



MASS IN THANKSGIVING
FOR MATRIMONY

Celebrant
Cardinal Vincent Nichols
Archbishop of Westminster

Saturday 15 May 2021 3pm

WELCOME TO WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL

Westminster Cathedral is the mother church of the Roman Catholic community of England and Wales, and the seat of the Archbishop of Westminster. The architectural masterwork of John Francis Bentley, the Cathedral has been the setting for the celebration of Mass and other sacraments continuously since opening for public worship in 1903, and is a focal point for the life of the Church, both nationally and on a diocesan level.

It was the wish of Cardinal Vaughan, whose energy and vision did so much to bring the dream of a Roman Catholic cathedral in London to reality, that the dignity of the building should be matched by nobility of liturgy and the best of music. The choral tradition of Westminster Cathedral remains central to its worship and mission, and the Cathedral Choir sings daily for much of the year.

We hope that you will participate fully in this celebration of Mass, and that – along with so many others – you will experience the presence of God in this holy place.

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can be left
in the collection boxes provided.

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You are kindly asked to note that the use of mobile phones, private cameras,
video or sound recording equipment is not permitted in the Cathedral.
PLEASE CHECK NOW THAT YOUR MOBILE PHONE IS SWITCHED OFF.

ORDER OF MASS

All stand at the sound of the Sacristy bell.

ENTRANCE HYMN

Come down, O Love divine
(*sung by the cantor only*)

Discendi, Amor santo
Bianco da Siena (d. 1434)
tr. Richard Frederick Littledale (1833-90)

Down Ampney
Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Cardinal: In the name of the Father;
and of the Son, ✠
and of the Holy Spirit.

All: **Amen.**
Peace be with you.
And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL ACT

Cardinal: Brothers and sisters, let us acknowledge our sins,
and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

**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.**

May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life.
Amen.

KYRIE

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

GLORIA

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 you thanks 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.

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

Cardinal: O God, Creator of all things,
who in the beginning made man and woman
that they might form the marriage bond,
bless and strengthen the union of your servants,
that they may show forth an ever more perfect image
of the union of Christ with his Church.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

All sit.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Apocalypse 19: 1. 5-9

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse.

I, John, seemed to hear the great sound of a huge crowd in heaven singing, 'Alleluia! Victory and glory and power to our God!'

Then a voice came from the throne; it said, 'Praise our God, you servants of his and all who, great or small, revere him.' And I seemed to hear the voices of a huge crowd, like the sound of the ocean or the great roar of thunder, answering 'Alleluia! The reign of the Lord our God Almighty has begun; let us be glad and joyful and give praise to God, because this is the time for the marriage of the Lamb. His bride is ready, and she has been able to dress herself in dazzling white linen because her linen is made of the good deeds of the saints.' The angel said, 'Write this: Happy are those who are invited to the wedding feast of the Lamb'.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 148:1-4. 9-14 ℣: v.12

℣: Praise the name of the Lord.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 Praise the Lord from the heavens,
praise him in the heights.
Praise him, all his angels,
praise him, all his host. ℣: | 3 All mountains and hills,
all fruit trees and cedars,
beasts, wild and tame,
reptiles and birds on the wing. ℣: |
| 2 Praise him, sun and moon,
praise him, shining stars.
Praise him, highest heavens
and the waters above the heavens. ℣: | 4 All earth's kings and peoples,
earth's princes and rulers,
young men and maidens,
old men together with children. ℣: |
| 5 Let them praise the name of the Lord
for he alone is exalted.
The splendour of his name
reaches beyond heaven and earth. | |

All stand with the Cardinal.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

God is love;
Let us love one another
as God has loved us.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

John 15:9-12

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples:

'As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my own joy may be in you and your joy be complete. This is my commandment: love one another, as I have loved you.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

All sit.

HOMILY

Cardinal Vincent Nichols
Archbishop of Westminster

THE RITE OF RENEWAL

The Cardinal invites all to stand and pray in silence to renew before God their commitment to live their marriage in holiness.

