

*Composed for the Saint Mary's University of Minnesota
Chamber Singers 2019 International Tour*

Father Forgive



Charred Cross - Coventry Cathedral Ruins

SATB Choir
Solo Flute

Music by A. Eric Heukeshoven (ASCAP)
Based on the Coventry Litany of Reconciliation (1958) by
Canon Joseph Poole (1909-1989)

(Score with rehearsal piano accompaniment)

About the text ...

On the night of 14th November, 1940, Coventry and its Cathedral endured a one-off, but relentless, bombing campaign. Overnight, the ‘Moonlight Sonata’ offensive destroyed much of central Coventry, hundreds of its people and left its Cathedral in ruins. Only the outer shell of the walls and the tower remained standing.

In the days that followed, two enduring symbols emerged from the rubble: two charred roof-beams which had fallen in the shape of a cross were bound and placed at the site of the ruined altar, and three medieval roof nails were also formed into a cross, which became the original Cross of Nails (now located at the High Altar in the new Cathedral). Shortly after, the words ‘Father Forgive’ – deliberately neutral in content – were inscribed on the wall of the ruined chancel, and Provost Dick Howard made a commitment not to seek revenge, but to strive for forgiveness and reconciliation with those responsible.

The *Litany of Reconciliation* was written by Canon Joseph Poole in 1958 and today is prayed regularly by the Community of the Cross of Nails members around the world, and by many others on an occasional basis. While framed around the seven deadly sins, it serves as a reminder that when we pray about the problems of the world around us, we need to begin by acknowledging the roots of those problems in our own hearts.

The Coventry Litany of Reconciliation

All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.

The hatred which divides nation from nation, race from race, class from class,

FATHER FORGIVE

The covetous desires of people and nations to possess what is not their own,

FATHER FORGIVE

The greed which exploits the work of human hands and lays waste the earth,

FATHER FORGIVE

Our envy of the welfare and happiness of others,

FATHER FORGIVE

Our indifference to the plight of the imprisoned, the homeless, the refugee,

FATHER FORGIVE

The lust which dishonours the bodies of men, women and children,

FATHER FORGIVE

The pride which leads us to trust in ourselves and not in God,

FATHER FORGIVE

Be kind to one another, tender hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

Before the choir sings, a reader should say the following:

All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.

Father Forgive

If the work is being performed where one or more other languages are spoken, the two sentences should be read in those languages following the English version.

The choir should pause briefly following the reading before singing.

Father Forgive

Based on the Coventry Litany of Reconciliation (1958) by
Canon Joseph Poole (1909-1989)

Music by
A. Eric Heukeshoven (b. 1956)

After spoken introduction

Flute $\text{♩} = 100$

SOPRANO *mf* *fp*

ALTO *mf*

TENOR *mf*

BASS *mf* *fp*

Piano *mf* *fp*

For rehearsal only

Fa-ther for - give Fa-ther for - give The ha - tred
Fa-ther for - give Fa-ther for - give The ha - tred
Fa-ther for - give Fa-ther for - give The ha - tred
Fa-ther for - give Fa-ther for - give The ha - tred

S. *f* *accel.*

A. *f*

T. *f*

B. *f*

Pno.

which di - vides na-tion from na - tion, race from race, *which di - vides na-tion from na - nation, race from race,* *which di - vides na-tion from na - nation, race from race,* *which di - vides na-tion from na - nation, race from race,* *which di - vides na-tion from na - nation, race from race,* *which di - vides na-tion from na - nation, race from race,*

which di - vides na-tion from na - nation, race from race, which di - vides na-tion from na - nation, race from race, which di - vides na-tion from na - nation, race from race, which di - vides na-tion from na - nation, race from race, which di - vides na-tion from na - nation, race from race, which di - vides na-tion from na - nation, race from race,

rall.

14

Fl. *p* *mf* *mf*

S. class from class, Fa - ther for - give *mf*

A. class from class, Fa - ther for - give *mp*

T. class from class, Fa - ther for - give *mf*

B. class from class, Fa - ther for - give *mp*

Pno. *rall.* *A tempo*

19

The co-vet-ous de -

The co-vet-ous de - sires The

mf

mp

20

S. The co-vet-ous de-sires of peo - ple and na - tions to pos - sess what is *mf* *f*

A. sires The co-vet-ous de-sires The co-vet-ous de-sires The co-vet-ous de - sires to pos - sess what is *f*

T. The co-vet-ous de-sires of peo - ple and na - tions to pos - sess what is *mf* *f*

B. co-vet-ous de - sires The co-vet - ous de - sires The co-vet-ous de - sires to pos - sess what is *f*

Pno. *mf* *f*

Fl. *f*

S. *mf* *mp* *mf*

A. *not their own,* Fa-ther for - give The greed which ex-ploits the
mp *mf*

T. *not their own,* Fa-ther for - give The greed which ex - ploits the
mp

B. *not their own,* Fa-ther for - give The greed which ex - ploits the

Pno. *f* *mp*

Fl. *f* *p*

S. work of hu-man hands and lays waste to the earth

A. work of hu-man hands and lays waste to the earth

T. work of hu-man hands and lays waste to the earth

B. work of hu-man hands, the work of hu-man hands and lays waste to the earth
rall. // *f* *p*

Pno. *f* *p*

accel.

