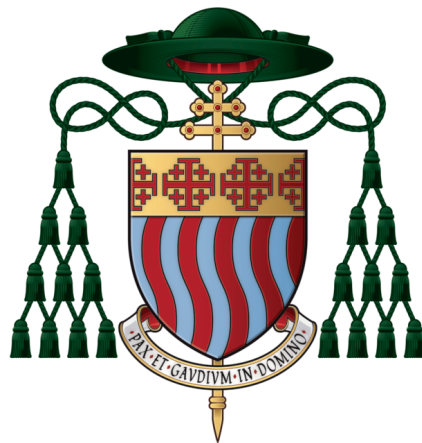


# WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL

## SOLEMN VESPERS

Evening Prayer of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Eve of the Installation of the Archbishop of Westminster



## INSTALLATION

of

**THE MOST REVEREND CHARLES PHILLIP RICHARD MOTH**

*Twelfth Archbishop of Westminster*

Friday 13 February 2026

5.30pm

The Installation of an Archbishop is a joyful occasion of great significance in the life of a diocese. The rites are rich in symbolism, incorporating detailed ceremonial. Before such an event it is good to make time for prayer; as individuals, as communities, as a diocese, and to pray for ourselves, our Church and our work.

The public prayer of God's people has always been considered among the first duties of the Church. Over the centuries, the traditional elements of Christian prayer were carefully arranged, to sanctify the whole day in prayer in the Divine Office.

The Office of Vespers, the traditional Evening Prayer of the Church, offers to God our praise for the day that is ending, and in the words of the Canticle of Mary, 'glorifies the Lord' for his goodness to us.

This evening's Vespers is taken from the Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary, invoking her prayers as Patron of the Diocese under the title of Our Blessed Lady, the Immaculate Conception.

## MUSIC BEFORE VESPERS

*played by Alexander Robson, Organ Scholar*

Choral No 1 in E major *César Franck (1822-90)*

Toccata quinta sopra i pedali per l'organo,  
e senza *Girolamo Frescobaldi (1583-1643)*

Ave maris stella *Nicolas de Grigny (1672-1703)*

- i. Plein jeu
- ii. Fugue
- iii. Duo
- iv. Dialogue sur les grands jeux

# THE OFFICE OF VESPERS

*All stand at the sound of the Sacristy bell.*

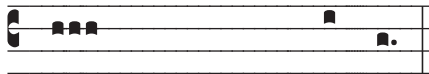
*As the Choir and Clergy move to the Sanctuary a Litany of Saints is sung invoking the Patron and Titular Saints of the Parish Churches, Schools, Religious Communities and other Saints associated with the Diocese of Westminster.*



