

SAINT GEORGE THE MARTYR PARISH



THE EPIPHANY
OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

JANUARY 4, 2026

THE CHRISTIAN EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF CANADA

EPIPHANY: A GIFT FOR THE WHOLE WORLD

Epiphany reveals Christ as the Light for all nations.

Psalm 72 envisions a just and compassionate King whose reign brings peace and hope to the poor.

Ephesians 3 proclaims the great mystery now made known: in Christ, all people – near and far – are welcomed into God's promise.

In Matthew 2, the Magi follow a star and find the child Jesus, offering their gifts and their worship. Their journey shows that God draws seekers from every place and speaks to hearts prepared to listen.

May we, like the Magi, be overwhelmed with joy when we encounter Christ. May we offer Him the best of what we have. And may we return by another road – changed, renewed, and ready to bear His light into the world.

Today we celebrate the God who still guides, still welcomes, and still shines light on every path that leads us to Christ.

Let us pray. God of Light, You revealed Your glory in the child of Bethlehem and welcomed the nations to His brightness. Guide us as You guided the Magi. Make us people of justice, mercy, and open hearts, ready to share the hope we found in Christ. Shine in us and through us, that Your light may reach every corner of the world; in Jesus' Name, we pray. Amen.

THE ORDER OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST

INTROIT HYMN - 97 “As with gladness men of old”

The Office of Preparation - (Kneel)
THE INTROIT. *Psalm 72. 1-7.* - (Kneel)
The Lord’s Prayer and Collect for Purity - (Kneel)
Our Blessed Lord’s Summary of the Law - (Kneel)
Gloria in Excelsis (Glory be to God on high) - (Stand)
The Collect for the King’s Majesty - (Kneel)
The Collect for the Epiphany - (Kneel)
THE EPISTLE. *Ephesians 3. 1-12.* - (Sit)
THE GRADUAL. *Psalm 72. 8-11.* - (Stand)
THE GOSPEL. *Saint Matthew 2. 1-12.* - (Stand)
THE NICENE CREED - (Stand)

THE SERMON.

OFFERTORY HYMN - 94 “Earth has many a noble city”

The Offertory and Doxology - (Stand)
The Prayer of Intercession - (Kneel)
The Preparation of the Faithful - (Kneel)
The Preparation of the Lord’s Table - (Kneel)
The Exhortation of the Faithful - (Kneel)
The Eucharistic Preface for the Epiphany - (Stand)
Sanctus and Benedictus (Holy, Holy, Holy) - (Kneel)
THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION AND OBLATION - (Kneel)
The Preparation for Holy Communion - (Kneel)
The Ministration of Holy Communion - (Kneel)
The Thanksgiving after Holy Communion - (Kneel)
The Collect after Communion for the Epiphany - (Kneel)
The Dismissal Anthem for the Epiphany - (Kneel)
The Blessing and Dismissal - (Kneel)

PROCESSIONAL HYMN - 750 “The first Nowell the angel did say”

Devotions at the Crèche - (Stand)

DISMISSAL HYMN - 748 “We three kings of orient are”

THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

4th January 2026, 1:30 p.m.

INTROIT HYMN - *"As with gladness men of old"*

Hymn 97. Tune: Dix. Six 7's.

William Chatterton Dix, 1860.

As with gladness men of old,
Did the guiding star behold,
As with joy they hailed its light,
Leading onward, beaming bright;
So, most gracious LORD, may we
Evermore be led to Thee.

As with joyful steps they sped,
SAVIOUR, to Thy lowly bed,
There to bend the knee before
Thee whom heav'n and earth adore;
So may we with willing feet
Ever seek thy mercy seat.

As they offered gifts most rare
At that cradle rude and bare,
So may we with holy joy,
Pure and free from sin's alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring,
CHRIST, to Thee our heavenly King.

Holy JESU, every day
Keep us in the narrow way,
And, when earthly things are past,
Bring our ransomed souls at last
Where they need no star to guide,
Where no clouds thy glory hide.

In the heavenly country bright
Need they no created light,
Thou in Light, its Joy, its Crown,
Thou its Sun which goes not down;
There forever may we sing,
Alleluias to our King. Amen.

