

ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS
MOUNT DINHAM

The Usage for
SOLEMN MASS

on

SUNDAYS and FEAST DAYS

THE PARISH OF ST DAVID WITH ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS
EXETER

Preface

*The style is Anglo-Catholic of the 1920's & 30's.
It conforms to Common Worship, Order I, Traditional language,
and uses the Revised Common Lectionary.*

*Solemn Mass at St Michaels is celebrated facing east, according to the ancient tradition of the church. When the priest addresses the congregation, he turns to face them.
When he prays to God, with them, or on their behalf, he and the entire congregation face east.*

The Gathering

The Sacred Ministers robe in the St. Clement chapel in the North Transept of the church.

(If there is a procession;

The Celebrant will vest in a cope and put on the chasuble when he has arrived at the high altar).

Servers leave from the sacristy and come down to join the clergy.

The crucifer peels off at the crossing to collect the choir from the Lady Chapel in the South Transept.

The Crucifer leads the choir into their stalls.

(If there is a procession;

The choir assemble outside the stalls and await the arrival of the altar party – servers and clergy - at the high altar).

The crucifer then returns to the St. Clement chapel.

When the Celebrant is ready, one of the servers rings a bell and during the introduction to the introit hymn, the sanctuary party enter the Crossing.

The Asperges

On Sunday mornings, the altar party pause in the Crossing and the choir are asperged with holy water by the priest.

The altar party then turn and proceed down the nave, asperging the congregation during the introit hymn.

(If there is a procession;

The altar party make their way directly to the high altar. The organist gives the introduction to the processional hymn, after which the Celebrant genuflects and then turns to sing "*Let us proceed in peace*". After the response, "*In the name of Christ, Amen*", the procession begins and the processional hymn is resumed).

During the procession, the Thurifer and Crucifer lead; the choir, then servers and clergy follow.

The choir divides upon their return to the crossing for the Station, and after the Stational Prayer, the Prayers of Preparation, Confession and Absolution may take place in the crossing during a pause in the processional hymn.

The Greeting

When there is no procession, upon arrival in the Chancel, the altar party pause at the top of the steps and the Celebrant turns to greet the people.

(From Easter Day to Pentecost, the Easter Acclamation follows).

The Prayers of Preparation

The prayers of Preparation, Penitence, Confession and Absolution are said, facing the congregation, at the Chancel steps, after which the altar party proceed to the High Altar.

The Introit Psalm & Kyrie

The Introit Psalm is sung by the choir, followed by the *Kyrie Eleison*, during which the Celebrant and Servers cense the altar.

Gloria (omitted during Advent and Lent)

The organist will give the intonation for the *Gloria*, the Celebrant sings the first sentence and the choir continue.

The Collect

The Celebrant moves to the south end of the High Altar, facing east, and sings the greeting and the Collect.

The Liturgy of the Word

The reading is given, either by the Celebrant or by another Minister, facing the congregation, from the altar rails or from one of the clergy desks at the Chancel step.

The Gradual Psalm

The Gradual Psalm is sung by the choir during which the Celebrant and servers process towards the congregation, whilst the Gospel Acclamation "*Alleluia...*" is sung by the choir. (It has been our custom to sing the Gospel from the chancel step, however it may be considered desirable to sing the Gospel from a station in the nave).

The Gospel

The Celebrant sings the Gospel announcement and censes the Gospel Book while the choir and congregation respond.

(Ideally, the Gospel will be sung; however, if the clergy feel unable to do so, it may be said).

After the Gospel, the Celebrant sings "*This is the Gospel of the Lord*", and all respond.

The Celebrant and servers return to the High Altar, where the Celebrant is censed by the Master of Ceremonies in charge of the servers. The Celebrant then turns to the altar and genuflects. The choir, Celebrant and servers then proceed down into the body of the church for the sermon. The MC will lead the preacher to the pulpit. If the Celebrant is not preaching he will be led to the seats in the north transept by St Michael's statue.

The Creed (on Sundays and principal Holy Days)

After the sermon, the choir, clergy and altar party return to the chancel. The Celebrant stands at the centre of the High Altar facing east. The organist gives the intonation for the *Creed*. The Celebrant sings the first sentence and the choir and congregation continue. It is our custom to kneel during the references to the Incarnation.

Prayers of Intercession

It is our custom for the prayers of Intercession to be said facing east, by the Celebrant, at the High Altar; however, some clergy may prefer to lead the Intercession from the chancel step.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

The Celebrant introduces the Peace and greets the assembly. The Peace is not exchanged by action. The Celebrant then turns to the High Altar for the preparation of the table.

The Offertory Sentence and Hymn

The Offertory Sentence is sung by the choir, followed by the Offertory Hymn, during which the sacred elements are prepared.

The Preparation and the Taking of the Bread and Wine

Bread and wine are brought to the High Altar. The altar and the elements are censed by the Celebrant. The MC then takes the thurible and censes the Celebrant. The MC, servers, other clergy, choir and congregation are then censed by the Thurifer. The collection (gift of the people) is brought to the altar and blessed and the Celebrant washes his hands, assisted by the servers.

The Eucharistic Prayer

It has been our custom for the first part of the Eucharistic prayer and the appropriate Proper Preface to be sung; however, if the Celebrant is unable, it may be said. The second part of the prayer, after the Sanctus and Benedictus, has customarily been said, with the exception of the last section “*by whom, and with whom...*”, which may be sung. At the elevation of the host and of the chalice the Celebrant genuflects before and after each elevation and bells are rung.

Sanctus and Benedictus

The choir sing the *Sanctus and Benedictus* and the Eucharistic prayer continues, as outlined above.

The Lord’s Prayer

The organist will play the intonation; the Celebrant sings the introduction and all join in to sing the Lord’s Prayer.

The Breaking of the Bread & Agnus Dei

As the bread is broken and distributed to the altar party, the *Agnus Dei* is sung by the choir. Then the Celebrant says the invitation to communion after which a bell is rung. The Prayer of Humble Access may also be used before the distribution, if desired.

Communion Sentence

The communion sentence is sung by the choir, after which the congregation receive communion.

The Giving of Communion

Communion is distributed at the altar rails, the congregation kneeling. Members of the laity may assist with the distribution of the chalice.

If members of the congregation are unable to come up into the chancel, a server bearing a candle will ring a bell and lead a procession of the sacrament down to the crossing to give communion to these.

A communion anthem is sung by the choir during the Ablutions. The servers will assist with the Ablutions.

Prayers after Communion and Dismissal

After the anthem has been sung, the Celebrant says the Post Communion prayer from the south end of the High Altar. The Celebrant then comes to the middle of the altar and turns to face the congregation for the Dismissal. Seasonal blessings may be used.

After Mass

A hymn is sung. During the Recessional Hymn, the Crucifer and servers will lead the altar party through the Chancel back to the St Clement Chapel, where the Celebrant will remove his vestments. The altar party will then proceed to the image of Our Lady, where the Angelus will be said or, during Eastertide, the *Regina Cæli* will be sung (found in the light blue service book).

The Crucifer and servers then proceed back to the Sacristy and the choir process out of the Chancel via the High Altar, genuflecting as they pass.

Refreshments are served at the back of the church.