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



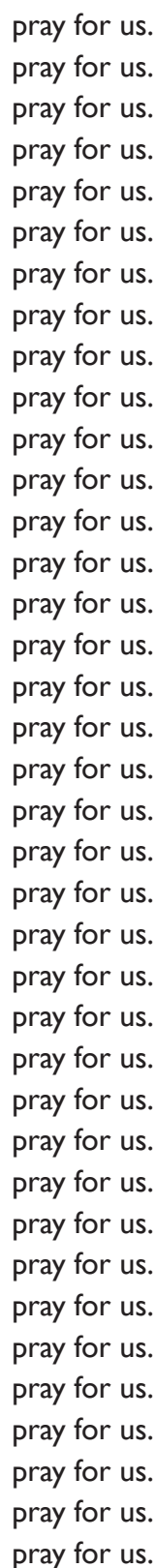
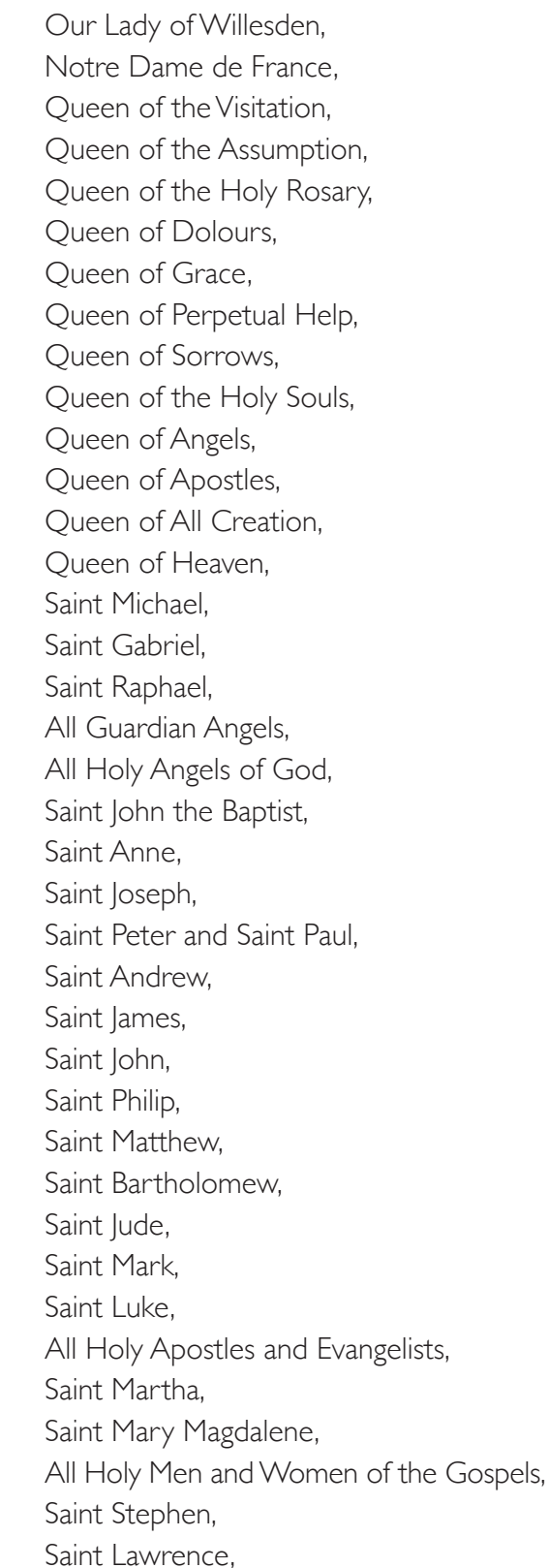
Lord, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy.

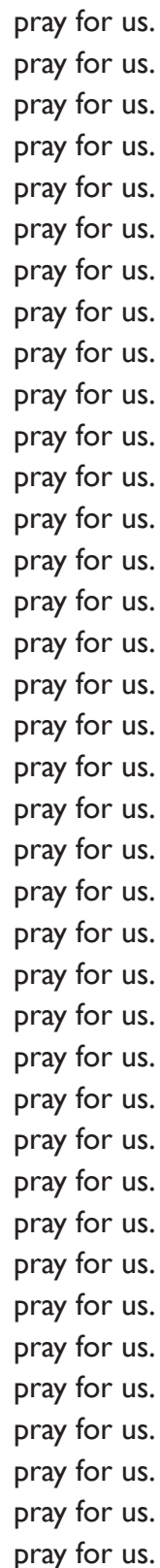
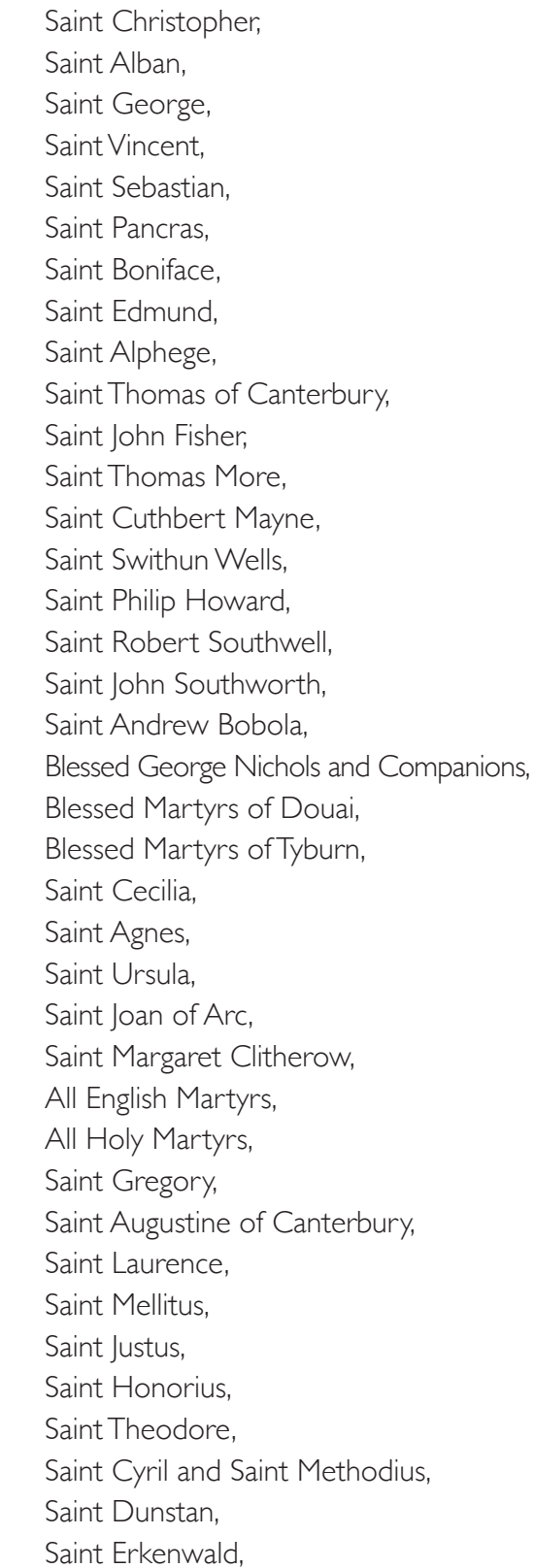


