccata hominum propter poenitentiam
et parcens illis: quia tu es Dominus
Deus noster.

*Your mercy extends to all things, O Lord, and
you despise none of the things you have made.
You overlook the sins of men for the sake of
repentance. You grant them your pardon,
because you are the Lord our God.*

Celebrant:

In the name of the Father, + and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

The celebrant sings the collect for purity. Please kneel as the choir sings:

Kyrie eleison		<i>Lord have mercy</i>
Christe eleison		<i>Christ have mercy</i>
Kyrie eleison		<i>Lord have mercy</i>

The deacon introduces the confession:

Merciful God: **Our maker and our judge, we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, and in what we have failed to do: we have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves; we repent and are sorry for all our sins. Father, forgive us. Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The celebrant chants the collect. Please then sit for the readings.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

JOEL 2.12 - 18

“**E**ven now,” says the Lord, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; rend your hearts and not your clothing. “Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing.” Who knows whether the Lord will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind him: a grain offering and a drink offering to be presented to the Lord, your God? Blow the trumpet in Zion; sanctify a fast; call a solemn assembly; gather the people. Sanctify the congregation; assemble the aged; gather the children, even infants at the breast. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her canopy. Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep. Let them say, “Spare your people, O Lord, and do not make your heritage a mockery, a byword among the nations. Why should it be said among the peoples, ‘Where is their God?’” Then the Lord became jealous for his land, and had pity on his people.
Hear the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 51 *led by the cantor, please join in the refrain*



Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.
Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin. **R.**

For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.
Against you, you alone, have I sinned,
and done what is evil in your sight. **R.**

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and put a new and right spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
and do not take your holy spirit from me. **R.**

Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and sustain in me a willing spirit.
O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth will declare your praise. **R.**

THE EPISTLE: 2 CORINTHIANS 5.20 - 6.2 *chanted by the sub-deacon*

We are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake God made Christ to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Christ we might become the righteousness of God. As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. For the Lord says, "At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you." See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! Hear the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand.

GRADUAL *Psalm 77. 29, 30*

Miserere mei, Deus, miserere mei:
quoniam in te confidit anima mea.

*Be merciful to me, O God, be merciful to me,
for my soul confides in you.*

The cantor leads the Tract.

TRACT *Psalm 102:10; 78:8-9*

Lord, do not requite us according to the sins we have committed or according to our iniquity. Lord, remember not our sins of old; let your compassion come speedily to meet us, for we are brought very low. Help us, O God, our Saviour, and for the glory of your name deliver us, O Lord; and forgive us our sins, for your name's sake.

THE GOSPEL

Deacon:

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mathew (6.1-6, 16-18)

+ Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus said to the disciples, "Beware of practising your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven. So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you."

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

Homily:

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Please kneel. After each petition:

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

And at the end:

Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord

And let light + perpetual shine upon them.

Celebrant:

Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers.

Grant that what we have asked in faith we may by your grace receive, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Please stand for the Greeting of Peace.

Celebrant:

We are the body of Christ.

His Spirit is with us.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Please stand for the offertory.

OFFERTORY *Psalm 29. 2, 3*

Exaltabo te, Domine, quoniam
suscepisti me, nec delectasti inimi-
cos meos super me: Domine, cla-
mavi ad te, et sanasti me.

*I will extol Thee, O Lord, for Thou hast
upheld me, and hast not made my enemies to
rejoice over me: O Lord, I have cried to Thee,
and Thou hast healed me.*

OFFERTORY HYMN *NEH 67 Forty days and Forty nights*

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Celebrant:

Blessed are you, Lord God &c.

Blessed be God forever.

Pray, my brothers and sisters, that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God, the Almighty Father.

May the Lord accept this sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his Church.

Celebrant:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.


Please kneel. The celebrant continues the prayer, leading to:

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus	<i>Holy, Holy, Holy</i>
Dominus Deus Sabaoth	<i>Lord God of Hosts</i>
Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua	<i>Heaven and earth are full of Your glory</i>
Hosanna in excelsis.	<i>Hosanna in the highest</i>
+ Benedictus qui venit in nomine domini. Hosanna in excelsis	<i>+Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest</i>


The celebrant continues the prayer, leading to:

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith

All




Dy - ing, you des - troyed our death. Ris - ing, you re - stored our life.



Christ Je - sus, come in glo - ry.


The celebrant continues the prayer, ending with:

All



Bles sing and ho - nour and glo - ry and power are yours for e - ver and e - ver. A - men.