AN OFFICE OF PREPARATION

This Office of Preparation may be used in the Church before the celebration of the Lord's Supper.

The Priest shall stand at the foot of the Altar, and there he shall make the Sign of the Cross, saying,

℣ IN the Name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

Then shall the Priest say,

I WILL go unto the altar of God,

Answer. Even unto the God of my joy and gladness.

Then shall the Priest say,

GIVE sentence with me, O God, and defend my cause against the ungodly people; O deliver me from the deceitful and wicked man.

People. For Thou art the God of my strength; why hast Thou put me from Thee? and why go I so heavily while the enemy oppresseth me?

Priest. O send out Thy light and Thy truth, that they may lead me, and bring me unto Thy holy hill, and to Thy dwelling.

People. And that I may go unto the altar of God, even unto the God of my joy and gladness; and upon the harp will I give thanks unto Thee, O God, my God.

Priest. Why art thou so heavy, O my soul, and why art thou so disquieted within me?

People. O put thy trust in God, for I will yet give Him thanks, which is the Help of my countenance, and my God.

And the Priest shall say,

GLORY be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

People. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

Then shall the Priest say,

I WILL go unto the altar of God,

Answer. Even unto the God of my joy and gladness.

Priest. Our help standeth in the Name of the Lord;

Answer. Who hath made heaven and earth.

Priest. Wilt Thou not turn again and quicken us, O God;

Answer. That Thy people may rejoice in Thee?

Priest. O Lord, shew Thy mercy upon us;

Answer. And grant us Thy salvation.

Priest. O Lord, hear our prayer;

Answer. And let our cry come unto Thee.

Priest.

Let us pray.

TAKE away from us, we beseech Thee, O Lord, our iniquities; and so purify our hearts and minds, that we may enter worthily into the Holy of Holies, and there in Thy presence worship Thee acceptably before Thy throne; through the merits of Thine only Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Then shall the Priest proceed directly to the celebration of the Holy Eucharist.

THE ORDER OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST

*The Priest shall proceed to the Lord's Table to celebrate the Lord's Supper,
and minister the Holy Communion to the Lord's faithful people.*

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD OF GOD

THE INTROIT. *Psalm 72. 1-7.*

The Psalm, or the portion thereof, appointed to be used for the Introit Psalm, shall be said or sung as the Priest proceedeth up to the Lord's Table. And at high and solemn celebrations, the Priest may cense the Holy Table as the Introit Psalm is being sung.

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.

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 PREPARATION.

*And the Priest, standing at and facing the Lord's Table, shall say in an audible voice the Lord's Prayer,
with the Collect following, the people kneeling.*

OUR Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil. *Amen.*

ALMIGHTY God, unto Whom all hearts be open, all desires known, and from Whom no secrets are hid : Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love Thee, and worthily magnify Thy holy Name; through

Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

THE GREETING.

The Priest shall first kiss the Holy Table; and then turning himself to face the people, he shall greet them in the Name of the Lord, saying,

GRACE be unto you, and peace,
from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Answer. And with thy spirit.

THE COMMANDMENTS.

Then shall the Priest go to the north side of the Lord's Table, and facing the people rehearse the Commandments: either our Blessed Lord's Summary of the Law, or else the Ten Commandments; provided always that the Ten Commandments shall be read on some Sunday in Advent and Lent, on Days of Abstinence and Days of Solemn Prayer, and throughout the rest of the year on one Sunday every month.

THE SUMMARY OF THE LAW.

The Priest shall rehearse the Commandments, either reciting our Blessed Lord's Summary of the Law, as followeth,

OUR Lord Jesus Christ said: Hear, O Israel, THE LORD OUR GOD IS ONE LORD; and thou shalt love the LORD thy GOD with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength. This is the first and great Commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two Commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

People. Lord, have mercy upon us, and write both these Thy laws in our hearts, we beseech Thee.

KYRIE ELEISON.

Then shall the Priest return to his place standing before the Holy Table, and this following shall then be said or sung in Greek or in English, the people all still humbly kneeling as before.

