

**All Saints' Margaret Street**

# THE PASCHAL TRIDUUM



## HOLY SATURDAY

**The Solemn Vigil & First Mass of Easter**

**30<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

**8pm**



## THE SERVICE OF LIGHT

*The Congregation gathers in the darkened Church.*

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

The Lord be with you. **And with thy spirit.**

Dear brothers and sisters, on this most sacred night, in which our Lord Jesus Christ passed over from death to life, the Church calls upon her sons and daughters, scattered throughout the world, to come together to watch and pray. If we keep the memorial of the Lord's paschal solemnity in this way, listening to his word and celebrating his mysteries, then we shall have the sure hope of sharing his triumph over death and living with him in God.

*The celebrant blesses the New Fire:*

O God, who, through thy Son, hast bestowed upon thy faithful people the fire of thy brightness: we beseech thee that thou wouldest sanctify this new fire to be profitable to our service; and grant unto us, that by this Paschal feast we may be so inflamed with heavenly desire, that we may with pure hearts and minds attain unto the feast of thy eternal brightness; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The celebrant inserts the five grains of incense into the Paschal Candle, saying:*

By his holy and glorious wounds may Christ our Lord guard and keep us. **Amen.**

*The celebrant lights the Paschal Candle, saying:*

May the light of Christ, rising in glory, dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds.

*At the Church entrance the Deacon lifts the Paschal Candle and sings:*

The Light of Christ: **Thanks be to God.**

*The celebrant's candle is now lit.*

*The Deacon carries the Candle to the nave crossing and sings:*

The Light of Christ: **Thanks be to God.**

*The choir and congregation's candles are now lit.*

*The Deacon carries the Candle to the Chancel gates and sings:*

The Light of Christ: **Thanks be to God.**

*The Paschal Candle is placed on the stand by the pulpit. The book and the candle are censed.*

*We stand as the Deacon sings* **THE EXSULTET, or PASCHAL PROCLAMATION**

*At the appropriate time, all respond:*

The Lord be with you. **And with thy spirit.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God. **It is meet and right so to do.**

*The Exsultet continues, concluding* **Amen.**

## **THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

Dear brothers and sisters, now that we have begun our solemn Vigil, let us listen with quiet hearts to the Word of God. Let us meditate on how God in times past saved his people and in these, the last days, has sent us his Son as our Redeemer. Let us pray that our God may complete this paschal work of salvation by the fullness of redemption.

*All sit for* **THE FIRST READING** *Genesis 1.1-2.4*

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. And God said, 'Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.' So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day. And God said, 'Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.' And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good.

Then God said, 'Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.' And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day. And God said, 'Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.' And it was so.

God made the two great lights – the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night – and the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day. And God said, ‘Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.’ So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, ‘Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.’ And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day. And God said, ‘Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.’ And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, ‘Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.’ So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

God blessed them, and God said to them, ‘Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.’ God said, ‘See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.’ And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation. These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

*No response is made at the end of the Vigil readings.*

*The choir sings verses from **PSALM 104***

Praise the Lord, O my soul : O Lord my God, thou art become exceeding glorious; thou art clothed with majesty and honour.

Thou deckest thyself with light as it were with a garment : and spreadest out the heavens like a curtain.

He laid the foundations of the earth : that it never should move at any time.

Thou coveredst it with the deep like as with a garment : the waters stand in the hills.  
He sendeth the springs into the rivers : which run among the hills.  
All beasts of the field drink thereof : and the wild asses quench their thirst.  
Beside them shall the fowls of the air have their habitation : and sing among the  
branches.  
He watereth the hills from above : the earth is filled with the fruit of thy works.  
He bringeth forth grass for the cattle : and green herb for the service of men;  
O Lord, how manifold are thy works : in wisdom hast thou made them all; the earth  
is full of thy riches.

*Stand for* **THE COLLECT**

*Let us pray.*

O God, who in a wondrous manner didst create the race of man, and still more wondrously hast redeemed the same: grant us, we beseech thee; so steadfastly to withstand all the crafts and devices of sin; that we may be found worthy to attain everlasting felicity; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*All sit for* **THE SECOND READING** *Genesis 22.1-18*

After these things God tested Abraham. He said to him, 'Abraham!' And he said, 'Here I am.' He said, 'Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt-offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you.' So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt-offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. Then Abraham said to his young men, 'Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you.' Abraham took the wood of the burnt-offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. Isaac said to his father Abraham, 'Father!' And he said, 'Here I am, my son.' He said, 'The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt-offering?' Abraham said, 'God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt-offering, my son.' So the two of them walked on together.

