

# **The Sodality of St. Edmund, King and Martyr**

**(A Catholic Community in the Diocese of Hamilton)**



**Evensong**  
**(Vespers / Compline)**

**December 26, 2021**

**The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

## Background:

Our goal, as a Catholic Community, is to join the North American Ordinariate once we are established!

On November 4, 2009, Pope Benedict XVI promulgated the **Apostolic Constitution, *Anglicanorum coetibus***, and thereby formally responded to requests of many who embraced an Anglican patrimony to enter into full communion with the Catholic Church within the Latin Rite.

The Pope established 3 Personal Ordinariates:

**The Personal Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham** (England, Wales, and Scotland)

**The Personal Ordinariate of the Chair of St. Peter** (USA, and Canada)

**The Personal Ordinariate of Our Lady of the Southern Cross** (Australia, and Japan)

Members of a personal ordinariate are full members of the Roman Catholic Church with all the rights, privileges and obligations of any other Catholic.

Evensong (Evening Prayer) is one of the gifts of the Anglican patrimony that has been approved by the Holy See. We follow the guidelines of the North American Ordinariate - Evensong in accordance with:

- 1) the 1962 Canadian Book of Common Prayer,
- 2) the lessons from the King James Version of the Bible,
- 3) the hymns, and settings from the 1938 Book of Common Praise, and
- 4) the settings for the psalms from The Canadian Psalter, Plainsong Edition.

We, initially, intend to have Evensong, monthly, on the last Sunday of the month.

A bit of history:

1) Old English speakers translated the Latin word *vesperas* as *aefensang*, which became 'evensong' in modern English.

2) Evensong (as in the Book of Common Prayer) was created in the mid 16<sup>th</sup> century and is derived from two monastic offices, namely Vespers and Compline. Vespers would have been (and still is) sung at sunset and includes the *Magnificat*, and Compline would have been (and still is) sung at the end of the day, and includes the *Nunc Dimittis*.

*All stand for the Hymn*

ONCE in royal David's city  
    Stood a lowly cattle shed,  
Where a mother laid her baby  
    In a manger for his bed:  
Mary was that mother mild,  
JESUS CHRIST her little child.

He came down to earth from heaven  
    Who is GOD and LORD of all,  
And his shelter was a stable,  
    And his cradle was a stall;  
With the poor, and mean, and lowly,  
Lived on earth our SAVIOUR holy.

And, through all his wondrous childhood,  
    He would honour and obey,  
Love, and watch the lowly maiden  
    In whose gentle arms he lay:  
Christian children all must be  
Mild, obedient, good as he.

For he is our childhood's pattern,  
    Day by day like us he grew;  
He was little, weak, and helpless,  
    Tears and smiles like us he knew;  
And he feeleth for our sadness,  
And he shared in our gladness.

And our eyes at last shall see him,  
    Through his own redeeming love,  
For that Child so dear and gentle  
    Is our LORD in heaven above;  
And he leads his children on  
To the place where he is gone.

Not in that poor lowly stable,  
With the oxen standing by,  
We shall see him; but in heaven,  
Set at GOD's right hand on high;  
When like stars his children crowned,  
All in white shall wait around.

### **Sentence from Holy Scripture**

*The Officiant says, all remain standing*

Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. *St. Luke 2. 10, 11.*

### **The Exhortation**

*The Officiant continues*

DEARLY beloved brethren, the Scripture moveth us in sundry places to acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickedness; and that we should not dissemble nor cloke them before the face of Almighty God our heavenly Father; but confess them with an humble, lowly, penitent, and obedient heart; to the end that we may obtain forgiveness of the same, by his infinite goodness and mercy.

And although we ought at all times humbly to acknowledge our sins before God; yet ought we most chiefly so to do, when we assemble and meet together to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at his hands, to set forth his most worthy praise, to hear his most holy Word, and to ask those things which are requisite and necessary, as well for the body as the soul.