KYRIE, eleison. / Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christe, eleison. / Christ, have mercy upon us.
Kyrie, eleison. / Lord, have mercy upon us.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS.

Then may be said or sung by all standing,

GLORY be to God on high, and in earth peace, good will towards men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, (*Here all shall bow.*) we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee for Thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, (*And here all shall bow with reverence.*) **J**esu Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world,

have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, (*And here all again shall bow.*) receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For Thou only art holy, Thou only art the Lord, Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, ✕ art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE COLLECTS.

Then shall the Priest turn himself to the people, and shall say or sing,

THE Lord be with you.

Answer. And with thy spirit.

Priest. Let us pray.

*Then shall the Priest turn again to the Lord's Table,
and shall say or sing this Collect for the King's Majesty following.*

ALMIGHTY God, Whose kingdom is everlasting, and power infinite: Have mercy upon Thy people in this Dominion, and all the realms and countries of our Commonwealth; and so rule the heart of Thy chosen servant *CHARLES*, our King and Governor, that he (knowing Whose minister he is) may above all things seek Thy honour and glory: and grant that we, and all his subjects (duly considering Whose authority he hath) may faithfully serve, honour, and humbly obey him, in Thee, and for Thee, according to Thy blessed Word and ordinance; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Who with Thee and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.*

O GOD, Who by the leading of a star didst manifest Thine only-begotten Son Jesus Christ to the Gentiles: Mercifully grant, that we, who know Thee now by faith, may be led onward through this earthly life, until we see the vision of Thy heavenly glory; through the same Thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, Who with Thee and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.*

THE EPISTLE. *Ephesians 3. 1-12.*

Then shall the Priest, or some other Minister, read the Epistle, first saying,

The Epistle is taken from the third chapter of Paul's letter
to the Ephesians beginning at the first verse.

FOR this cause I Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ for you Gentiles, if ye have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which is given me to you-ward: how that by revelation He made known unto me the mystery; (as I wrote afore in few words, whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ) which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto His holy Apostles and Prophets by the Spirit; that the Gentiles should be fellow-heirs, and of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ by the Gospel:

whereof I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of His power. Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ; and to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, Who created all things by Jesus Christ: to the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the Church the manifold wisdom of God, according to the eternal purpose which He purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord: in Whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of Him.

And the Epistle ended, the Minister shall say,
Here endeth the Epistle. This is the Word of the Lord.

And all shall answer saying,
Thanks be to God.

THE GRADUAL. *Psalm 72. 8-11.*

Then shall all the people stand, and the Gradual Psalm, shall be said or sung.

ALLELUIA, Alleluia. His dominion shall be also from sea to sea, / and from the river 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 Seba shall bring gifts. All kings shall fall down before Him, / all nations shall do Him service. Alleluia.

THE GOSPEL. *Saint Matthew 2. 1-12.*

*Then shall the Priest or the Deacon read the Gospel
appointed for that day, the people all still standing as before.*

And the Minister that shall read the Gospel shall first say,
THE Lord be with you.

And all the people shall answer,
And with thy spirit.

*Then shall the Minister announce that portion of
the Gospel which is to be read, saying,*

✖ **T**HE holy Gospel is written in the second chapter of the Gospel according to Saint Matthew beginning at the first verse.

Then shall be said or sung,
GLORY be to Thee, O Lord.

Then shall the Minister read the Gospel.

WHEN Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, saying, Where is He that is born

King of the Jews? for we have seen His star in the east, and are come to worship Him. When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where the Christ should be born. And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus it is written by the Prophet, And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, art not the least among the princes of Judah: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel. Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, enquired of them diligently what time the star appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young Child; and when ye have found Him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship Him also. When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young Child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. And when they were come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His Mother, and fell down, and worshipped Him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto Him gifts; gold, and frankincense and myrrh. And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way.

*And the reading of the holy Gospel ended, all shall then
together in like manner as before say or sing,*

PRAISE be to Thee, O Christ.

Then shall the Minister say,

AND through the Words of the Gospel may our sins be blotted out.

*Then shall be said or sung the Nicene Creed as followeth,
the Priest and people still standing as before.*

THE NICENE CREED.

