

**Metropolitan Cathedral**  
of Christ the King Liverpool

# **SOLEMN MASS**

**ON THE SOLEMNITY OF SAINTS PETER AND PAUL  
29 JUNE 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 For all the Saints, who from their labours rest,  
Who thee by faith before the world confest,  
Thy name, O Jesu, be for ever blest.  
**Alleluya! Alleluya!**
- 2 Thou wast their Rock, their Fortress, and their Might;  
Thou, Lord, their Captain in the well fought fight;  
Thou in the darkness drear their one true Light.  
**Alleluya! Alleluya!**
- 3 O may thy soldiers, faithful, true, and bold,  
Fight as the Saints who nobly fought of old,  
And win, with them, the victor's crown of gold.  
**Alleluya! Alleluya!**
- 4 But lo! there breaks a yet more glorious day;  
The Saints triumphant rise in bright array:  
The King of glory passes on his way.  
**Alleluya! Alleluya!**
- 5 From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,  
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,  
Singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
**Alleluya! Alleluya!**

### INTROIT *the Choir sings*

Nunc scio vere, quia misit Dominus  
Angelum suum: et eripuit me de manu  
Herodis, et de omni expectatione  
plebes iudaeorum.

*Now I know it is all true; the Lord really did  
send his angel and has saved me from  
Herod and from all that the Jewish people  
were so certain would happen to me.*

*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 in D - Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)*

**COLLECT**

O God, who on the Solemnity of the Apostles Peter and Paul  
give us the noble and holy joy of this day,  
grant, we pray, that your Church  
may in all things follow the teaching  
of those through whom she received  
the beginnings of right religion.  
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 12:1-11*

In those days: Herod the king laid violent hands on some who belonged to the church. He killed James the brother of John with the sword, and when he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. This was during the days of Unleavened Bread. And when he had seized him, he put him in prison, delivering him over to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending after the Passover to bring him out to the people. So Peter was kept in prison, but earnest prayer for him was made to God by the church.

Now when Herod was about to bring him out, on that very night, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries before the door were guarding the prison. And behold, an angel of the Lord stood next to him, and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him, saying, 'Get up quickly.' And the chains fell off his hands. And the angel said to him, 'Dress yourself and put on your sandals.' And he did so. And he said to him, 'Wrap your cloak round you and follow me.' And he went out and followed him. He did not know that what was being done by the angel was real, but thought he was seeing a vision. When they had passed the first and the second guard, they came to the iron gate leading into the city. It opened for them of its own accord, and they went out and went along one street, and immediately

the angel left him. When Peter came to himself, he said, 'Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hand of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting.'

The Word of the Lord.

**R.** Thanks be to God.

**PSALM 33** *all sing the response R. after the Cantor and after each verse of the psalm*



I will bless the Lord at all times.  
His praise always on my lips;  
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.  
The humble shall hear and be glad. **R.**

Glorify the Lord with me.  
Together let us praise his name.  
I sought the Lord and he answered me;  
from all my terrors he set me free. **R.**

Look towards him and be radiant;  
let your faces not be abashed.  
This poor man called; the Lord heard him  
and rescued him from all his distress. **R.**

The angel of the Lord is encamped  
around those who revere him, to rescue them.  
Taste and see that the Lord is good.  
He is happy who seeks refuge in him. **R.**

**SECOND READING** *from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy 4:6-8,17-18*

Beloved: I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me, but also to all who have loved his appearing.

The Lord stood by me and strengthened me, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

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*



You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church.  
And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it.

## GOSPEL

The Lord be with you.

**R. And with your spirit.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 16:13-19

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

At that time: When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter replied, 'You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.' And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.'

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-can-tem:** 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*

Tu es Petrus, et super hanc petram  
aedificabo ecclesiam meam.

*You are Peter, and upon this rock I build  
my Church.*

*Lorenzo Perosi (1872-1956)*

*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*

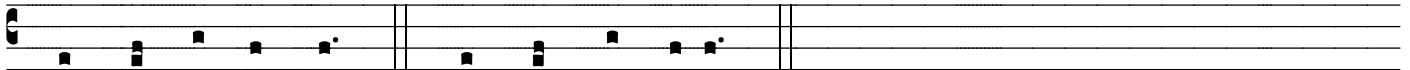
May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands  
for the praise and glory of his name,  
for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

### PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

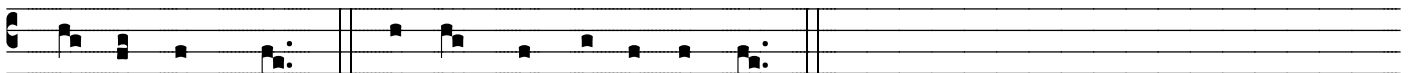
May the prayer of the Apostles, O Lord,  
accompany the sacrificial gift  
that we present to your name for consecration,  
and may their intercession make us devoted to you  
in this celebration of the sacrifice.

