

Vespers sung on Saturday 21st June 2025 for Sunday 22nd June 2025

Second Sunday after Pentecost

All Saints of the British Isles & Ireland

“LORD, I CALL ...”

Tone 1

Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me!

Hear me, O Lord!

Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me!

Receive the voice of my prayer,
when I call upon Thee!//

Hear me, O Lord!

Let my prayer arise
in Thy sight as incense,
and let the lifting up of my hands
be an evening sacrifice!//
Hear me, O Lord!

Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Thy Name.

Tone 1 (For the Resurrection)

Accept our evening prayers, O holy Lord!

Grant us remission of sins,//

for Thou alone hast manifested the Resurrection to the world.

The righteous will surround me, for Thou wilt deal bountifully with me.

Encircle Zion

and surround her, O people!

Give glory in her to the One Who rose from the dead!

For He is our God,//

Who has delivered us from our transgressions!

Out of the depths I cry to Thee, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!

Come, O people,

let us hymn and fall down before Christ,

glorifying His Resurrection from the dead!

For He is our God,//

Who has delivered the world from the Enemy's deceit!

Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

Be glad, O heavens!

Sound trumpets, O foundations of the earth!

Sing in gladness, O mountains!

Behold Emmanuel has nailed our sins to the Cross!

Granting life, He has slain death.//

He has resurrected Adam as the Lover of man.

If Thou, O Lord, shouldst mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with Thee.

Tone 1 *(For the Saints of the Isles)*

O come, all ye faithful,
now let us praise the saints of the Isles,
the venerable monastics, the holy bishops,
the right-believing princes,
all the martyrs and the company of holy women,
those known by name and those unknown,
for truly by their words and deeds
and manifold ways of life and gifts of God, they became saints;
and God made glorious even their graves with wonders.
And now, standing before Christ Who hath glorified them,
they pray fervently for us//
who celebrate the splendour of their feast with love.

For Thy name's sake I wait for Thee, O Lord. My soul has waited for Thy Word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.

Tone 2

With what beauty of hymn shall we praise the divinely wise of the Isles,
the splendour and adornment of the Church of Christ,
the crown of the priesthood, the rule of piety,
the never-drying wellsprings of divine healing,
the outpouring of the gifts of the Spirit,
the streams of manifold wonders
which gladden the Isles and all those who seek God.//
For whose sake the All-Merciful Christ hath cast down the uprisings of the enemy.

From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch, let Israel hope on the Lord!

Tone 8

Let the earth make glad and the heavens rejoice,
in praising your toils and struggles,
your spiritual courage and purity of mind, O venerable ones,
for ye were not overcome by the laws of nature.
O holy company and divine assembly,//
ye are truly the strength of our Isles.

For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is plenteous redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.

O blessed kings and queens,
divinely-wise princes and princesses,
who shine forth with Orthodox loving-kindness
and are resplendent with virtues:
Ye enlighten all the faithful,
driving away the darkness of the demons.
Wherefore we honour you as partakers of never-fading grace
and unashamed preservers of your inheritance,//
O right wondrous ones.

Praise the Lord, all nations! Praise Him, all peoples!

O all-blessed martyrs of Christ,
ye gave yourselves up to voluntary sacrifice
and have hallowed the Isles with your blood,
bringing splendour even to the skies by your repose;
and now ye dwell in the heavens amid the light that never setteth,//
ever praying on our behalf, O seers of God.

For His mercy is confirmed on us; and the truth of the Lord endureth forever.

With your virtues ye have enlightened the hearts of the faithful,
O ye righteous who have shone forth in the Isles.
For who can hear of your boundless humility and forbearance and not marvel?
Ye foreknew the needs of all, O right-wondrous ones.
Ye were models of meekness and guilelessness for all,
of pity for the grieving, of swift help for those in misfortune,
untroubled havens for those at sea and good speed for those on land.
And now as ye have been crowned with unfading wreaths by the hand of Almighty God, //
do ye beseech Him that our souls may be saved.

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

Tone 5

Rejoice, O faithful Church of the Isles!
Rejoice, O First-Martyrs Alban, Julius and Aaron!
Rejoice, O Ninian, Apostle of the North!
Rejoice O divine Patrick come to the Irish land with the Gospel of Christ!
Rejoice, O David, Enlightener of the West!
Rejoice, O Columba, light of the Scots!
Rejoice, O Gregory who with thy disciple Augustine, saw not Angles but Angels!
For ye all were our first intercessors with the Maker of all,
bringers of the Orthodox Faith and guides to the True Light!
Rejoice, from every hamlet and town,
nurtured by those who now dwell in heaven!
These saints have been shown to be guiding lights for our souls!
With the brightness of signs and deeds,
they have shone forth most mystically unto all the ends of the earth //
and now they beseech Christ for the salvation of our souls!

now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Tone 1 (*Theotokion – Dogmatikon*)

Let us praise the Virgin Mary!
The gate of heaven, the glory of the world!
The song of the angels, the beauty of the faithful!
She was born of man, yet gave birth to God!
She was revealed as the heaven, as the temple of the Godhead!
She destroyed the wall of enmity!
She commenced the peace; she opened the Kingdom!
Since she is our foundation of faith,
our defender is the Lord Whom she bore!
Courage! Courage! O People of God!
For Christ will destroy our enemies //
since He is all powerful.