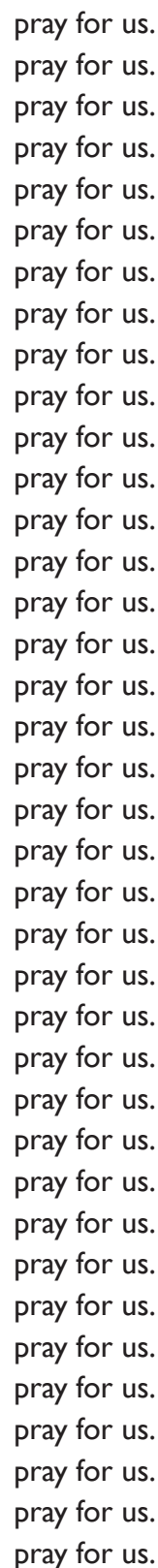
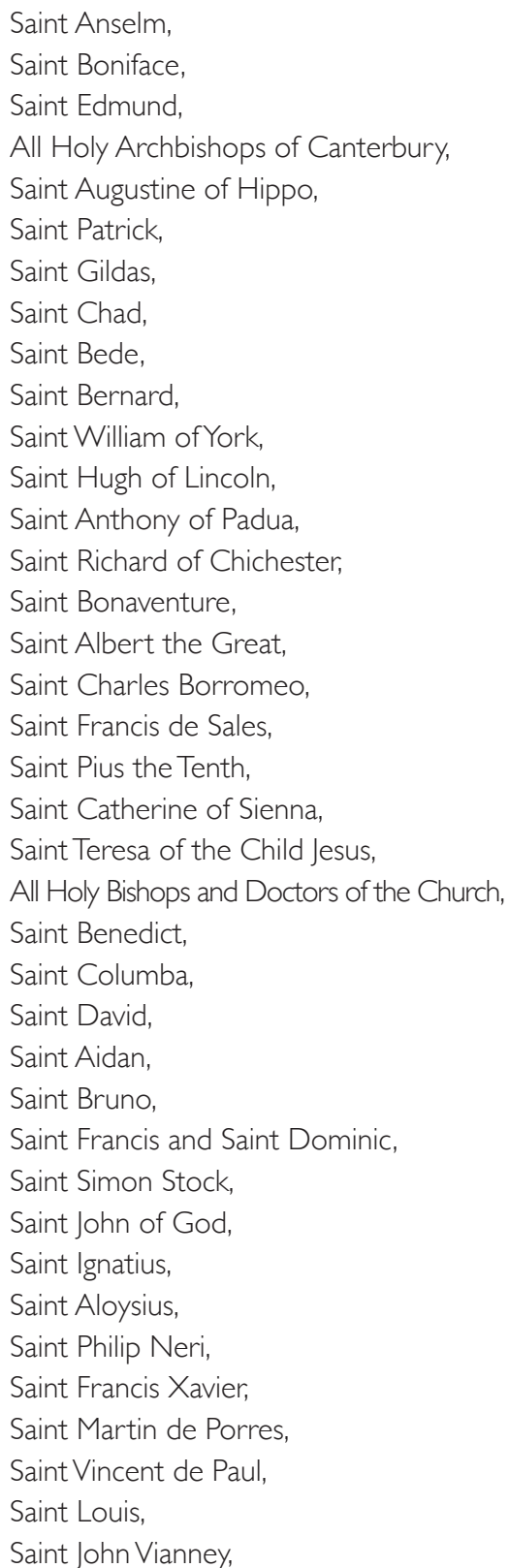
Jesus, Holy Redeemer,  
Jesus, Christ the King,  
Jesus, Good Shepherd,  
Jesus, Divine Saviour,  
Holy Trinity, one God,  
Holy Mary, Mother of God,  
Mother of the Saviour,  
Mother of Good Counsel,  
Mother of the Church,  
Our Lady Immaculate,  
Our Lady of the Sacred Heart,  
Our Lady, Immaculate Heart,  
Our Lady, Help of Christians,  
Our Lady of Victories,  
Our Lady of Czestochowa,  
Our Lady of Fatima,  
Our Lady of Guadalupe,  
Our Lady of Hal,  
Our Lady of Lebanon,  
Our Lady of Loreto,  
Our Lady of Lourdes,  
Our Lady of Mount Carmel,  
Our Lady of Muswell,  
Our Lady of Walsingham,  
Our Lady of Westminster;



pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.  
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pray for us.



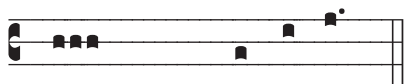








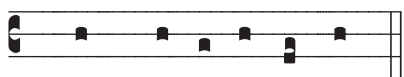
By your Most Sacred Heart,  
By your gift of the Holy Spirit,



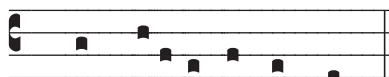
Be merciful to us sinners,  
Guide and protect your holy Church,  
Bring all people together in trust and  
peace,  
Keep Pope Leo and all the Bishops  
in faithful service to your holy Church,  
Bless all our bishops, priests and deacons  
in this Diocese of Westminster,  
Bless all men and women in  
religious and consecrated life,  
Bless all lay men and women of faith,  
Bless all our parishes, schools,  
and chaplaincies,  
Strengthen us and keep us in your holy  
service,  
Comfort all the troubled and afflicted  
with your mercy,  
Reward a hundredfold your servant  
Vincent, Cardinal Priest  
of your Holy Church,  
Bless and sustain your servant Richard,  
chosen to be Archbishop  
of Westminster,  
Jesus, Son of the living God,



Christ, hear us.



Christ, graciously hear us.



Lord, deliver us, we pray.  
Lord, deliver us, we pray.



Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer.  
Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer.

Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer.

Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer.

Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer.

Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer.  
Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer.

Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer.

Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer.

Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer.

Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer.

Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer.  
Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer.



Christ, hear us.



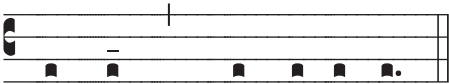
Christ, graciously hear us.



*The Office is celebrated by the Right Reverend Paul McAleenan, Titular Bishop of Mercia and Auxiliary Bishop of Westminster.*

INTRODUCTION TO THE OFFICE

*The Celebrant sings:*

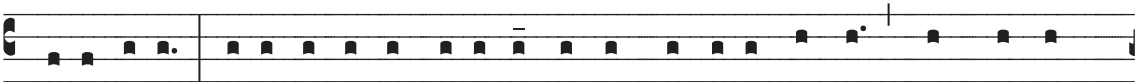


O God, ☩ come to our aid.

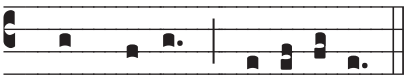
*All respond:*



O Lord, make haste to help us. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the



Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without



end. Amen. Al-le-lu-ia.

*All remain standing to sing:*

## OFFICE HYMN



Hail, Queen of heaven, the o - cean star, Guide of the wand-er-er here be - low:  
Thrown on life's surge, we claim thy care: Save us from pe - ril and from woe.  
Mo-ther of Christ, Star of the Sea, Pray for the wan-der-er, pray for me.

