

**Metropolitan Cathedral
of Christ the King Liverpool**

SOLEMN MASS

**ON THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
25 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 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 God is love: his the care,
Tending each, ev'rywhere.
God is love, all is there!
Jesus came to show him,
That mankind might know him!
Sing aloud, loud, loud!
Sing aloud, loud, loud!
God is good! God is truth!
God is beauty! Praise him!

2 None can see God above;
We can share life and love;
Thus may we Godward move,
Seek him in creation,
Holding ev'ry nation.
Sing aloud...

3 Jesus lived on the earth,
Life and hope brought to birth
And affirmed human worth,
For he came to save us
By the truth he gave us.
Sing aloud...

4 To our Lord praise we sing,
Light and life, friend and king,
Coming down, love to bring,
Pattern for our duty,
Showing God in beauty.
Sing aloud...

INTROIT *the Choir sings*

Vocem iucunditatis annuntiate,
et audiatur, alleluia:
nuntiate usque ad extremum terrae:
liberavit Dominus populum suum,
alleluia, alleluia.

*Speak out with a voice of joy,
alleluia;
let it be heard to the ends of the earth:
The Lord has set his people free,
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 (Op 36) - Charles-Marie Widor (1844-1937)*

COLLECT

Grant, almighty God,
that we may celebrate with heartfelt devotion
these days of joy,
which we keep in honour of the risen Lord,
and that what we relive in remembrance
we may always hold to in what we do.
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 15:1-2,22-29*

In those days: Some men came down from Judea and were teaching the brothers,
'Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved.'
And after Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and debate with them, Paul and
Barnabas and some of the others were appointed to go up to Jerusalem to the Apostles
and the elders about this question.

Then it seemed good to the Apostles and the elders, with the whole Church, to choose
men from among them and send them to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas. They sent
Judas called Barsabbas, and Silas, leading men among the brothers and sisters, with the
following letter: 'The brothers, both the Apostles and the elders, to the brothers and
sisters who are of the Gentiles in Antioch and Syria and Cilicia, greetings. Since we have

heard that some persons have gone out from us and troubled you with words, unsettling your minds, although we gave them no instructions, it has seemed good to us, having come to one accord, to choose men and send them to you with our beloved Barnabas and Paul, men who have risked their lives for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. We have therefore sent Judas and Silas, who themselves will tell you the same things by word of mouth. For it has seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us to lay on you no greater burden than these requirements: that you abstain from what has been sacrificed to idols, and from blood, and from what has been strangled, and from sexual immorality. If you keep yourselves from these, you will do well. Farewell.'

The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

PSALM 66 *all sing the response R. after the Cantor and after each verse of the psalm*



Let the peo - ples praise you O God; let all the peo - ples praise you.

O God, be gracious and bless us
and let your face shed its light upon us.
So will your ways be known upon earth,
and all nations learn your saving help. **R.**

Let the nations be glad and exult
for you rule the world with justice.
With fairness you rule the peoples,
you guide the nations on earth. **R.**

Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
May God still give us his blessing
till the ends of the earth revere him. **R.**

SECOND READING *from the book of Revelation 21:10-14,22-23*

The angel carried me away in the Spirit to a great, high mountain, and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God, having the glory of God, its radiance like a most rare jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal. It had a great, high wall, with twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and on the gates the names of the twelve tribes of the sons of Israel were inscribed - on the east three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the twelve names of the twelve Apostles of the Lamb.

And I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb.

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*

VI

A I- le- lu- ia, al- le-lu- ia, al- le- lu- ia.

Jesus said: 'If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him.'

GOSPEL

The Lord be with you.

R. And with your Spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 14:23-29

R. Glory to you, O Lord.

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words. And the word that you hear is not mine but the Father's who sent me.

'These things I have spoken to you while I am still with you. But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, "I am going away, and I will come to you." If you loved me, you would have rejoiced, because I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you before it takes place, so that when it does take place you may believe.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

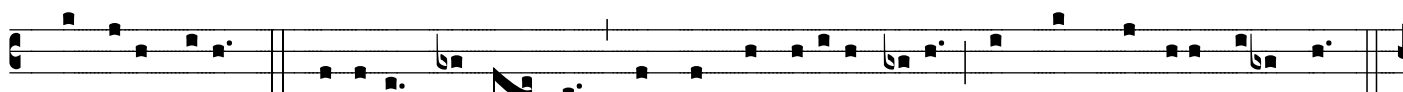
After the Gospel, all sing the Gospel Acclamation.

HOMILY

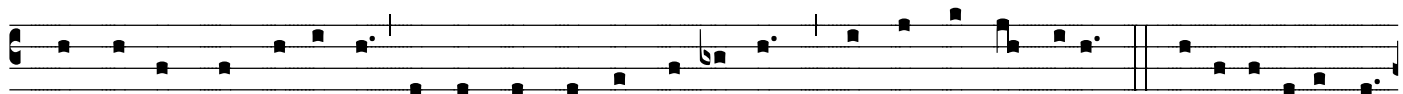
CREDO III *all join in singing the verses in bold type*

v.