Wherefore I pray and beseech you, as many as are here present, to accompany me with a pure heart and humble voice unto the throne of the heavenly grace.

*All kneel*

### **A general Confession**

ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father, (*all*) We have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep, We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts, We have offended against thy holy laws, We have left undone those things which we ought to have done, And we have done those things which we ought not to have done; And there is no health in us. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare thou them, O God, which confess their faults. Restore thou them all that are penitent; According to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesu our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, That we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, To the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

*The Officiant says, unless a Priest is present*

GRANT, we beseech thee, merciful Lord, to thy faithful people pardon and peace; that they may be cleansed from all their sins, and serve thee with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*The Priest, standing, says*

ALMIGHTY God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desireth not the death of a sinner, but rather that he may turn from his wickedness, and live, hath given power and commandment to his Ministers, to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent, the Absolution and Remission of their sins.

He pardoneth and absolveth all them that truly repent and unfeignedly believe his holy Gospel.

Wherefore we beseech him to grant us true repentance and his Holy Spirit, that those things may please him which we do at this present, and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure and holy; so that at the last we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*The People shall answer here, and at the end of all other prayers:*

**Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

OUR Father (*all*) 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 them that trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, For ever and ever. Amen.

**Officiant.** + O Lord, open thou our lips;

**People.** And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

**Officiant.** + O God, make speed to save us;

**People.** O Lord, make haste to help us.

*All stand*

**Officiant.** 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.

**Officiant.** Praise ye the Lord;

**People.** The Lord's Name be praised.

## The Psalm

*All sit. It is appropriate to bow, while sitting, at the Gloria Patri.*

### Psalm 34

*Benedicam Domino.*



- 1 I WILL always give thanks unto the **Lord** : his praise shall ever **be** in my mouth.
- 2 My soul shall make her boast in the **Lord** : the humble shall hear there-**of** and be glad.
- 3 O praise the Lord with **me** : and let us magnify his **Name** to-**geth-er**.
- 4 I sought the Lord, and he **heard** me : yea, he delivered me **out** of all my **fears**.
- 5 O look unto him and be **light-en-ed** : and your faces shall not **be** a-**sham-ed**.
- 6 This poor man cried, and the Lord **heard** him : yea, and saved him out of **all** his trou-**bles**.
- 7 The angel of the Lord tarrieth round about them that **fear** him : and de-**liv-er-eth** them.
- 8 O taste and see how gracious the Lord **is** : blessed is the man that **trust-eth** in him.
- 9 O fear the Lord, ye that are his **saints** : for they that fear **him** lack no-**thing**.
- 10 The lions do lack, and suffer **hun-ger** : but they who seek the Lord shall want no manner of **thing** that is good.
- 11 Come, ye children, and hearken unto **me** : I will teach you the **fear** of the Lord.
- 12 What man is he that desireth to **live** : and would **fain** see good days?
- 13 Keep thy tongue from **e-vil** : and thy lips, **that** they speak no-**guile**.
- 14 Depart from e-**vil**, and do **good** : seek peace, **and** pur-**sue** it.
- 15 The eyes of the Lord are over the **right-eous** : and his ears are open **un-to** their prayers.
- 16 The countenance of the Lord is against them that do **e-vil** : to root out the remembrance of **them** from the earth.
- 17 The righteous cry, and the Lord **hear-eth** them : and delivereth them out of **all** their trou-**bles**.

- 18 The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a contrite **heart** : and will save such as be of an **hum**-ble spi-rit.
- 19 Great are the troubles of the **righ**-teous : but the Lord delivereth **him** out of all.
- 20 He keepeth all his **bones** : so that not one of **them** is bro-ken.
- 21 But misfortune shall slay the un-**god**-ly : and they that hate the righteous **shall** be de-so<sup>l</sup>-ate.
- 22 The Lord delivereth the souls of his **ser**-vants : and all they that put their trust in him shall **not** be des-ti<sup>l</sup>-tute.