OLD TESTAMENT READINGS

The Reading from the Prophecy of Isaiah

Thus says the Lord: All the nations are gathered together, and the rulers shall be assembled from among them. Who will declare these things or tell us things from the beginning? Let them bring forth their witnesses, and be proven right; and let them speak the truth. "You are My witnesses, and I am a witness," says the Lord God, "and My Servant whom I chose, that you may know and believe, and understand that I am He. Before Me there was no other God, nor shall there be after Me. I am God, and besides Me there is no one who saves. I proclaimed, and I saved. I denounced foreign gods so there were none among you. You are My witnesses, and I am a witness," says the Lord God. "Even from the beginning, there is no one who can deliver out of My hands; I will work, and who will reverse it?" Thus says the Lord God who redeems you, the Holy One of Israel. [Isaiah 43:9-14]

The Reading from the Wisdom of Solomon

The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and no torture will ever touch them. In the eyes of the undiscerning they seemed to have died, and their departure was considered to be misfortune, and their passage from us to be their destruction; but they are at peace. For though in man's view they were punished, their hope is full of immortality. Though chastened in a few things, great kindness will be shown them, for God tested them and found them worthy of Himself. He tested them like gold in a furnace and accepted them as a whole burnt offering. In the time of their visitation, they will shine forth, and they will run about like sparks through straw. They will judge nations and rule over peoples, and the Lord shall reign over them unto the ages. Those who trust in Him will understand truth, and the faithful shall continue with Him in love, because grace and mercy are upon His elect and He watches over His holy ones. [Wisdom 3:1-9]

The Reading from the Wisdom of Solomon

The righteous live forever, and their reward is with the Lord; and their care is by the Most High. Therefore they shall receive a kingly dwelling of dignity and a crown of beauty from the hand of the Lord, because He will shelter them with His right hand and protect them with His arm. He will take His zeal as His full armour and will turn His creation into weapons against His enemies. He will wear righteousness as a breastplate and put on impartial judgment as a helmet. He will take holiness as an unconquerable shield and sharpen His relentless wrath for a sword; and creation will fight with Him against the senseless. Well-aimed flashes of lightning will strike and leap to their object as from a well-drawn bow of clouds; and hailstones full of anger will be hurled as from an engine of war. The water of the sea will be vexed with them, and the rivers will wash over them severely. A powerful wind will oppose them, and like a storm it will winnow them away. Listen therefore, O kings, and understand; learn, O judges of the ends of the earth. Give ear, you that rule over multitudes, and take pride in yourself over a multitude of nations. For power was given to you from the Lord, and your lordship from the Most High. [Wisdom 5:15-6:3]

APOSTICHA

Tone 1 (For the Resurrection)

We have been freed from sufferings
by Thy suffering, O Christ.
We have been delivered from corruption
by Thy Resurrection.//
O Lord, glory to Thee!

V. The Lord is King; He is robed in majesty!

Let creation rejoice!
Let the heavens be glad!
Let the nations clap their hands with gladness,
for Christ our Savior has nailed our sins to the Cross.
Slaying death, He has given life.//
He has resurrected fallen Adam as the Lover of man.

V. For He has established the world, so that it shall never be moved.

As King of heaven and earth,
Thou wast voluntarily crucified in Thy love for man.
Hell was angered when it met Thee below.
Adam rose seeing Thee, the Creator, under the earth.
O wonder! How has the Life of all tasted death?
Thou didst enlighten the world which cries://
O Lord, Who didst rise from the dead, glory to Thee!

V. Holiness befits Thy house, O Lord, forevermore!

The myrrhbearing women came with haste to Thy tomb,
bearing myrrh and lamenting.
Not finding Thy most pure body,
they learned from the angel of the new and glorious wonder.
They told the Apostles://
“The Lord is risen, granting the world great mercy.”

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

Tone 4 *(For the Saints of the Isles)*

Celebrating the season of the commemoration of our holy kinsfolk,
let us call them blessed as is meet,
for they have truly passed through all the Beatitudes of the Lord:
made poor, they have become rich in spirit;
being meek, they have inherited the kingdom of the meek;
having wept, they have been comforted;
having thirsted after righteousness, they have been filled;
having had mercy on others, they have found mercy for themselves;
pure in heart, they have seen God as far as such is possible;
peace-makers, they have been counted worthy to be adopted as children of God;
persecuted and tormented for piety and righteousness' sake,
they now rejoice and make glad in Heaven;//
and they earnestly beseech the Lord that He will have mercy on our souls.

Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Tone 5 *(For the Saints of the Isles)*

Let us sound a hymn on the trumpet
and praise with one accord the Protectress of these Isles,
our Queen, the Theotokos:
Rejoice, O thou who from ages past
hast crowned us with thy goodness and grace!
Wherefore the Church of the Isles doth celebrate
with splendour as is meet
thine all-honoured protecting veil and the memory of thy miracles.
but look down upon our adversities and afflictions
and raise us up once more,//
making us to be thy Dowry as of old.

TROPARIA

Troparion of the Resurrection in Tone 1

[Music on website / Green Book page 2]

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews,
while the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body,
Thou didst rise on the third day, O Saviour,
granting life to the world.

The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life:

“Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ!

Glory to Thy Kingdom!//

Glory to Thy dispensation, O Thou who lovest mankind!”

Troparion of All Saints of the Isles in Tone 8

[Music on website / Sheet]

From the ends of the earth, O Lord,
the Isles of the Sea offer Thee all the Saints
who have shone forth therein as the fair fruit of Thy saving splendour.
Through their supplications and through the Theotokos
preserve Thy Church and Thine Isles in peace profound
O most Merciful One.