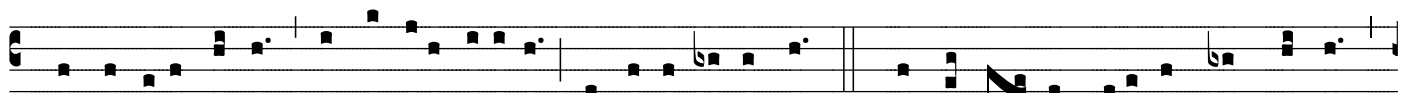
C redo in unum De-um, Patrem omnipotentem, factorem caeli et terrae, vi-si-bi-li-um omnium,
 et in-vi-si-bi-li-um. **Et in unum Dominum Jesum Christum, Fi-li-um De-i u-ni-ge-ni-tum.**
Et ex Patre na- tum ante omni-a sae-cu-la. Deum de Deo, lumen de lumine, Deum verum



de Deo vero. Genitum, non factum, con-sub-tan-ti-alem Patri, per quem om-ni-a facta sunt.



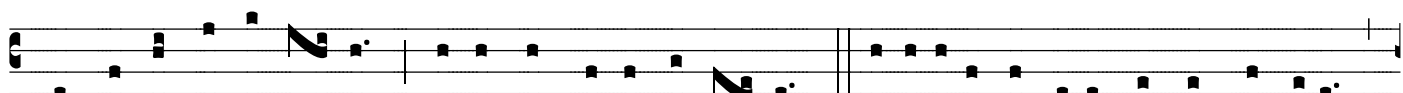
Qui propter nos homines, et propter nostram sa-lu-tem descendit de caelis. Et incarnatus est



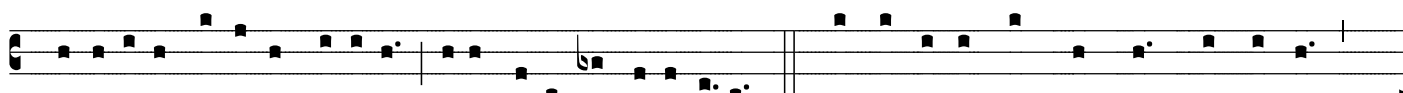
de Spi-ri-tu Sancto ex Ma-ri-a Virgine: Et homo factus est. **Cru-ci-fi-xus et-i-am pro no-bis:**



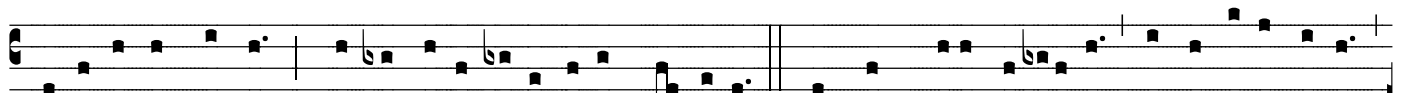
sub Ponti-o Pi-la-to passus, et sepul-tus est. Et resurrexit ter-ti-a di-e, secundum Scripturas.



Et ascendit in caelum : sedet ad dexteram Pa-tris. Et i-terum venturus est cum Glo-ri-a,



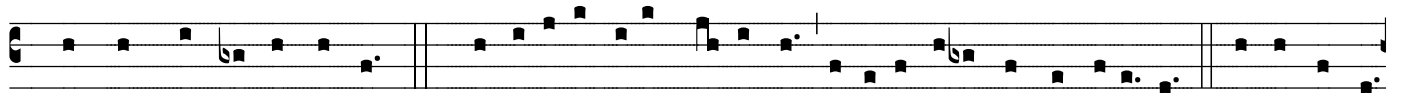
iu-di-ca-re vivos et mortuos : cuius regni non er-it fi-nis. **Et in Spi-ri-tum Sanctum, Do-mi-num,**



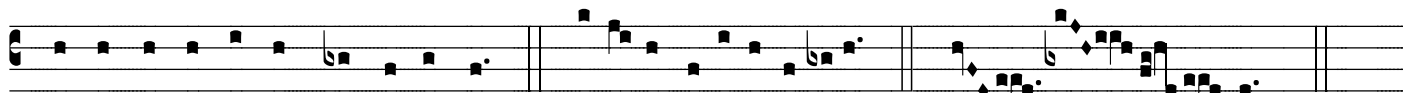
et vi-vi-fi-cantem: qui ex Patre Fi-li-o-que procedit. Qui cum Patre et Fi-li-o si-mul a-do-ra-tur



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*

Let all the world in every corner sing, my God and King. The heavens are not too high, his praise may thither fly: the earth is not too low; his praises there may grow. Let all the world in every corner sing, my God and King. The Church with psalms must shout, no door can keep them out: but above all, the heart must bear the longest part. Let all the world in every corner sing, my God and King.

