

## THE BLESSING OF THE FIRE

*No Candles or incense alight. The Clergy process in silently, bow to the Cross and move to their places.*

*The Celebrant staying in Plano says:*

**P. In the name of God the Power, (+) God the Love, and God the Holy Wisdom. Amen.**

*The Celebrant receives the aspergil, then makes the sign of the Cross over him/her self saying:*

**P. May The Lord God purify me that I may worthily perform this service ---sprinkling the Altar with a triple motion, the priest continues--- In your strength O God do I repel all evil from this holy Altar and sanctuary ---turning to the people and sprinkling towards them with the same triple motion--- and from this house wherein we worship you. Amen.**

*Resigning the aspergil to a server the Clergy process down the aisle towards the door of the Church and here the priest Blesses the new fire:*

**P. Let this fire be purified (+) and Blessed (+) by God in whose honour it is kindled.**

*Some charcoal is taken from the fire for the thurible, then the five grains of incense and the nails are Blessed:*

**P. Let this incense and these nails be purified (+) and Blessed (+) by The Holy One to whom they are dedicated.**

*The incense in the thurible is now Blessed in the usual way, then the fire is aspersed, after which the incense grains and nails are aspersed. The fire is now censed with a triple motion, then the incense grains and nails are also censed in the same manner. The incense grains are now inserted into the nails and the Clergy will now change their stoles from violet to white.*

*The triple candle is now lit from the fire and Blessed thus:*

**P. Let this candle be purified (+) and Blessed (+) through The Christed Light of the world.**

*The procession returns, the subdeacon bearing a tray containing the five nails and grains of incense within them, while the Deacon bears the triple candle. During the procession four genuflections are made by all the procession except the Cross bearer. During each genuflection the bearer of the triple candle sings the versicles.*

**D. Christ is our light.**

**C. May that light shine in our hearts.**

*When the procession has reached the sanctuary the nails and the triple candle is accepted by a server and placed upon a table conveniently placed there before the service. The Clergy then move to their own places as the Sub-Deacon then reads the Epistle.*

## THE EPISTLE

**S.D.** The Epistle is taken from the first chapter of Genesis beginning at verse one.

**In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form and void, and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters, and God said, let there be light, and there was light, and God saw the light and that it was good, and God divided the light from the darkness.**

**Here Endeth the Epistle.**

*The Deacon standing before the bottom step of the Epistle Side says:*

**D.** Cleanse my + heart and my + lips O Lord, who by the hand of the seraph didst cleanse the lips of the prophet Isaiah with a burning coal from thy Altar, and in thy loving kindness so purify me that I may worthily proclaim Thy Holy Gospel, through The Christ our Lord. Amen.

**P.** May the Lord be in thy (+) heart and on thy (+) lips, that through thy heart and lips the love and power of God may shine forth and be made manifest. Amen

*Arising and turning by the left and facing the people the Deacon says:*

**D.** May God be with you.

**C.** And also with you.

## GOSPEL

**D.** The Gospel is taken from the first chapter of John beginning at verse one.

**All.** Glory be to thee O Lord.

*The Gospel is censed in the order of the day.*

In the beginning was the word, and the word was with God, and the word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by God and without God nothing was made. In God was life and the life was the light of humanity and the light shineth in darkness and the darkness comprehended it not. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. This man came for a witness, to bear witness of the light, that all might believe through him. He was not that light, but was sent to bear witness of that light, that was the true light which lighteth every one coming into the world. He was in the world and the world was made by Him and the world knew Him not. He came unto His own and His own received him not. But as many received Him, to them He gave The Power to become the children of God, even to them that believeth on His name, who were born not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of humanity, but of God: ---all now genuflect--- and the word was made flesh: ---all rise again--- and dwelt among us and we beheld His glory as of the only begotten Son of The Father, full of grace and truth.

Here Endeth the Gospel.

