



# The First Day of Lent

## ASH WEDNESDAY

### Music before the Mass

Organ Prelude ..... Silence

### Music during the Mass

Gradual Hymn: #149 ..... *Old 124th*  
Offertory Hymn: #142 ..... *St. Flavion*  
Communion Hymn: #693 ..... *Woodworth*  
Closing Hymn: #143 ..... *Erhalt uns, Herr*  
Postlude ..... *Tomi Godbee*

*Note: The Mass Setting is that of Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena, composed by Healey Willan (1880-1968).*

*The Mass begins with the Collect of the Day, the Liturgy of the Word, and the Sermon.*

*After the sermon, the Congregation stands for the Exhortation, read by the Celebrant.*

Dear People of God: The first Christians observed with great devotion the days of our Lord's passion and resurrection, and it became the custom of the Church to prepare for them by a season of penitence and fasting. This season of Lent provided a time in which converts to the faith were prepared for Holy Baptism. It was also a time when those who, because of notorious sins, had been separated from the body of the faithful were reconciled by penitence and forgiveness, and restored to the fellowship of the Church. Thereby, the whole congregation was put in mind of the message of pardon and absolution set forth in the Gospel of our Savior, and of the need which all Christians continually have to renew their repentance and faith. I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word. And, to make a right beginning of repentance, and as a mark of our mortal nature, let us now kneel before the Lord, our maker and redeemer.

*The Collect of the Day*

Almighty and everlasting God, who hatest nothing that thou hast made and dost forgive the sins of all those who are penitent: Create and make us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of thee, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

*The Lesson: Joel 2:1-2,12-17*

*(sit)*

Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain: let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: for the day of the LORD cometh, for it is nigh at hand; a day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness, as the morning spread upon the mountains: a great people and a strong; there hath not been ever the like, neither shall be any more after it, even to the years of many generations. Therefore also now, saith the LORD, turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: and rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the LORD your God: for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil. Who knoweth if he will return and repent, and leave a blessing behind him; even a meat offering and a drink offering unto the LORD your God? Blow the trumpet in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly: gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children, and those that suck the breasts: let the bridegroom go forth of his chamber, and the bride out of her closet. Let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, "Spare thy people, O LORD, and give not thine heritage to reproach, that the heathen should rule over them: wherefore should they say among the people, 'Where is their God?'"

*The Gospel: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21*

Jesus said, "Take heed that ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them: otherwise ye have no reward of your Father which is in heaven. Therefore when thou doest thine alms, do not sound a trumpet before thee, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth: that thine alms may be in secret: and thy Father which seeth in secret himself shall reward thee openly. And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and

when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly. Moreover when ye fast, be not, as the hypocrites, of a sad countenance: for they disfigure their faces, that they may appear unto men to fast. Verily I say unto you, they have their reward. But thou, when thou fastest, anoint thine head, and wash thy face; That thou appear not unto men to fast, but unto thy Father which is in secret: and thy Father, which seeth in secret, shall reward thee openly. Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: for where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

*The Congregation kneels, and silence is then kept for a time.*

*The Celebrant continues:*

Almighty God, thou hast created us out of the dust of the earth: Grant that these ashes may be unto us a sign of our mortality and penitence, that we may remember that it is only by thy gracious gift that we are given everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Savior. *Amen.*

*The Imposition of Ashes follows, the Ministers and Servers receiving first, then the Congregation as directed by the Ushers.*

*At the conclusion comes:*

## **The Litany of Penitence**

*The Celebrant and Congregation together say, all kneeling*

Most holy and merciful Father: We confess to thee and to one another, and to the whole communion of saints in heaven and on earth, that we have sinned by our own fault in thought, word, and deed; by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

*The Celebrant continues, and the People respond as indicated*

We have not loved thee with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others, as we have been forgiven.

*Lord, have mercy upon us.*

We have not heard thy call to serve, as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved thy Holy Spirit.

*Lord, have mercy upon us.*

We confess to thee, O Lord, all our past unfaithfulness; the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience of our lives,

*We confess to thee, O Lord.*

Our lust, gluttony, and abuse of others,  
*We confess to thee, O Lord.*

Our anger, hatred, malice, and envy,  
*We confess to thee, O Lord.*

Our laziness, intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work,  
*We confess to thee, O Lord.*

Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,  
*We confess to thee, O Lord.*

Accept our repentance, O Lord, for the wrongs we have done: for our blindness to human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,  
*Accept our repentance, O Lord.*

For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,  
*Accept our repentance, O Lord.*

For our poor stewardship and misuse of thy creation, and our lack of concern for the generations to come,  
*Accept our repentance, O Lord.*

Restore us, good Lord, and let thine anger depart from us;  
*Favorably hear us, for thy mercy is great.*

Accomplish in us the work of thy salvation;  
*That we may show forth thy glory in the world.*

By the cross and passion of thy Son our Lord,  
*Bring us with all thy saints to the joy of his resurrection.*

*A General Absolution is pronounced by the Celebrant.*

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desireth not the death of sinners, but rather that they may turn from their 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 those who truly repent, and with sincere hearts do believe his holy Gospel.

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

*The Creed and the Prayers of the People are omitted at this Mass.*

*The Mass continues as usual with Announcements and the Offertory. The congregation is invited to place their Lenten Rule in the Offering plate.*

### **Announcements**

- This year we will join our friends at St. Mary's at their Friday evening Stations of the Cross at 7 p.m.



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*Saint Timothy's Church*  
*An Ordinariate Catholic Community*  
The Rev'd Christopher C. Stainbrook, Priest  
Currently meeting at St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church  
509 West Magnolia Ave ~ Fort Worth, Texas 76104