When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven, and said, 'Abraham, Abraham!' And he said, 'Here I am.' He said, 'Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.' And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by

its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt-offering instead of his son.

So Abraham called that place 'The Lord will provide'; as it is said to this day, 'On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided.' The angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven, and said, 'By myself I have sworn, says the Lord: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice.'

*The choir sings verses from* **PSALM 16**

The Lord himself is the portion of mine inheritance, and of my cup : thou shalt maintain my lot.

I have set God always before me : for he is on my right hand, therefore I shall not fall. Wherefore my heart was glad, and my glory rejoiced : my flesh also shall rest in hope. For why? thou shalt not leave my soul in hell : neither shalt thou suffer thy Holy One to see corruption.

Thou shalt shew me the path of life; in thy presence is the fulness of joy : and at thy right hand there is pleasure for evermore.

*Stand for* **THE COLLECT**

*Let us pray.*

O God, supreme Father of the faithful, who didst increase the children of thy promise by pouring out the grace of adoption throughout the whole world, and through the Paschal Mystery hast made, as thou didst swear, thy servant Abraham the father of nations: grant us, we beseech thee; that thy people may enter worthily into the grace to which thou callest them; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*All sit for* **THE THIRD READING** *Exodus 14.15-15.1*

Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Why do you cry out to me? Tell the Israelites to go forward. But you lift up your staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the Israelites may go into the sea on dry ground. Then I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they will go in after them; and so I will gain glory for myself over Pharaoh and all his army, his chariots, and his chariot drivers. And the Egyptians shall know that I am the Lord, when I have gained glory for myself over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his chariot drivers.' The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army

of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night. Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, 'Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt.' Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers.' So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses. Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the Lord:

*The choir sings* **THE SONG OF MOSES AND MIRIAM** *Exodus 15.1-18*

I will sing to the Lord, for he is lofty and uplifted : the horse and its rider has he hurled into the sea.

The Lord is my strength and my refuge : the Lord has become my Saviour.

This is my God and I will praise him : the God of my people and I will exalt him.

The Lord is a mighty warrior : Yahweh is his Name.

The chariots of Pharaoh and his army has he hurled into the sea : the finest of those who bear armour have been drowned in the Red Sea.

The fathomless deep has overwhelmed them : they sank into the depths like a stone.

You will bring them in and plant them : on the mount of your possession,

The resting-place you have made for yourself, O Lord : the sanctuary, O Lord, that your hand has established.

The Lord shall reign : for ever and for ever.

*Stand for* **THE COLLECT**

*Let us pray.*

O God, who hast ordained that thy mighty works of old should enlighten even this our present generation; who didst by the mighty defence of thy right hand deliver one people from persecution in the land of Egypt to be a figure of the salvation of all



nations by the washing of regeneration: grant, we pray thee; that the fulness of all mankind, being delivered from its present bondage, may be made sons of Abraham and worthy members of thy true Israel; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*All sit for* **THE FOURTH READING** *Isaiah 54: 5-14*

Thus says the Lord: Now your creator will be your husband, his name, the Lord of Hosts; your redeemer will be the Holy One of Israel, he is called the God of the whole earth. Yes, like a forsaken wife, distressed in spirit, the Lord calls you back. Does a man cast off the wife of his youth? says your God. I did forsake you for a brief moment, but with great love will I take you back. In excess of anger, for a moment I hid my face from you. But with everlasting love I have taken pity on you, says the Lord, your redeemer. I am now as I was in the days of Noah when I swore that Noah's waters should never flood the world again. So now I swear concerning my anger with you and the threats I made against you; for the mountains may depart, the hills be shaken, but my love for you will never leave you and my covenant of peace with you will never be shaken, says the Lord who takes pity on you. Unhappy creature, storm-tossed, disconsolate, see, I will set your stones on carbuncles and your foundations on sapphires. I will make rubies your battlements, your gates crystal, and your entire wall precious stones. Your sons will all be taught by the Lord. The prosperity of your sons will be great. You will be founded on integrity; remote from oppression, you will have nothing to fear; remote from terror, it will not approach you.

