



**Metropolitan Cathedral
of Christ the King Liverpool**

SOLEMN MASS

**ON THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
9 MARCH 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

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE HYMN *all stand and join in singing*



- 1 Again we keep this solemn fast
A gift of faith from ages past,
This Lent which bids us lovingly
To faith and hope and charity.
- 2 The law and prophets from of old
In figured ways this Lent foretold,
Which Christ, all ages' Lord and Guide,
In these last days has sanctified.
- 3 More sparing, therefore, let us make
The words we speak, the food we take,
Our sleep, our laughter, ev'ry sense;
Learn peace through holy penitence.
- 4 Let us avoid each harmful way
That lures the careless mind astray;
By watchful prayer our spirits free
From scheming of the Enemy.
- 5 We pray, O blessed Three in One,
Our God while endless ages run,
That this, our Lent of forty days,
May bring us growth and give you praise.

INTROIT *the Choir sings*

Invocabit me, et ego exaudiam eum:
eripiam eum, et glorificabo eum:
longitudine dierum adimplebo eum.

*When he calls to me, I will answer;
I will rescue him and give him honour.
Long life and contentment will be his.*

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.

KYRIE *Missa Sancti Dominici - Edmund Rubbra (1901-1986)*

COLLECT

Grant, almighty God,
through the yearly observances of holy Lent,
that we may grow in understanding
of the riches hidden in Christ
and by worthy conduct pursue their effects.
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 Deuteronomy 26:4-10*

Moses spoke to the people: 'The priest shall take the basket from your hand and set it down before the altar of the Lord your God. And you shall make response before the Lord your God, "A wandering Aramean was my father. And he went down into Egypt and sojourned there, few in number, and there he became a nation, great, mighty, and populous. And the Egyptians treated us harshly and humiliated us and laid on us hard labour. Then we cried to the Lord, the God of our fathers, and the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. And the Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with great deeds of terror, with signs and wonders. And he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. And behold, now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground, which you, O Lord, have given me." And you shall set it down before the Lord your God and worship before the Lord your God.'

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

PSALM 90 *all sing the response R. after the Cantor and after each verse of the psalm*



He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High
and abides in the shade of the Almighty
says to the Lord: 'My refuge,
my stronghold, my God in whom I trust!' **R.**

Upon you no evil shall fall,
no plague approach where you dwell.
For you has he commanded his angels,
to keep you in all your ways. **R.**

They shall bear you upon their hands
lest you strike your foot against a stone.
On the lion and the viper you will tread
and trample the young lion and the dragon. **R.**

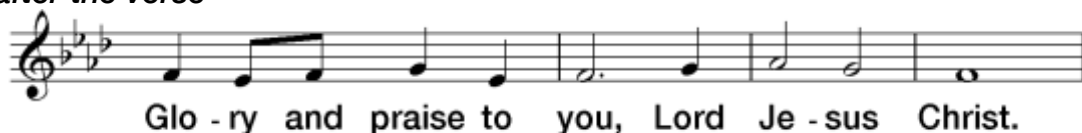
His love he set on me, so I will rescue him
protect him for he knows my name.
When he calls I shall answer: 'I am with you.'
I will save him in distress and give him glory. **R.**

SECOND READING *from the letter of St Paul to the Romans 10:8-13*

Brothers and sisters: What does Scripture say? 'The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart' (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. For the Scripture says, 'Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.' For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. For, 'everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.'

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*



Man does not live on bread alone
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

GOSPEL

The Lord be with you.
R. And with your spirit.
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 4:1-13
R. Glory to you, O Lord.

At that time: Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And he ate nothing during those days. And when they were over, he was hungry.

The devil said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread.' And Jesus answered him, 'It is written, "Man shall not live by bread alone."'

And the devil took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, and said to him, 'To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.' And Jesus answered him, 'It is written, "You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve."'

And he took him to Jerusalem and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you, to guard you", and "On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone."' And Jesus answered him, 'It is said, "You shall not put the Lord your God to the test."'

And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time.

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 'Solus ad victimam'*
 Alone to sacrifice thou goest, Lord, giving thyself to Death whom thou hast slain. For us thy wretched folk is any word? Who know that for our sins this is thy pain?

For they are ours, O Lord, our deeds, our deeds. Why must thou suffer torture for our sin?
 Let our hearts suffer in thy Passion, Lord, that very suffering may thy mercy win.

This is the night of tears, the three days' space, sorrow abiding of the eventide, until the day break with the risen Christ, and hearts that sorrowed shall be satisfied.

So may our hearts share in thine anguish, Lord, that they may sharers of thy glory be;
 heavy with weeping may the three days pass, to win the laughter of thine Easter Day.

