



**Metropolitan Cathedral  
of Christ the King Liverpool**

# **ANNUAL COMMUNITY MASS**

**CELEBRANT  
CANON ANTHONY O'BRIEN  
CATHEDRAL DEAN**

**ON THE TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME  
8 SEPTEMBER 2024 AT 11.00AM**

## **WELCOME**

Welcome to the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King, Liverpool, the mother Church of the Roman Catholic Community, and seat of the Archbishop of Liverpool. We hope you will fully participate in this celebration of the Mass, and that – along with so many others – you will experience the presence of God in this holy place.

## **THE MASS**

At the Last Supper, on the night he was betrayed, Jesus instituted the Eucharist, or the Mass, to perpetuate the sacrifice of the Cross throughout the ages until he should come again.

The Mass is an act of thanksgiving to God for his saving work; it is a sacred meal which nourishes us spiritually and anticipates the heavenly banquet, and it is a holy sacrifice, making present the one true sacrifice of Christ our Saviour.

Roman Catholics believe that Jesus Christ is truly present at the Mass; in the assembly gathered as the Body of Christ, through his Word made present in scripture, but supremely under the appearance of bread and wine. In the Eucharist the body and blood, soul and divinity of Jesus Christ is wholly and entirely present.

Strengthened by this sacred food, we go forth to build up the Body of Christ in this world, and to bring his healing and salvation to all peoples.

*The Solemn Mass each Sunday is offered for all Benefactors of the Cathedral.*

**PLEASE ENSURE THAT MOBILE TELEPHONES ARE SWITCHED OFF**

The use of private cameras, video or sound equipment  
is strictly prohibited in the Cathedral

*The 11.00am Sunday Mass will be recorded and live-streamed. The recording will be shown live on YouTube, and a copy of the recording will be available on this platform. Should you wish not to be filmed, please speak to Cathedral Security or one of the Stewards, who will direct you to a seat in the West Gallery. For more details, please email [dataprotection@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:dataprotection@rcaol.org.uk)*

## INTRODUCTORY RITES

**ENTRANCE HYMN** *all stand and join in singing after the fanfare and introduction*



- 1 **All people that on earth do dwell,  
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;  
Him serve with fear, his praise forth tell,  
Come ye before him, and rejoice.**
- 2 **The Lord, ye know, is God indeed,  
Without our aid he did us make;  
We are his folk, he doth us feed;  
And for his sheep he doth us take.**
- 3 **O enter then his gates with praise,  
Approach with joy his courts unto;  
Praise, laud, and bless his name always,  
For it is seemly so to do.**

*Choir only*

- 4 **For why? the Lord our God is good:  
His mercy is for ever sure;  
His truth at all times firmly stood,  
And shall from age to age endure.**

*After a fanfare all join in singing*

- 5 **To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,  
The God whom heaven and earth adore,  
From men and from the Angel-host  
Be praise and glory evermore. Amen.**

*A final fanfare precedes the Amen.*

**INTROIT** *the Choir sings*

lustus es Domine, et rectum iudicium  
tuum; fac cum servo tuo secundum  
misericordiam tuam.

*Lord, you are just, and the judgements  
you make are right. Show mercy when you  
judge me, your servant.*

*Psalm 46:2  
Gregorian Chant*

## **GREETING**

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

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit  
be with you all.  
**R. And with your spirit.**

## **PENITENTIAL RITE** *all join in saying*

I confess to almighty God  
and to you, my brothers and sisters,  
that I have greatly sinned  
in my thoughts and in my words,  
in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,  
through my fault, through my fault,  
through my most grievous fault;  
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,  
all the Angels and Saints,  
and you, my brothers and sisters,  
to pray for me to the Lord our God.

## **GLORIA** *Mass in G minor - Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)*

## **COLLECT**

O God, by whom we are redeemed and receive adoption,  
look graciously upon your beloved sons and daughters,  
that those who believe in Christ  
may receive true freedom  
and an everlasting inheritance.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.  
**R. Amen.**

## **LITURGY OF THE WORD**

### **FIRST READING** *from the prophet Isaiah 35:4-7*

Say to all faint hearts,  
'Courage! Do not be afraid.

'Look, your God is coming,  
vengeance is coming,  
the retribution of God;  
he is coming to save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
the ears of the deaf unsealed,  
then the lame shall leap like a deer  
and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy;

for water gushes in the desert,  
streams in the wasteland,  
the scorched earth becomes a lake,  
the parched land springs of water.

