

Metropolitan Cathedral
of Christ the King Liverpool

SOLEMN MASS

ON THE FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD
11 JANUARY 2026 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 **Baptised in water,
Sealed by the Spirit
Cleansed by the blood of Christ our king;
Heirs of salvation,
Trusting his promise -
Faithfully now God's praise we sing.**
- 2 **Baptised in water,
Sealed by the Spirit,
Dead in the tomb with Christ our king;
One with his rising,
Freed and forgiven
Thankfully now God's praise we sing.**
- 3 **Baptised in water,
Sealed by the Spirit,
Marked with the sign of Christ our king;
Born of one Father,
We are his children -
Joyfully now God's praise we sing.**

INTROIT *the Choir sings*

Dilexisti iustitiam,
et odisti iniquitatem
propterea unxit te Deus,
Deus tuus, oleo laetitiae
prae consortibus tuis.

*You have loved justice,
and hated iniquity:
therefore God, your God,
has anointed you with the
oil of gladness above your rivals.*

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 'Cum jubilo' - Maurice Duruflé (1902-1986)*

COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God,
who, when Christ had been baptised in the River Jordan
and as the Holy Spirit descended upon him,
solemnly declared him your beloved Son,
grant that your children by adoption,
reborn of water and the Holy Spirit,
may always be well pleasing to you.
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 prophet Isaiah 42:1-4,6-7*

Thus says the Lord:
Behold my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
I have put my Spirit upon him;
he will bring forth justice to the nations.

He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice,
or make it heard in the street;
a bruised reed he will not break,
and a faintly burning wick he will not quench;
he will faithfully bring forth justice.

He will not grow faint or be discouraged
till he has established justice in the earth;
and the coastlands wait for his law.

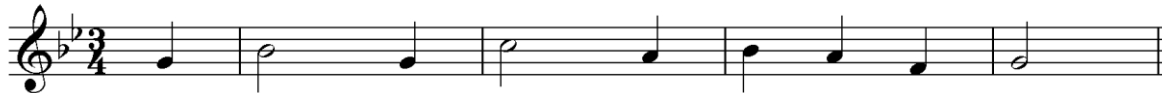
'I am the Lord; I have called you in righteousness;
I will take you by the hand and keep you;
I will give you as a covenant for the people,
a light for the nations,
to open the eyes that are blind,

to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in darkness.'

The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

PSALM 28 *all sing the response R. after the Cantor and after each verse of the psalm*



O give the Lord, you sons of God,
give the Lord glory and power;
give the Lord the glory of his name.
Adore the Lord in his holy court. **R.**

The Lord's voice resounding on the waters,
the Lord on the immensity of waters;
the voice of the Lord, full of power,
the voice of the Lord, full of splendour. **R.**

The God of glory thunders.
In his temple they all cry: 'Glory!'
The Lord sat enthroned over the flood;
the Lord sits as king for ever. **R.**

SECOND READING *from the Acts of the Apostles 10:34-38*

In those days: Peter opened his mouth and said: 'Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ - he is Lord of all - you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.'

The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *the Choir sings the Gospel Acclamation*

Alleluia.

Benedictus, qui venit in nomine Domini:
Deus Domine et iluxit nobis.

Alleluia.

Alleluia.

*Blessed in the name of the Lord is he
who comes. The Lord is our light.*

Alleluia.

GOSPEL

The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 3:13-17

R. Glory to you, O Lord.

At that time: Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptised by him. John would have prevented him, saying, 'I need to be baptised by you, and do you come to me?' But Jesus answered him, 'Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfil all righteousness.' Then he consented. And when Jesus was baptised, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; and behold, a voice from heaven said, 'This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