**All.** Praise Be to Thee O Christ.

*The Deacon now fixes into the paschal candle the five nails, and marks a Cross, an alpha and omega, and the year of our Lord on the candle saying:*

**D.** O Christ yesterday **Top**-- And today **Bottom**-- The beginning **Left**-- And The End **Right**-- Alpha **Top**-- And Omega **Bottom**-- Yours are the seasons **Left**-- Yours the ages **Right**-- To you be glory **Top** and dominion **Bottom** -- Throughout the ages **Left** of ages. **Centre** Amen. **Right**

*The Celebrant steps forward and Blesses the candle thus:*

**P.** Let this candle be (+) purified and (+) Blessed by God in whose honour it shall be burned.

*The Deacon then lights the paschal candle with a taper, taking the light from the triple candle, and then proceeds to light all the Altar candles, and any other candles or lamps except that which burns before the Blessed sacrament.*

*The Deacon then says:*

**Let the Angelic choirs of heaven rejoice, let the divine mysteries be joyfully celebrated, and let the Sacred Trumpet resound for the victory of our earthly, yet Christed Avatar. Let the whole earth also rejoice, illuminated with resplendent rays and let it feel that the darkness of the world is dispelled, let also the Church of Christendom rejoice, adorned with the rays of so great a light and may this temple resound with the joyful voices of the people. Amen.**

**P. Let us pray.**

**Almighty God, may our hearts be so stirred by thy power during this Easter Festival, that arising from the darkness of wrong and ignorance, we may shine with the splendour of Thy Light, O Thou who art our Sun of righteousness. Amen.**

*The Celebrant will now unveil all the Crosses, after which the following responses are said or sung:*

**P. Our help is in thy name O God.**

**C. Who hath made heaven and earth.**

**P. We trust in you Lord God for ever.**

**C. For you are the rock of ages.**

**P. Blessed are the pure in heart.**

**C. For they shall see God.**

**P. Beloved let us love one another, for love is of God and everyone that loveth is born of God and knoweth God. They that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love. And this commandment have we been given from God, that they who loveth God love all others also.**

**C. Thanks be to God.**

**HYMN**

**O Trinity of burning light,  
Shine Thou within our hearts this night,  
The fiery sun sinks in the west,  
Grant us in Thee in peace to rest.**

**To Thee our morning song of praise  
To Thee our evening hymn we raise,  
Thy love supernal we adore,  
For ever and for evermore.**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise God all creatures here below,  
Praise God above, ye heavenly Host,  
Praise God The Trinity, our Host.**

**P. May God be with you.**

**C. And also with you.**

**P. Let us pray. O Lord The Christ, whose life thy Church doth lay before us as a perfect example for our imitation, grant that we may follow Thee through mystic burial into newness of life, Thou who livest and reignest in eternal Glory. Amen.**

**P. O God from whom all Holy desires, all good counsel and all just works do proceed, give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments and also that by Thee we being defended from the fear of all evil may pass this night in rest and quietness, through The Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**P. Almighty God, The Protector of all who trust in Thee, send forth Thy Power to keep us this night both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in ourselves, that so far as it is expedient for us we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul, through The Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**P. Almighty God, who has given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto Thee, and dost promise that where two or three are gathered in Thy name, there art Thou in the midst of them; fulfil now O Lord the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be most expedient for them, granting us in this world knowledge of Thy truth and in the world to come life everlasting. Amen.**

**P. If it be Thy will O Lord give protection and succour from the golden rays, to thy little one our lesser brothers and sisters, who Thou hast seen fit to place in our care, help those of us who have not yet realised the mighty wisdom in this direction, to join in this endeavour and cease all cruelty. Amen.**

**P. Teach us O God, to see Thy life in all humanity, and in all the people of thine earth, and so guide the nations into the understanding of Thy laws that peace and goodwill may reign upon earth; through The Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**P. Let us bless The Lord.**

**C. Henceforth and for evermore.**

**P. May the souls of the departed through the love of God rest in (+) peace.**

**C. Amen.**

**P. May God grant us peace.**

**C. And life everlasting**

**P. The grace of our Lord Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of The Holy Spirit be with us all evermore. Amen.**

*If there is a sermon it is now given here.*

*The Clergy will now process from the sanctuary.*

*If the benediction is to follow, the Altar may now be adorned with many candles.*