*Then shall be said or sung the Nicene Creed as followeth,
the Priest and people still standing as before.*

I BELIEVE in one God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord (*And here all shall bow with reverence.*) **Jesus Christ**, the only-begotten Son of God, Begotten of His Father before all worlds: God, of God; Light, of Light; Very God, of very God; Begotten, not made; Being of one substance with the Father; Through Whom all things were made: (*And here all shall kneel or bow.*) **Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, AND WAS MADE MAN,** (*And here all shall again rise.*) And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried, And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures, And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the Father. And He shall come again with glory to judge both the quick

and the dead: Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord and Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together (*And here all shall reverently bow,*) is worshipped and glorified, Who spake by the Prophets. And I believe One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins. And I look for the ~~¶~~ Resurrection of the dead, And the Life of the world to come. Amen.

THE SERMON.

And here at the principal Eucharist upon the Lord's Day and greater Holy-days, a Sermon shall be preached or an Homily read out to the faithful.

THE OFFERTORY.

Then shall the Priest return to the Lord's Table and begin the Offertory; and first kissing the Altar, he shall turn to the people, and say,

LET us present our offerings unto the Lord
with reverence and godly fear.

Then shall the Priest say or sing one or more of these Sentences following, as he thinketh most convenient in his discretion.

AND they came every one whose heart stirred him up, and every one whom his spirit made willing, and they brought the Lord's offering. *Exodus xxxv.*

Offer unto God the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and pay thy vows unto the Most High. *Psalm I.*

Give unto the Lord the honour due unto His Name; bring an offering and come into His courts. *Psalm xcvi.*

I will offer to Thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and will call upon the Name of the Lord; I will pay my vow unto the Lord in the sight of all His people.

Psalm cxvi.

Epiphanytide. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven. *Saint Matthew v.*

Of Tithing. Honour the Lord with thy substance, and with the first fruits of all thine increase; so shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst forth with new wine. *Proverbs iii.*

Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in my house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open up the windows of

heaven and pour you out a blessing, so that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

Malachi iii.

Of Almsgiving. Blessed is he that considereth the poor and needy: the Lord shall deliver him in the time of trouble.

Psalm xli.

Remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how He said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.

Acts xx.

OFFERTORY HYMN - *“Earth has many a noble city”*

Hymn 94. Tune: Stuttgart. 8 7. 8 7.

From the Latin of Prudentius, 348-413,

Translated by the Reverend E. Caswall, 1849.

Earth has many a noble city;
Bethlehem, thou dost all excel;
Out of thee the LORD from heaven
Came to rule His Israel.

Fairer than the sun at morning
Was the star that told His birth,
To the world its GOD announcing
Seen in fleshly form on earth.

Eastern sages at His cradle
Make oblations rich and rare;
See them give, in deep devotion,
Gold and frankincense and myrrh.

Sacred gifts of mystic meaning:
Incense doth their GOD disclose,
Gold the King of kings proclaimeth,
Myrrh His sepulcher foreshows.

JESU, Whom the Gentiles worshipped
At Thy glad Epiphany,
Unto Thee, with GOD the FATHER
And the SPIRIT, glory be. Amen.

THE PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS.

And when the Tithes and Offerings are presented, the following shall be sung,

PRAISE GOD from Whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him all creatures here below;

Praise Him above ye heavenly host;

Praise FATHER, SON, and HOLY GHOST,
All things come of Thee, O LORD;
And of Thine own have we given Thee. Amen.

Or else this following may be said or sung instead,

BLESSED be Thou, O Lord God of Israel, forever and ever. All that is in the heaven and in the earth is Thine. All things come of Thee; and of Thine own have we given Thee. Amen.

And when there is a Eucharist, the Priest at the time of the Offertory shall also place upon the Lord's Table the oblations of so much Bread and Wine as he shall think sufficient (laying the same upon a fair linen cloth). And the Bread shall be the best and purest unleavened wheat Bread, and the Wine the purest grape Wine, that may be gotten. And at high and solemn celebrations, the Holy Table and oblations may then be censed by the Priest.

