

**Metropolitan Cathedral  
of Christ the King Liverpool**

# **SOLEMN MASS**

**ON THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER  
18 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](mailto:dataprotection@rcaol.org.uk)*

## INTRODUCTORY RITES

### ENTRANCE HYMN *all stand and join in singing*



- 1 Praise to the holiest in the height,  
And in the depth be praise.  
In all his words most wonderful,  
Most sure in all his ways.
- 2 O loving wisdom of our God!  
When all was sin and shame,  
A second Adam to the fight  
And to the rescue came.
- 3 O generous love! that he who smote  
In man for man the foe,  
The double agony in man  
For man should undergo.
- 4 And in the garden secretly,  
And on the cross on high,  
Should teach his brethren, and inspire  
To suffer and to die.
- 5 Praise to the holiest in the height,  
And in the depth be praise,  
In all his words most wonderful,  
Most sure in all his ways.

### INTROIT *the Choir sings*

Cantate Domino, canticum novum,  
alleluia: quia mirabilia fecit Dominus,  
alleluia: ante conspectum gentium  
revelavit iustitiam suam,  
alleluia, alleluia.

*Sing to the Lord, a new song,  
alleluia; for he has done marvellous  
deeds, alleluia. He has revealed to  
the nations his saving power,  
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** *Missa Brevis 'Sancta Cecilia' - Sarah MacDonald (b1968)*

**COLLECT**

Almighty ever-living God,  
constantly accomplish the Paschal Mystery within us,  
that those you were pleased to make new in Holy Baptism  
may, under your protective care, bear much fruit  
and come to the joys of life eternal.  
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 Acts of the Apostles 14:21b-27*

In those days: Paul and Barnabas returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch, strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying that through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God. And when they had appointed elders for them in every church, with prayer and fasting they committed them to the Lord in whom they had believed.

Then they passed through Pisidia and came to Pamphylia. And when they had spoken the word in Perga, they went down to Attalia, and from there they sailed to Antioch, where they had been commended to the grace of God for the work that they had fulfilled. And when they arrived and gathered the church together, they declared all that God had done with them, and how he had opened a door of faith to the Gentiles.

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



## GOSPEL

The Lord be with you.

**R. And with your Spirit.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 13:31-33a,34-35

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

When Judas had gone out from the upper room, Jesus said, 'Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him. If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself, and glorify him at once. Little children, yet a little while I am with you.

'A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.'

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,



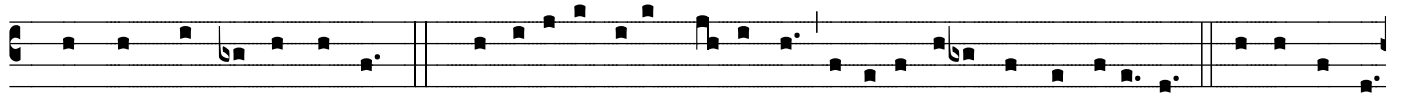
iu-di-ca-re vivos et mortuos : cuius regni non er-it fi-nis. Et in Spi-ri-tum Sanctum, Do-mi-num,



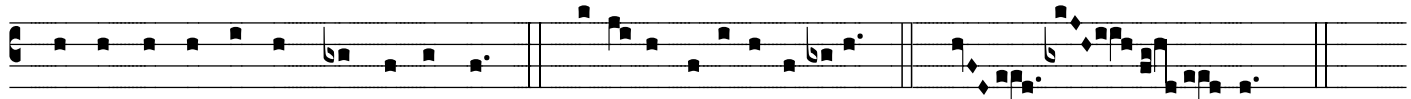
et vi-vi-fi-cantem: qui ex Patre Fi-li-o-que procedit. Qui cum Patre et Fi-li-o si-mul a-do-ra-tur



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*

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...

