

**RECEPTION OF THE BODY
AND
THE OFFICE OF VESPERS**



Praying for the repose of the soul of

His Excellency
The Most Reverend Noël Treanor DD

Apostolic Nuncio to the European Union
Bishop Emeritus of Down and Connor

Saint Peter's Cathedral
Belfast

Sunday 18th August 2024

RECEPTION OF THE BODY AT THE WEST DOOR

GREETING

May the God of hope give you the fullness of peace, and may the Lord of life be with you always.

And with your spirit.

The coffin is sprinkled with Holy Water as the following is said.

In the waters of Baptism, Archbishop Noël died with Christ and rose with him in new life. May he now share with him eternal glory.

ENTRANCE PROCESSION

As the procession moves into the Cathedral, the following responsories are used until all are in place.

May Christ, who was crucified for your sake, free you from torments;
May Christ, who died for you, deliver you from eternal death;
May Christ, the Son of the living God,
Set you down in the fresh beauty of His paradise
And may He, the Good Shepherd, claim you as one of His flock;
May He forgive you all your sins
And grant you a place among the elect at His own right hand.
There may you ever behold your Redeemer face to face
And ever stand before Him enraptured by the beauty of truth itself
And placed in the ranks of the Blessed,
May you delight in the vision of God for ever and ever.

We brought nothing into this world,
and it is certain we shall carry nothing out.
The Lord gave, the Lord has taken away.
Blessed be the name of the Lord.

I know that my Redeemer lives,
And on that final day of days,
His voice shall bid me rise again:
Unending joy, unceasing praise!

This hope I cherish in my heart:
To stand on earth, my flesh restored,
And not a stranger but a friend,
Behold my Saviour and my Lord.

Then follows Vespers from the Office of the Dead.

VESPERS

INCIPIIT

✠ O God, come to our aid.
O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Alleluia.

HYMN

The King of love my shepherd is,
whose goodness faileth never.
I nothing lack if I am His,
and He is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow,
my ransomed soul He leadeth;
and where the verdant pastures grow,
with food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish, oft I strayed,
but yet in love He sought me;
and on His shoulder gently laid,
and home, rejoicing, brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill,
with Thee, dear Lord, beside me;
Thy rod and staff my comfort still,
Thy Cross before to guide me.

Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
Thy unction grace bestoweth;
and oh, what transport of delight
from Thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days,
Thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise
within Thy house forever.

Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877)

PSALMODY

Psalm 120 (121)

Ant: The Lord will guard you from every evil, he will guard your soul.

I lift up my eyes to the mountains:
from where shall come my help?
My help shall come from the Lord
who made heaven and earth.

**May he never allow you to stumble!
Let him sleep not, your guard.
No, he sleeps not nor slumbers,
Israel's guard.**

The Lord is your guard and your shade;
at your right side he stands.
By day the sun shall not smite you
nor the moon in the night.

**The Lord will guard you from evil,
he will guard your soul.
The Lord will guard your going and coming
both now and forever.**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit.
**As it was in the beginning, is now,
and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

Ant: The Lord will guard you from every evil, he will guard your soul.

Psalm 129 (130)

Ant: If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would survive.

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord,
Lord, hear my voice!
O let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my pleading.

**If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt,
Lord, who would survive?
But with you is found forgiveness:
for this we revere you.**

My soul is waiting for the Lord,
I count on his word.
My soul is longing for the Lord
more than watchman for daybreak.
Let the watchman count on daybreak
and Israel on the Lord.

**Because with the Lord there is mercy,
and fullness of redemption,
Israel indeed he will redeem
from all its iniquity.**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit.
**As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.**

Ant: If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would survive.

Phil 2:6-11

Ant: As the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so the Son gives life to anyone he chooses.

Though he was in the form of God,
Jesus did not count equality with God
a thing to be grasped.

**He emptied himself,
taking the form of a servant,
being born in the likeness of men.**

And being found in human form,
he humbled himself and became obedient unto death,
even death on a Cross.

**Therefore God has highly exalted him
and bestowed on him the name which is above every name,**

That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in Heaven and on Earth and under the Earth,

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

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit.

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

Ant: As the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so the Son gives life to anyone he chooses.

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Cor 15:55-57

Death, where is your victory? Death, where is your sting? Now the sting of death is sin, and sin gets its power from the Law. So let us thank God for giving us the victory through Our Lord Jesus Christ.

SHORT RESPONSORY

V/ In you, O Lord, I take refuge. Let me not be lost forever.

R/ In you, O Lord, I take refuge. Let me not be lost forever.

V/ I will rejoice and be glad because of your merciful love.

R/ In you, O Lord, I take refuge. Let me not be lost forever.

V/ Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

R/ In you, O Lord, I take refuge. Let me not be lost forever.

MAGNIFICAT

Ant: All that the Father gives me will come to me; and I will never turn away the one who comes to me.

✠ **My soul glorifies the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.
He looks on His servant in her lowliness;
henceforth all ages will call me blessed.**

**The Almighty works marvels for me.
Holy His name!**

**His mercy is from age to age,
on those who fear Him.
He puts forth His arm in strength
and scatters the proud-hearted.**

**He casts the mighty from their thrones
and raises the lowly.
He fills the starving with good things,
sends the rich away empty.**

**He protects Israel, His servant,
remembering His mercy,
the mercy promised to our fathers,
to Abraham and his children for ever**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit.

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

Ant: All that the Father gives me will come to me; and I will never turn away the one who comes to me.

INTERCESSIONS

Let us pray to Christ who gives us the hope that our mortal bodies will become like his in glory.

Lord, you are our life and our resurrection.

Christ, Son of the living God, you raised your friend Lazarus from the dead; – grant life and glory to the faithful departed, redeemed by your precious blood.

Lord, you are our life and our resurrection.

Compassionate Saviour, you wiped away all tears when you gave back to the widow of Nain her only son; – comfort those who mourn because the one they love has died.

Lord, you are our life and our resurrection.

Christ, our Redeemer, destroy the reign of sin in our mortal bodies; – let us not receive the wages of death but the reward of eternal life.

Lord, you are our life and our resurrection.

Christ, our Saviour, look on those who live without hope and do not know you;- let them believe in the resurrection and the life of the world to come.

Lord, you are our life and our resurrection.

You restored sight to the man born blind and opened the eyes of his faith; – reveal your face to the dead who have not seen your glory.

Lord, you are our life and our resurrection.

Lord, be merciful to us when we leave this earthly dwelling; – make for us a home in heaven that will last forever.

Lord, you are our life and our resurrection.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, 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 those who trespass against us,
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

CONCLUDING PRAYER AND DISMISSAL

Grant, we pray, almighty God,
that the soul of your departed servant, Archbishop Noël,
to whom you committed the care of your family,
may, with the manifold fruit of his labours,
enter into the eternal gladness of his Lord.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

✠ The Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.
Amen.

FINAL ANTHEM TO OUR LADY

**O Mary of graces, and mother of Christ,
O may you direct me and guide me aright.
O may you protect me from Satan's control,
And may you protect me in body and soul.**

**O may you protect me by land and by sea,
And may you protect me from sorrows to be.
A strong guard of Angels above me provide;
May God be before me and God at my side.**

J. Rafferty