The Word of the Lord.  
**R. Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 145** *all sing the response R. after the Cantor and after each verse of the psalm*



It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,  
who is just to those who are oppressed.  
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,  
the Lord, who sets prisoners free. **R.**

It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,  
who raises up those who are bowed down,  
the Lord who loves the just,  
the Lord, who protects the stranger. **R.**

The Lord upholds the widow and orphan,  
but thwarts the path of the wicked.  
The Lord will reign for ever,  
Zion's God, from age to age. **R.**

**SECOND READING** *from the letter of St James 2:1-5*

My brothers, do not try to combine faith in Jesus Christ, our glorified Lord, with the making of distinctions between classes of people. Now suppose a man comes into your synagogue, beautifully dressed and with a gold ring on, and at the same time a poor man comes in, in shabby clothes, and you take notice of the well-dressed man, and say, 'Come this way to the best seats;' then you tell the poor man, 'Stand over there' or 'You can sit on the floor by my foot-rest.' Can't you see that you have used two different standards in your mind, and turned yourselves into judges, and corrupt judges at that?

Listen, my dear brothers: it was those who are poor according to the world that God chose, to be rich in faith and to be the heirs to the kingdom which he promised to those who love him.

The Word of the Lord.  
**R. Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** *all join in singing the Gospel Acclamation after the Choir and again after the verse*



Speak, Lord, your servant is listening:  
you have the message of eternal life.

## **GOSPEL**

The Lord be with you.

**R. And with your spirit.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark 7:31-37

**R. Glory to you, O Lord.**

Returning from the district of Tyre, Jesus went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, right through the Decapolis region. And they brought him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they asked him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, put his fingers into the man's ears and touched his tongue with spittle. Then looking up to heaven he sighed; and he said to him, 'Ephphatha,' that is, 'Be opened.' And his ears were opened, and the ligament of his tongue was loosened and he spoke clearly. And Jesus ordered them to tell no one about it, but the more he insisted, the more widely they published it. Their admiration was unbounded. 'He has done all things well,' they said 'he makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

*After the Gospel, all sing the Gospel Acclamation.*

## **HOMILY** *Canon Anthony O'Brien, Dean*

*After the Homily, the Dean asks the whole congregation to stand.*

*All please say together*

**We give thanks for this Cathedral, our spiritual home and place of worship – for it is here that we celebrate the presence of the Lord amongst us in Word and Sacrament. May we, the congregation, who gather here each week and form the regular worshipping community of the Cathedral, the living stones on which this building is sustained, renew our commitment and dedication to this place. Through our regular presence and prayer may we support each other, and this Cathedral in its mission to proclaim Christ's love to all.**

*All those who have specific ministries, voluntary or employed roles within the Cathedral continue*

**At the beginning of this new Cathedral season we renew our service in support of the life and activities which take place within our Cathedral and the wider local community. With the Lord's help and guidance may we carry out our roles and ministries with dedication and commitment and may we treat all whom we serve, or are responsible for with care and understanding. Through our witness may others come to know Christ our Lord.**

*The Dean concludes*

Father bless those who work for the glory of your name  
in this house of prayer.

May their ministry bring them contentment now  
and blessedness always.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**R. Amen.**

**PROFESSION OF FAITH** *all join in saying*

**I believe in God,  
the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried;  
he descended into hell;  
on the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;  
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and life everlasting. Amen.**

**PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL**

**LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

**OFFERTORY MOTET** *a collection is taken for the upkeep of the Cathedral or please use the QR codes at the back of the booklet, meanwhile the Choir sings*

Let all the world in every corner sing, my God and King. The heavens are not too high, his praise may thither fly: the earth is not too low; his praises there may grow. Let all the world in every corner sing, my God and King. The Church with psalms must shout, no door can keep them out: but above all, the heart must bear the longest part. Let all the world in every corner sing, my God and King.

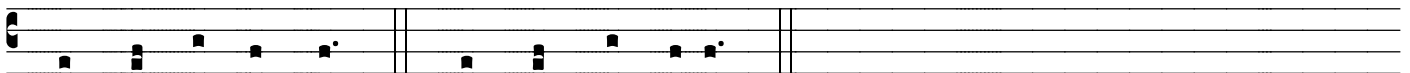
*Ralph Vaughan Williams*

*The Celebrant says*  
Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters),  
that my sacrifice and yours  
may be acceptable to God,  
the almighty Father.

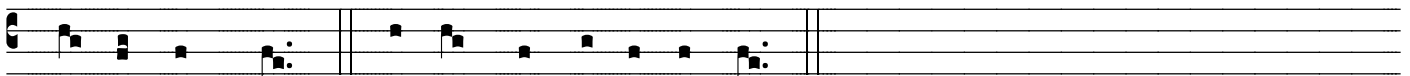
*All stand and say*  
May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands  
for the praise and glory of his name,  
for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

### PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

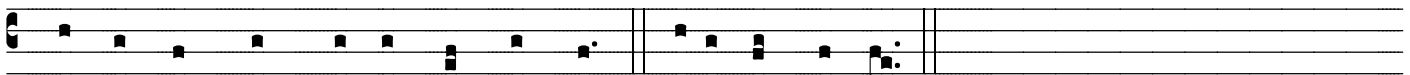
O God, who give us the gift of true prayer and of peace,  
graciously grant that, through this offering,  
we may do fitting homage to your divine majesty  
and, by partaking of the sacred mystery,  
we may be faithfully united in mind and heart.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
**R. Amen.**



The Lord be with you.      And with your spirit.