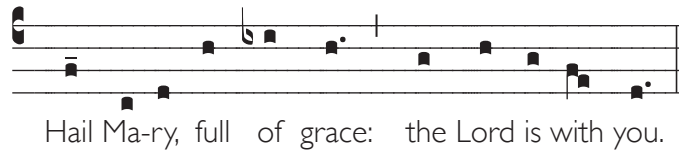
- 2 O gentle, chaste and spotless Maid,  
We sinners make our prayers through thee;  
Remind thy Son that he has paid  
The price of our iniquity.  
Virgin most pure, Star of the Sea,  
Pray for the sinner, pray for me.
- 3 Sojourners in this vale of tears,  
To thee, blest advocate, we cry;  
Pity our sorrows, calm our fears,  
And soothe with hope our misery.  
Refuge in grief, Star of the Sea,  
Pray for the mourner, pray for me.
- 4 And while to him who reigns above,  
In Godhead One, in Persons Three,  
The source of life, of grace, of love,  
Homage we pay on bended knee;  
Do thou, bright Queen, Star of the Sea,  
Pray for thy children, pray for me.

*based on Salve Regina  
John Lingard (1771-1851)*

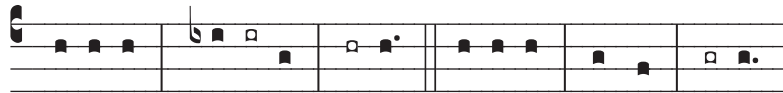
*Stella  
traditional melody in Henri Friedrich Hémy's  
Easy Hymn-Tunes for Catholic Schools 1851*

# PSALMODY

## ANTIPHON I



## PSALM 121



*Cantors* 1. I rejoiced when I | heard them | say: \*  
'Let us go | to God's | house.'

*All sit.*

*Choir* 2. And now our | feet are | standing \*  
within your gates, | O Je- | rusalem.

*All* 3. **Jerusalem is | built as a | city \***  
**strong- | ly com- | pact.**

*Choir* 4. It is there that the | tribes go | up, \*  
the tribes | of the | Lord.

*All* 5. **For Israel's | law it | is, \***  
**there to praise | the Lord's | name.**

6. There were set the | thrones of | judgement \*  
of the | house of | David.

7. **For the peace of Je- | rusalem | pray: \***  
**'Peace be | to your | homes.**

8. May peace | reign in your | walls, \*  
in your pa- | laces, | peace.'

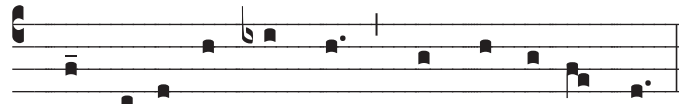
9. **For love of my | brethren and | friends \***  
**I say: | 'Peace up- | on you.'**

10. For love of the | house of the | Lord \*  
I will ask | for your | good.

**Glory be to the Father, and | to the | Son, \***  
**and to the | Holy | Spirit.**

As it was in the beginning, is now, and | ever | shall be, \*  
world without | end. A- | men.

### ANTIPHON



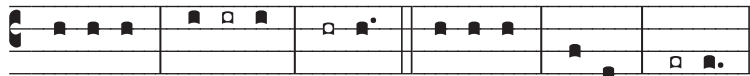
Hail Ma-ry, full of grace: the Lord is with you.

### ANTIPHON II



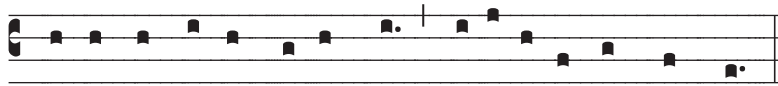
I am the servant of the Lord; let it be as you have said.

### PSALM 126



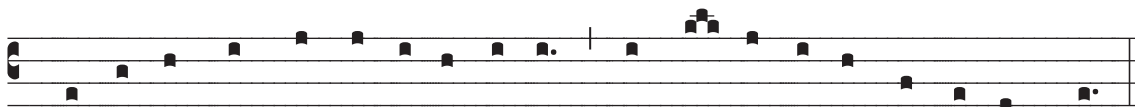
- Cantors* 1. If the Lord does not | build the | house,  
in vain do its | builders | labour;
- Choir* 2. if the Lord does not watch | over the | city, \*  
in vain does the watch- | man keep | vigil.
- All* 3. **In vain is your | earlier | rising, \***  
**your going la- | ter to | rest,**
- Choir* 4. you who toil for the | bread you | eat: \*  
when he pours gifts on his beloved | while they | slumber.
- All* 5. **Truly sons are a | gift from the | Lord, \***  
**a blessing, the fruit | of the | womb.**
6. Indeed the | sons of | youth \*  
are like arrows in the hand | of a | warrior.
7. **O the happiness | of the | man \***  
**who has filled his quiver | with these | arrows!**
8. He will have no | cause for | shame \*  
he disputes with his foes | in the | gateways.
- Glory be to the Father, and | to the | Son, \***  
**and to the | Holy | Spirit.**
- As it was in the beginning, is now, and | ever | shall be, \*  
world without | end. A- | men.

