

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ELY

THE ORDER OF THE
PROPER PSALMS AND LESSONS
TOGETHER WITH THE
PROPER COLLECTS, EPISTLES
AND GOSPELS &C.

APPOINTED FOR USE UPON

23RD JUNE
ST ETHELDREDA'S DAY

AND ALSO UPON

17TH OCTOBER
FEAST OF THE TRANSLATION
OF ST ETHELDREDA

AND THE COMMEMORATION OF THE
FOUNDERS AND BENEFACTORS OF
THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH

23rd JUNE ST ETHELDREDA

On 23 June A.D. 679, St Etheldreda ‘was taken away to the Lord in the midst of her company seven years after she had received the degree of abbess’ (*BEDE, Ecclesiastical History, IV, 19*).

AT FIRST EVENSONG

PROPER PSALMS *27. Dominus illuminatio*
 116. Dilexi, quoniam
 117. Laudate Dominum

FIRST LESSON 2 Esdras 2, 15-21

OFFICE HYMN *Fortem virili pectore* (The praises of that Saint we sing EH 193)

SECOND LESSON John 6, 28-40

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY
 as appointed at The Communion (p. 2)

AT MATTINS

PROPER PSALMS *77. Voce mea ad Dominum*
 119, vv. 89-96. In aeternum, Domine

FIRST LESSON Baruch 4, 19-23

SECOND LESSON John 12, 24-26

AT THE COMMUNION

For THE PROCESSION there shall be sung these four divisions of Psalm 119: vv.49-56 Memor esto servi tui, 57-64 Portio mea, Domine, 65-72 Bonitatem fecisti, and 73-80 Manus tuae fecerunt me.

In the CHAPEL OF ST ETHELDREDA a Station shall be made, and the Verses and Collect following shall be sung, all standing.

℣. Thou hast been my hope, O Lord.

℟. And a strong tower for me against the enemy.

O GOD, who seest that we fail through the weakness of our sinful nature, Mercifully renew us by thy love, that we may give ourselves to thy service after the example of our patroness Etheldreda; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.

THE INTROIT. I have spoken of thy testimonies in the sight of princes, and was not confounded: and my delight hath been in thy commandments, which I have loved greatly. Psalm. Blessed are those that are undefiled in the way: and walk in the law of the Lord. 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. I have spoken, &c.

THE COLLECT. O Almighty God, by whose grace thy servant Etheldreda did lay aside a temporal crown, and sought the rather to obtain an eternal: Make us, we pray thee, to learn such wisdom by her example, that despising the things which perish, we may strive to attain the things which shall abide, through Jesus Christ thy Son Our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, God for ever and ever. Amen.

THE EPISTLE. *Philippians 3, 7.* Brethren, what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. Yea doubtless, and, I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ, and be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith: that I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death; if by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead. Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus. Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

THE GRADUAL. Thou hast loved righteousness and hated iniquity.

℣. Wherefore God, even thy God: hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness. Alleluya.

℣. Full of grace are thy lips: because God hath blessed thee for ever.

THE SEQUENCE

Now, our hymn to God upraising,
Sing we of a queen's amazing
Lowliness of mind, today;
Who her royal state rejected
And, impelled by love, elected
In Christ's holy rule to stay.

See-as men her way impedeth,
As she follows where God leadeth,
Lo, her staff breaks out in flower.
Far aside all hindrance thrusting,
Loving God, Him only trusting,
She is strengthened in that hour.

See, the flood the saint protecteth;
God the plans of men correcteth;
She is safe from strife at last.
Bound to prayer for man's salvation
And to daily adoration,
To her Lord alone held fast.

So, by God to Ely called,
O'er His virgin flock installed
Mother, by Saint Wilfrid's hand;
Now, through work and word, she teacheth
Of the blessed way that reacheth
Unto life's eternal land.

Ely's shrine of wondrous beauty,
Kept by men of faith and duty
Through long years of change and strife,
Still is here to tell the story
Of how grace leads on to glory
And to everlasting life.

Etheldreda's holy living
Urgeth us to heartfelt giving
Of ourselves to God today.
May her prayers, for us ascending,
Gain us joys that know no ending
With the saints on high for aye. Amen. Alleluya.