THE INTERCESSION.

Then shall the Priest say,

Let us pray for Christ's holy Catholic Church.

Then shall the Priest say this Prayer following.

ALMIGHTY and everliving God, Who by Thy holy Apostle hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks, for all men: We humbly beseech Thee most mercifully *to accept our alms and oblations, and* to receive these our prayers, which we offer unto Thy Divine Majesty; beseeching Thee to inspire continually the universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord: And grant that all they that do confess Thy holy Name may agree in the truth of Thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

We beseech Thee also to save and defend all Christian Kings, Princes, and Governors; and specially Thy servant *CHARLES* our King; that under him we may be godly and quietly governed: And grant unto all his councils, and to all that are put in authority under him, that they may truly and impartially minister justice, to the punishment of wickedness and vice, and to the maintenance of Thy true religion and virtue.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, *and specially to Thy servant Robert, our Archbishop*, that they may both by their life and doctrine set forth Thy true and living Word, and rightly and duly administer Thy holy Sacraments. And we beseech Thee also to bless all others who minister in Thy Name; that every one according to his calling and ministry may truly and godly serve Thee, to Thy honour and glory, and the edifying of Thy holy Church.

And to all Thy people give Thy heavenly grace; and specially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive Thy holy Word, truly serving Thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life. And we most humbly beseech Thee of Thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and

succour all them who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity, *especially those for whom our prayers are desired.*

And here we ~~¶~~ remember before Thee, O Lord, and commend to Thy gracious keeping, all Thy servants departed this life in Thy faith and fear. And we bless Thy holy Name for all who in life and death have glorified Thee, remembering chiefly the most Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of Thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord and God; together with all Thy blessed Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors and Doctors; Martyrs and Confessors; Virgins, Widows, and Matrons; and all Thy blessed Saints, in every place, and in every age: beseeching Thee to give us grace that, rejoicing in their fellowship, and assisted by their prayers, we may follow their good examples, and with them be partakers of Thy heavenly kingdom. Grant this, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate, to Whom, with Thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

And here all those who are unbaptised or excommunicate shall withdraw.

THE LITURGY OF THE SUPPER OF THE LORD

(This sacred portion of the Mass is reverently conducted in the Church.)

THE DISMISSAL COLLECTS

The Collects following one or more are appointed to be said by the Minister after the Offertory before the Dismissal when there is no Communion.

ASSIST us mercifully, O Lord, in these our supplications and prayers, and dispose the way of Thy servants towards the attainment of everlasting salvation; that, among all the changes and chances of this mortal life, they may ever be defended by Thy most gracious and ready help; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

O ALMIGHTY Lord, and everlasting God, vouchsafe, we beseech Thee, to direct, sanctify, and govern, both our hearts and bodies, in the ways of Thy laws, and in the works of Thy commandments; that through Thy most mighty protection, both here and ever, we may be preserved in body and soul; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

GRANT, we beseech Thee, Almighty God, that the words, which we have heard this day with our outward ears, may through Thy grace be so grafted inwardly in our hearts, that they may bring forth in us the fruit of good living, to the honour and praise of Thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

PREVENT us, O Lord, in all our doings with Thy most gracious favour, and further us with Thy continual help; that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in Thee, we may glorify Thy holy Name, and finally by Thy mercy obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

ALMIGHTY God, the Fountain of all wisdom, Who knowest our necessities before we ask, and our ignorance in asking: We beseech Thee to have compassion upon our infirmities; and those things, which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask, vouchsafe to give us, for the worthiness of Thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

ALMIGHTY God, Who hast promised to hear the petitions of them that ask in Thy Son's Name: We beseech Thee mercifully to incline Thine ears to us that have now made our prayers and supplications unto Thee; and grant, that those things, which we have faithfully asked according to Thy will, may effectually be obtained, to the relief of our necessity, and to the setting forth of Thy glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

WE humbly beseech Thee, O Father, mercifully to look upon our infirmities; and for the glory of Thy Name turn from us all those evils that we have most justly deserved; and grant that, in all our troubles, we may put our whole trust and confidence only in Thy mercy, and evermore serve Thee in holiness and pureness of living, to Thy honour and glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

O GOD, Whose nature and property is ever to have mercy and to forgive: Receive our humble petitions, we beseech Thee, O heavenly Father; and though we be tied and bound with the chain of our sins, yet let the pitifulness of Thy great mercy loose us, and let our prayers and supplications rise up before Thee; for the honour of Jesus Christ, Thy beloved Son and our only Saviour. *Amen.*

THE BLESSING.