### ANTIPHON



I am the servant of the Lord; let it be as you have said.

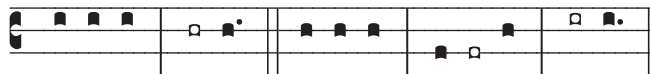
### ANTIPHON III



You are the most bles-sed of all women, and bles-sed is the fruit of your womb.

### CANTICLE

Ephesians 1:3-10



- |                |     |  |
|----------------|-----|--|
| <i>Cantors</i> | 1.  | Blessed be the God and   Father *<br>of our Lord   Jesus   Christ,   |
| <i>Choir</i>   | 2.  | who has blessed us in   Christ *<br>with every spiritual blessing in the   heavenly   places.  |
| <i>All</i>     | 3.  | <b>He chose us in   him *</b><br><b>before the foundation   of the   world,</b>  |
| <i>Choir</i>   | 4.  | that we should be   holy *<br>and blame-   less be-   fore him.  |
| <i>All</i>     | 5.  | <b>He destined us in   love *</b><br><b>to be his sons through   Jesus   Christ,</b>   |
|                | 6.  | according to the purpose of his will,<br>to the praise of his glorious   grace *<br>which he freely bestowed on us in   the Be-   loved. |
|                | 7.  | <b>In him we have redemption through his   blood, *</b><br><b>the forgiveness   of our   trespasses,</b>                                 |
|                | 8.  | according to the riches of his   grace *<br>which he la-   vished up-   on us.   |
|                | 9.  | <b>He has made known to us in all wisdom and   insight *</b><br><b>the mystery   of his   will,</b>                                      |
|                | 10. | according to his   purpose *<br>which he set   forth in   Christ.  |

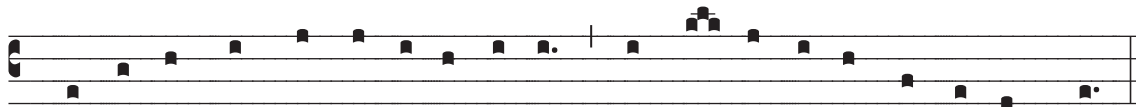
11. His purpose he set forth in | Christ, \*  
as a plan for the ful- | ness of | time,

12. to unite all things in | him, \*  
things in heaven and | things on | earth.

**Glory be to the Father, and to the | Son, \*  
and to the | Holy | Spirit.**

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever | shall be, \*  
world without | end. A- | men.

#### ANTIPHON



You are the most bles-sed of all women, and bles-sed is the fruit of your womb.

#### SCRIPTURE READING

Philippians 3:8-14

I believe nothing can happen that will outweigh the supreme advantage of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For him I have accepted the loss of everything, and I look on everything as so much rubbish if only I can have Christ and be given a place in him. I am no longer trying for perfection by my own efforts, the perfection that comes from the Law, but I want only the perfection that comes through faith in Christ, and is from God and based on faith. All I want to know is Christ and the power of his resurrection and share his sufferings by reproducing the pattern of his death. Not that I have become perfect yet: I have not won, but I am still running, trying to capture the prize for which Christ Jesus captured me. I can assure you my brothers, I am far from thinking that I have already won, All I can say is that I forget the past and I strain ahead for what is still to come; I am racing for the finish, for the prize to which God calls us upwards to receive in Christ Jesus.

*All remain seated.*

## HOMILY

*is given by*

The Most Reverend Richard Moth  
*Archbishop-Elect of Westminster*

*All remain seated.*

### SHORT RESPONSORY



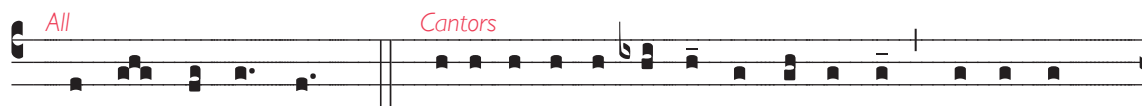
Hail Ma-ry, full of grace: the Lord is with you.