*If the reserved sacrament is not already in the tabernacle, then a ciborium will now be placed on the Altar along with the monstrance.*

## BENEDICTION OF THE MOST HOLY SACRAMENT

*All Crosses are unveiled. The Clergy process in and genuflect to the Host and assume their places.*

*The Celebrant goes to the footpace and commences with the invocation:*

**P. In the name of God The Power + God The Love and God The Holy Wisdom. Amen.**

*All stand heads bowed in reverence. The priest genuflects, then removes the sacrament from the tabernacle or ciborium and places it in the monstrance, which is then places in its proper position upon the Altar, whereby the priest again genuflects. If no monstrance is available it is permitted to use a veiled ciborium. The priest offers incense before the sacrament, censuring the Altar in the usual way, while all sing the following:*

### O SALUTARIS HOSTIA.

**O saving victim opening wide,  
The gates of heaven to those below,  
Our foes press in from every side,  
Thine aid supply, thy strength bestow.**

**All praise and thanks to Thee ascend  
For evermore, Blest One in Three,  
O grant us life that shall not end  
In our true native land with Thee.**

*The following is now sung with the priest or cantor singing the odd verses, and all singing the even verses.*

*The Litany may be shortened, 1-9+22, or 1-10-22, or 1-6+17-22.*

*All stand for the singing of The Litany.*

### THE LITANY

**1. God almighty seen by none,  
God while endless ages run,  
God The Spirit Three in One,  
Hear us Holy Trinity.**

**2. Born of God and prince of light  
Throned in glory, robed in might,  
Morning star, serene and bright,  
Christ our Lord we hail Thee.**

**3. Captain of the Hosts of light,  
Overcoming sin's dark blight,  
Ever flowing splendour bright,  
Christ our Lord we hail Thee.**

**4. Thou before whose purging ray  
Mists of evil fade away,  
Orb of everlasting day,  
Christ our Lord we hail Thee.**

**5. Thou whose wisdom all things planned,  
Held by whose almighty hand  
All things in their order stand,  
We, Thy Church adore Thee.**

**6. Thou whose life and strength pervade,  
Whatsoever Thou hast made,  
All preserver strong to aid,  
We thy Church adore Thee.**

**7. Thou whose beauty, like a star  
Throbbing in the void afar,  
Only earth - born clouds can mar  
We, thy Church adore Thee.**

**8. Thou whose universal might  
Saints acclaim with mystic rite,  
Clad in robes of dazzling light,  
Christ our Lord we hail Thee.**

**9. Thou for whom in heavenly choir  
Angel forms of living fire  
Wake the everlasting lyre,  
Christ our Lord we hail Thee**

**10. Lord of wisdom, from whose lore  
Wisest ones of earth may store  
Riches new for evermore,  
We, Thy Church adore Thee.**

**11. Still in bounty, Lord bestow  
Blessings on thy Church below,  
Till these blessings overflow,  
Christ our Saviour hear us.**

**12. Salem's ruler, priest divine,  
Thou whose love hath sealed up thine  
Through Thy mystic bread and wine,  
We, Thy Church adore Thee.**

**13. Priest and victim, whom of old  
Type and prophecy foretold,  
*All bow---* Thee incarnate we behold,  
Christ our Lord we hail Thee.**

**14. Purged in vision through Thy grace**

We by faith may see Thy face,  
Feel Thee near in every place,  
Christ our Lord we hail Thee.

**15. Truth divine that givest heed**

Unto every cry of need,  
Healing balm to hearts that bleed.  
Help us Holy Master.