*The choir sings verses from* **PSALM 30**

I will magnify thee, O Lord, for thou hast set me up : and not made my foes to triumph over me.

Thou, Lord, hast brought my soul out of hell : thou hast kept my life from them that go down to the pit.

Sing praises unto the Lord, O ye saints of his : and give thanks unto him for a remembrance of his holiness.

For his wrath endureth but the twinkling of an eye, and in his pleasure is life : heaviness may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.

Hear, O Lord, and have mercy upon me : Lord, be thou my helper.

Thou hast turned my heaviness into joy : thou hast put off my sackcloth, and girded me with gladness.

*Stand for* **THE COLLECT**

*Let us pray.*

O God, who didst lead thine ancient people by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night: grant, we pray thee; that we who serve thee now on earth, may come to

the joy of that heavenly Jerusalem, where every tear shall be wiped away, and where thy Saints for ever sing thy praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*All sit for* **THE FIFTH READING** *Ezekiel 36: 24-28*

I will take you from the nations, and gather you from all the countries, and bring you into your own land. I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. I will put my spirit within you, and make you follow my statutes and be careful to observe my ordinances. Then you shall live in the land that I gave to your ancestors; and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

*The choir sings verses from* **PSALMS 42 & 43**

Like as the hart desireth the water-brooks : so longeth my soul after thee, O God.  
My soul is athirst for God, yea, even for the living God : when shall I come to appear before the presence of God?

My tears have been my meat day and night : while they daily say unto me, Where is now thy God? Now when I think thereupon, I pour out my heart by myself : for I went with the multitude, and brought them forth into the house of God;

In the voice of praise and thanksgiving : among such as keep holy-day.

O send out thy light and thy truth, that they may lead me : and bring me unto thy holy hill, and to thy dwelling.

And that I may go unto the altar of God, even unto the God of my joy and gladness : and upon the harp will I give thanks unto thee, O God, my God.

*Stand for* **THE COLLECT**

*Let us pray.*

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: look favourably on thy whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of thy Providence, carry our in tranquillity the plan of salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*An organ fanfare is sounded and bells are rung. The Congregation may join in the ringing of bells.*

**GLORIA IN EXCELSIS** is sung by the choir. During the Gloria, the altar candles are lit, the Church lights are put on and the congregation's candles are extinguished.

Glory be to God on high, and in earth peace, good will towards men. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father almighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesu Christ: O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

**MESSE SOLENNELLE**

*Louis Vierne 1870-1937*

## **THE COLLECT**

*Let us pray.*

Grant, O Lord, that as we are baptized into the death of thy blessed Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, so by continual mortifying our corrupt affections we may be buried with him; and that, through the grave, and gate of death, we may pass to our joyful resurrection; for his merits, who died, and was buried, and rose again for us, thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*All sit for* **THE EPISTLE** *Romans 6.3-11*

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **THE EASTER ALLELUIAS**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is gracious : because his mercy endureth for ever. Let Israel now confess that he is gracious : and that his mercy endureth for ever. The right hand of the Lord hath the pre-eminence : the right hand of the Lord bringeth mighty things to pass. I shall not die, but live : and declare the works of the Lord. The same stone which the builders refused : is become the head-stone in the corner. This is the Lord's doing : and it is marvellous in our eyes. Alleluia.

## **THE HOLY GOSPEL** Mark 16.1-8

The Lord be with you. **And with thy spirit.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

**Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, 'Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?' When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, 'Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.' So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

## **THE SERMON**

*Fr. David Houlding*

## **THE RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL PROMISES**

*During the procession to the font, all sing* **THE LITANY OF THE SAINTS**

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

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

Saint Michael, **pray for us** *etc.*

Holy Angels of God,

Saint John the Baptist,

Saint Joseph,

Saint Peter and Saint Paul,  
Saint Andrew,  
Saint John,  
Saint Mary Magdalene,  
Saint Stephen,  
Saint Ignatius of Antioch,  
Saint Laurence,  
Saint Perpetua and Saint Felicity,  
Saint Agnes,  
Saint Gregory,  
Saint Augustine,  
Saint Athanasius,  
Saint Basil,  
Saint Martin,  
Saint Benedict,  
Saint Francis and Saint Dominic,  
Saint Francis Xavier,  
Saint John Vianney,  
Saint Catherine of Sienna,  
Saint Teresa of Jesus,  
All holy men and women Saints of God,