Cardinal: To commemorate that celebration,
at which you joined your lives in an unbreakable bond
through the Sacrament of Matrimony,
you now intend to renew before the Lord
the promises you made to one another.
Turn to the Lord in prayer,
that these vows may be strengthened by divine grace.

RENEWAL OF COMMITMENT

Join hands and pause for silent prayer.

The husbands say:

Blessed are you, Lord,
for by your goodness I took N. as my wife.

The wives say:

Blessed are you, Lord,
for by your goodness I took N. as my husband.

Both say:

Blessed are you, Lord,
for in the good and the bad times of our life
you have stood lovingly by our side.
Help us, we pray,
to remain faithful in our love for one another,
so that we may be true witnesses
to the covenant you have made with mankind.

Cardinal: May the Lord keep you safe all the days of your life.
May he be your comfort in adversity
and your support in prosperity.
May he fill your home with his blessings.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

During the preparation of the offerings the cantor sings:

OFFERTORY HYMN

Lord, accept the gifts we offer

Sister M. Teresine O.S.F.

*St Thomas
John Francis Wade's MS book (c.1740)*

All stand.

Cardinal: Pray, brothers and sisters,
that my sacrifice and yours
may be acceptable to God,
the almighty Father.
**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

Cardinal: O God, who made blood and water
flow from the side of Christ
as a sign of the mysteries of human rebirth,
be pleased, we pray, to receive
the offerings we make in thanksgiving
on behalf of your servants
and endow their marriage with your many gifts.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

PREFACE IV

Praise, the gift of God

Cardinal: 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.

Cardinal: It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God.
For, although you have no need of our praise,
yet our thanksgiving is itself your gift,
since our praises add nothing to your greatness,
but profit us for salvation,
through Christ our Lord.
And so, in company with the choirs of Angels,
we praise you, and with joy we proclaim:

SANCTUS

All: **Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Cardinal: The mystery of faith.
**We proclaim your Death, O Lord,
and profess your Resurrection
until you come again.**

DOXOLOGY

Through him, and with him, and in him,
O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honour is yours,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

All stand.

COMMUNION RITE

Cardinal:

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.**

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.

**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.

Amen.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And with your spirit.

AGNUS DEI

All: 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: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

All kneel.

Cardinal: 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.
**Lord, I am not worthy
that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word
and my soul shall be healed.**

The Cardinal displays the Body and Blood of Christ to all gathered, prior to approaching Holy Communion.

Cardinal: The Body of Christ.
Amen.
The Blood of Christ.
Amen.

Please follow the instructions of the stewards for Holy Communion. Please remove your face covering before reaching the priest, receive Holy Communion in front of the priest and then replace your face covering before returning to your place via the side aisles.

Those who are not Roman Catholic or do not wish to receive Holy Communion are welcome to come forward for a blessing. Please cross your arms across your chest to indicate to the priest that you wish to receive a blessing.

POSTCOMMUNION HYMN

Will you let me be your servant
(*sung by the cantor only*)

Richard Gillard (b.1953)

All stand.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Cardinal:

Let us pray.

Accompany with your blessing
from this day forward, O Lord,
those who have been anointed with the Holy Spirit
and nourished by the Sacrament of your Son,
so that, with all trials overcome,
they may gladden your Church by their holiness
and, through their works and their charity,
foster her growth in the world.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THE CONCLUDING RITES

BLESSING

Cardinal:

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

Blessed be the name of the Lord.

Now and for ever.

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

Who made heaven and earth.

May almighty God bless you,
the Father, ✠ and the Son, ✠ and the Holy ✠ Spirit.

Amen.

Go forth, the Mass is ended.

Thanks be to God.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Love divine, all loves excelling
(*sung by the cantor only*)

Charles Wesley (1707-88)

*Blaenwern
William Rowlands (1860-1937)*

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Toccata (Symphony No.5)
Charles-Marie Widor (1844-1937)

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