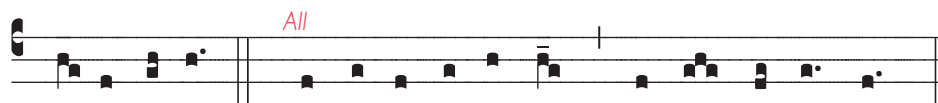
℣: Hail Ma-ry, full of grace: the Lord is with you.



℟: You are the most blessed of all women and blessed is the fruit of your womb.



℣: The Lord is with you. ℟: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the



Ho-ly Spi- rit. ℣: Hail Ma-ry, full of grace: the Lord is with you.

*All stand.*

### MAGNIFICAT ANTIPHON

Beáta es, María, quæ credidísti: perficiéntur in te quæ dicta sunt tibi a Dómino, allelúia.

*Blessed are you, Mary, because you believed that all those things which were said to you by the Lord will be fulfilled, alleluia.*

## MAGNIFICAT

Magnificat *	<i>My soul</i>
ánima mea Dóminum,	<i>glorifies the Lord,</i>
et exultávit spíritus meus *	<i>and my spirit rejoices</i>
in Deo salutári meo.	<i>in God my Saviour.</i>
Quia respéxit humilitátem ancíllæ suæ, *	<i>He looks on his servant in her lowliness,</i>
ecce enim ex hoc beátam me dicent	<i>henceforth, all generations will call</i>
omnes generatiónes.	<i>me blessed.</i>
Quia fecit mihi magna qui potens est: *	<i>The Almighty works marvels for me:</i>
et sanctum nomen eius,	<i>Holy is his name.</i>
Et misericórdia eius a progénies in progenies *	<i>His mercy is from age to age</i>
timéntibus eum.	<i>on those who fear him.</i>
Fecit poténtiam in bráchio suo, *	<i>He puts forth his arm in strength</i>
dispérsit supérbos mente cordis sui,	<i>and scatters the proud-hearted.</i>
depósuit poténtes de sede, *	<i>He casts the mighty from their thrones</i>
et exaltávit húmiles,	<i>and raises the lowly.</i>
esuriéntes implévit bonis, *	<i>He fills the starving with good things,</i>
et divites dimísit inánes.	<i>sends the rich away empty.</i>
Suscépit Israel, púerum suum, *	<i>He protects Israel, his servant,</i>
recordátus misericórdiæ suæ,	<i>remembering his mercy,</i>
sicut locútus est ad patres nostros, *	<i>the mercy promised to our fathers,</i>
Abraham et sémini eius in sæcula.	<i>to Abraham and his sons for ever.</i>
Glória Patri, et Fílio, *	<i>Glory be to the Father and to the Son</i>
et Spirítui Sancto,	<i>and to the Holy Spirit,</i>
Sicut erat in princípio, et nunc, et semper, *	<i>as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,</i>
et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen.	<i>world without end. Amen.</i>

*Octavi toni*  
*Tomás Luis de Victoria (1548-1611)*

## MAGNIFICAT ANTIPHON

Beáta es, María, quæ credidísti: perficiéntur in te quæ dicta sunt tibi a Dómino, allelúia.

*Blessed are you, Mary, because you believed that all those things which were said to you by the Lord will be fulfilled, alleluia.*

*All remain standing.*



## INTERCESSIONS

Let us praise God the Father who chose Mary as the mother of his Son and wanted all generations to call her blessed. With confidence we pray:

**R. May the Virgin Mary intercede for us.**

Father, you did great things for the Virgin Mary and brought her, body and soul, to the glory of heaven; fill the hearts of your children with the hope of Christ's glory. R.

Through the prayers of Mary, our mother, heal the sick, comfort the sorrowful, pardon the sinners; grant peace and salvation to all. R.

You favoured Mary with the fulness of grace; bestow your overflowing blessings on all people. R.

May your Church be united heart and soul, held fast by love; and may your faithful be joined in continuous prayer, with Mary the mother of Jesus. R.