THE GOSPEL. *St Luke 12, 29.* Jesus said unto his disciples, Seek not ye what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink, neither be ye of doubtful mind. For all these things do the nations of the world seek after: and your Father knoweth that ye have need of these things. But rather seek ye the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you. Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell that ye have, and give alms; provide

yourselves bags which wax not old, a treasure in the heavens that faileth not, where no thief approacheth, neither moth corrupteth. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Unless there be a Sermon, the NARRATIVE OF THE LIFE AND DEATH OF ST ETHELDREDA shall be read from chapter 19 of the Fourth Book of THE ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY OF THE ENGLISH PEOPLE written by the VENERABLE BEDE.

THE OFFERTORY. The virgins that be her fellows shall bear her company: and shall be brought unto thee.

THE PROPER PREFACE. Who in the righteousness of thy Saints hast given us an ensample of godly living, and in their blessedness a glorious pledge of the hope of our calling: That being compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, we may run with patience the race that is set before us: And with them receive the never fading crown of glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore with Angels, &c.

THE COMMUNION. The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man that is a merchant, seeking goodly pearls: who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

AT SECOND EVENSONG

PROPER PSALMS 4. *Cum invocarem*
 121. *Levavi oculos*
 124. *Nisi quia Dominus*

FIRST LESSON 2 Esdras 2, 25-32

OFFICE HYMN *Fortem virili pectore* (The praises of that Saint we sing EH193)

SECOND LESSON 1 John 2, 15-17

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY as appointed at The Communion (p.2)

*Immediately after Evensong, there shall be a PROCESSION to ST OVIN'S CROSS.
As the Procession moves to the Cross, this hymn shall be sung.*

Our Father's home eternal,
O Christ, thou dost prepare
With many divers mansions,
And each one passing fair;
They are the victors' guerdon,
Who, through the hard-won fight,
Have followed in thy footsteps,
And reign with thee in light.

Amidst the happy number
The Virgins' crown and queen,
The ever-virgin Mother
Is first and foremost seen;
The Patriarchs in their triumph

Thy praises nobly sing,
The Prophets of thy wisdom
Adore the nations' King;

The Apostles reign in glory,
The Martyrs joy in thee;
The Virgins and Confessors
Thy shining brightness see;
And every patient sufferer,
Who sorrow dared contemn,
For each especial anguish
Hath one especial gem.

The holy men and women,
Their earthly struggle o'er,
With joy put off the armour
That they shall need no more;
For these, and all that battled
Beneath their Monarch's eyes,
The harder was the conflict
The brighter is the prize.

And every faithful servant,
Made perfect in thy grace,
Hath each his fitting station
'Mid those that see thy face;
The bondsman and the noble,
The peasant and the king,
All gird one glorious Monarch
In one eternal ring.

At ST OVIN'S CROSS, all standing.

- ℣. Behold a faithful and wise steward.
℟. Whom the Lord shall make ruler over his household.

ALMIGHTY GOD, by whose grace thy servant Ovin continued faithful unto the end, following the steps of our Master Christ, as well in poverty as in humbleness of heart: Grant unto all them that have entered on the path of thy commandments, that they neither look backward, nor stand still in the way, but pressing toward thee without faltering, may lay sure hold upon the life eternal; through the same Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.

During the return to the SANCTUARY, this hymn shall be sung.

Jerusalem, my happy home,
When shall I come to thee?
When shall my sorrows have an end?
Thy joys when shall I see?

Thy Saints are crowned with glory great;
They see God face to face;
They triumph still, they still rejoice:
Most happy is their case.

We that are here in banishment,
Continually do mourn;
We sigh and sob, we weep and wail,
Perpetually we groan.

But there they live in such delight,
Such pleasure and such play,
As that to them a thousand years
Doth seem as yesterday.

Quite through the streets with silver sound
The flood of life doth flow,
Upon whose banks on every side
The wood of life doth grow.

There David stands with harp in hand
As master of the choir:
Ten thousand times that man were blest
That might this music hear.

Our Lady sings Magnificat
With tune surpassing sweet;
And all the Virgins bear their parts,
Sitting about her feet.

