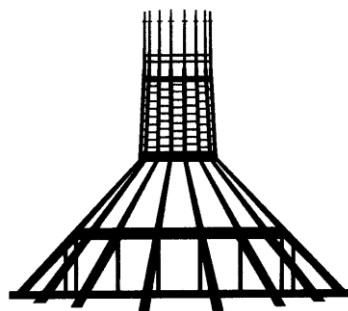


SOLEMN MASS TO CELEBRATE THE FEAST OF ST EDWARD KING AND CONFESSOR

**CELEBRANT
MONSIGNOR ANTHONY O'BRIEN
CATHEDRAL DEAN**

SUNDAY 11 OCTOBER 2026 AT 11.00AM



**Metropolitan Cathedral
of Christ the King Liverpool**

This annual Mass celebrates the Feast of St Edward, King and Confessor, for St Edward's College (Cathedral Choir School), and for the C I Edwardian Association (the Association for former pupils of the College).

The Celebrant is Monsignor Anthony O'Brien.

Taking part in the music of the Mass today are

- *Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral Choir*

Director of Music: Dr Christopher McElroy

Assistant Director of Music: Mr James Luxton

Organist: Mr Richard Lea

Entrance Hymn *The King of love*: words by Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877), music by John Bacchus Dyke (1823-1876)

Introit *Si iniquitates*: music Gregorian Chant

Gloria and Agnus Dei *Missa Brevis*: music by Jonathan Dove (b1959)

Psalm 22: music by Christopher McElroy (b1978)

Gospel Acclamation *Easter Alleluia*: music Gregorian Chant; music by Philip Duffy (b1943)

Offertory Motet *Rejoice in the Lord alway*: music by George Rawsthorne (1874-1951)

Sanctus *Mass VIII*: Gregorian Chant

Memorial Acclamation and Great Amen: music Missal Tones

Communion Antiphon *Aufer a me*: Gregorian Chant

Communion Motet *Panis angelicus*: music by César Franck (1822-1890)

Hymn after Communion *Christ be beside me*: Traditional Gaelic melody, adapted from 'St Patrick's Breastplate' by James Quinn SJ

Organ Voluntary *Toccata* by Théodore Dubois (1837-1924)

PLEASE ENSURE THAT MOBILE TELEPHONES ARE SWITCHED OFF.

The use of private cameras, video or sound recording equipment
is strictly prohibited in the Cathedral.

www.liverpoolmetrocathedral.org.uk

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE HYMN *all stand and join in singing*



- 1 The King of love my Shepherd is,
Whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his
And he is mine for ever.
- 2 Where streams of living water flow
My ransomed soul he leadeth,
And where the verdant pastures grow
With food celestial feedeth.
- 3 Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,
But yet in love he sought me,
And on his shoulder gently laid,
And home, rejoicing, brought me.
- 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill
With thee, dear Lord, beside me;
Thy rod and staff my comfort still,
Thy cross before to guide me.
- 5 Thou spread'st a table in my sight;
Thy unction, grace bestoweth:
And O what transport of delight
From thy pure chalice floweth!
- 6 And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
Within thy house for ever.

INTROIT *the Choir sings*

Si iniquitates observaveris Domine,
Domine quis sustinebit? Quia apud te
propitiatio est, Deus Israel.

*If you, O Lord, laid bare our guilt, who
could endure it? But you are forgiving,
God of Israel.*

GREETING *after introducing the Mass, the Dean says*

In the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

Peace be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL RITE *the Dean leads the Penitential Rite*

Lord Jesus, you were lifted up to draw all people to yourself:

Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

You shouldered the cross, to bear our suffering and sinfulness:

Christ, have mercy.

R. Christ, have mercy.

You open for your people the way from death into life:

Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

May almighty God have mercy on us,

forgive us our sins,

and bring us to everlasting life.

R. Amen.

All sit.

GLORIA *the Choir sings*

Gloria in excelsis Deo et in terra pax
hominibus bonae voluntatis.

Laudamus te. Benedicimus te.

