

The Introductory Rite

The cantor sings the Introit.

Drop down, ye heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness: let the earth open, and let her bring forth salvation. The heavens declare the glory of God: and the firmament sheweth his handiwork. (Isaiah 45.8; Ps 19)

The celebrant says

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.

Confession

Brethren, to prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries, let us call to mind our sins.

Silence is kept.

Lord Jesus Christ, thou wast born for our salvation.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Thou didst come as Saviour to bring wholeness and peace.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Thou comest to bring light into the darkness of the world.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

May Almighty God forgive us all our sins and, through the offering of this holy sacrifice, make us worthy partakers of his heavenly banquet.

Amen.

Gloria in Excelsis Deo

The celebrant intones the *Gloria in Excelsis Deo*.

Gloria in excelsis Deo * et in terra pax hominibus bonæ voluntatis. Laudamus te, benedicimus te, adoramus te, glorificamus te, gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tuam. Domine Deus, Rex cælestis, Deus Pater omnipotens. Domine Fili unigenite, Iesu Christe. Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis; qui tollis peccata mundi, suscipe deprecationem nostram. Qui sedes at dexteram Patris, miserere nobis. Quoniam tu solus Sanctus, tu solus Dominus, tu solus Altissimus, Iesu Christe, cum Sancto Spiritu in gloria Dei Patris. Amen.

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, 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.

The celebrant sings the Collect.

Let us pray.

We beseech thee, O Lord, pour thy grace into our hearts: that, as we have known the incarnation of thy Son Jesus Christ by the message of an Angel : so by his Cross and passion we may be brought unto the glory of his resurrection. Through the same Christ our Lord : Who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.

Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

First Lesson

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

Brethren, it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins.

Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, 'Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me: In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin thou hast had no pleasure.'

Then said I, 'Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God.'

Above when he said, 'Sacrifice and offering and burnt offerings and offering for sin thou wouldest not, neither hadst pleasure therein; which are offered by the law;'

Then said he, 'Lo, I come to do thy will, O God.' He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second.

By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Hebrews 10.4–10

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Tract

The cantor sings the Tract.

Hearken, O daughter, and consider, incline thine ear: so shall the King have pleasure in thy beauty.

∿ The rich among the people shall make their supplication before thee: kings' daughters were among thy honourable women.

∿ The virgins that be her fellows shall be brought unto the king: they that bear her company shall be brought unto thee.

∿ With joy and gladness shall they be brought: and shall enter into the King's palace.

Gospel reading

The Lord be with you
and with thy spirit.

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.
Glory be to thee, O Lord.

At that time, the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, to a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary.

And the angel came in unto her, and said, 'Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women.' And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be.

And the angel said unto her, 'Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: and he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.'

Then said Mary unto the angel, 'How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?'

And the angel answered and said unto her, 'The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God. And, behold, thy cousin Elisabeth, she hath also conceived a son in her old age: and this is the sixth month with her, who was called barren. For with God nothing shall be impossible.'

And Mary said, 'Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word.'

And the angel departed from her.

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

Homily

Fr Andrew Walker
The Vicar

The Creed

The Nicene Creed is sung.

I believe in one God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible:

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, Begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of very God, Begotten, not made, Being of one substance with the Father, By whom all things were made: Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, And was made man, And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried, And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead: Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord and giver of life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spake by the Prophets. And I believe one Catholick and Apostolick Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins. And I look for the Resurrection of the dead, And the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayer of the Faithful

The Celebrant says

Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus, and for all according to their needs.

After each petition

Lord, in thy mercy
hear our prayer.

At the end

Merciful Father
accept these our prayers, for the sake of thy Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Celebrant prepares the altar, then censes the offerings and the people.

The Celebrant says

Pray, brethren, 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 Church.

The Celebrant sings the Prayer over the Gifts.

We beseech thee, Lord, stablish in our hearts the mysteries of the true religion: that, as we do believe thy Son, conceived of a Virgin, to be very God and very Man; so by the power of his resurrection we may be found worthy to attain to everlasting felicity. Through the same 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 our Lord God.
It is meet and right so to do.

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God, creator of heaven and earth.

Because thou didst give Jesus Christ thine only Son to be born for us; who, by the operation of the Holy Ghost, was made very man of the substance of the Virgin Mary his mother; and that without spot of sin, to make us clean from all sin.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying:

The cantor sings the Sanctus.

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus, Dominus, Deus Sabaoth. Pleni sunt cæli et terra gloria tua. Hosanna in excelsis. Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini. Hosanna in excelsis.

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.

The Celebrant continues.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of thy tender mercy didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the Cross for our redemption; who made there (by his one oblation of himself once offered) a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death, until his coming again:

Hear us, O merciful Father, we most humbly beseech thee; and grant that we receiving these thy creatures of bread and wine, according to thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood:

Who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took Bread; and, when he had given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, Take, eat; this is my Body which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me.

Likewise after supper he took the Cup; and, when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you and for many for the remission of sins: Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Wherefore O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy humble servants, having in remembrance the precious death and passion of thy dear Son, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, entirely desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant, that by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we and all thy whole Church may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee, that all we, who are partakers of this holy Communion, may be fulfilled with thy grace and heavenly benediction.

And although we be unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service; not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offences, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honour and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

Our Father, which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil.

Deliver us, Lord, from every evil, and grant us peace in our day. In thy mercy keep us free from sin and protect us from all anxiety as we wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

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

The Peace

Lord Jesus Christ, who didst say to thine apostles, Peace be with you, my peace I give unto you, look not on our sins but on the faith of thy Church and grant to her that unity and peace which is according to thy will; who with the Father and the Holy Spirit livest and reignest for ever and ever.

Amen.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and with thy spirit.

The Communion

The cantor sings the *Agnus Dei*.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem.

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.

The Celebrant shows the consecrated host to the people, saying

Behold the Lamb of God, behold him that taketh away the sins of the world.

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

The Celebrant receives communion. A time of silence is kept in adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

If you are following the mass at home, you may like to use this time to make your spiritual communion, using words such as the following:

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

The cantor then sings the Communion Sentence while the Celebrant clears the altar.

Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel. (Is 7)

The Celebrant then sings the Postcommunion Prayer.

O God, who didst vouchsafe that thy Word should be made flesh in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary, at the message of an Angel: grant to us thy humble servants that we, believing her to be indeed the Mother of God, may by her intercession find favour in thy sight. Through the same Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Concluding Rite

The Celebrant sings

The Lord be with you
and with thy spirit.

The blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be
amongst you and remain with you always.

Amen.

Ite missa est.

Deo gratias.

Go, the mass is ended.

Thanks be to God.

An organ voluntary is played.

Fuga sopra il Magnificat, BWV 733

J. S. Bach