



**Metropolitan Cathedral
of Christ the King Liverpool**

SOLEMN MASS

**ON THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
16 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 Mgr Anthony O'Brien.

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 **Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
Naught be all else to me save that thou art;
Thou my best thought in the day and the night,
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.**
- 2 **Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word,
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father, and I thy true son;
Thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.**
- 3 **Be thou my breast-plate, my sword for the fight,
Be thou my armour, and be thou my might,
Thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tower,
Raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.**
- 4 **Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance through all my days,
Thou, and thou only, the first in my heart,
High King of heaven, my treasure thou art!**
- 5 **High King of heaven when battle is done,
Grant heaven's joy to me, O bright heaven's sun;
Christ of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.**

INTROIT *the Choir sings*

Tibi dixit cor meum, quaesivi vultum
tuum, vultum tuum Domine requiram:
ne avertas faciem tuam a me.

*My heart has prompted me to seek
your face; I seek it, Lord;
do not hide from me.*

*Psalm 26:8-9,1
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 *Mass in G - Franz Schubert (1797-1828)*

COLLECT

O God, who have commanded us
to listen to your beloved Son,
be pleased, we pray,
to nourish us inwardly by your word,
that, with spiritual sight made pure,
we may rejoice to behold your glory.
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 Genesis 15:5-12,17-18*

In those days: God brought Abram outside and said, 'Look towards heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them.' Then he said to him, 'So shall your offspring be.' And he believed the Lord, and he counted it to him as righteousness.

And he said to him, 'I am the Lord who brought you out from Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to possess.' But he said, 'O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?' He said to him, 'Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtle-dove, and a young pigeon.' And he brought him all these, cut them in half, and laid each half over against the other. But he did not cut the birds in half. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell on Abram. And behold, dreadful and great darkness fell upon him. When the sun had gone down and it was dark, behold, a smoking firepot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, 'To your offspring I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.'

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

PSALM 26 *all sing the response R. after the Cantor and after each verse of the psalm*



The Lord is my light and my help;
whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life;
before whom shall I shrink? **R.**

O Lord, hear my voice when I call;
have mercy and answer.
Of you my heart has spoken:
'Seek his face.' **R.**

It is your face, O Lord, that I seek;
hide not your face.
Dismiss not your servant in anger;
you have been my help. **R.**

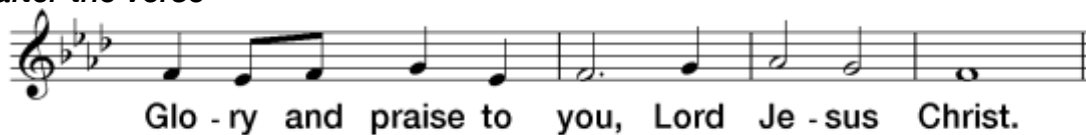
I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness
in the land of the living.
Hope in him, hold firm and take heart.
Hope in the Lord! **R.**

SECOND READING *from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians 3:17-4:1*

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us. For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm thus in the Lord, my beloved.

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*



From the bright cloud the Father's voice was heard:
'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him!'

GOSPEL

The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 9:28b-36

R. Glory to you, O Lord.

At that time: Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up on the mountain to pray. And as he was praying, the appearance of his face was altered, and his clothing became dazzling white. And behold, two men were talking with him, Moses and Elijah, who appeared in glory and spoke of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and those who were with him were heavy with sleep, but when they became fully awake they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. And as the men were parting from him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah' - not knowing what he said. As he was saying these things, a cloud came and overshadowed them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. And a voice came

out of the cloud, saying, 'This is my Son, my Chosen One; listen to him!' And when the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and told no one in those days anything of what they had seen.

The Gospel of the Lord.

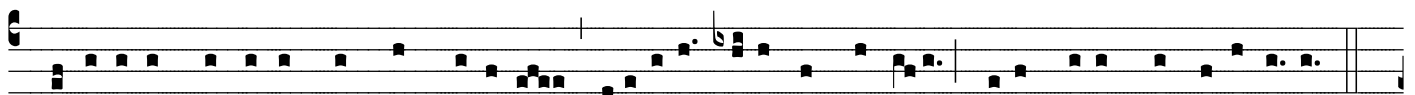
R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

After the Gospel, all sing the Gospel Acclamation.

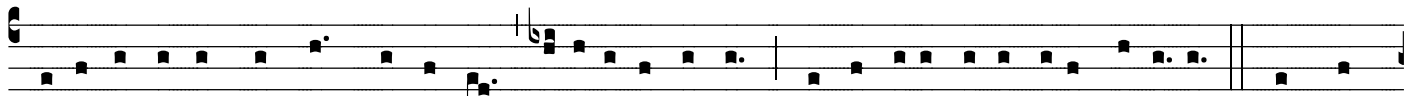
HOMILY

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

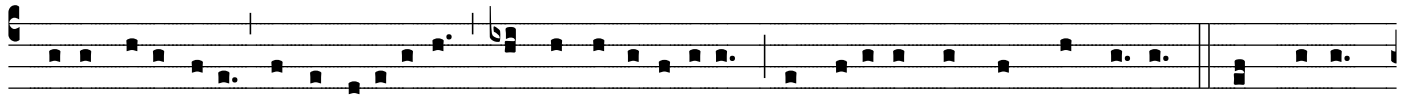
IV. **C**redo in unum De-um, Patrem omni-po-ten-tem, factorem caeli et ter-rae, vi-si-bi-li-um
omni-um, et in-vi-si-bi-li-um. **Et in unum Domi-num Jesum Christum, Fi-li-um De-i**
u-ni-ge-ni-tum. Et ex Patre natum ante omnia saecula. **Deum de Deo, lumen de lumi-**
ne, Deum verum de Deo vero. Genitum, 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.**



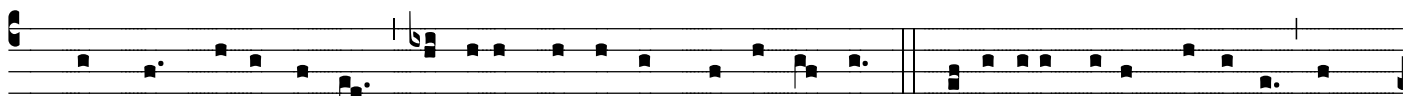
Et i-terum venturus est cum glori-a, iudicare vivos et mortuos : cuius regni non e-rit fi-nis.