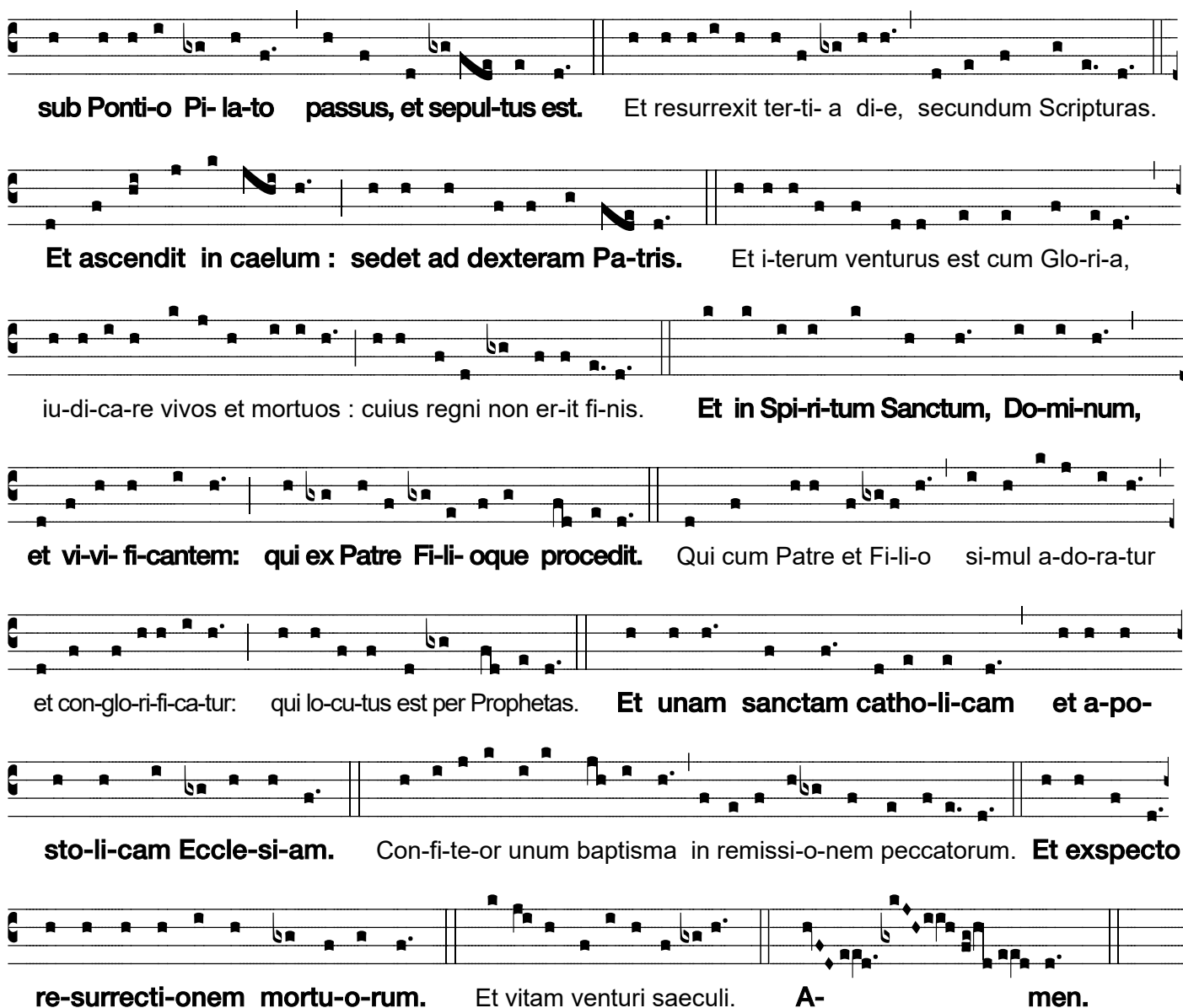
R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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*

Inveni David servum meum,
oleo sancto meo unxi eum.
Manus enim mea auxiliabitur ei
et brachium meum confortabit eum.

*I have found David, my servant;
I have anointed him with my holy oil;
For my hand shall aid him
and my arm shall strengthen him.*

Anton Bruckner (1824-1896)

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.**

Accept, O Lord, the offerings
we have brought to honour the revealing of your beloved Son,
so that the oblation of your faithful
may be transformed into the sacrifice of him
who willed in his compassion
to wash away the sins of the world.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.
R. Amen.



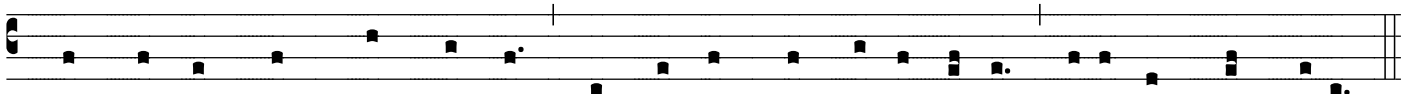
*Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of hosts,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.*

8

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.

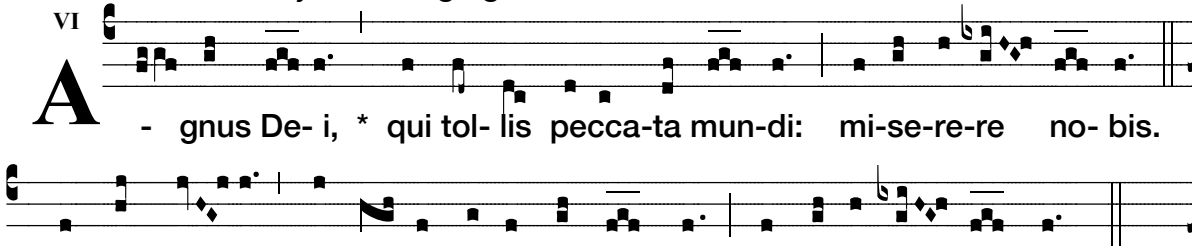
COMMUNION RITE

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*



- 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*

Omnes qui in Christo baptizati estis,
Christum induistis, alleluia.

*All baptised in Christ, you have clothed
yourselves in Christ, 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.*

Maurice Duruflé

HYMN AFTER COMMUNION *all stand and join in singing*



- 1 The voice of God goes out to all the world:
His glory speaks across the universe.
The Great King's herald cries from star to star;
With power, with justice, he will walk his way.
- 2 Give glory to the mystery revealed,
The Voice of God, his image and his Word:
His word of peace, the image of his grace:
With power, with justice, he will walk his way.
- 3 The Lord has said: Receive my messenger,
My promise to the world, my pledge made flesh,
A lamp to every nation, light from light:
With power, with justice, he will walk his way.
- 4 Anointed with the Spirit and with power,
He comes to crown with comfort all the weak,
To show the face of justice to the poor:
With power, with justice, he will walk his way.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Nourished with these sacred gifts,
we humbly entreat your mercy, O Lord,
that, faithfully listening to your Only Begotten Son,
we may be your children in name and in truth.
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 *Christ unser Herr zum Jordan kam - Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)*

If you are concerned about the safety of a child or vulnerable adult and feel they are in immediate danger, please call the police. If you wish to report any non-urgent concerns, please contact your local social services or our safeguarding team direct at



or Mark Robson 0151 522 1013 / 07585761965 Claire Newton 0151 522 1043 / 07384643237 or safeguarding@rcaol.org.uk

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