

Evening Prayer – Thursday 23rd July 2020

Feast day of St Bridget of Sweden – to find out more

<https://www.catholicireland.net/saintoftheday/st-bridget-of-sweden-1303-73-mystic-and-co-patroness-of-europe/>

O God, come to my aid.

– **O Lord, make haste to help me.**

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

– **as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

Psalm 143 (144)

Ant 1: *The Lord is my love and my refuge: in him I place my trust.*

Blessed be the Lord, my help, who trains my hands for battle, my fingers for war. The Lord is kindness and strength, my refuge and my liberator. He is my shield, and I trust in him – he places my people under his rule.

Lord, what is man, that you should take notice of him? The son of man, that you should give him respect?

For man is as nothing, his day is like a shadow that passes.

Lord, descend from your heavens, touch the mountains so that they smoke. Brandish your lightnings and scatter my enemies, fire your arrows, sow confusion among them. Send down your power from above, raise me and free me from the flooding waters, from the power of those of foreign race, whose speeches are not to be trusted, who lift up their hands in perjury.

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 is my love and my refuge: in him I place my trust.*

Psalm 143 (144)

Ant. 2 Blessed the people whose God is the Lord.

I will sing a new song to you, God: I will sound your praise on the ten-stringed harp. You give victory to kings, you rescue David your servant from the swords of his enemies. Raise me and free me from the power of strangers, whose speeches are not to be trusted, who lift up their hands in perjury.

Our sons are like growing saplings in the time of their youth. Our daughters are like the carved columns that hold up the temple. Our larders are full, overflowing with goodness – our sheep fill the fields in uncountable thousands – our oxen are strong. Our walls are not ruined, and we are not exiles: in our streets there is no lamentation. Blessed the people whose life is like this: happy the people whose God is the Lord.

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. Blessed the people whose God is the Lord.

Canticle **Apocalypse 11**

Ant. 3 Victory and empire have now been won by our God.

We thank you, Lord God Almighty, who are and who were, that you have taken up your great power and begun to reign.

The nations were angered, but your anger came, the time for the dead to be judged, the time to reward the prophets and saints, your servants, and those who feared your name, both great and small.

Now have come the salvation and might and kingdom of our God, and the power of his Anointed, for the accuser of our brethren has been brought down, who accused them day and night in the sight of God.

But they vanquished him through the blood of the Lamb and through their own witness. They did not cling to life, even in the face of death. Therefore rejoice, heavens, and you who dwell in them.

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. Victory and empire have now been won by our God

Our reading is taken from Romans 8:28-30

We know that by turning everything to their good, God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

RESPONSORY

God has chosen her. He chose her before she was born

– **God has chosen her. He chose her before she was born**

He brought her to live in his holy dwelling-place.

– **God has chosen her. He chose her before she was born.**

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

– **God has chosen her. He chose her before she was born**

Canticle Magnificat

Ant. You have left all things and have followed me; you will be repaid a hundred times over, and gain eternal life.

**My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour
for he has looked with favour on his lowly servant.**

From this day all generations will call me blessed: the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty.

**He has come to the help of his servant Israel for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
the promise he made to our fathers, to Abraham and his children for ever.**

Glory 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. You have left all things and have followed me; you will be repaid a hundred times over, and gain eternal life.

INTERCESSIONS

Through the holy women let us pray to the Lord for all the needs of his Church. Our response is Lord, remember your Church. **Lord, remember your Church.**

Through the women martyrs who overcame death with undying courage, strengthen your Church in time of trial. - Lord, remember your Church.

Through the married women who graced the lives of the human family, renew the Church in her apostolic mission.
Lord, remember your Church.

Through all the widows who sanctified loneliness with prayer and hospitality, make your Church a telling sign of your love for all the world.. - Lord, remember your Church.

You do not allow us to be tempted beyond our limits: strengthen the weak, raise up the fallen - **Lord, remember your Church.**

Through all the mothers who introduced their children to the kingdom of God and true human life in society, may your Church bring all to eternal life and salvation.. - Lord, remember your Church.

For a moment in silence we bring our own prayers...

We say together... Our Father, who art in heaven....

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Lord our God, as Saint Bridget contemplated your Son our Lord Jesus Christ, you revealed to her the mysteries of his passion. Grant that we may rejoice, in time to come, in the revelation of your glory. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

Corona Virus Prayer

We pray for all those in our country and throughout the world suffering from the Corona Virus. May its victims and their families be strengthened by the support of our community of faith and restored soon to full health. We also pray for our leaders and medical personnel who deal with the virus. May we keep calm and may we join together in solidarity with care and compassion to tackle this emergency. This we ask in confidence through Christ Our Lord.
Amen

Blessing

May the Lord + bless us, protect us from all evil and bring us to everlasting life. Amen.