Then shall the Priest kiss the Lord's Table; and turning himself again to face the people, he shall let them depart with this Blessing, the people all kneeling.

THE peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of His Son Jesus Christ our Lord: And the blessing of God Almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

PROCESSIONAL HYMN - *“The First Nowell the angel did say”*

Hymn 750. Tune: The First Nowell. P.M.

English Traditional Carol, c. 17th century.

The first Nowell the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay, a-keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Refrain. Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east, beyond them far;
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night. [*Refrain.*]

And by the light of that same star
Three Wise Men came from country far;
To seek for a king was their intent,
And to follow the star wherever it went. [*Refrain.*]

This star drew nigh to the north-west,
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
And there it did both stop and stay
Right over the place where Jesus lay. [*Refrain.*]

Then entered in those Wise Men three,
Full reverently upon their knee,
And offered there, in His presence,
Their gold and myrrh and frankincense. [*Refrain.*]

Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord;
That hath made heaven and earth of nought,
And with His Blood mankind hath brought. [*Refrain.*]

DEVOTIONS AT THE CRÈCHE IN EPIPHANYTIDE

*The Priest and Ministers shall stand before the Crèche,
and together with the people shall say these devotions following.*

The Priest.

THE Lord be with you.

Answer. And with thy spirit.

Priest. We have seen His star in the east:

Answer. And are come to worship Him.

Priest.

Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY God, Who didst lead the Wise Men by the bright and shining star to the house at Nazareth, wherein dwelt Thine only-begotten Son Jesus Christ, with the Blessed Virgin Mary His Mother; and who, when they found Him there, did worship Him as King and God, offering unto Him their costly gifts of gold, frankincense, and

myrrh: Grant that we, also beholding His Divine Majesty, may likewise offer unto Him our own gifts, the poor treasure of ourselves, our souls and bodies; and grant that by the grace and power of Thy Holy Spirit working in us, our offerings may be transformed, and be found acceptable in His sight, through Whom we pray unto Thee, and Who with Thee and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.*

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, Who desistest not the death of a sinner, but rather that he may turn away from his wickedness and live: We humbly beseech Thee to deliver all the nations of the earth from sin and disbelief, and bring them unto a true and living faith in Thy blessed Son Jesus Christ; that all mankind may be saved, and true godliness and peace reign upon the earth; through the same Thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Here endeth a FORM OF DEVOTIONS AT THE CRÈCHE AT EPIPHANYTIDE.

*Then shall this Dismissal Hymn following be sung
as the Priest and Minsters leave the Church.*

DISMISSAL HYMN - “*We three Kings of Orient are*”

Hymn 748. Tune: We Three Kings of Orient Are. P.M.

The Reverend J. H. Hopkins, 1857.

We three kings of Orient are;
Bearing gifts we traverse afar,
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,
Following yonder star.

*Refrain. O star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light.*

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,
Gold I bring to crown Him again,
King forever, ceasing never,
Over us all to reign. [*Refrain.*]

Frankincense to offer have I;
Incense owns a Deity nigh;
Prayer and praising, all men raising,
Worship Him, GOD most high. [*Refrain.*]

Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume
Breathes a life of gathering gloom;

Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,
Sealed in the stone-cold tomb. [*Refrain.*]

Glorious now behold Him arise;
King and GOD and sacrifice:
Alleluia, Alleluia,
Earth to the heaven replies. [*Refrain.*]

THE DISMISSAL.

The Priest or Deacon shall dismiss the people as followeth.

THE Lord be with you.

Answer. And with thy spirit.

Priest. Let us depart in peace.

Answer. In the Name of the Lord. *Amen.*