Te Deum doth Saint Ambrose sing,
Saint Austin doth the like;
Old Simeon and Zachary
Have not their songs to seek.

There Magdalene hath left her moan,
And cheerfully doth sing
With blessed Saints, whose harmony
In every street doth ring.

Jerusalem, my happy home,
Would God I were in thee!
Would God my woes were at an end
Thy joys that I might see!

In the Sanctuary, at the site of ST ETHELDREDA'S SHRINE, all still standing.

∅. God is in the midst of her.

℞. Therefore shall she not be removed.

LIGHTEN, we beseech thee, O merciful God, the hearts of thy faithful people; and by the example of thy servant Etheldreda, teach us to despise earthly things, and contrariwise to love all things heavenly; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth, &c. Amen.

17th OCTOBER THE TRANSLATION OF ST ETHELDREDA

On 17 October A.D. 695, the body of St Etheldreda, which had been buried in the churchyard of her Monastery, was 'translated', or removed by her sister and successor, Sexburga, into a marble coffin inside the Church. There it remained until the building of the new and enlarged Norman Church necessitated its removal into the new sanctuary. On 17 October A.D. 1106, the marble coffin of St Etheldreda was translated to a position behind the high altar, together with the remains of the two sainted abbesses who had consecutively succeeded her, Sexburga her sister, formerly Queen of Kent, and Ermenilda, Sexburga's daughter, formerly Queen of Mercia. The body of St Witburga, another sister of St Etheldreda, which had been brought to Ely from East Dereham in A.D. 974, was translated at the same time.

There was to be yet one more, and a final, translation. In October A.D. 1252, the bodies of the Ely saints were removed by Bishop Hugh Northwold to shrines in the spacious new presbytery which he had built to contain them. The shrines stood upon this site for nearly three hundred years. In October, A.D. 1541, their demolition and the dissipation of their contents was ordered by the then Bishop of Ely, Thomas Goodrich, acting upon a general command of Henry VIII for the destruction of all relics, shrines and images.

The Feast of St Etheldreda's Translation is also the occasion of commemorating the Founders and Benefactors of the Monastery, Cathedral Church and College of Ely.

AT FIRST EVENSONG

PROPER PSALM 45. *Eructavit cor meum*

FIRST LESSON Ecclesiasticus 26, 14-18

OFFICE HYMN *Virginis Proles* (Son of a Virgin, Maker of thy mother EH191)

SECOND LESSON Ephesians 2, 4-22

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY as-appointed at The Communion. (p. 9)

AT MATTINS

PROPER PSALMS 46. *Deus noster refugium*

61. *Exaudi, Deus*

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 49, 18-23

SECOND LESSON 2 John 1-19

AT THE COMMUNION

For THE PROCESSION, there shall be sung the divisions of Psalm 119, together with the Verses and Collect, appointed for 23 June (p.2)

THE INTROIT. I have spoken of thy testimonies, &c. (p. 2).

THE COLLECTS.

The First Collect, of the day.

O God, who didst bestow such grace upon our Foundress Etheldreda, that she gave herself wholly to the service of thy true religion: Mercifully grant that we who commemorate her faith and constancy, may likewise serve thee faithfully all our days, and finally by thy guiding may come unto the glorious fellowship of thy saints; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.

The Second Collect, for Benefactors.

Almighty and everlasting God, who art Lord alike of the living and the dead, and shewest pity upon them, whom both in faith and works thou fore-knowest to be thine own: We humbly entreat thee for all the Benefactors of this place, whether the present world still hold them in the flesh, or whether delivered from the body, they be already received into the world to come, that through thy gracious goodness and mercy they may obtain forgiveness of their sins, and be made partakers of thy eternal joy.

The Third Collect, for the Foundation.

Almighty and everliving God, who art builder and watchman of new Jerusalem, the heavenly city: By day and night keep watch, we pray thee, over this Church and College, and over all that serve and labour in the same, that it may ever continue before thee a dwelling of pure religion and peace; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.

THE EPISTLE. *1 Corinthians 12, 4.* Brethren, there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; to another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; to another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues: but all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.

THE GRADUAL. Thou hast loved righteousness &c., Alleluya, and THE SEQUENCE, Now our hymn, &c. (p. 3).