Adoramus te. Glorificamus te.

Gratias agimus tibi propter magnam
gloriam tuam.

Domine Deus, Rex coelestis,

Deus Pater omnipotens.

Domine Fili unigenite Jesu Christe.

Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius

Patris, qui tollis peccata mundi,

miserere nobis.

Qui tollis peccata mundi,

suscipe deprecationem nostram.

Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris,

miserere nobis.

*Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.*

*We praise you, we bless you,
we adore you, we glorify you,
we give thanks to you for
your great glory.*

Lord God, heavenly King,

O God, almighty Father,

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,

Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

*You take away the sins of the world, have
mercy on us;*

*you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;*

*you are seated at the right hand of the
Father, have mercy on us.*

Quoniam tu solus sanctus,
tu solus Dominus,
tu solus altissimus, Jesu Christe.
Cum Sancto Spiritu, in gloria Dei
Patris. Amen.

*For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord, you alone are the
Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy
Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.*

COLLECT

Lord God, who set your servant Saint Edward
upon the throne of an earthly realm
and inspired him with zeal for the Kingdom of Heaven,
grant, we pray,
that we may faithfully serve you in this life
and with him inherit your eternal 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 *read by Dominic McCabe, Head Boy*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah 25:6-10a

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine, of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined. And he will swallow up on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations. He will swallow up death for ever; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. It will be said on that day, 'Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us. This is the Lord; we have waited for him; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.' For the hand of the Lord will rest on this mountain.

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

PSALM 22 *all join in singing the response R. after the Cantor and again after each verse*



In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ev - er and ev - er.

The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit. **R.**

He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort. **R.**

You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. **R.**

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever. **R.**

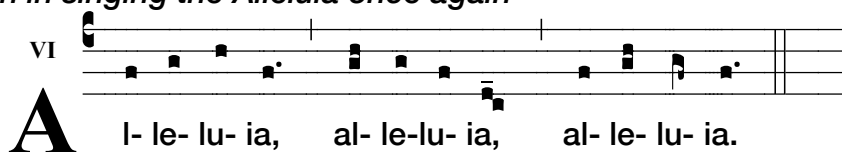
SECOND READING *read by Helen Manoj, Head Girl*

A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to Philippians 4:12-14,19-20

Brothers and sisters: I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me. Yet it was kind of you to share my trouble. And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. To our God and Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *the Book of the Gospels is carried in procession to the lectern. All stand as the Cathedral Choir sings the Alleluia, which is repeated by all. After the verse all join in singing the Alleluia once again*



The Word was made flesh and lived among us;
to all who did accept him
he gave power to become children of God.

GOSPEL

The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 22:1-14

R. Glory to you, O Lord.

At that time: Jesus again spoke to the chief priests and the elders of the people, in parables, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son, and sent his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding feast, but they would not come. Again he sent other servants, saying, "Tell those who are invited, 'See, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding feast.'" But they paid no attention and went off, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them. The king was angry, and he sent his troops and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. Then he said to his servants, "The wedding feast is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore to the main roads and invite to the wedding feast as many as you find." And those servants went out into the roads and gathered all whom they found, both bad and good. So the wedding hall was filled with guests.

'But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment. And he said to him, "Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?" And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, "Bind him hand and foot and cast him into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." For many are called, but few are chosen.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

All join in singing the Gospel Acclamation.

HOMILY *Mgr Anthony O'Brien*

PROFESSION OF FAITH *all join in saying*

I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL *the Dean begins*

God has summoned us into his presence as Lord of all he invites us to pray for all.

Dominic Johnson continues

For the college community, pupils, staff and parents; may we all know moments of awe, wonder and fulfilment.

Lord, in your mercy. **R. Hear our prayer.**

For all those who are part of the Edmund Rice family of schools; that we may bring to fruition the vision and charism of our founder.

Lord, in your mercy. **R. Hear our prayer.**

For our school chaplaincy team, especially for God's blessing on our College. We thank God for the spiritual opportunities afforded to us on our journey of faith together.

