



**Metropolitan Cathedral  
of Christ the King Liverpool**

# **SOLEMN MASS**

**ON THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME  
26 JANUARY 2025 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 Celebrant for today's Mass is Fr Derek Lloyd.*

*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*



- 1 Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us  
O'er the world's tempestuous sea;  
Guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,  
For we have no help but thee;  
Yet possessing every blessing  
If our God our Father be.
  
- 2 Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us,  
All our weakness thou dost know;  
Thou didst tread this earth before us,  
Thou didst feel its keenest woe;  
Self denying, death defying,  
Thou to Calvary didst go.
  
- 3 Spirit of our God, descending,  
Fill our hearts with heavenly joy;  
Love with every passion blending,  
Pleasure that can never cloy;  
Thus provided, pardoned, guided,  
Nothing can our peace destroy.

### INTROIT *the Choir sings*

Adorate Deum omnes angeli eius:  
audivit, et laetata est Sion:  
et exsultaverunt filiae Iudae.

*All you angels worship God.  
Zion hears and is glad;  
the people of Judah rejoice.*

*Psalm 96:7-8  
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** *Missa Brevis 'Sancta Cecilia' - Sarah MacDonald (b1968)*

**COLLECT**

Almighty ever-living God,  
direct our actions according to your good pleasure,  
that in the name of your beloved Son  
we may abound in good works.  
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 book of Nehemiah 8:2-4a, 5-6,8-10*

In those days: Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could understand what they heard, on the first day of the seventh month. And he read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand. And the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law.

And Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden platform that they had made for the purpose. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was above all the people, and as he opened it, all the people stood. And Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, 'Amen, Amen,' lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshipped the Lord with their faces to the ground. Ezra and the Levites read from the book, from the Law of God, clearly, and they gave the meaning, so that the people understood the reading.

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, 'This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep.' For all the people wept as they heard the words of the Law. Then he said to them, 'Go on your way. Eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions to anyone who has nothing ready, for this day is holy to our Lord. And do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.'

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

**PSALM 18** *all sing the response R. after the Cantor and after each verse of the psalm*



Your words are spi - rit Lord, and they are life.

The law of the Lord is perfect,  
it revives the soul.  
The rule of the Lord is to be trusted,  
it gives wisdom to the simple. **R.**

The precepts of the Lord are right,  
they gladden the heart.  
The command of the Lord is clear,  
it gives light to the eyes. **R.**

The fear of the Lord is holy,  
abiding for ever.  
The decrees of the Lord are truth  
and all of them just. **R.**

May the spoken words of my mouth,  
the thoughts of my heart,  
win favour in your sight, O Lord,  
my rescuer, my rock! **R.**

**SECOND READING** *from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 12:12-30*

Brothers and sisters: Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptised into one body - Jews or Greeks, slaves or free - and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

For the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot should say, 'Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear should say, 'Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, yet one body.

The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I have no need of you', nor again the head to the feet, 'I have no need of you.' On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and on those parts of the body that we think less honourable we bestow the greater honour, and our unrepresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honour to the part that lacked it, that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the Church first Apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, helping, administrating, and various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret?

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*



The Lord sent me to bring the good news to the poor,  
to proclaim liberty to captives.

## **GOSPEL**

The Lord be with you.

**R. And with your spirit.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 1:1-4;4:14-21

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

Inasmuch as many have undertaken to compile a narrative of the things that have been accomplished among us, just as those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word have delivered them to us, it seemed good to me also, having followed all things closely for some time past, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, that you may have certainty concerning the things you have been taught.

At that time: Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, and a report about him went out through all the surrounding country. And he taught in their synagogues, being glorified by all.

And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll, and found the place where it was written, 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.'

And he rolled up the scroll, and gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. And he began to say to them, 'Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

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

## HOMILY

### CREDO I *all join in singing the verses in bold type*

IV.

**C**redo in unum De-um, Patrem omni-po-ten-tem, factorem caeli et ter-rae, vi-si-bi-li-um  
omni-um, et in-vi-si-bi-li-um. **Et in unum Domi-num Jesum Christum, Fi-li-um De-i**  
**u-ni-ge-ni-tum.** Et ex Patre natum ante omnia saecula. **Deum de Deo, lumen de lumi-**  
**ne, Deum verum de Deo vero.** Genitum, non factum, consubstan-ti-a-lem Patri, per  
quem omnia facta sunt. **Qui propter nos homines, et propter nostram salutem descendit de**  
**caelis.** Et incarnatus est de Spiritu Sancto ex Maria Vir-gi-ne: Et homo factus est.  
**Cru-ci-fi-xus et-i-am pro nobis: sub Pontio Pi-la-to passus, et sepultus est.** Et re-sur-rexit  
ter-ti-a di-e, secundum Scripturas. **Et ascendit in caelum: sedet ad dexteram Patris.**  
Et i-terum venturus est cum glori-a, iudicare vivos et mortuos : cuius regni non e-rit fi-nis.  
**Et in Spiritum Sanctum, Dominum, et vi-vi-fi-cantem: qui ex Patre Fi-li-oque procedit.** Qui cum

Patre et Fi-li-o simul adoratur, et conglori-fi-catur: qui locutus est per Prophetas. **Et unam**  
**sanctam catho-li-cam et apo-sto-li-cam Eccle-si-am.** Confi-teor unum baptisma in  
 re-mis-sionem peccatorum. **Et exspecto resurrecti-onem mortu-orum.** Et vitam venturi  
 sae-cu-li. **A- men.**

## 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*

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the Gospel to the poor: he hath sent me to heal the broken-hearted, to preach deliv'rance to the captives and recov'ring of sight to the blind, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord; to give unto them that mourn a garland for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he might be glorified. For as the earth bringeth forth her bud, and as the garden causeth the things that are sown in it to spring forth; so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations. As the earth bringeth forth her bud. The Spirit of the Lord is upon me...