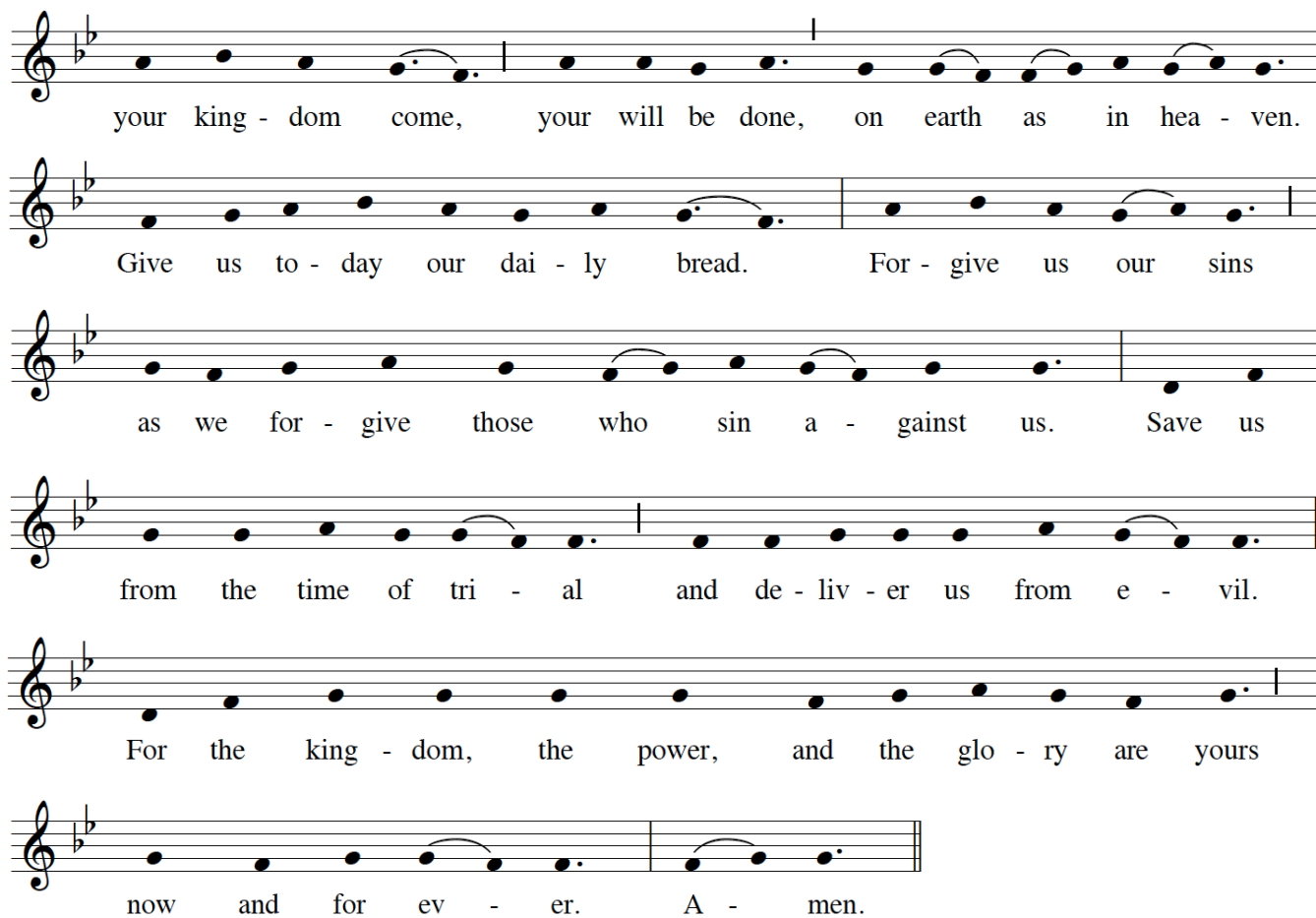
Celebrant



As our Sav - iour Christ has taught us, we are con - fi - dent to pray,



Our Fa - ther in hea - ven, hal - lowed be your name,



your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in hea - ven.
 Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins
 as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us
 from the time of tri - al and de - liv - er us from e - vil.
 For the king - dom, the power, and the glo - ry are yours
 now and for ev - er. A - men.

Celebrant:

We who are many are one body. **For we all share in the one bread.**

All remaining kneeling as the choir sings:

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi:
 miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi:
 miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi:
 dona nobis pacem.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: grant us peace.

Celebrant:

Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Qui meditabitur in lege Domini die ac nocte, dabit fructum suum in tempore suo.

He who meditates day and night on the law of the Lord, shall bring forth his fruit in due season.

Communicant members of any Christian church are invited to receive the sacrament. All others are very welcome to come forward for a blessing.

At the conclusion of the communion of the people, there is a time of silent prayer.

COMMUNION MOTET Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (1525 – 1594): *Super flumina Babylonis*

Super flumina Babylonis illic sedimus
et flevimus dum recordaremur tui, Sion:
in salicibus in medio eius, suspendimus
organa nostra.

*By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat down,
yea, we wept when we remembered thee, O
Sion. And in the midst of the willows we hung
up our harps.*

(Psalm 136:1-2)

Please stand for the post-communion hymn. NEH 70a Lord Jesus, think on me

THE CONCLUDING RITES

The celebrant sings the final prayer, leading to:

Father, we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice through Jesus Christ our Lord. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.

The celebrant offers a blessing and the deacon dismisses the congregation:

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Please stand as the sanctuary party departs. A retiring collection will be taken at the door.

Recessional: J. W. Clokey (1980-1960) Meditation on HEINLEIN (AUS DER TIEFE)

If you are a new parishioner, or a visitor to St Peter's, please introduce yourself to the clergy at the door as you leave the church. All are welcome to the Parish Hall for refreshments after the Mass.