Lord, in your mercy. **R. Hear our prayer.**

For all those suffering the effects of natural disasters.

Lord, in your mercy. **R. Hear our prayer.**

For those caught up in areas of conflict, war and acts of terrorism. May the Holy Spirit guide all to seek peace and reconciliation at this time.

Lord, in your mercy. **R. Hear our prayer.**

For all involved in Christian Education.

Lord, in your mercy. **R. Hear our prayer.**

For migrants, separated from family and loved ones.

Lord, in your mercy. **R. Hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for a moment in silence for our own intentions and for one another.

We offer up all our prayers with those of Our Lady of Walsingham, St Edward and Blessed Edmund Rice, as we say together:

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.

Blessed art thou among women

and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,

now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

The Dean concludes

May the Lord support us all the day long,
till the shades lengthen and the evening comes,
and the fever of life is over, and our work is done.
Then in his mercy may he give us a safe lodging,
and a holy rest and peace at the last.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS *a collection is taken for the work of the Cathedral. You can use the QR code at the back of the booklet if you prefer. The gifts of bread and wine are then carried forward by representatives of St Edward's College and Runnymede: Head Girl and Boy at Runnymede, Helen Manoj (Head Girl), Dominic McCabe (Head Boy), Dr McCabe (College Parent and Governor), Mrs Thomas (College Parent) and Joseph Richardson (Member of Staff).*

Meanwhile all sit as the Choir sings

Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say, rejoice. Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand. Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say, rejoice. Be careful for nothing; but in ev'rything by pray'r and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Jesus Christ our Lord. Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say, rejoice.

The gifts, the altar and the cross are incensed by the Dean, then he and his ministers are themselves incensed. All stand when the thurifer comes forward to incense the congregation.

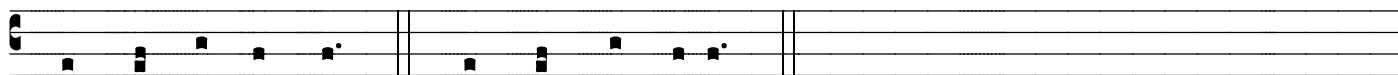
Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters),
that my sacrifice and yours
may be acceptable to God,
the almighty Father.

**R. 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.**

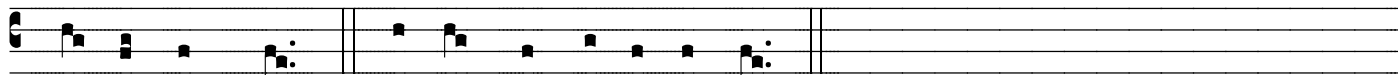
PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Through the present oblation, O Lord,
which we offer in commemoration of blessed Saint Edward,
bestow on your faithful, we pray,
the gifts of unity and peace.
Through Christ our Lord.

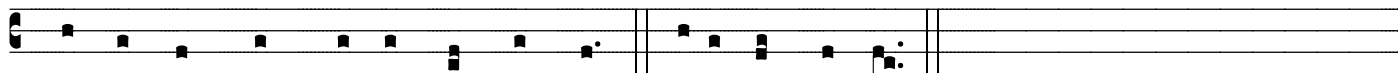
R. Amen.



The Lord be with you. And with your spirit.

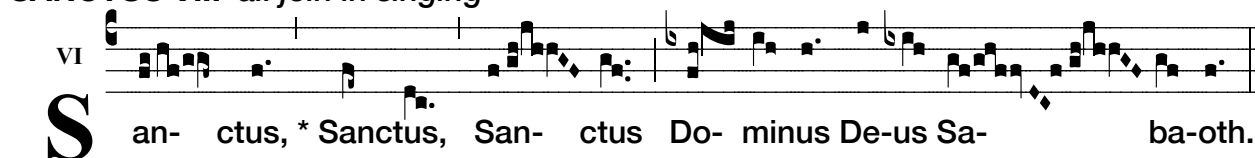


Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord.



