

A Sheffield Benedicite

This version of the Benedicite was specially written by Helen Bent for the Centenary celebrations of Sheffield Diocese in 2014. It follows the style of the 'Benedicite Aotearoa' from *A New Zealand Prayer Book* (p.457).

The Benedicite is a canticle used in the Roman Catholic 'Liturgy of the Hours', but it is also used in Anglican and Lutheran worship.

Benedicite (Latin) is a plural imperative, encouraging us to bless or praise God. It is readily adaptable to other local situations. Two versions can be found in *Common Worship Daily Prayer* p.540-1: one emphasizes God as creator of the natural world; the shorter alternative emphasizes God as creator of heaven and earth, angels and people. The Sheffield version draws out its heritage, its landscape, the deaneries and the people.

Leader O give thanks to the Lord, you Diocese of Sheffield;
All **We give to our God thanks and praise.**

All Founded in pain through World War and hardship,
We give to our God thanks and praise.

All For moorland and hills, rivers and streams,
for cities and towns, suburbs and villages,
We give to our God thanks and praise.

All For heartlands of industry, commerce and trade,
for farmland and park, fields and trees,
We give to our God thanks and praise.

All For Attercliffe and Adwick-le-Street,
Ecclesall and Doncaster,
We give to our God thanks and praise.

All For Ecclesfield, Snaith and Hatfield,
Hallam and Wath,
We give to our God thanks and praise.

All For Laughton and Rotherham,
Tankersley and West Doncaster,
We give to our God thanks and praise.

All For people and priests,
archdeacons and bishops,
We give to our God thanks and praise.

All O give thanks to the Lord, you Diocese of Sheffield;
We give to our God thanks and praise.
Amen.