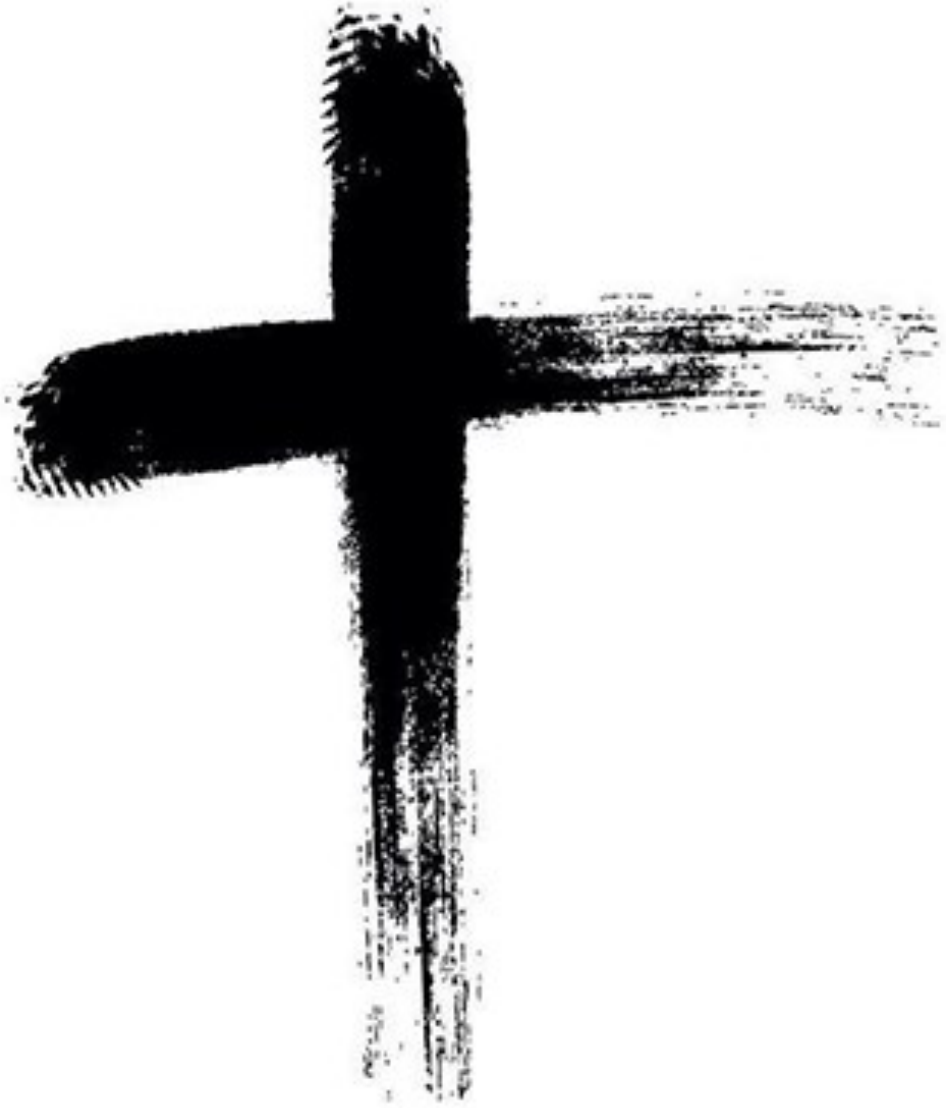




THE BENEFICE of PONTEFRACT

ST GILES'

with ST MARY'S



ASH WEDNESDAY

Sung Mass, with the Imposition of Ashes

WEDNESDAY, 14TH FEBRUARY 2024

7PM

WELCOME TO THIS CELEBRATION OF PARISH MASS
FOR ASH WEDNESDAY

THE SETTING FOR TONIGHT'S SERVICE IS THE MISSA DE ANGELIS.

People of all denominations who are in good standing with their own church are welcome to come and receive communion.

If you wish to receive a blessing, please come to the altar carrying this order of service.

Please let clergy or a churchwarden know at the beginning of the service if you need a gluten-free host

*5 minutes before the service begins,
a bell will ring to signal that a period of quiet reflection is kept
during which you may wish to use this prayer.*

**Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord.**

Amen

A bell is rung to begin our worship.

THE GATHERING

INTROIT HYMN (67)

Forty days and forty nights
Thou wast fasting in the wild;
forty days and forty nights
tempted still, yet undefiled.

Sunbeams scorching all the day;
chilly dew-drops nightly shed;
prowling beasts about Thy way;
stones Thy pillow, earth Thy bed.

Let us Thine endurance share,
and awhile from joys abstain,
with Thee watching unto prayer,
strong with Thee to suffer pain?