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

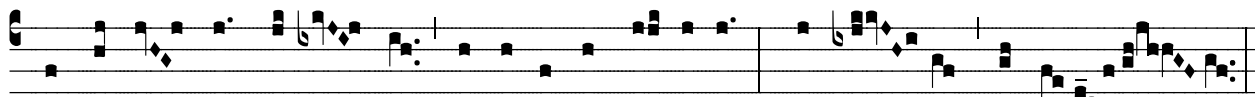
SANCTUS VIII *all join in singing*



an- ctus, * Sanctus, San- ctus Do- minus De-us Sa- ba-oth.



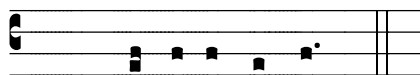
Pleni sunt cae-li et ter- ra glo-ri- a tu- a. Ho-sanna in excel- sis.



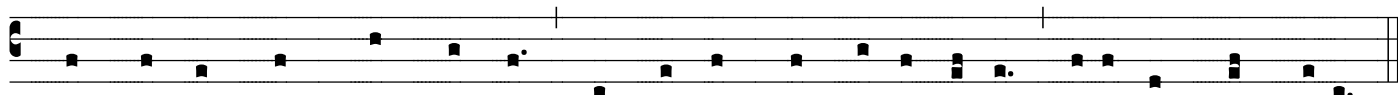
Bene-di- ctus qui ve- nit in nomi-ne Do-mi-ni. Ho-san- na in excel- sis.

The congregation kneels as the Dean continues the Eucharistic Prayer.

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

All stand as the Dean says

At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come, thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

The Dean continues

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil,
graciously grant peace in our days,
that, by the help of your mercy,
we may be always free from sin
and safe from all distress,
as we await the blessed hope
and the coming of our Saviour,
Jesus Christ.

**R. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours
now and for ever.**

Lord Jesus Christ,
who said to your Apostles:
Peace I leave you, my peace I give you,
look not on our sins,
but on the faith of your Church,
and graciously grant her peace and unity
in accordance with your will.
Who live and reign for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

R. And with your spirit.

AGNUS DEI *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.*

All kneel and the Dean says
 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.
R. Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof,
 but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

COMMUNION *when coming forward to receive Holy Communion, please follow the directions of the Stewards. 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*

Aufer a me opprobrium et contemptum,
 quia mandata tua exquisivi, Domine:
 nam et testimonia tua meditation mea est.

*Relieve me from scorn and contempt:
 for I do your will, O Lord.
 Your will is my delight.*

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.*

COMMUNION HYMN *all stand and join in singing*



- 1 Christ be beside me,
 Christ be before me,
 Christ be behind me,
 King of my heart.
 Christ be within me,
 Christ be below me,
 Christ be above me,
 Never to part.

2 Christ on my right hand,
Christ on my left hand,
Christ all around me,
Shield in the strife.
Christ in my sleeping,
Christ in my sitting,
Christ in my rising,
Light of my life.

3 Christ be in all hearts
Thinking about me,
Christ be in all tongues
Telling of me.
Christ be the vision
In eyes that see me,
In ears that hear me,
Christ ever be.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.
May the Sacrament we have received, O Lord,
in commemoration of blessed Saint Edward,
sanctify our minds and hearts,
that we may merit to be made sharers in the divine nature.
Through Christ our Lord.
R. Amen.

CONCLUDING RITE

SOLEMN BLESSING *the Dean says*

The Lord be with you.
R. And with your spirit.

May almighty God bless you in his kindness
and pour out saving wisdom upon you.
R. Amen.

May he nourish you always with the teaching of the faith
and make you persevere in holy deeds.
R. Amen.

May he turn your steps towards himself
and show you the path of charity and peace.
R. Amen.

And may the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
come down on you and remain with you for ever.
R. Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go forth, the Mass is ended.

R. Thanks be to God.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

All remain standing until the procession has left. Please respect the fact that the Organ Voluntary is an integral part of the service.

A retiring collection will be taken for the Cathedral Choir Association.

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.

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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.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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PLEASE TAKE THIS WITH YOU OR HAND IT TO A STEWARD