*Sir Edward Elgar (1857-1934)*

*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.

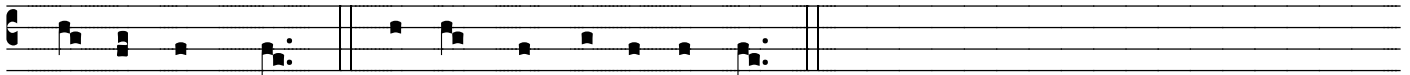


**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

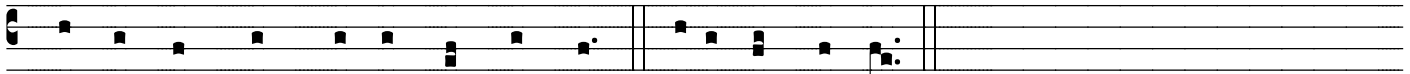
Accept our offerings, O Lord, we pray,  
and in sanctifying them  
grant that they may profit us for salvation.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
**R. Amen.**



The Lord be with you.      And with your spirit.



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

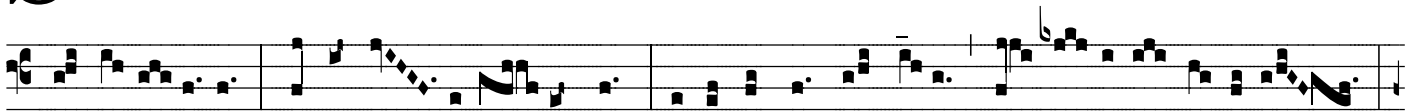


Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.      It is right and just.

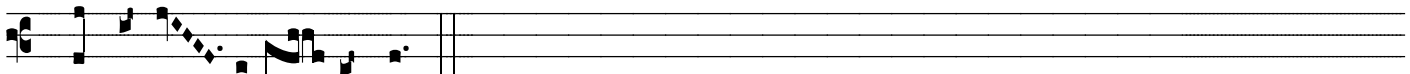
**SANCTUS XI** *all join in singing*



**S** an-ctus,\* Sanctus, Sanctus Dominus Deus Sabaoth.      Ple-ni sunt cae-li et ter-ra



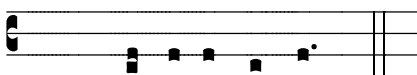
glo-ri-a tu-a.      Hosanna in ex-cel-sis.      Benedictus qui venit in no-mine Domini.



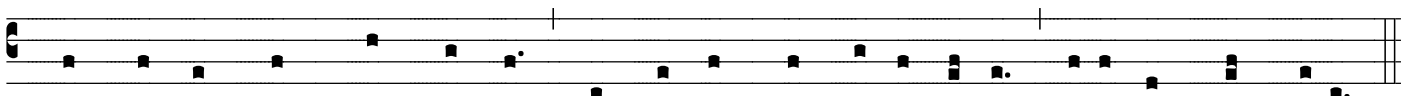
Ho-sanna in ex-cel-sis.

*Gregorian Chant*

**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.*

*Missa Brevis 'Sancta Cecilia'  
Sarah MacDonald*

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*

Comedite pinguia, et bibite mulsum, et  
mittite partes eis qui non praeparaverunt  
sibi: sanctus enim dies Domini est, nolite  
contristari: gaudium etenim Domini est  
fortitude nostra.

*Eat the fat, drink the sweet wine, and  
send a portion to the man who has  
nothing prepared ready. For this day is  
sacred to our Lord. Do not be sad: the  
joy of the Lord is your stronghold.*

*Nehemiah 8:10  
Gregorian Chant*

### COMMUNION MOTET *the Choir sings*

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.  
Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.  
Exultemus, et in ipso iucundemur.  
Timeamus et amamus Deum vivum.  
Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero.  
Amen.

*Where charity and love are, God is  
there. Christ's love has gathered us  
into one. Let us rejoice and be pleased  
in Him. Let us fear, and let us love the  
living God. And may we love each other  
with a sincere heart. Amen.*

*Ola Gjeilo (b1978)*

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



- 1 **Blest are the pure in heart,  
For they shall see our God,  
The secret of the Lord is theirs,  
Their soul is Christ's abode.**
  
- 2 **The Lord, who left the heavens  
Our life and peace to bring,  
To dwell in lowliness with men,  
Their pattern and their King.**
  
- 3 **Still to the lowly soul  
He doth himself impart,  
And for his dwelling and his throne  
Chooseth the pure in heart.**
  
- 4 **Lord, we thy presence seek;  
May ours this blessing be;  
Give us a pure and lowly heart,  
A temple meet for thee.**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Grant, we pray, almighty God,  
that, receiving the grace  
by which you bring us to new life,  
we may always glory in your gift.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
**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** *Imperial March - Sir Edward Elgar*

*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.*

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*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



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*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)