And if Satan, vexing sore,
flesh or spirit should assail,
Thou, his vanquisher before
grant we may not faint nor fail.

So shall we have peace divine;
holier gladness ours shall be;
round us too shall angels shine,
such as ministered to Thee.

Keep, O keep us, Saviour dear,
ever constant by Thy side;
that with Thee we may appear
at the eternal Eastertide.

George Hunt Smyttan, 1822-18, Francis Pott, 1832-1909

THE GREETING

✠ In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The president greets the people

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

and also with you.

cf 1 Timothy 1.2

LENTEN PREPARATION

Brothers and sisters in Christ, since early days Christians have observed with great devotion the time of our Lord's passion and resurrection and prepared for this by a season of penitence and fasting.

By carefully keeping these days, Christians take to heart the call to repentance and the assurance of forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel, and so grow in faith and in devotion to our Lord.

I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy word.

**Holy God, holy and strong, holy and immortal,
have mercy upon us.**



THE COLLECT FOR ASH WEDNESDAY

Let us pray for grace to keep Lent faithfully.

A period of silent prayer is kept.

Almighty and everlasting God,
you hate nothing that you have made
and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent:
create and make in us new and contrite hearts
that we, worthily lamenting our sins
and acknowledging our wretchedness,
may receive from you, the God of all mercy,
perfect remission and forgiveness;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

JOEL 2.1-2,12-17

A reading from the book of the prophet Joel.

Blow the trumpet in Zion;
sound the alarm on my holy mountain!
Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble,
for the day of the LORD is coming, it is near –
a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness!
Like blackness spread upon the mountains
a great and powerful army comes;
their like has never been from of old,
nor will be again after them in ages to come.
Yet even now, says the LORD,

return to me with all your heart,
with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;
rend your hearts and not your clothing.

Return to the LORD, your God,
for he is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love,
and relents from punishing.

Who knows whether he will not turn and relent,
and leave a blessing behind him,
a grain-offering and a drink-offering
for the LORD, your God?

Blow the trumpet in Zion;
sanctify a fast;
call a solemn assembly;
gather the people.
Sanctify the congregation;
assemble the aged;
gather the children, even infants at the breast.

Let the bridegroom leave his room,
and the bride her canopy.

Between the vestibule and the altar
let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep.
Let them say, 'Spare your people O LORD,
and do not make your heritage a mockery,
a byword among the nations.

Why should it be said among the peoples,
"Where is their God?"

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 51 (532)

Response: **Have mercy on us, Lord, for we have sinned.**

Have mercy upon me, O God, in | your great love,

In your compassion blot out | my offences:

Wash me thoroughly | from my guilt,

And cleanse me | from my sin.

Response

To you I con | fess my faults,

For they ever stare me | in the face:

Against you it is that | I have sinned,

And done evil | in your sight.

Response

Make me a clean | heart, O God,

And renew a right spir | it within me:

Cast me not out | of your sight,

Nor take your holy | spirit from me.

Response

Uphold me | with your might,

And strengthen me with | perseverance:

Open my | lips, O Lord,

And my mouth shall de | clare your praise.

Response

SECOND READING 2 CORINTHIANS 5.20b-6.10

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain.

For the Lord says,

‘At an acceptable time I have listened to you,
and on a day of salvation I have helped you.’

See, now is the acceptable time; see,
now is the day of salvation!

We are putting no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be

found with our ministry, but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labours, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honour and dishonour, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see – we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING

MATTHEW 6.1-6,16-21

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

The Lord is a great God, O that today you would listen to his voice.

Harden not your hearts.

cf Psalm 95.3, 8

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

The Lord be with you

and also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to the disciples, ‘Beware of practising your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

‘So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father

who sees in secret will reward you.

‘And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

‘And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

‘Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.



SHORT HOMILY

THE LITURGY OF PENITENCE

Let us now call to mind our sin and the infinite mercy of God.

The congregation kneel/sit

God the Father,

have mercy on us

God the Son,

have mercy on us

God the Holy Spirit

have mercy on us

Trinity of love

have mercy on us

Most merciful God,

Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

we confess that we have sinned

in thought, word and deed.

We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength.

We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.

We have not forgiven others, as we have been forgiven.

Lord, have mercy.

We have been deaf to your call to serve, as Christ served us.

We have not been true to the mind of Christ.

We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

Lord, have mercy.

We confess to you, Lord

all our past unfaithfulness: the pride, hypocrisy and impatience of our lives.

Lord, have mercy.

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people.

Lord, have mercy.

Our anger at our own frustration

and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves.

Lord, have mercy.

Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts
and our dishonesty in daily life and work.

Lord, have mercy.

Our negligence in prayer and worship
and our failure to commend the faith that is in us.

Lord, have mercy

Accept our repentance, Lord
for the wrongs we have done,
for our blindness to human need and suffering,
and our indifference to injustice and cruelty.

