

**Metropolitan Cathedral
of Christ the King Liverpool**

SOLEMN MASS

**ON THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
11 MAY 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 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 The King of love my Shepherd is,
Whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his
And he is mine for ever.
- 2 Where streams of living water flow
My ransomed soul he leadeth,
And where the verdant pastures grow
With food celestial feedeth.
- 3 Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,
But yet in love he sought me,
And on his shoulder gently laid,
And home, rejoicing, brought me.
- 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill
With thee, dear Lord, beside me;
Thy rod and staff my comfort still,
Thy cross before to guide me.
- 5 Thou spread'st a table in my sight;
Thy unction, grace bestoweth:
And O what transport of delight
From thy pure chalice floweth!
- 6 And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
Within thy house for ever.

INTROIT *the Choir sings*

Misericordia Domini plena est terra,
alleluia:
verbo Dei caeli firmati sunt,
alleluia, alleluia.

*The earth is full of the goodness of the
Lord, alleluia;
by the word of the Lord the heavens
were made, alleluia, alleluia.*

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 *Messe Solennelle - Jean Langlais (1907-1991)*

COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God,
lead us to a share in the joys of heaven,
so that the humble flock may reach
where the brave Shepherd has gone before.
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 Acts of the Apostles 13:14,43b-52*

In those days: Paul and Barnabas went on from Perga and came to Antioch in Pisidia. And on the Sabbath day they went into the synagogue and sat down. Many Jews and devout converts to Judaism followed Paul and Barnabas, who, as they spoke with them, urged them to continue in the grace of God.

The next Sabbath almost the whole city gathered to hear the word of the Lord. But when the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy and began to contradict what was spoken by Paul, reviling him. And Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, saying, 'It was necessary that the word of God be spoken first to you. Since you thrust it aside and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, behold, we are turning to the Gentiles. For so the Lord has commanded us, saying, "I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth."' And when the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord, and as many as were appointed to eternal life believed. And the word of the Lord was spreading throughout the whole

region. But the Jews incited the devout women of high standing and the leading men of the city, stirred up persecution against Saint Paul and Barnabas, and drove them out of their district. But they shook off the dust from their feet against them and went to Iconium. And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.

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

PSALM 99 *all sing the response R. after the Cantor and after each verse of the psalm*



Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.
 Serve the Lord with gladness.
 Come before him, singing for joy. **R.**

Know that he, the Lord, is God.
 He made us, we belong to him,
 we are his people, the sheep of his flock. **R.**

Indeed, how good is the Lord,
 eternal his merciful love.
 He is faithful from age to age. **R.**

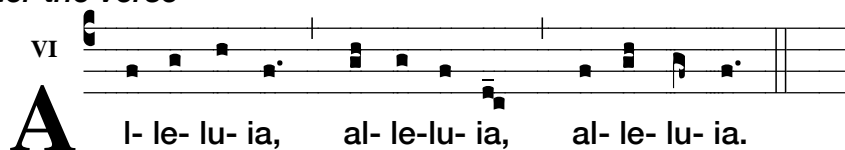
SECOND READING *from the book of Revelation 7:9,13a,14b-17*

I, John, looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands.

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, ‘These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.’

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*



I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;
 I know my own sheep and my own know me.

GOSPEL

The Lord be with you.

R. And with your Spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 10:27-30

R. Glory to you, O Lord.

At that time: Jesus said, 'My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. I and the Father are one.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

After the Gospel, all sing the Gospel Acclamation.

HOMILY

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

v. **C**redo in unum De-um, Patrem omnipotentem, factorem caeli et terrae, vi-si-bi-li-um omnium,
et in-vi-si-bi-li-um. **Et in unum Dominum Jesum Christum, Fi-li-um De-i u-ni-ge-ni-tum.**
Et ex Patre na- tum ante omni-a sae-cu-la. **Deum de Deo, lumen de lumine, Deum verum**
de Deo vero. Genitum, non fa- ctum, con-sub-tan-ti-alem Patri, per quem om-ni-a facta sunt.
Qui propter nos homines, et propter nostram sa-lu-tem descendit de caelis. Et incarnatus est
de Spi-ri-tu Sancto ex Ma-ri-a Virgine: Et homo factus est. **Cru-ci-fi- xus et-i-am pro no- bis:**
sub Ponti-o Pi- la-to passus, et sepul-tus est. Et resurrexit ter-ti- a di-e, secundum Scripturas.

Et ascendit in caelum : sedet ad dexteram Pa-tris. Et i-terum venturus est cum Glo-ri-a,
 iu-di-ca-re vivos et mortuos : cuius regni non er-it fi-nis. Et in Spi-ri-tum Sanctum, Do-mi-num,
 et vi-vi-fi-cantem: qui ex Patre Fi-li-o-que procedit. Qui cum Patre et Fi-li-o si-mul a-do-ra-tur
 et con-glo-ri-fi-ca-tur: qui lo-cu-tus est per Prophetas. Et unam sanctam catho-li-cam et a-po-
 sto-li-cam Eccle-si-am. Con-fi-te-or unum baptisma in remissi-o-nem peccatorum. Et exspecto
 re-surrecti-onem mortu-o-rum. Et vitam venturi saeculi. 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*

Worthy is the Lamb that was slain, and hath redeemed us to God by his blood, to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing. Blessing, and honour, glory, and pow'r, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb, for ever and ever. Amen.