Glory be to the Father, and to the **Son** : and **to** the Ho-ly<sup>l</sup>-Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever **shall** be : world with-**out** end.  
A-men.

## The First Lesson

*The People remain seated for the First Lesson*

The First Lesson is written in the 12<sup>th</sup> chapter of The Book of the Prophet Isaiah, beginning at the 1<sup>st</sup> verse:

And in that day thou shalt say, O LORD, I will praise thee: though thou wast angry with me, thine anger is turned away, and thou comfortedst me.

Behold, God *is* my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the LORD JEHOVAH *is* my strength and *my* song; he also is become my salvation.

Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation.

And in that day shall ye say, Praise the LORD, call upon his name, declare his doings among the people, make mention that his name is exalted.

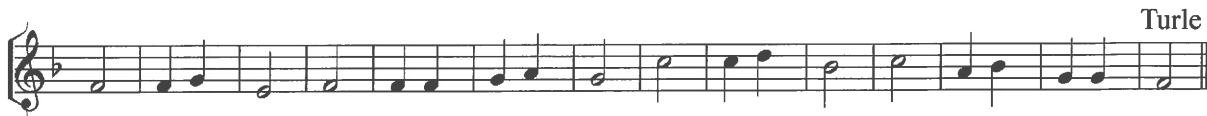
Sing unto the LORD; for he hath done excellent things: this *is* known in all the earth.

Cry out and shout, thou inhabitant of Zion: for great *is* the Holy One of Israel in the midst of thee.

Here endeth the First Lesson.



**Magnificat**  
**(The Song of the Blessed Virgin Mary)**  
*St Luke 1. 46*



*Sung by all, standing*

+ MY soul doth <sup>1</sup> magnify • the <sup>1</sup> LORD : and my spirit hath re- <sup>1</sup> joiced •  
in <sup>1</sup> God my <sup>1</sup> Saviour.

For <sup>1</sup> he hath • re- <sup>1</sup> garded : the <sup>1</sup> lowli-ness <sup>1</sup> of his <sup>1</sup> hand-maiden.

For be- <sup>1</sup> hold from <sup>1</sup> henceforth : all gene- <sup>1</sup> rations • shall <sup>1</sup> call me <sup>1</sup>  
blessèd.

For he that is mighty hath <sup>1</sup> magni- • fied <sup>1</sup> me : and <sup>1</sup> holy <sup>1</sup> is his <sup>1</sup>  
Name.

And his mercy is on <sup>1</sup> them that <sup>1</sup> fear him : throughout <sup>1</sup> all <sup>1</sup> gene- <sup>1</sup>  
rations.

He hath showed <sup>1</sup> strength • with his <sup>1</sup> arm : he hath scattered the  
proud in the imagi- <sup>1</sup> nation <sup>1</sup> of their <sup>1</sup> hearts.

He hath put down the mighty <sup>1</sup> from their <sup>1</sup> seat : and hath ex- <sup>1</sup> alted •  
the humble • and <sup>1</sup> meek.

He hath filled the <sup>1</sup> hungry • with <sup>1</sup> good things : and the rich he <sup>1</sup> hath  
sent <sup>1</sup> empty • a- <sup>1</sup> way.

He re- <sup>1</sup> membering • his <sup>1</sup> mercy : hath <sup>1</sup> holpen • his <sup>1</sup> servant <sup>1</sup> Israel;

As he promised <sup>1</sup> to our <sup>1</sup> forefathers : Abraham <sup>1</sup> and his <sup>1</sup> seed for <sup>1</sup>  
ever.

GLORY be to the Father, and <sup>1</sup> to the <sup>1</sup> Son : and <sup>1</sup> to the <sup>1</sup> Holy <sup>1</sup> Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and <sup>1</sup> ever <sup>1</sup> shall be : world without  
<sup>1</sup> end. <sup>1</sup> A- <sup>1</sup> men.

## The Second Lesson

### *The People sit for the Second Lesson*

The Second Lesson is written in the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter of The Epistle of St. Paul the Apostle to The Philippians, beginning at the 1<sup>st</sup> verse:

If *there be* therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies,

Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, *being* of one accord, of one mind.