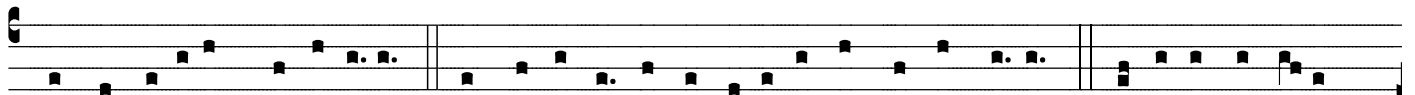
Et in Spiritum Sanctum, Dominum, et vi-vi-fi-cantem: qui ex Patre Fi-li-o-que procedit. Qui cum



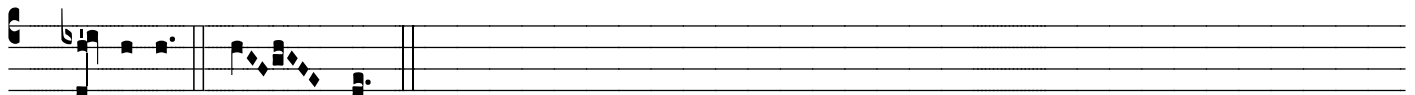
Patre et Fi-li-o simul adoratur, et conglori-fi-catur: qui locutus est per Prophetas. **Et unam**



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*

God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoso believeth in him, should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

Bob Chilcott (b1955)

The Celebrant says

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

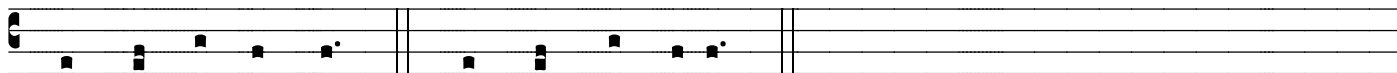
All stand and say

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.

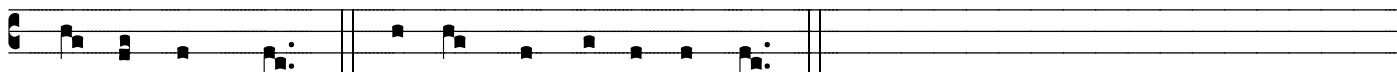
PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

May this sacrifice, O Lord, we pray,
cleanse us of our faults
and sanctify your faithful in body and mind
for the celebration of the paschal festivities.
Through Christ our Lord.

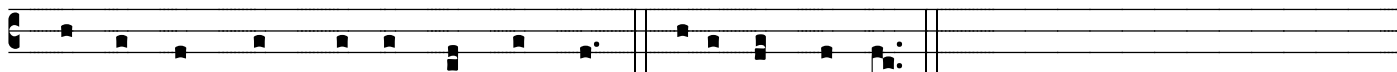
R. Amen.



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.

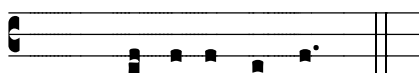
SANCTUS *the Choir sings*

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
Franz Schubert*

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.

GREAT AMEN *all join in singing*



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

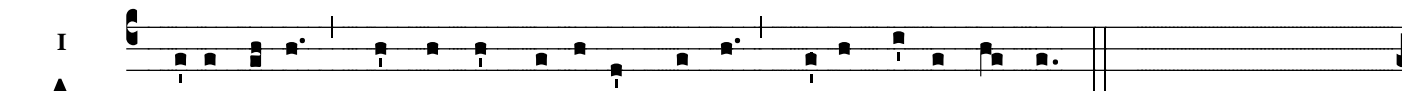
COMMUNION RITE

THE SIGN OF PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

R. And with your spirit.

AGNUS DEI XVIII *all join in singing*



-gnus De-i, * qui tol-lis peccata mundi : mise-re-re no-bis.



Agnus De-i, * qui tol-lis peccata mundi : mise-re-re no-bis.



Agnus De-i, * qui tol-lis peccata mundi : dona nobis pacem.

Gregorian Chant

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*

Visionem quam vidistis,
nemini dixeritis,
donec a mortuis Filius hominis.

*Tell no one about the vision that
you have seen until the Son of Man
has risen from the dead.*

*Matthew 17:9
Gregorian Chant*

COMMUNION MOTET *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
Franz Schubert*

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, unhasting, 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

As we receive these glorious mysteries,
we make thanksgiving to you, O Lord,
for allowing us while still on earth
to be partakers even now of the things of heaven.
Through Christ our Lord.
R. Amen.

CONCLUDING RITE

PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

Bless your faithful, we pray, O Lord,
with a blessing that endures for ever,
and keep them faithful
to the Gospel of your Only Begotten Son,
so that they may always desire and at last attain
that glory whose beauty he showed in his own Body,
to the amazement of his Apostles.
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 *Adagio in G minor - Tomaso Albinoni (1671-1751)*

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



£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.liverpoolmetrothedral.org.uk