Accept our repentance, Lord.

For all false judgements,
for uncharitable thoughts towards our neighbours
and for our prejudice and contempt towards those who differ from us.

Accept our repentance, Lord.

For our waste and pollution of your creation
and our lack of concern for those who come after us.

Accept our repentance, Lord.

Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us.

Favourably hear us, for your mercy is great.

Accomplish in us the work of your salvation,
that we may show your glory in the world.

By the cross and passion of your Son our Lord,
bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

Silence is kept.

We have not loved you with our whole heart.

We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.

In your mercy forgive what we have been,

help us to amend what we are,

and direct what we shall be;

that we may do justly, love mercy,

and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.

THE IMPOSITION OF THE ASHES

Dear friends in Christ,
I invite you to receive these ashes
as a sign of the spirit of penitence
with which we shall keep this season of Lent.

God our Father,
you create us from the dust of the earth:
✠ grant that these ashes
may be for us a sign of our penitence
and a symbol of our mortality;
for it is by your grace alone that we receive eternal life
in Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Amen.

The president and people receive the imposition of ashes. Please come forward and stand before the priest at the chancel step. The president first receives the imposition from another minister.

At the imposition the minister says to each person:

Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.
Turn away from sin and be faithful to Christ.

During the imposition a hymn is sung.

HYMN (507)

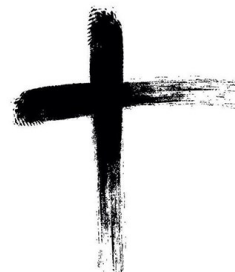
**ATTENDE: Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us:
for we have sinned against Thee.**

To Thee, Redeemer, on Thy throne of glory:
lift we our weeping eyes in holy pleadings:
listen, O Jesu, to our supplications.

Refrain

O Thou chief Cornerstone, Right Hand of the Father:
Way of Salvation, Gate of Life Celestial:
cleanse Thou our sinful souls from all defilement.

Refrain



God, we implore Thee, in Thy glory seated:
bow down and hearken to Thy weeping children:
pity and pardon all our grievous trespasses.

Refrain

Sins oft committed now we lay before Thee:
with true contrition, now no more we veil them:
grant us, Redeemer, loving absolution.

Refrain

Innocent, captive, taken unresisting:
falsely accused, and for us sinners sentenced,
save us, we pray Thee, Jesu our Redeemer.

Refrain

Words C10^b Mozarabic Music Plainsong Mode V

When all have been asked, the priest says the words of forgiveness.

God our Father,
the strength of all who put their trust in you,
mercifully accept our prayers;
and because, in our weakness,
we can do nothing good without you,
grant us the help of your grace,
that in keeping your commandments
we may please you, both in will and deed;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

THE PEACE

Since we are justified by faith,
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
who has given us access to his grace.

cf Romans 5.1,2

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

PREPARATION OF THE ALTAR

OFFERTORY HYMN (383)

**Jesu, lover of my soul,
let me to Thy bosom fly,
while the nearer waters roll,
while the tempest still is high.
Hide me, O my Saviour, hide,
till the storm of life is past;
safe into the haven guide;
O receive my soul at last.**

**Other refuge have I none,
hangs my helpless soul on Thee;
leave, ah! leave me not alone,
still support and comfort me.
All my trust on Thee is stayed,
all my help from Thee I bring;
cover my defenceless head
with the shadow of Thy wing.**

**Thou, O Christ, art all I want,
more than all in Thee I find;
raise the fallen, cheer the faint,
heal the sick, and lead the blind.
Just and holy is Thy name,
I am all unrighteousness;
false and full of sin I am;
Thou art full of truth and grace.**

**Plenteous grace with Thee is found,
grace to cover all my sin;
let the healing streams abound,
make and keep me pure within.**

**Thou of life the fountain art,
freely let me take of Thee;
spring Thou up within my heart;
rise to all eternity.**

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

TAKING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

Merciful Father,
turn us from sin to faithfulness
and from disobedience to love,
and prepare us to celebrate
the death and resurrection of Christ our Saviour
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

Amen.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Pray, my brothers and sisters
that this my sacrifice and yours
may be acceptable to God,
the almighty Father.

**May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands
for the praise and glory of his name.
for our good and the good of all his church.**



THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Let us pray.

The Lord is here.

His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and good
to give you thanks and praise,
almighty God and everlasting Father,
through Jesus Christ your Son.

For in these forty days you lead us into the desert of repentance
that through a pilgrimage of prayer and discipline we may grow in grace
and learn to be your people once again.

Through fasting, prayer and acts of service
you bring us back to your generous heart.

Through study of your holy word
you open our eyes to your presence in the world
and free our hands to welcome others
into the radiant splendour of your love.