*Let* nothing *be done* through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.

Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.

Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:

Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:

But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:

And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:

That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of *things* in heaven, and *things* in earth, and *things* under the earth;

And *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Here endeth the Second Lesson.

**Nunc Dimittis**  
**(The Song of Simeon)**  
*St Luke 2. 29*

Tonus Peregrinus



*Sung by all, standing*

+ LORD, now lettest thou thy servant de-<sup>1</sup> part in<sup>1</sup> peace :  
ac-<sup>1</sup> cording<sup>1</sup> to thy<sup>1</sup> word.

For mine eyes have<sup>1</sup> seen thy • sal-<sup>1</sup> vation : which thou hast  
prepared be-<sup>1</sup> fore the<sup>1</sup> face of • all<sup>1</sup> people;

To be a light to<sup>1</sup> lighten • the<sup>1</sup> Gentiles : and to be the<sup>1</sup> glory of • thy<sup>1</sup>  
people<sup>1</sup> Israel.

GLORY be to the Father, and<sup>1</sup> to the<sup>1</sup> Son : and<sup>1</sup> to the<sup>1</sup> Holy<sup>1</sup> Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and<sup>1</sup> ever<sup>1</sup> shall be : world without<sup>1</sup>  
<sup>1</sup> end. <sup>1</sup> A-<sup>1</sup> men.

**The Confession of the Faith  
(called the Apostles' Creed)**

*Said by all, standing*

I BELIEVE in God the Father Almighty, (*all*) 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.

*All kneel*

**Officiant.** O Lord hear our prayer;

**People.** And let our cry come unto thee.

**Officiant.** Let us pray.

**Lesser Litany**

**Officiant.** Lord, have mercy upon us.

**People.** Christ, have mercy upon us.

**Officiant.** Lord, have mercy upon us.

## The Lord's Prayer

OUR Father (*all*) 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 them that trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. Amen.

*All remain kneeling*

### Suffrages

**Officiant.** O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;

**People.** And grant us thy salvation.

**Officiant.** O Lord, save the Queen;

**People.** And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

**Officiant.** Endue thy Ministers with righteousness;

**People.** And make thy chosen people joyful.

**Officiant.** O Lord, save thy people;

**People.** And bless thine inheritance.

**Officiant.** Give peace in our time, O Lord;

**People.** And evermore mightily defend us.

**Officiant.** O God, make clean our hearts within us;

**People.** And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

## Collects

*The Officiant says*

### **The Collect of the Day**

O LORD Jesus Christ, who by thy wondrous holiness didst adorn a human home, and by thy subjection to Mary and Joseph didst consecrate the order of earthly families: grant that we, being enlightened by the example of their life with thee in thy Holy Family, and assisted by their prayers, may at last be joined with them in thine eternal fellowship; who livest and reigneth with the Father, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.*

### **The Second 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 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 Third Collect, for Aid against all Perils**

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, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.*

*All stand for the Hymn*

O LITTLE town of Bethlehem,  
How still we see thee lie;  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
The silent stars go by:  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth  
The everlasting Light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
Are met in thee to-night.

For CHRIST is born of Mary;  
And gathered all above,  
While mortals sleep, the angels keep  
Their watch of wondering love.  
O morning stars, together  
Proclaim the holy birth,  
And praises sing to GOD the King,  
And peace to men on earth!

How silently, how silently,  
The wondrous gift is given!  
So GOD imparts to human hearts  
The blessing of his heaven:  
No ear may hear his coming;  
But in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive him, still  
The dear CHRIST enters in.

O Holy Child of Bethlehem,  
Descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin, and enter in;  
Be born in us to-day.  
We hear the heavenly angels  
The great glad tidings tell:  
O come to us, abide with us,  
Our LORD Immanuel.

