

Metropolitan Cathedral
of Christ the King Liverpool

SOLEMN MASS

**ON THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
12 DECEMBER 2021 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 Peter Murphy.

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

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE HYMN *all stand and join in singing*



- 1 Long ago, prophets knew
Christ would come, born a Jew.
Come to make all things new;
Bear his people's burden,
Freely, love and pardon.
 Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!
 Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!
 When he comes,
 When he comes,
 Who will make him welcome?
- 2 God in time, God in man,
This is God's timeless plan:
He will come, as a man,
Born himself of woman,
God divinely human.
 Ring, bells...
- 3 Mary, hail! Though afraid,
She believed, she obeyed.
In her womb God is laid;
Till the time expected
Nurtured and protected.
 Ring, bells...

INTROIT *the Choir sings*

Gaudete in Domino semper:
iterum dico, gaudete:
modestia vestra nota sit
omnibus hominibus:
Dominus prope est.
Nihil solliciti sitis:
sed in omni oratione petitiones
vestrae innotescant apud Deum.

*Rejoice in the Lord always;
and again I say, Rejoice!
Let your modesty be known to all men.
The Lord is nigh.
Be nothing solicitous: but in everything,
by prayer and supplication,
with thanksgiving, let your petitions be
made known to God.*

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.

INTRODUCTION *the Celebrant introduces the Mass and the third candle on the Advent Wreath is lit.*

KYRIE *Missa Brevis - Nicholas Wilton (b1964)*

COLLECT

O God, who see how your people
faithfully await the feast of the Lord's Nativity,
enable us, we pray,
to attain the joys of so great a salvation
and to celebrate them always
with solemn worship and glad rejoicing.
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 Zephaniah 3:14-18*

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion,
Israel, shout aloud!
Rejoice, exult with all your heart,
daughter of Jerusalem!
The Lord has repealed your sentence;
he has driven your enemies away.
The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst;
you have no more evil to fear.
When that day comes, word will come to Jerusalem:
Zion, have no fear,
do not let your hands fall limp.
The Lord your God is in your midst,
a victorious warrior.
He will exult with joy over you,
he will renew you by his love;
he will dance with shouts of joy for you
as on a day of festival.

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

PSALM Isaiah 12 *all sing the response R. after the Cantor and after each verse of the psalm*



Truly, God is my salvation,
I trust, I shall not fear.
For the Lord is my strength, my song,
he became my saviour.
With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation. **R.**

Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his name!
Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples!
Declare the greatness of his name. **R.**

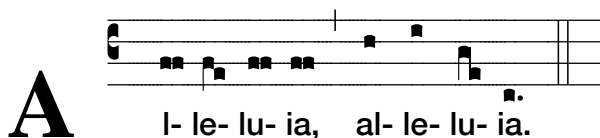
Sing a psalm to the Lord
for he has done glorious deeds,
make them known to all the earth!
People of Zion, sing and shout for joy
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. **R.**

SECOND READING *from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians 4:4-7*

I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord; I repeat, what I want is your happiness. Let your tolerance be evident to everyone: the Lord is very near. There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

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*



The spirit of the Lord has been given to me.
He has sent me to bring good news to the poor.

GOSPEL

The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 3:10-18

R. Glory to you, O Lord.

When all the people asked John, 'What must we do?' he answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same.' There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, 'Master what must we do?' He said to them, 'Exact no more than your rate.' Some soldiers asked him in their turn, 'What about us? What must we do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!'

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.' As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.

The Gospel of the Lord.

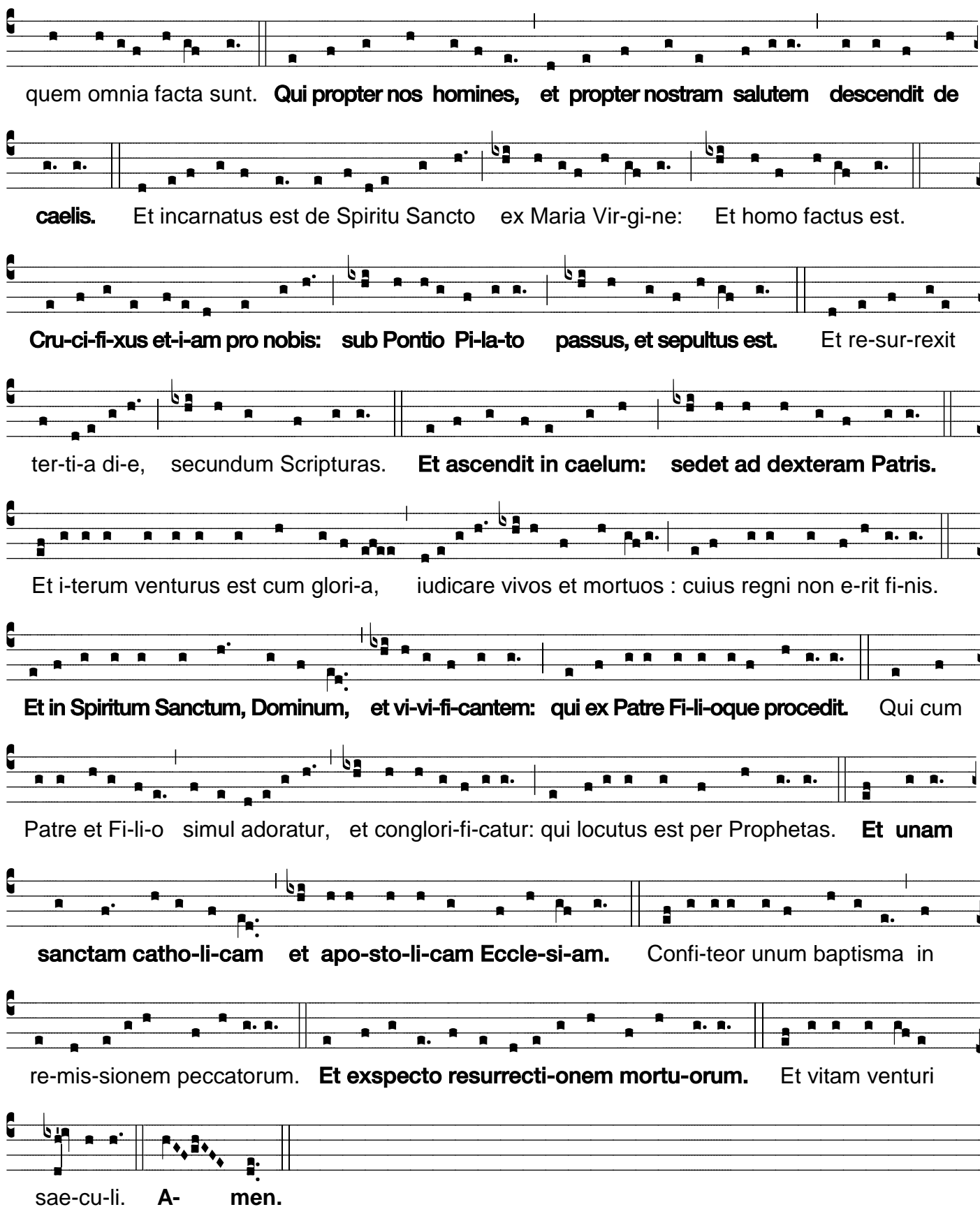
R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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-o-que 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, meanwhile the Choir sings*