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

The Celebrant says

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

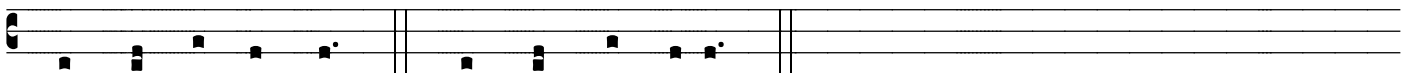
All stand and say

**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.**

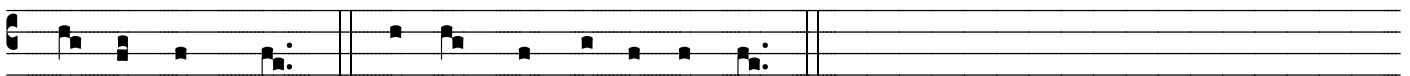
PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

May our prayers rise up to you, O Lord,
together with the sacrificial offerings,
so that, purified by your graciousness,
we may be conformed to the mysteries of your mighty love.
Through Christ our Lord.

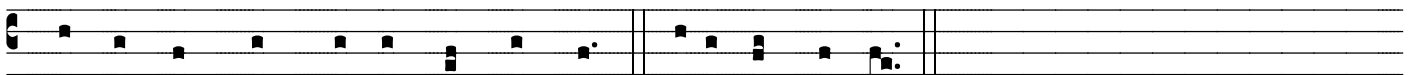
R. Amen.



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.

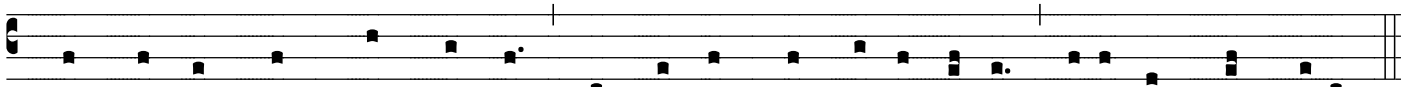
*Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of hosts,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.*

*Messe (Op 36)
Charles-Marie Widor*

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.

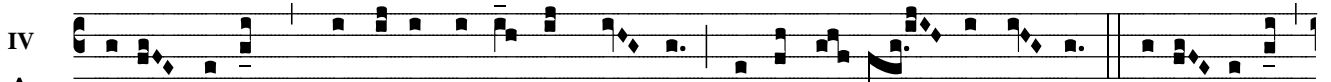
COMMUNION RITE

THE SIGN OF PEACE

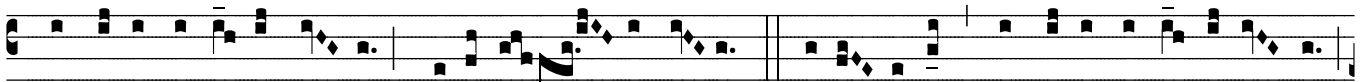
The peace of the Lord be with you always.

R. And with your spirit.

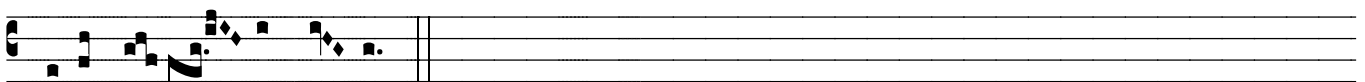
AGNUS DEI I *all join in singing*



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*

Spiritus Sanctus docebit vos,
alleluia: quaecumque dixero vobis,
alleluia, alleluia.

*The Holy Spirit will teach you,
alleluia, everything I have said to you,
alleluia, alleluia.*

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.*

Charles-Marie Widor

HYMN AFTER COMMUNION *all stand and join in singing*



- 1 Lord of all hopefulness,
Lord of all joy,
Whose trust, ever child-like,
No cares could destroy,
Be there at our waking,
And give us, we pray,
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord,
At the break of the day.
- 2 Lord of all eagerness,
Lord of all faith,
Whose strong hands were skilled
At the plane and the lathe,
Be there at our labours,
And give us, we pray,
Your strength in our hearts, Lord,
At the noon of the day.
- 3 Lord of all kindness,
Lord of all grace,
Your hands swift to welcome,
Your arms to embrace,
Be there at our homing,
And give us, we pray,
Your love in our hearts, Lord,
At the eve of the day.

4 Lord of all gentleness,
Lord of all calm,
Whose voice is contentment,
Whose presence is balm,
Be there at our sleeping,
And give us, we pray,
Your peace in our hearts, Lord,
At the end of the day.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Almighty ever-living God,
who restore us to eternal life in the Resurrection of Christ,
increase in us, we pray,
the fruits of this paschal Sacrament
and pour into our hearts the strength of this saving food.
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 *Fanfare - John Cook (1918-1984)*

RECRUITMENT OF 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

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