*All kneel, the Officiant says*

### **A Prayer for the Queen and the Commonwealth**

ALMIGHTY God, the fountain of all goodness, we humbly beseech thee to bless our Sovereign Lady, Queen *ELIZABETH*, the Parliaments of the Commonwealth, and all who are set in authority under her; that they may order all things in wisdom, righteousness, and peace, to the honour of thy holy Name, and the good of thy Church and people; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### **A Prayer for the Clergy and People**

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, from whom cometh every good and perfect gift: Send down upon our Bishops and Clergy, and all Congregations committed to their charge, the healthful Spirit of thy grace; and that they may truly please thee, pour upon them the continual dew of thy blessing. Grant this, O Lord, for the honour of our Advocate and Mediator, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

### **A Prayer for all Conditions of men.**

O GOD, the Creator and Preserver of all mankind, we humbly beseech thee for all sorts and conditions of men; that thou wouldest be pleased to make thy ways known unto them, thy saving health unto all nations. More especially we pray for the good estate of the Catholic Church; that it may be so guided and governed by thy good Spirit, that all who profess and call themselves Christians may be led into the way of truth, and hold the faith in unity of spirit, in the bond of peace, and in righteousness of life. Finally we commend to thy fatherly goodness all those, who are any ways afflicted or distressed in mind, body, or estate; that it may please thee to comfort and relieve them, according to their several necessities, giving them patience under their sufferings, and a happy issue out of all their afflictions. And this we beg for Jesus Christ his sake. *Amen.*



## **For Pastoral Charge**

ALMIGHTY God, who knowest the needs of thy Church in every place: Look graciously at this time upon the people of this community; and give them a faithful Pastor, who shall feed thy flock according to thy will, and make ready a people acceptable unto thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*Other prayers and thanksgivings, for specific causes, may be added here.*

## **A Prayer of Saint Chrysostom**

ALMIGHTY God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise that when two or three are gathered together in thy Name thou wilt grant their requests: 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.*

## **The Grace**

*2 Corinthians 13.14*

+ THE grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. *Amen.*

*All stand for the Hymn*

SEE amid the winter's snow,  
Born for us on earth below;  
See the tender Lamb appears,  
Promised from eternal years.

*Hail, thou ever-blessèd morn;  
Hail, redemption's happy dawn;  
Sing through all Jerusalem,  
CHRIST is born in Bethlehem.*

Lo, within a manger lies -  
He who built the starry skies;  
He who throned in height sublime  
Sits amid the cherubim!

*Hail, thou ever-blessèd morn;*

Say, ye holy shepherds, say  
What your joyful news to-day;  
Wherefore have ye left your sheep  
On the lonely mountain steep?

*Hail, thou ever-blessèd morn;*

'As we watched at dead of night,  
Lo, we saw a wondrous light;  
Angels singing "Peace on earth"  
Told us of the SAVIOUR's birth'

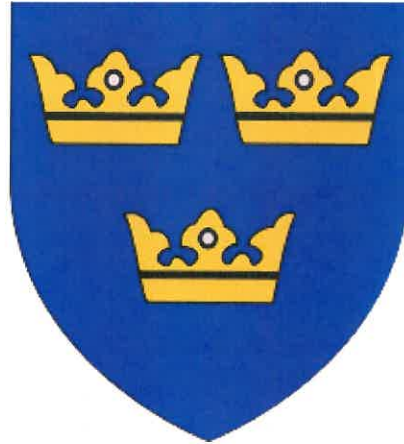
*Hail, thou ever-blessèd morn;*

Sacred Infant, all Divine,  
What a tender love was thine,  
Thus to come from highest bliss  
Down to such a world as this!

*Hail, thou ever-blessèd morn;*

Teach, O teach us, Holy Child,  
By thy face so meek and mild,  
Teach us to resemble thee,  
In thy sweet humility.

*Hail, thou ever-blessèd morn;*



**The Sodality of St. Edmund, King and Martyr** is incorporated in the Province of Ontario, and is a Registered Canadian Charity.  
(Receipts for alms are issued in January.)