

**Metropolitan Cathedral  
of Christ the King Liverpool**

# **SOLEMN MASS**

**ON THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT  
1 MARCH 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.

**We extend a warm welcome to Upton Hall School Chamber Choir, who join the Cathedral Choir at today's Mass.**

*The Celebrant for today's Mass is Fr Hugh Donleavy.*

*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 **All my hope on God is founded;  
He doth still my trust renew.  
Me through change and chance he guideth,  
Only good and only true.  
God unknown, he alone  
Calls my heart to be his own.**
- 2 **Pride of man and earthly glory,  
Sword and crown betray his trust;  
What with care and toil he buildeth,  
Tower and temple, fall to dust  
But God's power, hour by hour,  
Is my temple and my tower.**
- 3 **God's great goodness aye endureth,  
Deep his wisdom, passing thought:  
Splendour, light and life attend him,  
Beauty springeth out of naught.  
Evermore from his store  
New-born worlds rise and adore.**
- 4 **Daily doth th'Almighty giver  
Bounteous gifts on us bestow;  
His desire our soul delighteth,  
Pleasure leads us where we go.  
Love doth stand at his hand;  
Joy doth wait on his command.**
- 5 **Still from man to God eternal  
Sacrifice of praise be done,  
High above all praises praising  
For the gift of Christ his Son.  
Christ doth call one and all:  
Ye who follow shall not fall.**

### INTROIT *the Choir sings*

Tibi dixit cor meum, quaesivi vultum  
tuum, vultum tuum Domine requiram:  
ne avertas faciem tuam a me.

*My heart has prompted me to seek  
your face; I seek it, Lord;  
do not hide from 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.**

**KYRIE** *Mass in G - Franz Schubert (1797-1828)*

## **COLLECT**

O God, who have commanded us  
to listen to your beloved Son,  
be pleased, we pray,  
to nourish us inwardly by your word,  
that, with spiritual sight made pure,  
we may rejoice to behold your glory.  
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 book of Genesis 12:1-4a*

In those days: The Lord said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonours you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.'

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him.

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

**PSALM 32** *all sing the response R. after the Cantor and after each verse of the psalm*



May your love be up - on us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.

The word of the Lord is faithful  
and all his works to be trusted.  
The Lord loves justice and right  
and fills the earth with his love. **R.**

The Lord looks on those who revere him,  
on those who hope in his love,  
to rescue their souls from death,  
to keep them alive in famine. **R.**

Our soul is waiting for the Lord.  
The Lord is our help and our shield.  
May your love be upon us, O Lord,  
as we place all our hope in you. **R.**

**SECOND READING** *from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy 1:8b-10*

Beloved: We share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God, who saved us and called us to a holy calling not because of our works, but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, and which now has been manifested through the appearing of our Saviour Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

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*



Glo - ry and praise to you, Lord Je - sus Christ.

From the bright cloud the Father's voice was heard:  
'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him!'

## GOSPEL

The Lord be with you.

**R. And with your spirit.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 17:1-9

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

At that time: Jesus took with him Peter and James and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light. And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. And Peter said to Jesus, 'Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He was still speaking when, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, 'This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.' When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces and were terrified. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, 'Rise, and have no fear.

And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one, but Jesus only. And as they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, 'Tell no one the vision, until the Son of Man is raised from the dead.'

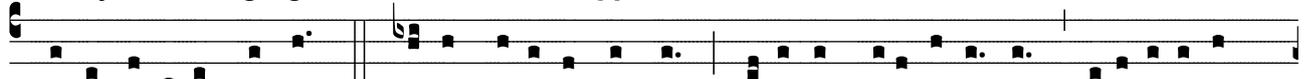
The Gospel of the Lord.

**R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

*After the Gospel, all sing the Gospel Acclamation.*

## HOMILY

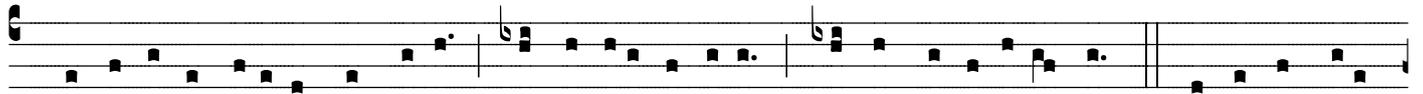
### CREDO I *all join in singing the verses in bold type*

IV. 