Rejoice in the Lord alway, and again I say, rejoice. Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand. Rejoice in the Lord alway, 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 alway, and again I say, rejoice.

Henry Purcell (1659-1695)

The Celebrant says

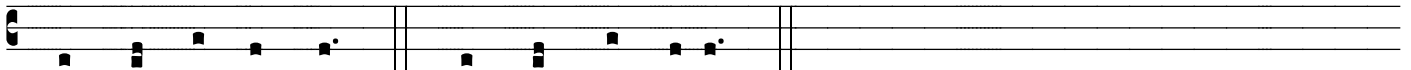
Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters),
that my sacrifice and yours
may be acceptable to God,
the almighty Father.

All stand and say

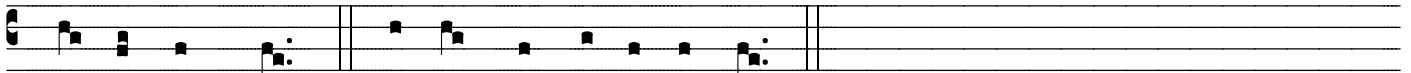
**May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands
for the praise and glory of his name,
for our good and the good of all his holy Church.**

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

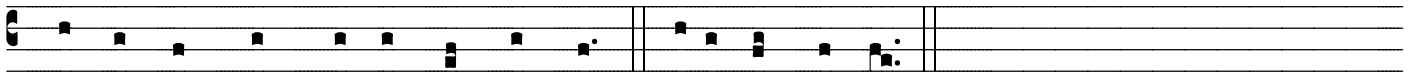
May the sacrifice of our worship, Lord, we pray,
be offered to you unceasingly,
to complete what was begun in sacred mystery
and powerfully accomplish for us your saving work.
Through Christ our Lord.
R. Amen.



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.

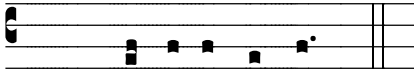
SANCTUS *the Choir sings*

**Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus Dominus,
Deus Sabaoth.
Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis.**

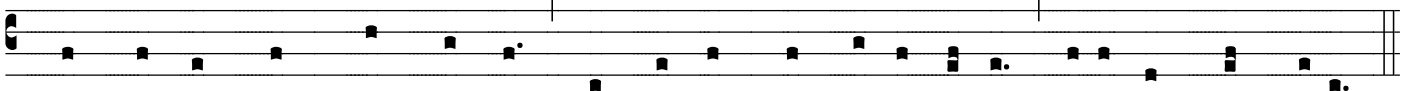
***Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of hosts,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.***

Missa Brevis
Nicholas Wilton

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 *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
Nicholas Wilton

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*

Dicite: Pusillanimes confortamini,
et nolite timere: ecce Deus noster veniet,
et salvabit nos.

*Say to the anxious: be strong
and fear not, behold, your God is
coming, and will save you.*

Gregorian Chant

COMMUNION MOTET *the Choir sings*

Virga Jesse floruit:
Virgo Deum et hominem
genuit: pacem Deus redidit,
in se reconcilians ima sumis.
Alleluia.

*The rod of Jesse has flowered:
the Virgin has borne both God and man.
God has restored peace, reconciling in
himself the lowest with the highest.
Alleluia.*

Anton Bruckner (1824-1896)

HYMN AFTER COMMUNION *all stand and join in singing*



- 1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear:
Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.
- 2 O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free
Thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell thy people save,
And give them vict'ry o'er the grave:
Rejoice...
- 3 O come, thou dayspring, come and cheer
Our spirits by thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight:
Rejoice...
- 4 O come, thou key of David, come
And open wide our heavenly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery:
Rejoice...

5 **O come, O come, thou Lord of might,
Who to thy tribes on Sinai's height
In ancient times didst give the law
In cloud and majesty and awe:
Rejoice...**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We implore your mercy, Lord,
that this divine sustenance may cleanse us of our faults
and prepare us for the coming feasts.
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

Please be careful, and take your time, as you leave the Cathedral. Please use the handrails if you are using the main entrance steps.

Please use one of our Tap and Go machines to make a donation of £5 to the Cathedral. Thank you for your generosity.