**16. Healer of the souls distressed,  
Happiness of all the Blessed,  
Peace of those who long for rest,  
We Thy Church adore Thee.**

**17. Sweet physician skilled to heal  
Every pang thy soul can feel,  
Thou that hearest each appeal,  
Help us Holy Master.**

**18. Lest by thought or action base,  
Ignorant, we slight Thy grace,  
Lest we hide from us Thy face,  
Help us Holy Master.**

**19. That our hearts may win release,  
That our hands from ill may cease,  
That our souls may know Thy peace,  
Help us Holy Master.**

**20. That from selfish lusts made free.  
Each, at length clear eyed may see,  
See and tread the path to Thee,  
Help us Holy Master.**

**21. Till our pilgrimage complete,  
Rest shall come and comfort sweet,  
Friends of pilgrims at Thy feet,  
Christ our Lord we hail Thee.**

**22. God Almighty seen by none,  
God while endless ages run,  
God The Spirit Three in One,  
We are Thine, O Trinity.**

*All remain standing, (the Celebrant having the thurible and Incense boat with him/her) for a brief meditation, after which the Celebrant (from the kneeling position) Blesses the incense and censens the Monstrance, while all others sing softly still kneeling.*

## TANTUM ERGO

Therefore we, before thee bending,  
*Bow low---* God's great sacrament revere;  
Types and shadows have their ending,  
For the newer rite is here,  
Faith, our outward sense befriending,  
Makes our inward vision clear.

We give glory and our blessing  
To our God of light and love,  
Honour, might and praise addressing,  
Rings through earth and heavens above,  
All the while God's care expressing  
With pure Holy, Glorious Love.

*The Celebrant will rise and go to the footpace, face the people and say:*

**P.** Thou didst give them bread from heaven.

**C.** Containing within itself all sweetness.

**P.** O Lord The Christ, Thou hidden dweller in the human spirit.

**C.** Open Thine eyes in us that we may see.

**P.** O Lord The Christ, who in the wonderful sacrament of thine Altar hast left us a living memorial of thine eternal sacrifice, grant us, we beseech Thee so to venerate The sacred Mystery of Thy Body and blood that we may ever perceive within ourselves the power of Thine indwelling life and thus, by the glad outpouring of our lives in sacrifice, may know ourselves to be one with Thee and through Thee with all that lives, O Thou who livest and reignest with The Creator's power in unity with The Holy Spirit, God throughout the ages of ages. Amen

**P.** To The Most Holy and adorable Trinity of Power, Love and wisdom, three in one God, to Christ our Lord, The only wise counsellor The Prince of peace; To the seven Mighty Spirits before the throne, and to the glorious assembly of Just Ones made perfect, The watchers, The Saints, The Holy Ones, be praise unceasing from every living creature, and honour, might and glory, henceforth and for evermore. Amen.

*While the Celebrant faces the Altar, the servers or Deacon will gown the Celebrant with the humeral veil. The Celebrant picks up the monstrance and turns it facing the back of the Altar. Covering his/her hands with the humeral veil the Celebrant picks up the monstrance and proceeds to give the benediction in silence. As the monstrance is picked up the bells are rung thrice, and when the monstrance is replaced, again the bells are rung thrice. When the monstrance is replaced on the Altar the Celebrant genuflects, then replaces The Host in the tabernacle. The humeral veil is now removed from the Celebrant.*

*All now stand*

*Antiphon said by all:*

**O come let us adore The Christed Lord.**

**P.** O praise The Lord, all ye servants: praise The Lord all ye nations.

**C.** The Lord's loving kindness is ever more and more towards us: and the truth of The Lord endureth for ever.

**P.** Glory be to Thy Power and to Thy Love: and to Thy Holy Wisdom.

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

*Antiphon said by all:*

**All.** O come let us adore The Christed Lord.

*The Celebrant turns by the right, genuflects to the Host and steps down in Plano where he/she is joined by the Clergy who process out to the singing of the hymn.*

### Closing Hymn

Closed is the solemn hour,  
The sacred rites are done  
And lo, the music of Thy Power  
Thrills through us, every one,  
O master let that harmony  
Sing through the lives we lead for Thee.

And now with reverent pace,  
Our strength renewed by thine,  
Devoted guardians of Thy grace,  
Quit we this Holy shrine,  
And pass into the silent night,  
To be the bearers of the light.

*After the singing of the hymn, the congregation may have a minute of meditation. The Clergy will enter and remove the ciborium and sanctuary light, after which the candles will be extinguished.*