As we prepare to celebrate the Easter feast
with joyful hearts and minds
we bless you for your mercy
and join with saints and angels
for ever praising you and singing:

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS

*Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus, Dominus
Deus Sabaoth.*

Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua.

Holy, holy, holy Lord
God of Hosts
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Osanna in excelsis.

*Benedictus qui venit
in nomine Domini.*

Osanna in excelsis.

All glory be to you, our heavenly Father,
who, in your tender mercy,
gave your only Son our Saviour Jesus Christ
to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption;
who made there by his one oblation of himself once offered
a full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice, oblation and satisfaction for the sins
of the whole world;
he instituted, and in his holy gospel commanded us to continue,
a perpetual memory of his precious death until he comes again.

Hear us, merciful Father, we humbly pray,
and grant that, by the power of your Holy Spirit,
we receiving these gifts of your creation, this bread and this wine,
according to your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution,
in remembrance of his death and passion,
may be partakers of his most blessed body and blood;
who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:

Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes
In the name of the Lord
Hosanna in the highest

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

Therefore, Lord and heavenly Father,
in remembrance of the precious death and passion,
the mighty resurrection and glorious ascension
of your dear Son Jesus Christ,
we offer you through him this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.

Grant that by his merits and death,
and through faith in his blood,
we and all your Church may receive forgiveness of our sins
and all other benefits of his passion.

Although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins,
to offer you any sacrifice,
yet we pray that you will accept this
the duty and service that we owe.

Do not weigh our merits, but pardon our offences,
and fill us all who share in this holy communion
with your grace and heavenly blessing;

through Jesus Christ our Lord,
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever.

Amen.



THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord Jesus, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

Every time we eat this bread
and drink this cup,
**we proclaim the Lord's death
until he comes.**

AGNUS DEI

*Agnus Dei,
qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.*

*Agnus Dei.
Dona nobis pacem.*

Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God,
grant us peace.

GIVING OF COMMUNION

The president says the invitation to communion.

Jesus is the lamb of God
Who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord I am not worthy to receive you,
But only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

The president and people receive communion.

HYMN (59)

**Now is the healing time decreed
for sins of heart, of word or deed,
when we in humble fear record
the wrong that we have done the Lord;**

**Who, always merciful and good,
has borne so long our wayward mood,
nor cut us off unsparingly
in our so great iniquity.**

**Therefore with fasting and with prayer,
our secret sorrow we declare;
with all good striving seek His face,
and lowly-hearted plead for grace.**

**Cleanse us, O Lord, from every stain,
help us the gifts of praise to gain,
till with the angels, linked in love,
joyful we tread Thy courts above.**

**We pray Thee, holy Trinity,
one God, unchanging Unity,,
that we from this our abstinence
may reap the fruits of penitence. Amen.**

Latin, before C12th—tr. Thomas Alexander Lacey (1853-1931)

CHOIR ANTHEM

Hide not thou thy face - Richard Farrant (1530 - 1580)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Silence is kept.

Let us pray.

Almighty God,

you have given your only Son to be for us

both a sacrifice for sin

and also an example of godly life:

give us grace

that we may always most thankfully receive

these his inestimable gifts,

and also daily endeavour to follow the blessed steps of his most holy life;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

God of our pilgrimage,

you have fed us with the bread of heaven.

Refresh and sustain us

as we go forward on our journey,

in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.



THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

This is love, not that we loved God,
but that he loved us and sent his Son.

He is the sacrifice for our sins,
that we might live through him.

If God loves us so much
we ought to love one another.

If we love one another
God lives in us.

cf 1 John 4.1

May God the Father,
who does not despise the broken spirit,
give to you a contrite heart.

Amen.

May Christ,
who bore our sins in his body on the tree,
heal you by his wounds.

Amen.

May the Holy Spirit,
who leads us into all truth,
speak to you words of pardon and peace.

Amen.

and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

Hymn (64)

Be Thou my guardian and my guide,
and hear me when I call;
let not my slippery footsteps slide,
and hold me lest I fall.

The world, the flesh, and Satan dwell
around the path I tread;
O save me from the snares of hell,
thou Quickener of the dead.

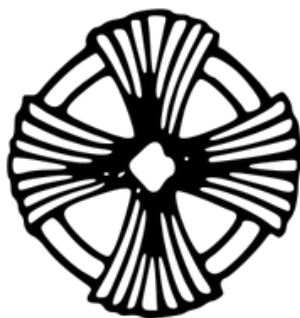
And if I tempted am to sin,
and outward things are strong,
do Thou, O Lord, keep watch within,
and save my soul from wrong.

Still let me ever watch and pray,
and feel that I am frail;
that if the tempter cross my way,
yet he may not prevail.

Isaac Williams (1802-1865)

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

Choir and Clergy recess in silence



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