Lord be merciful, **Lord deliver us we pray.**  
From all evil,  
From every sin,  
From everlasting death,  
By your Incarnation,  
By your Death and Resurrection,  
By the outpouring of the Holy Spirit,

Be merciful to us sinners, **Lord, we ask you hear our prayer.**  
Make this font holy by your grace for the new birth of your children,  
Jesus, Son of the living God,

Christ, hear us. **Christ, hear us.**  
Christ, graciously hear us. **Christ, graciously hear us.**

Dearly beloved, let us humbly invoke upon this font the grace of God the Almighty Father, that those who from it are born anew may be numbered among the children of adoption in Christ.

*The celebrant blesses the baptismal water:*

O God, who by invisible power accomplish a wondrous effect through sacramental signs, and who in many ways have prepared water, your creation, to show forth the grace of Baptism;

O God, whose Spirit in the first moments of the world's creation hovered over the waters, so that the very substance of water would even then take to itself the power to sanctify;

O God, who by the outpouring of the flood foreshadowed regeneration, so that from the mystery of one and the same element of water would come an end to vice and a beginning of virtue;

O God, who caused the children of Abraham to pass dry-shod through the Red Sea, so that the chosen people, set free from slavery to Pharaoh, would prefigure the people of the baptized;

O God, whose Son, baptized by John in the waters of the Jordan, was anointed with the Holy Spirit, and, as he hung upon the Cross, gave forth water from his side along with blood, and after his Resurrection, commanded his disciples: "Go forth, teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit," look now, we pray, upon the face of your Church and graciously unseal for her the fountain of Baptism.

May this water receive by the Holy Spirit the grace of your Only Begotten Son, so that human nature, created in your image and washed clean through the Sacrament of Baptism from all the squalor of the life of old, may be found worthy to rise to the life of newborn children through water and the Holy Spirit.

*And, lowering the paschal candle into the water three times, he continues:*

May the power of the Holy Spirit, O Lord, we pray, come down through your Son into the fullness of this font...

*And, holding the candle in the water, he continues:*

... so that all who have been buried with Christ by Baptism into death may rise again to life with him, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*The choir sings: Springs of water, bless the Lord; praise and exalt him above all for ever. Daniel 3.77*

*The celebrant addresses the people:*

Dear Brothers and sisters, through the Paschal Mystery we have been buried with Christ in Baptism, so that we may walk with him in newness of life. And so, now that our Lenten observance is concluded, let us renew the promises of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced Satan and his works and promised to serve God in the Holy Catholic Church. And so I ask you:

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

**I believe 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 to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

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

*The people are sprinkled with water, whilst the choir sings VIDI AQUAM*

I beheld water, which proceeded out of the temple, on the right side thereof, Alleluya: and all they to whom that water came were healed every one: and they say, Alleluya, Alleluya. O give thanks unto the Lord for he is gracious: and his mercy endureth forever.

## **THE PEACE**

Then came Jesus and stood in the midst of his disciples, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you. Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the Lord.

The peace of the risen Christ be always with you.  
**And with thy spirit.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

## THE OFFERTORY

*All sing* THE OFFERTORY HYMN

NEH 116

O PRAISE our great and gracious Lord,  
And call upon his name,  
To strains of joy tune every chord,  
His mighty acts proclaim:  
Tell how he led his chosen race  
From Pharaoh's heavy hand,  
And led them by his sovereign grace  
To seek the promised land.

He gave the shadowing cloud by day,  
The moving fire by night,  
To guide his people on their way,  
And make their darkness light:  
To us, the light of Christ our Lord  
Illumines all our ways;  
He leads us by his gospel word,  
And turns our sighs to praise.

We too have manna from on high,  
The bread that came from heaven,  
And he who brought salvation nigh  
Has living water given:  
A rock is ours, from whence the spring  
In rich abundance flows,  
And Christ that rock, our priest and king,  
Both life and health bestows.