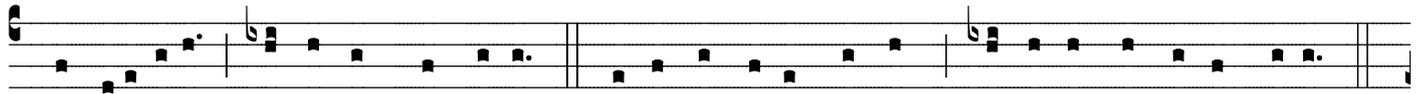
**C**redo in unum De-um, Patrem omni-po-ten-tem, factorem caeli et ter-rae, vi-si-bi-li-um  
omni-um, et in-vi-si-bi-li-um. **Et in unum Domi-num Jesum Christum, Fi-li-um De-i**  
**u-ni-ge-ni-tum.** Et ex Patre natum ante omnia saecula. **Deum de Deo, lumen de lumi-**  
**ne, Deum verum de Deo vero.** Genitum, non factum, consubstan-ti-a-lem Patri, per  
quem omnia facta sunt. **Qui propter nos homines, et propter nostram salutem descendit de**



caelis. Et incarnatus est de Spiritu Sancto ex Maria Vir-gi-ne: Et homo factus est.



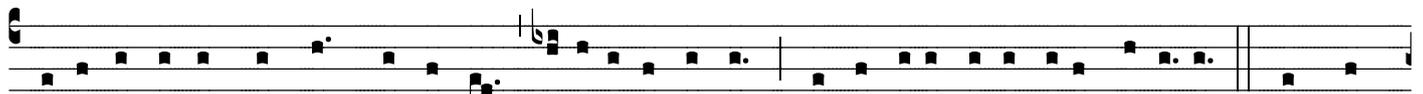
Cru-ci-fi-xus et-i-am pro nobis: sub Pontio Pi-la-to passus, et sepultus est. Et re-sur-rexit



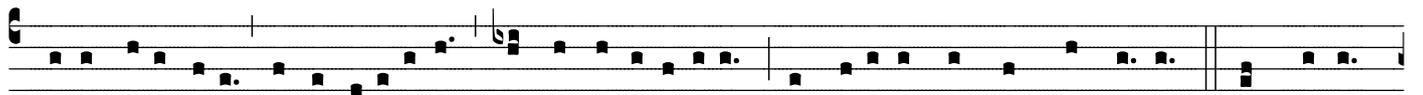
ter-ti-a di-e, secundum Scripturas. Et ascendit in caelum: sedet ad dexteram Patris.



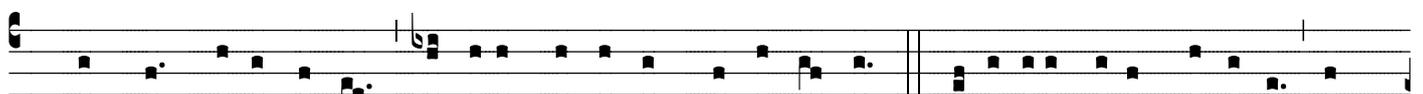
Et i-terum venturus est cum glori-a, iudicare vivos et mortuos : cuius regni non e-rit fi-nis.



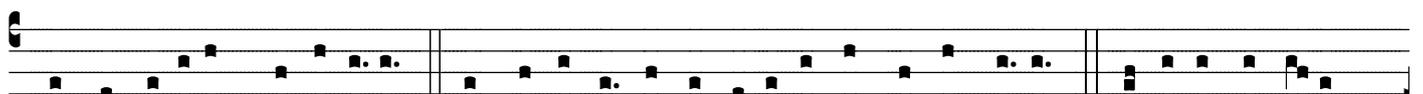
Et in Spiritum Sanctum, Dominum, et vi-vi-fi-cantem: qui ex Patre Fi-li-oque procedit. Qui cum



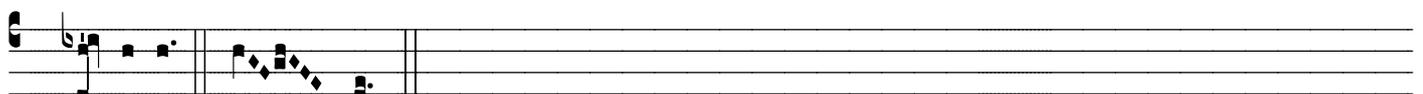
Patre et Fi-li-o simul adoratur, et conglori-fi-catur: qui locutus est per Prophetas. Et unam



sanctam catho-li-cam et apo-sto-li-cam Eccle-si-am. Confi-teor unum baptisma in



re-mis-sionem peccatorum. Et exspecto resurrecti-onem mortu-orum. Et vitam venturi



sae-cu-li. 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*

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down, fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown. Jesu, thou art all compassion, pure unbounded love thou art; visit us with thy salvation, enter every trembling heart.

