**Liturgy to Bless the Restored Clock at All Saints Husbands Bosworth – 30/07/2025**

**GATHERING**

The minister says:

In the name of the † Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The minister greets those present in the following words, taken mainly from sacred Scripture:

May God, who has chosen us to be saints, be with you all. **And also with you.**

The minister prepares those present for the blessing.

God makes known his mighty power and his abounding goodness to all the ends of the earth; but he also directs his Church to bless the simplest and most commonplace things.

He does so in order that all who devoutly make use of material things may be drawn to the world that is not seen and may give glory to God, who alone performs the wonders we call miracles, but who is wonderful also in his saints.

**READING OF THE WORD OF GOD**

A reading about time from Ecclesiastes chapter 3;

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:

a time to be born, and a time to die;

a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;

a time to kill, and a time to heal;

a time to break down, and a time to build up;

a time to weep, and a time to laugh;

a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together;

a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;

a time to seek, and a time to lose;

a time to keep, and a time to throw away;

a time to tear, and a time to sew;

a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;

a time to love, and a time to hate;

a time for war, and a time for peace.

What gain have the workers from their toil?

I have seen the business that God has given to everyone to be busy with.

He has made everything suitable for its time; moreover, he has put a sense of past and future into their minds, yet they cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end.

I know that there is nothing better for them than to be happy and enjoy themselves as long as they live; moreover, it is God’s gift that all should eat and drink and take pleasure in all their toil.

I know that whatever God does endures for ever; nothing can be added to it, nor anything taken from it; God has done this, so that all should stand in awe before him.

That which is, already has been; that which is to be, already is; and God seeks out what has gone by.

Moreover, I saw under the sun that in the place of justice, wickedness was there, and in the place of righteousness, wickedness was there as well.

I said in my heart, God will judge the righteous and the wicked, for he has appointed a time for every matter, and for every work.

The minister, before the prayer of blessing, says:

Let us pray.

We begin by holding a moment of silence.

All may then pray for a moment in silence before the prayer of blessing.

**PRAYER OF BLESSING**

With hands outstretched, the minister says the prayer of blessing.

St Eligius, Bishop of Noyon, Patron Saint of Clockmakers,

we ask for your prayers of blessing on all who have contributed

to the original making of this clock and to its recent restoration.

Across four centuries skilful people have joined their efforts together,

We give thanks to God for that partnership and commitment within this parish.

Lord God, You who live outside of time, and reside in the imperishable moment,

we ask Your blessing this day upon Your gift of time to us.

Bless our clocks and watches,

May they kindly direct us to observe the passing of minutes and hours.

May they make us aware of the miracle of each second of life that we experience.

May these, our ticking servants, help us not to miss that which is important,

May You keep us from machine-like routine.

May we ever be free from being clock watchers and instead become time lovers.

We give thanks for all those who have worked to see this clock restored.

For those who had the initial vision for this project.

For those who used their skill and efforts to bring this clock back into service.

For those who gave money and those who worked to obtain grants.

For those whose skill and craftsmanship have brought this clock back to its former glory.

Bless each person who has been involved in this work we pray.

We ask you to bless this renewed and restored clock †, in service of all who pass by,

may it teach us the secret that all of life is meant for celebration and contemplation

and that each moment is a gift from your hand and is meant to be lived wisely and well,

with you, and in you, and for you. [[1]](#footnote-1)

**Amen.**

**CONCLUDING RITE**

With hands outstretched over the faithful, the minister concludes the rite by saying:

Receive the blessing of God.

May God look with favour on your devotion and in his goodness give you the help you need. **Amen.**

May God give you serenity in your life and shower you with his blessings. **Amen.**

May God rule over you with his strength and tender care in this life, so that he may raise you up to the reward of happiness in heaven. **Amen.**

And may almighty God bless you all, the name of the + Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

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

1. Adapted from ‘Prayers for the Domestic Church: A Handbook for Worship in the Home’ by Edward Hays [↑](#footnote-ref-1)