



# NEWCASTLE DIOCESE GENEROSITY WEEK 2024

## A Service of the Word to celebrate Generosity



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## Opening Hymn

### The Gathering

In the name of the Father  
and of the Son  
and of the Holy Spirit  
**Amen**

### The Greeting

Enter the gates of the Lord with thanksgiving  
**and enter his courts with praise.**  
Give thanks to the Lord  
**and bless his name.**  
For the Lord is good.  
**His steadfast love endures forever.**

*An informal introduction to the service and its context may be offered here.*

### Prayers of Penitence

As those who know the Generosity of God,  
let us confess our sins,  
especially the ways we have taken good gifts for granted:

Creative God you have gifted us with your creation,  
yet we take your good gifts for granted;  
Lord have mercy.  
**Lord have mercy.**

Gracious God, you bless us each day,  
yet we forget to be thankful;  
Christ have mercy.  
**Christ have mercy.**

Generous God, you offer new life through your Son  
yet, we turn away from you;  
Lord have mercy.  
**Lord have mercy.**

May God who loved the world so much  
that he sent his Son to be our Saviour  
forgive us our sins  
and make us holy to serve him in the world,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord  
**Amen**

## The Collect

**In a time of silence, let us pray that we may draw closer to the  
one who created all things**

*Silence is kept*

God of grace, ever creating and restoring,  
you breathe life into all things and embrace us with everlasting love;  
help us to grow in awe and wonder to embody the spirit of gratitude  
and to dream generous dreams; that, in gathering what we have,  
we may graciously offer ourselves to accomplish what you will,  
in Jesus Christ our Lord  
**Amen**

## The Liturgy of the word

*We sit to listen to readings from Scripture*

Psalm 136:1-9, 23-end

**Glory to the Father and to the Son  
And to the Holy Spirit  
As it was in the beginning, is now  
And shall be forever. Amen**

**Give thanks to the Lord for he is gracious,  
For his mercy endures forever.**

2 Corinthians 9:6-15

This is the word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God**

## Gradual Hymn

*Remain standing if able for the Gospel reading*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew  
**Glory to you, O Lord**

Matthew 6:19-33

This is the Gospel of the Lord  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*A sermon or reflection may be given.*

## Affirmation of Faith

Let us affirm our faith in God

**We believe in God the Father,  
from whom every family  
in heaven and on earth is named.  
We believe in God the Son,  
Who lives in our hearts through faith,  
and fills us with his love.  
We believe in God the Holy Spirit,  
who strengthens us  
with power from on high.  
We believe in one God  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit  
Amen**

## A Litany of Generosity

Let us give thanks to God for his gifts so generously given to us,  
and for the blessings we are called to share.

For recognising that all things come from you,  
for remembering that we are stewards of your gifts,  
for wisely using the resources entrusted to us

**We offer ourselves to you, O God.**

For rejoicing in the beauty of creation,  
for the care of your world,  
for the sharing the fruits of creation equally among all people.

**We offer ourselves to you, O God.**

For encountering the joy of giving  
for humility in putting others needs before our own,  
for embracing the privilege of sharing the ministry to the saints,

**We offer ourselves to you, O God.**

For courage in offering sacrificial generosity,  
for our giving to be an act of worship  
for grace in offering our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice,

**We offer ourselves to you, O God.**

For all financial gifts offered to your Church  
for freely giving as we have received,  
for giving and not counting the cost,

**We offer ourselves to you, O God.**

For releasing our hold on material possessions,  
for contentment in what we have,  
for trust in letting go

**We offer ourselves to you, O God.**

For generosity in love, encouragement, and hope,  
for openness in invitation and hospitality,  
for wisdom in the gift of friendship

**We offer ourselves to you, O God.**

For serving you as you deserve,  
for following our calling as your disciples,  
for serving you with gladness of heart,  
**We offer ourselves to you, O God.**

For being a blessing through the blessings we receive,  
for generosity which enables mission,  
for sharing abundantly in every good work,  
**We offer ourselves to you, O God.**

For living a generous life,  
for our actions to point beyond themselves,  
for our generosity to be an expression of love and gratitude,  
**We offer ourselves to you, O God.**

## Intercessions

*Intercessions are offered and may end with*

**Source of all life, and giver of all that is good  
hear our prayer,  
and make us one in heart and mind  
to serve you with joy forever  
Amen**

## An offering

**O divine Master,  
grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console,  
to be understood as to understand,  
to be loved as to love.  
For it is in giving that we receive,  
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.  
Amen.**

*An offering may be taken*

*There should be time for people to reflect on the gifts given electronically or symbolically*

God of all creation  
the source of life and the giver of all good things  
through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts  
with them we may offer our lives;  
that we may be used to serve others,  
and give you glory. We make our prayer  
In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord  
**Amen**

## The Lord's Prayer

Offering ourselves into the hands of God, as our Saviour taught us so we pray

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.**

## The Blessing

The God of hope fill us with every blessing,  
That we may share in every good work;  
And the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit  
be among you and remain with you always.  
**Amen**

**Final Hymn is sung**

## The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord  
**In the name of Christ, Amen**



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