Come, almighty to deliver, let us all thy life receive; suddenly return, and never, never more thy temples leave. Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above, pray, and praise thee, without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation, pure and spotless let us be; let us see thy great salvation, perfectly restored in thee, changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise!

*Howard Goodall (b1958)*

*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.**

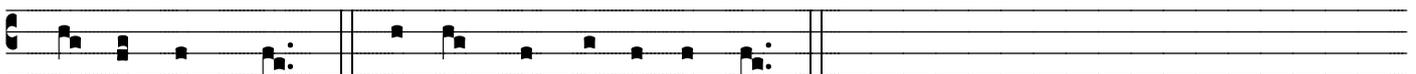
## PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

May this sacrifice, O Lord, we pray,  
cleanse us of our faults  
and sanctify your faithful in body and mind  
for the celebration of the paschal festivities.  
Through Christ our Lord.

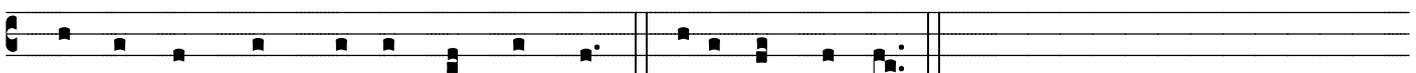
**R. Amen.**



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.

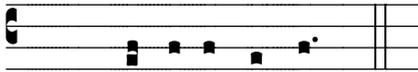
**SANCTUS** *the Choir sings*

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.*

*Mass in G  
Franz Schubert*

**MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION** *all join in singing*



The mystery of faith.



Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection, you have set us free.

**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.

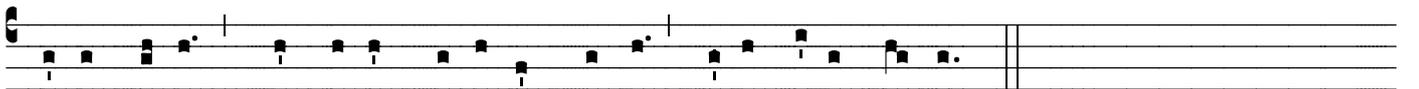
**AGNUS DEI XVIII** *all join in singing*



**A** -gnus De-i, \* qui tol-lis peccata mundi : mise-re-re no-bis.



Agnus De-i, \* qui tol-lis peccata mundi : mise-re-re no-bis.



Agnus De-i, \* qui tol-lis peccata mundi : dona nobis pacem.

*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*

Visionem quam vidistis,  
nemini dixeritis,  
donec a mortuis Filius hominis.

*Tell no one about the vision that  
you have seen until the Son of Man  
has risen from the dead.*

*Gregorian Chant*

**COMMUNION MOTET** *the Choir sings*

Panis angelicus  
fit panis hominum;  
Dat panis coelicus  
figuris terminum.  
O res mirabilis!  
Manducat Dominum,  
pauper pauper servus et humilis.

*The bread of heaven  
is made the bread of men;  
The bread of heaven  
puts an end to all symbols.  
What a wonder!  
A poor man partakes of the Lord,  
a poor and humble servant.*

*César Franck (1822-1890)*

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



- 1** Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
Almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.
- 2** Unresting, unchanging, and silent as light,  
Nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;  
Thy justice like mountains high soaring above  
Thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

**3** To all life thou givest – to both great and small;  
In all life thou livest, the true life of all;  
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,  
And wither and perish – but nought changeth thee.

**4** Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,  
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;  
All laud we would render: O help us to see  
'Tis only the splendour of light hideth thee.

#### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

As we receive these glorious mysteries,  
we make thanksgiving to you, O Lord,  
for allowing us while still on earth  
to be partakers even now of the things of heaven.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
**R. Amen.**

#### **CONCLUDING RITE**

##### **PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE**

Bless your faithful, we pray, O Lord,  
with a blessing that endures for ever,  
and keep them faithful  
to the Gospel of your Only Begotten Son,  
so that they may always desire and at last attain  
that glory whose beauty he showed in his own Body,  
to the amazement of his Apostles.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
**R. Amen.**

##### **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** *Prelude & Fugue in G minor - Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)*

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](mailto: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

*Thank you for your generosity.*



£10

*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.*

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