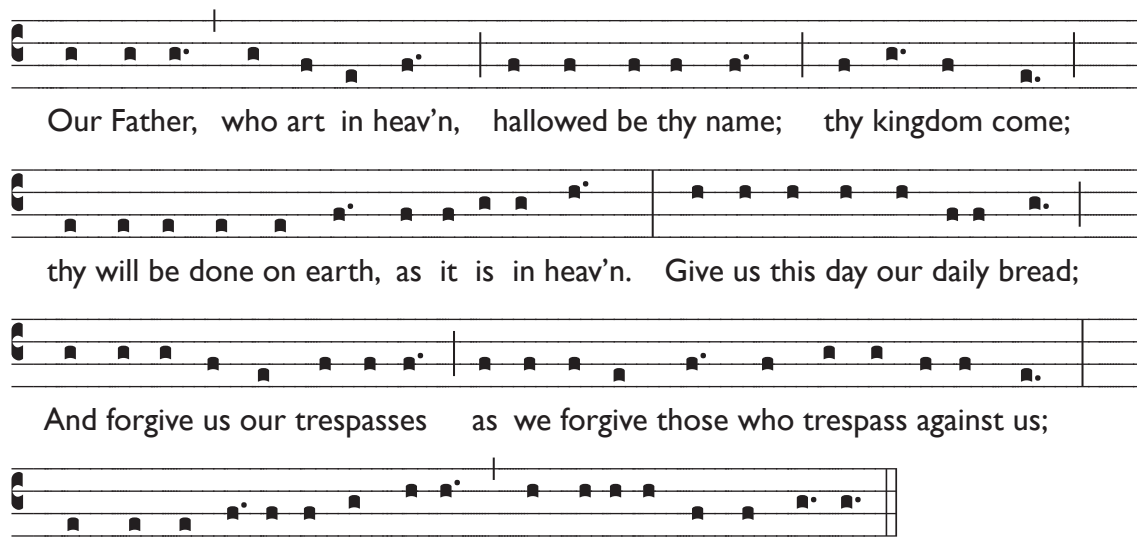
You entrusted the infant Jesus to the care of his earthly parents Mary and Joseph; bestow on Archbishop Richard the grace to care for your children in this diocese with wisdom and love. R.

Father, you exalted the Virgin Mary and crowned her queen of heaven; may the dead enter your kingdom and rejoice with your saints for ever. R.

Let us pray with confidence to the Father in the words our Saviour gave us:

*All sing:*

## LORD'S PRAYER



Our Father, who art in heav'n, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come;

thy will be done on earth, as it is in heav'n. Give us this day our daily bread;

And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;

and lead us not in-to temptation, but de-li-ver us from e- vil.

*The Celebrant sings:*

## COLLECT

Lord God,  
as you brought joy to the world  
through the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
grant that through his Virgin Mother  
we may come to the joys of eternal life.  
We make our prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
God for ever and ever.  
℟️ **Amen.**

*All sit.*

*The Choir sings:*

## THE MOTET

Ave María, grátia plena: Dóminus tecum: benedícta tu in muliéribus, et benedíctus fructus ventris tui, Iesus Christus. Sancta María, Regína cæli, dulcis et pia O mater Dei, ora pro nobis peccatóribus ut cum eléctis te videámus. Amen.

*Hail Mary, full of grace: the Lord is with you: Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus Christ. Holy Mary, Queen of heaven, sweet and good Mother of God, pray for us sinners that with the chosen we may see you. Amen.*

*Tomás Luis de Victoria*

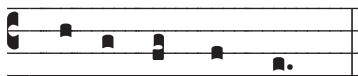
*All stand.*

*The Celebrant gives:*

## THE BLESSING

℣️ The Lord be with you.  
℟️ **And also with you.**  
℣️ 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.**

*The Cantors sing:*



℣. Let us bless the Lord.

*All respond:*



℟. Thanks be to God.

*All sing:*

#### THE ANTIPHON TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



A-ve, Re-gí-na cæ-ló-rum, \* A-ve, Dó-mi-na an-ge-ló-rum, Sal-ve, ra-dix, sal-ve,  
por-ta, Ex qua mun-do lux est or-ta. Gau-de Vir-go glo-ri-ó-sa, Su-per  
om-nes spe-ci-ó-sa; Va-le o val-de de-có-ra, Et pro no-bis Chris-tum  
ex-ó-ra.

*Hail, O Queen of Heaven enthroned, hail, by angels Mistress owned,  
Root of Jesse, Gate of morn, whence the world's true light was born.  
Glorious Virgin, joy to thee, lovliest whom in heaven they see,  
fairest thou where all are fair! Plead with Christ our sins to spare.*

#### ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Fugue on the Magnificat (BWV 733)

*Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)*

*Members of the congregation are requested to remain  
in their places until invited to move by the Stewards.*

