

Rogation Sunday Procession

¶ *Departing from the side door, all gather on the lawn on Front Street. Fr. Eric will give a brief introduction to the tradition of "Beating the Bounds"*

"FIRST BOUND" Front Street Lawn

This is a bound of this sacred church. This green is a place of quiet and shade and welcomes people to this place.

God our Father, that it may please thee to look with favor upon all who care for the earth, the water, and the air, that the riches of thy creation may abound from age to age. *People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

"Now is the month of Maying" v. 1 by Thomas Morley ¶ *Sung by the Choir*
Now is the month of Maying, When merry lads are playing, Fa la la.
Each with his bonny lass, A-dancing on the grass. Fa la la.

¶ *The procession moves to the Chapel steps.*

*Holy God,
holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
have mercy upon us. ¶ Repeated several times*

"SECOND BOUND" Chapel Steps

This is a bound of this sacred church. This is where townsfolk pass, some hurried, some slowly. This is from where the bell rings out the Angelus, and all are invited to pray.

God our Father, that it may please thee to grant favorable weather, temperate rain, and fruitful seasons, that there may be food and drink for all thy creatures. *People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

“Now is the month of Maying” v. 2 *Sung by the Choir*
The Spring, clad all in gladness, Doth laugh at Winter's sadness, Fa la la.
And to the bagpipes' sound The nymphs tread out the ground. Fa la la.

¶ *The procession moves to the Courtyard.*

***Holy God,
holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
have mercy upon us. ¶ Repeated several times***

“THIRD BOUND” Courtyard

This is a bound of this sacred church. This is where our blessed dead slumber in eternal rest in sure hope of the resurrection. May we always remember our dead, those who go before us to the Kingdom of God.

God our Father, that it may please thee to send forth laborers into thy harvest, and to draw all mankind into thy kingdom,

People: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

“Now is the month of Maying” v. 3 ¶ *Sung by the Choir*
Fie, then, why sit we musing, youth's sweet delight refusing? Fa la la.
Say, dainty nymphs, and speak, Shall we play barley-break? Fa la la.

Final Prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, creator of all things and giver of all life, let your blessing be upon this Church, her grounds, and this Town. In particular, we pray for the growth of the plants around us and for those who work the lands from our Parish. For your blessing upon the lands and waters of Marion, and Mattapoissett and Rochester, and all who work upon them to bring forth food, and all things needful for your people, we pray to you, O Lord. ***Amen.***