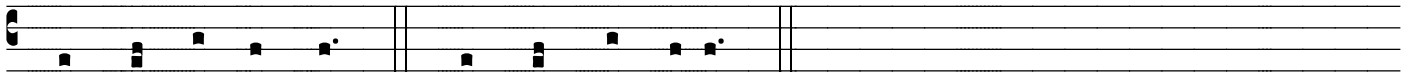
Kenneth Leighton (1929-1988)

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

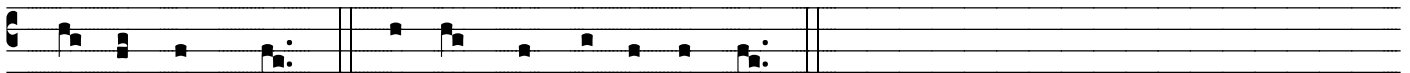
All stand and say
May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands
for the praise and glory of his name,
for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

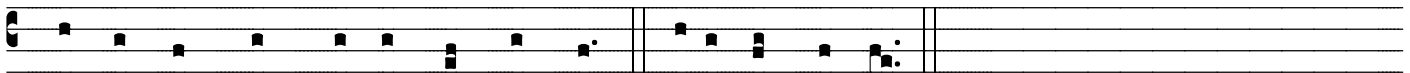
Give us the right dispositions, O Lord, we pray,
to make these offerings,
for with them we celebrate the beginning
of this venerable and sacred time.
Through Christ our Lord.
R. Amen.



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.

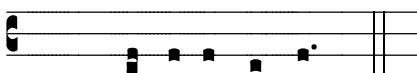
SANCTUS *the Choir sings*

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

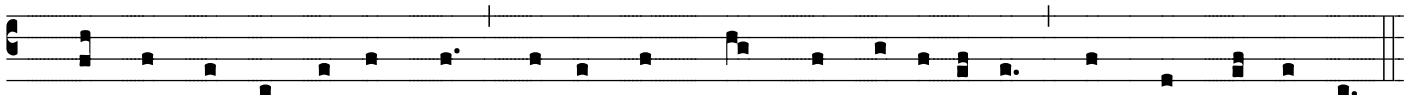
*Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of hosts,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.*

*Missa Sancti Dominici
Edmund Rubbra*

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION *all join in singing*



The mystery of faith.



Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection, you have set us free.

COMMUNION MOTET *the Choir sings*

Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you, I have called you by your name, you are mine.

When you walk through the waters I'll be with you. You will never sink beneath the waves. Do not be afraid...

When the fire is burning all around you, you will never be consumed by the flames. Do not be afraid...

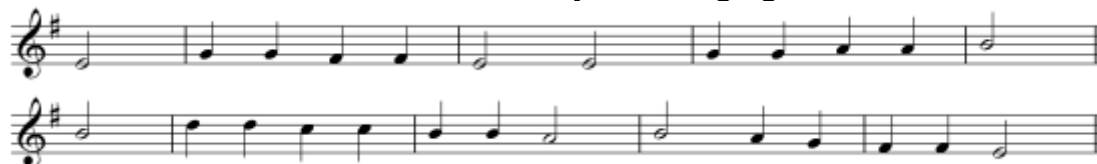
When the fear of loneliness is looming, then remember I am at your side. Do not be afraid...

When you dwell in the exile of the stranger, remember you are precious in my eyes. Do not be afraid...

You are mine, O my child, I am your Father, and I love you with a perfect love. Do not be afraid...

Philip Stopford (b1977)

HYMN AFTER COMMUNION *all stand and join in singing*



- 1 Lord Jesus, think on me,
And purge away my sin;
From earthborn passions set me free,
And make me pure within.
- 2 Lord Jesus, think on me,
With care and woe opprest;
Let me thy loving servant be,
And taste thy promised rest.
- 3 Lord Jesus, think on me,
Amid the battle's strife;
In all my pain and misery
Be thou my health and life.
- 4 Lord Jesus, think on me,
Nor let me go astray;
Through darkness and perplexity
Point thou the heavenly way.
- 5 Lord Jesus, think on me,
When flows the tempest high:
When on doth rush the enemy
O Saviour, be thou nigh.

**6 Lord Jesus, think on me,
That, when the flood is past,
I may the eternal brightness see,
And share thy joy at last.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Renewed now with heavenly bread,
by which faith is nourished, hope increased,
and charity strengthened,
we pray, O Lord,
that we may learn to hunger for Christ,
the true and living Bread,
and strive to live by every word
which proceeds from your mouth.
Through Christ our Lord.
R. Amen.

CONCLUDING RITE

PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

May bountiful blessing, O Lord, we pray,
come down upon your people,
that hope may grow in tribulation,
virtue be strengthened in temptation,
and eternal redemption be assured.
Through Christ our Lord.
R. Amen.

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

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.

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

Thank you for your generosity.



£10

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