THE GOSPEL. St John 4, 31. And his disciples prayed him, saying, Master, eat. But Jesus said unto them, I have meat to eat that ye know not of. Therefore said the disciples one to another, Hath any man brought him ought to eat? Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work. Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest. And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal: that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together. And herein is that

saying true, One soweth, and another reapeth. I sent you to reap that whereon ye bestowed no labour: other men laboured, and ye are entered into their labours.

If there be no Sermon, the NARRATIVE OF THE FIRST TRANSLATION OF ST ETHELDREDA shall be read from chapter 19 of the Fourth Book of THE ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY OF THE ENGLISH PEOPLE written by the VENERABLE BEDE.

After which, the Dean, or one of the Canons appointed by him, shall bid the Congregation give thanks to God for the FOUNDERS AND BENEFACTORS OF THE CHURCH OF ELY after this form.

Let us remember, with praise and thanksgiving to Almighty God, the Founders and Benefactors of this place:

Most chiefly our patroness, ST ETHELDREDA, Princess of East Anglia, Queen of Northumbria, by whom the Monastery of Ely was founded, and who governed it as first Abbess; and next after her, EDGAR, King of England, ST DUNSTAN, Archbishop of Canterbury, and ST ETHELWOLD, Bishop of Winchester, through whose liberality, protection and labour the Monastery was founded a second time, and constituted under the Benedictine Rule.

Let us praise God also for the kings and princes, the abbots, bishops, priors and deans, and many others, by whose works and munificence the former Church was furnished, and the present Church built, repaired, and beautified: and herein let us remember particularly HUGH NORTHWOLD, Bishop, who built the Presbytery; ALAN OF W ALSINGHAM, Sacrist and Prior, who built the Octagon and Lantern; JOHN OF WISBECH, Monk, by whose solicitude the Lady Chapel was founded and erected; and GEORGE PEACOCK, Dean, through whose exertions this Church was preserved from decay, and its restoration begun.

Likewise let us glorify God's holy name for the innumerable and ever increasing company of those, both layfolk and churchmen, by whose continuous generosity our Church has been maintained, its worship adorned, and its good report upheld.

And as we remember our material inheritance, so forget we not our spiritual; but let us give humble thanks to God for the bishops, priests, religious, and all other devout persons, who by serving him faithfully here in their several degrees, have set forward the purpose of this Foundation, and have been lights of God's Church in successive generations.

Finally, let us offer our prayer to Almighty God that he will grant unto all our Benefactors departed a place of rest, refreshment, light and peace, mercy in the judgement, and a part and lot in the fellowship of his Saints in the joyful resurrection at the last day.

And the Congregation shall also be desired to pray for the good estate of those Ministers of the Cathedral Church, or members of the Greater Chapter, who have departed this life within, the foregoing twelvemonth (if any such there be), and their names shall be read.

Then the Clerks shall sing the Offertory.

THE OFFERTORY. The virgins that be her fellows, &c. (p. 4).

THE PROPER PREFACE. Who in the righteousness of thy Saints, &c. (p. 4).

THE COMMUNION. The kingdom of heaven, &c. (p. 4).

AT SECOND EVENSONG

PROPER PSALMS 84. *Quam dilecta!*
 122. *Laetatus sum*
 150. *Laudate Dominum*

FIRST LESSON Wisdom 7, 7b (I called upon God) -14

OFFICE HYMN *Virginis Proles* (Son of a Virgin, Maker of thy Mother EH 191)

SECOND LESSON Revelation 19, 4-9

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY as appointed at The Communion (p. 9)

Immediately after Evensong, there shall be a PROCESSION TO ST OVIN'S CROSS, and the hymns, together with the Verses and Collect of St Ovin, appointed for use on 23 June (pp. 4 ff.) shall be sung.

But at the site of ST ETHELDREDA'S SHRINE shall be sung the Verses and Collect here following, all still standing.

℣. Her memorial is blessed for ever.
℟. Glory be to the name of the Lord.

GRANT, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that we who have our Foundress, St Etheldreda, in thankful remembrance, may come at the last to be partakers of her heavenly reward; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.