Come, let us prize this heavenly food,  
And trust our heavenly guide,  
So shall we find death's fearful flood  
Serene as Jordan's tide;  
So safely reach th'eternal shore,  
No more by ills opprest;  
Where saints their Lord and God adore,  
And in his glory rest.

*Based on verses by* Harriet Auber 1773-1862  
ST MATTHEW *William Croft* 1678-1727

Pray, my brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God the almighty Father. **May the Lord accept the sacrifice at thy hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his holy Church.**



We beseech thee, O Lord, mercifully to accept the prayers and oblations of thy people: that this beginning of thy Paschal Mysteries may by the operation of thy grace be unto us a wholesome medicine unto everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

The Lord be with you. **And with thy spirit.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God. **It is meet and right so to do.**

*The preface continues.*

**SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS** *are sung by the choir*

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts,  
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory,  
Glory be to thee, O Lord most high.  
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

**MESSE SOLENNELLE**  
*Louis Vierne 1870-1937*

*The Eucharistic Prayer continues.*

Great is the mystery of faith:  
**Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.**

*The Eucharistic Prayer concludes:*  
O Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**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. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

**AGNUS DEI** *is sung by the choir*

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.  
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.  
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

**MESSE SOLENNELLE**  
*Louis Vierne 1870-1937*

Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldst come under my roof, but speak the word only and my soul shall be healed.**

*The choir sings* **THE COMMUNION CHANT**

*Holy Communion is distributed at two stations: at the High Altar; and the Lady Altar, which involves no steps, and where gluten-free hosts are available.*

*All sing* **THE COMMUNION HYMN**

**NEH 271**

**ALLELUYA, sing to Jesus,  
His the sceptre, his the throne;  
Alleluya, his the triumph,  
His the victory alone:  
Hark the songs of peaceful Sion  
Thunder like a mighty flood;  
Jesus out of every nation,  
Hath redeemed us by his blood.**

**Alleluya, not as orphans  
Are we left in sorrow now;  
Alleluya, he is near us,  
Faith believes, nor questions how;  
Though the cloud from sight received him  
When the forty days were o'er,  
Shall our hearts forget his promise,  
'I am with you evermore'?**

**Alleluya, Bread of Angels,  
Thou on earth our food, our stay;  
Alleluya, here the sinful  
Flee to thee from day to day;  
Intercessor, Friend of sinners,  
Earth's Redeemer, plead for me,  
Where the songs of all the sinless  
Sweep across the crystal sea.**

**Alleluya, King eternal,  
Thee the Lord of lords we own;  
Alleluya, born of Mary,  
Earth thy footstool, heaven thy throne:  
Thou within the veil hast entered,**

**Robed in flesh, our great High Priest;  
Thou on earth both Priest and Victim  
In the Eucharistic Feast.**

W. Chatterton Dix 1837-98  
**HYFRYDOL** Richard Huw Pritchard 1811-87

## **THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

*Let us pray.*

God of Life, who for our redemption didst give thine only-begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection hast delivered us from the power of our enemy: grant us so to die daily unto sin that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his risen life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **THE SOLEMN BLESSING AND DISMISSAL**

The Lord be with you. **And with thy spirit.**

*All bow down for the blessing.*

May God, who by the Resurrection of his Only Begotten Son was pleased to confer on you the gift of redemption and of adoption, give you gladness by his blessing. **Amen.**

May he, by whose redeeming work you have received the gift of everlasting freedom, make you heirs to an eternal inheritance. **Amen.**

And may you, who have already risen with Christ in Baptism through faith, by living in a right manner on this earth, be united with him in the homeland of heaven. **Amen.**

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

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia! **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**

*All sing* **REGINA CÆLI**

**Joy to thee, O Queen of Heaven, alleluia.  
He whom thou wast meet to bear, alleluia.  
As he promised hath arisen, alleluia.  
Pour for us to God thy prayer, alleluia.**

Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia, alleluia.  
**For the Lord is risen indeed, alleluia, alleluia.**

O God, who by the Resurrection of thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, hast given joy unto the world: grant we beseech thee that by the help of his Mother, the Virgin Mary, we may obtain the joys of life eternal, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**VOLUNTARY**

Grand Choeur dialogué

*Eugène Gigout, 1844-1925*