George Frederick Handel (1685-1759)

The Celebrant says

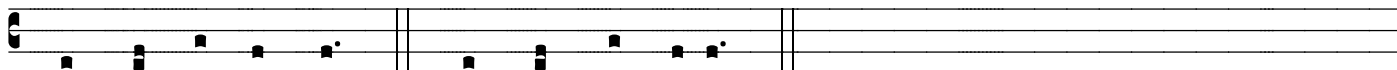
Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters),
 that my sacrifice and yours
 may be acceptable to God,
 the almighty Father.

All stand and say

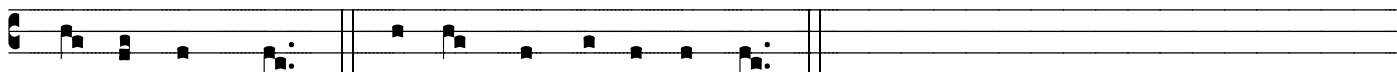
May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands
 for the praise and glory of his name,
 for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

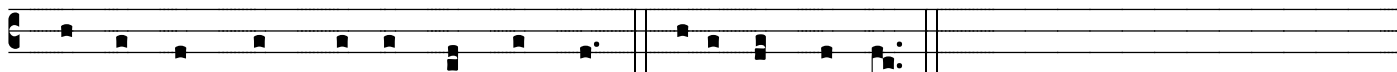
Grant, we pray, O Lord,
that we may always find delight in these paschal mysteries,
so that the renewal constantly at work within us
may be the cause of our unending joy.
Through Christ our Lord.
R. Amen.



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.

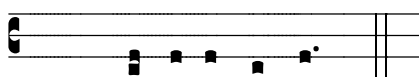
SANCTUS *the Choir sings*

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

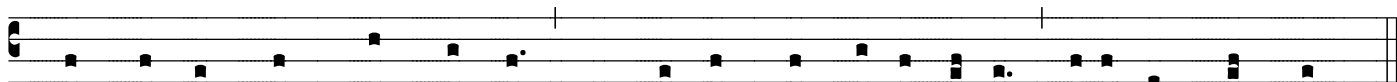
*Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of hosts,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.*

*Messe Solennelle
Jean Langlais*

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 I *all join in singing*

IV



A - gnus De-i, * qui tol-lis pec-ca-ta mun-di : mise-re- re no-bis. Agnus De-i, *
qui tol-lis pec-ca-ta mun-di : mise-re- re no-bis. Agnus De-i, * qui tol-lis pec-ca-ta mun-di
dona no- bis pa-cem.

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*

Ego sum pastor bonus, alleluia:
et cognosco oves meas,
et cognoscunt me meae,
alleluia, alleluia.

*I am the good shepherd, alleluia;
I know my sheep
and my own know me,
alleluia, alleluia.*

Gregorian Chant

COMMUNION MOTET *the Choir sings*

My shepherd is the living Lord, nothing therefore I need, in pastures fair with waters calm
he sets for to feed, he did convert and glad my soul and brought my mind in frame, to
walk in paths of righteousness for his most holy name. Through all my life thy favour is
so frankly shew'd to me, that in thy house for evermore my dwelling place shall be.
Amen.

Thomas Tomkins (c1572-1656)

HYMN AFTER COMMUNION *all stand and join in singing*



- 1** Sweet Sacrament divine,
Hid in thine earthly home,
Lo, round thy lowly shrine,
With suppliant hearts we come;
Jesu, to thee our voice we raise
In songs of love and heartfelt praise:
Sweet Sacrament divine.

- 2** Sweet Sacrament of peace,
Dear home for every heart,
Where restless yearnings cease
And sorrows all depart;
There in thine ear all trustfully
We tell our tale of misery:
Sweet Sacrament of peace.

- 3** Sweet Sacrament of rest,
Ark from the ocean's roar,
Within thy shelter blest
Soon may we reach the shore;
Save us, for still the tempest raves,
Save, lest we sink beneath the waves:
Sweet Sacrament of rest.

- 4** Sweet Sacrament divine,
Earth's light and jubilee,
In thy far depths doth shine
The Godhead's majesty;
Sweet light, so shine on us, we pray
That earthly joys may fade away:
Sweet Sacrament divine.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Look upon your flock, kind Shepherd,
and be pleased to settle in eternal pastures
the sheep you have redeemed
by the Precious Blood of your Son.
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 *Grands Jeux (Suite Brève) - Jean Langlais*

RECRUITMENT FOR BOY & GIRL CHORISTERS 2025 *do you know a child who would like to be a chorister at the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King here in Liverpool? The search is now on for our next generation of Boy and Girl choristers.*

All choristers are educated at

- *Runnymede St Edward's Catholic Primary School (yr 3-6)*
- *St Edward's College (yr 7-13)*

meaning that a first class Catholic chorister education for boys and girls in Liverpool is available at no cost.

If you know of a Catholic family who might be interested in this wonderful opportunity, please share this information with them.

Full details of choristerships at the Metropolitan Cathedral, go to:

<https://www.liverpoolmetrocathedral.org.uk/music/joining-the-choirs/>

CHORISTERS' BAKE SALES *the Choir Association will be selling home baked cakes after Mass in the foyer on the following dates to raise much needed funds towards the choir's next overseas tour.*

Sunday 11 May

Sunday 29 June

Please do stop by and sample our delicious treats!

If you would like to get involved by baking some cakes, please contact Jackie Larrosa in the Music Department: j.larrosa@metcathedral.org.uk

Thank you for your support.

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.liverpoolmetrocathedral.org.uk