Through Christ our Lord.

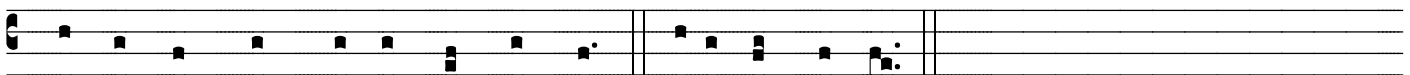
**R. Amen.**



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.*

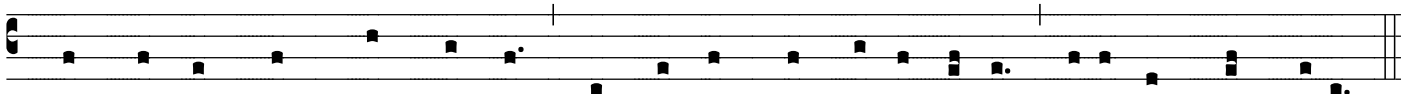
*Missa Brevis in D  
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart*



## 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 VIII *all join in singing*



**A**

- gnus De- i, \* qui tol- lis pecca-ta mun-di: mi-se-re-re no- bis.



A-gnus De- i, \* qui tol- lis pecca-ta mun- di: mi-se-re-re no- bis.



A- gnus De- i, \* qui tol-lis pecca-ta mun-di: do-na 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*

Tu es Petrus, et super hanc petram  
aedificabo ecclesiam meam.

*You are Peter, and upon this rock  
I build my Church.*

*Gregorian Chant*

**COMMUNION MOTET** *the Choir sings*

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi:  
miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi:  
dona nobis pacem.

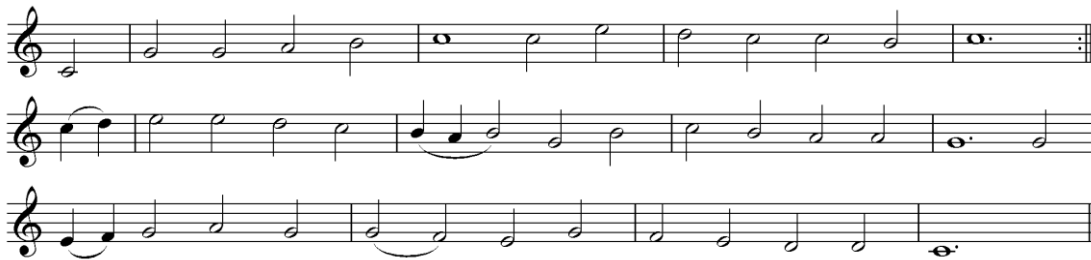
*Lamb of God, you take away the sins  
of the world. Have mercy on us.*

*Lamb of God, you take away the sins  
of the world. Grant us peace.*

*Missa Brevis*

*Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart*

**HYMN AFTER COMMUNION** *all stand and join in singing*



- 1 By all your saints still striving  
For all your saints at rest,  
Your holy name, O Jesus,  
Forevermore be blest!  
You rose, our King victorious,  
That they might wear the crown  
And ever shine in splendour  
Reflected from your throne.
- 2 We praise you for St Peter;  
We praise you for Saint Paul,  
They taught both Jew and Gentile  
That Christ is all in all.  
To cross and sword they yielded  
And saw the kingdom come:  
O God, your two apostles  
Won life through martyrdom.
- 3 Then let us praise the Father  
And worship God the Son  
And sing to God the Spirit,  
Eternal Three in One,  
Till all the ransomed number  
Who stand before the throne,  
Ascribe all power and glory  
And praise to God alone.

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Grant us, O Lord,  
who have been renewed by this Sacrament,  
so to live in the Church,  
that, persevering in the breaking of the Bread  
and in the teaching of the Apostles,  
we may be one heart and one soul,  
made steadfast in your love.  
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** *Tu es Petra - Henri Mulet (1878-1967)*

**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)