42 Tempo primo

Fl. *mp*

S. *mf*
Fa - ther for-give Our en - vy_____ of the wel-fare and hap-pi-ness of

A. Fa - ther for - give _____ *mf*
en - vy of the wel-fare and hap-pi-ness of

T. Fa - ther for-give _____ *mf*
Our en - vy, en - vy of the wel-fare and hap-pi-ness of

B. Fa - ther for-give _____ *mf*
en - vy of the wel-fare and hap-pi-ness of

Pno. *mf* *Tempo primo*

Fl. *mf* *f* *p*

S. *f* *p* *mp*
oth - ers, Fath - er for - give Our in - diff - er - ence_____ to the plight_____

A. *f* *p* *mp*
oth - ers, Fath - er for - give Our in - diff - er - ence_____ to the plight_____

T. *f* *p*
8 oth - ers, Fath - er for - give Our in - diff - er - ence_____ to the

B. *f* *p*
oth - ers, Fath - er for - give Our in - diff - er - ence_____ to the

Pno. *f* *p* *mp*

51

Fl.

S. *mf*

A. *mf*

T. *fp* *mp* *mf*

B. *fp* *mp* *mf*

Pno. *fp*

poco rit.

— of the im - pris-oned, the home-less, the ref - u - gee, Fa-ther for-
 — of the im - pris-oned, the home-less, the ref - u - gee, Fa-ther for-
 plight im-pris - oned, the home-less, the ref - u - gee, Fa-ther for-
 plight im-pris - oned, the home-less, the ref - u - gee, Fa-ther for-

poco rit.

A tempo

57

59

Fl.

S. give

A. give

T. give

B. give

A tempo

Pno.

mf

The lust which dis - honours the

mf

The lust which dis - honours the

mf

The lust which dis - honours the bod-ies of men,

p

mf

The lust which dis - honours the bod-ies of men,

p

mf

8

mf

8 8 8 8

6 65

68

Fl.

S. *f*

bod-ies of wo - men, The lust which dis - hon-ours the bod-ies of chil - dren,

A. *f*

bod-ies of wo - men, The lust which dis - hon-ours the bod-ies of chil - dren,

T. *f*

The lust which dis - hon-ours the bod-ies of chil - dren,

B. *f*

The lust which dis - hon-ours the bod-ies of chil - dren,

Pno.

72

75

Fl. *mp*

S. *p*

Fath - er for - give The pride which

A. *mp*

Fath - er for - give The pride which

T. *mp*

Fath - er for - give The pride which

B. *mp*

Fath - er for - give The pride which

Pno. *mp* *p*

76

Fl.

S.

A.

T.

B.

Pno.

leads us to trust in our - selves and not God,

leads us to trust in our - selves and not God,

leads our - selves and not God,

leads our - selves and not God,

rit.

Tempo primo 83

80 ♩ = 72

pp

S.

A.

T.

B.

Fa-ther for - give Be kind to one an - oth-er, ten - der heart-ed, for-

pp

mp

Fa - ther for - give Be kind to one an - oth-er, ten - der heart-ed, for-

pp

mp

Fa - ther for - give Be kind to one an - oth-er, ten - der heart-ed, for-

pp

mp

Fa - ther for - give Be kind to one an - oth-er, ten - der heart-ed, for-

Tempo primo

pp

mp

mf

Pno.

8

Fl.

S.

A.

T.

B.

Pno.

giv - ing one an - oth - er, as God in Christ for - gave you, Fa - ther for - give

giv - ing one an - oth - er, as God in Christ for - gave you, Fa - ther for - give

giv - ing one an - oth - er, as God in Christ for - gave you, Fa - ther for - give

giv - ing one an - oth - er, as God in Christ for - gave you, Fa - ther for - give

giv - ing one an - oth - er, as God in Christ for - gave you, Fa - ther for - give

f

ff

f

ff

f

ff

f

ff

f

ff

93

Fl.

S.

A.

T.

B.

Pno.

molto rall.

Fa - ther for - give

mf

mp

molto rall.

n

n

n

n

n

n

n

n