Lift up your hearts.      We lift them up to the Lord.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.      It is right and just.

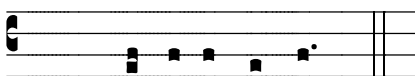
### SANCTUS *the Choir sings*

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus Dominus,  
Deus Sabaoth.  
Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua.  
Hosanna in excelsis.

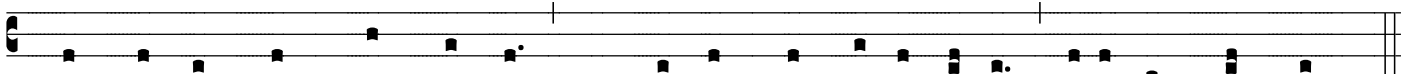
*Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of hosts,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.*

*Mass in G minor  
Ralph Vaughan Williams*

### MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION *all join in singing*



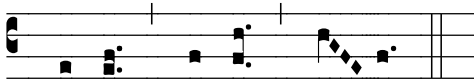
The mystery of faith.



We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection, until you come again.



**GREAT AMEN** *all join in singing*



A-men. A-men. A- men.

**COMMUNION RITE**

**THE SIGN OF PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**R.** And with your spirit.

**AGNUS DEI** *the Choir sings*

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi:  
miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi:  
dona nobis pacem.

*Lamb of God, you take away the sins  
of the world. Have mercy on us.*

*Lamb of God, you take away the sins  
of the world. Grant us peace.*

*Mass in G minor  
Ralph Vaughan Williams*

Behold the Lamb of God,  
behold him who takes away the sins of the world.  
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

*All join in saying*

**R.** Lord, I am not worthy

that you should enter under my roof,  
but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

*Those who are not Roman Catholic, or do not wish to receive communion, are welcome  
to come forward in spiritual communion. Crossing your arms across your chest will  
indicate to the priest or eucharistic minister that you would welcome his or her words of  
spiritual communion.*

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON** *the Choir sings*

Vovete, et reddite Domino Deo vestro,  
omnes qui in circuitu eius affertis  
munera: terribili, et ei qui aufert spiritum  
principium: terribili apud omnes reges  
terrae.

*Make vows to your God and fulfil  
them. Let all pay tribute to him who  
strikes terror, who cuts short the  
breath of princes, who strikes terror  
in the kings of the earth.*

*Psalms 75:12-13  
Gregorian Chant*

**COMMUNION MOTET** *the Choir sings*

O taste and see how gracious the Lord is, blest is the man that trusteth in him.

*Ralph Vaughan Williams*

## HYMN AFTER COMMUNION *all stand and join in singing*



- 1 **Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
Almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.**
- 2 **Unresting, unchanging, and silent as light,  
Nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;  
Thy justice like mountains high soaring above  
Thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.**
- 3 **To all life thou givest – to both great and small;  
In all life thou livest, the true life of all;  
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,  
And wither and perish – but nought changeth thee.**
- 4 **Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,  
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;  
All laud we would render: O help us to see  
'Tis only the splendour of light hideth thee.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Grant that your faithful, O Lord,  
whom you nourish and endow with life  
through the food of your Word and heavenly Sacrament,  
may so benefit from your beloved Son's great gifts  
that we may merit an eternal share in his life.  
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.  
**R. Amen.**

## CONCLUDING RITE

### BLESSING and DISMISSAL

The Lord be with you.  
**R. And with your spirit.**

May almighty God bless you:  
the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.  
**R. Amen.**

Go forth, the Mass is ended.  
**R. Thanks be to God.**

## ORGAN VOLUNTARY *Allegro maestoso (Organ Sonata) - Sir Edward Elgar (1857-1934)*

*All are welcome to go to the Gibberd Room for refreshments after Mass.*

*Please be careful, and take your time, as you leave. Please use the handrails provided on either side of the steps, and avoid walking down the middle section.*

## **MUSIC AT THE MET 2024**

*For full details of upcoming concerts, organ recitals and special musical events, please visit <https://liverpoolmetrocathedral.org.uk/music/> or scan the QR code.*



## **Support Us**

*We are deeply grateful for the support we receive from our congregation and visitors. Please consider making a donation in the following ways:*

- *Donate £5, £10 or £20 through our 'tap and go' machines.*
- *Text the word METROCATHEDRAL to 70460 to donate £5, or simply scan the QR codes below to make a donation of £5 or £10.*



£5



£10

*Thank you for your generosity.*

*Texts will cost the donation amount plus one standard network rate message, and you'll be opting into hearing more from us. If you would like to donate but don't wish to hear more from us, please text METROCATHEDRALNOINFO instead.*

[www.liverpoolmetrocathedral.org.uk](http://www.liverpoolmetrocathedral.org.uk)