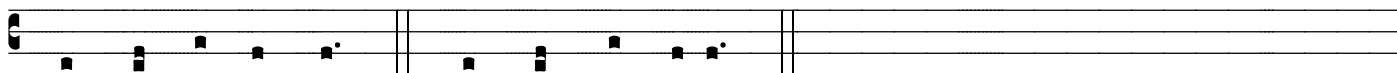
*Sir Edward Elgar (1857-1934)*

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

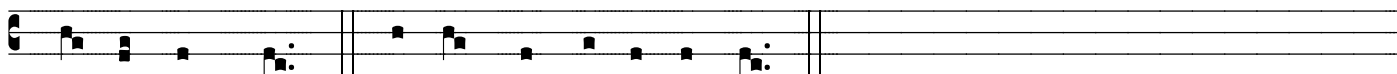
*All stand and say*  
 May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands  
 for the praise and glory of his name,  
 for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

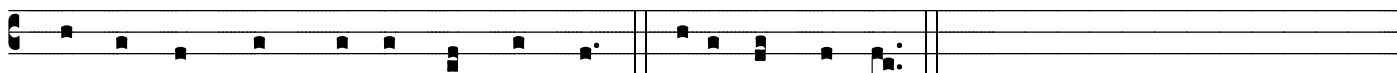
O God, who by the wonderful exchange  
 effected in this sacrifice  
 have made us partakers in one supreme Godhead,  
 grant, we pray,  
 that, as we have come to know your truth,  
 we may make it ours by a worthy way of life.  
 Through Christ our Lord.  
**R. Amen.**



The Lord be with you.      And with your spirit.

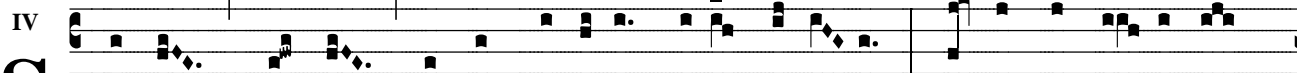


Lift up your hearts.      We lift them up to the Lord.

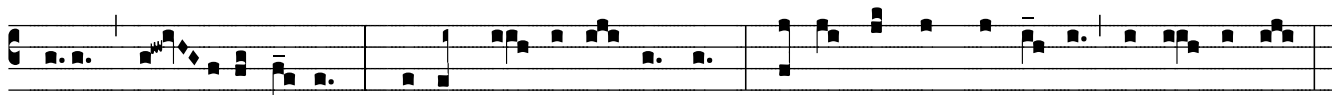


Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.      It is right and just.

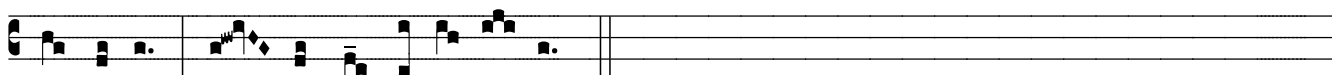
**SANCTUS I** *all join in singing*



**S**anctus, \* Sanctus, Sanctus Dominus Deus Sa-ba-oth. Ple-ni sunt cae-li et



terra glo- ri-a tu- a. Hosan-na in ex- cel-sis. Be-ne-dic-tus qui ve-nit in no- mi-ne



Do-mi-ni. Ho- san-na in ex-cel-sis.

*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** Love is his word, love is his way,  
Feasting with all, fasting alone,  
Living and dying, rising again,  
Love, only love, is his way.  
Richer than gold is the love of my Lord:  
Better than splendour and wealth.
- 2** Love is his way, love is his mark,  
Sharing his last Passover feast,  
Christ at the table, host to the twelve,  
Love, only love, is his mark.  
Richer than gold...
- 3** Love is his mark, love is his sign,  
Bread for our strength, wine for our joy,  
"This is my body, this is my blood."  
Love, only love, is his sign.  
Richer than gold...
- 4** Love is his sign, love is his news,  
"Do this," he said, "lest you forget  
All my deep sorrow, all my dear blood,"  
Love, only love, is his news.  
Richer than gold...
- 5** Love is his news, love is his name,  
We are his own, chosen and called,  
Family, brethren, cousins and kin.  
Love, only love, is his name.  
Richer than gold...

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Graciously be present to your people, we pray, O Lord,  
and lead those you have imbued with heavenly mysteries  
to pass from former ways to newness of life.  
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** *Allegro maestoso (Sonata in G) - Sir Edward Elgar*

**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 date to raise much needed funds towards the choir's next overseas tour.*  
*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](mailto: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](http://www.liverpoolmetrocathedral.org.uk)