

BASILICA OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE  
OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION



HOLY SATURDAY  
THE EASTER VIGIL

30 MARCH 2024



# ORDER OF CELEBRATION

*His Eminence*

**CHRISTOPHE CARDINAL PIERRE**

Apostolic Nuncio to the United States of America

*Celebrant and Homilist*

## PART ONE THE SOLEMN BEGINNING OF THE VIGIL (LUCERNARIUM)

### BLESSING OF FIRE AND LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE

*The Celebrant and ministers gather in the Narthex of the Basilica, where a fire is kindled. The faithful are instructed in the meaning of the Vigil. The fire is blessed. The Easter Candle is lit from the new fire. The Deacon carries the Easter Candle into the darkened Basilica.*

### PROCESSION



Choir: Born as a Son,  
led like a lamb,  
sacrificed like a sheep,  
buried as a man,  
he rises from the dead as God,  
being by nature both God and man.

Assembly: **Thanks be to God!**

Choir: He is all things:  
when he judges, he is law,  
when he teaches, Word,  
when he saves, grace,  
when he begets, Father,  
when he is begotten, Son,  
when he suffers, Lamb,  
when he is buried, man,  
when he rises, God.

Assembly: **Thanks be to God!**

Choir: Such is Jesus Christ:  
to him be glory forever. Amen.

Deacon: The Light of Christ.

Assembly: **Thanks be to God!**

Choir: Come, then, all you races of humankind  
whom sin has saturated,  
and receive the forgiveness of sin.

Assembly: **Thanks be to God!**

Choir: For it is I who am your forgiveness,  
I, the saving Pasch,  
I, the Lamb sacrificed for you,  
I, your purification, I, your life,  
I, your resurrection, I, your light,  
I, your salvation, I, your King!

Assembly: **Thanks be to God!**

Choir: It is I who bring you to the heights of heaven:  
it is I who shall raise you up here on earth.  
I will show you the eternal Father.  
I will raise you with my right hand.

Deacon: The Light of Christ.

Assembly: **Thanks be to God!**

Choir: Let us receive the light  
and we will receive God!  
Let us receive the light  
and become disciples of the Lord.  
For he promised the Father:  
“I will reveal your name to my friends,  
in the midst of the congregation I will sing of you.”

Assembly: **Thanks be to God!**

Choir: Sing, O Word, his praises  
and reveal God, your Father to us!  
Your words will save us and your song will teach us.

## EASTER PROCLAMATION (EXSULTET)

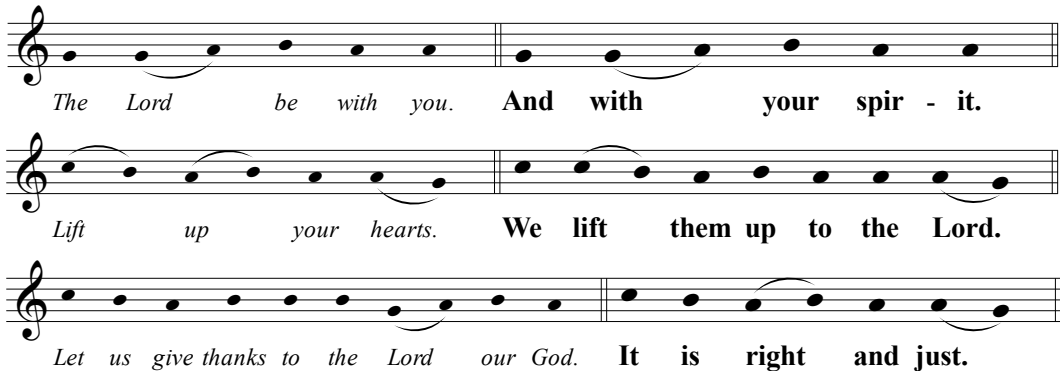
Rev. Mr. Jacob Romero

Exult, let them exult, the hosts of heaven,  
exult, let Angel ministers of God exult,  
let the trumpet of salvation  
sound aloud our mighty King's triumph!

Be glad, let earth be glad, as glory floods her,  
ablaze with light from her eternal King,  
let all corners of the earth be glad,  
knowing an end to gloom and darkness.

Rejoice, let Mother Church also rejoice,  
arrayed with the lightning of his glory,  
let this holy building shake with joy,  
filled with the mighty voices of the peoples.

Therefore, dearest friends,  
standing in the awesome glory of this holy light,  
invoke with me, I ask you,  
the mercy of God almighty,  
that he, who has been pleased to number me,  
though unworthy, among the Levites,  
may pour into me his light unshadowed,  
that I may sing this candle's perfect praises.



It is truly right and just,  
with ardent love of mind and heart,  
and with devoted service of our voice,  
to acclaim our God invisible, the almighty Father,  
and Jesus Christ, our Lord, his Son, his Only-Begotten.

Who for our sake paid Adam's debt to the eternal Father,  
and, pouring out his own dear Blood  
wiped clean the record of our ancient sinfulness.

These, then, are the feasts of Passover,  
in which is slain the Lamb, the one true Lamb,  
whose Blood anoints the doorposts of believers.

This is the night,  
when once you led our forebears, Israel's children,  
from slavery in Egypt  
and made them pass dry-shod through the Red Sea.

This is the night  
that with a pillar of fire  
banished the darkness of sin.

This is the night  
that even now, throughout the world,  
sets Christian believers apart from worldly vices  
and from the gloom of sin,  
leading them to grace  
and joining them to his holy ones.

This is the night,  
when Christ broke the prison-bars of death,  
and rose victorious from the underworld.

Our birth would have been no gain,  
had we not been redeemed.  
O wonder of your humble care for us!  
O love, O charity beyond all telling,  
to ransom a slave you gave away your Son!

O truly necessary sin of Adam,  
destroyed completely by the Death of Christ!

O happy fault  
that earned so great, so glorious a Redeemer!

O truly blessed night,  
worthy alone to know the time and hour  
when Christ rose from the underworld!

This is the night  
of which it is written:  
The night shall be as bright as day,  
dazzling is the night for me,  
and full of gladness.

The sanctifying power of this night  
dispels wickedness, washes faults away,  
restores innocence to the fallen, and joy to mourners,  
drives out hatred, fosters concord, and brings down the mighty.

On this, your night of grace, O holy Father,  
accept this candle, a solemn offering,  
the work of bees and of your servants' hands,  
an evening sacrifice of praise,  
this gift from your most holy Church.

But now we know the praises of this pillar,  
which glowing fire ignites for God's honor,  
a fire into many flames divided,  
yet never dimmed by sharing of its light,  
for it is fed by melting wax,  
drawn out by mother bees  
to build a torch so precious.

O truly blessed night,  
when things of heaven are wed to those of earth,  
and divine to the human.

Therefore, O Lord,  
we pray you that this candle,  
hallowed to the honor of your name,  
may persevere undimmed,  
to overcome the darkness of this night.

Receive it as a pleasing fragrance,  
and let it mingle with the lights of heaven.

May this flame be found still burning  
by the Morning Star:  
the one Morning Star who never sets,  
Christ your Son,  
who, coming back from death's domain,  
has shed his peaceful light on humanity,  
and lives and reigns for ever and ever.



## PART TWO

### THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

*All are seated and the candles are extinguished.*

#### INSTRUCTION

#### READING I

Genesis 1:1-2:2

*Valencia Camp, lector*

#### PSALM RESPONSE I

Psalm 104:1-2a, 5-6, 10, 12-14, 24, 35



Lord, send out your spi - rit, and re-new the face of the earth.

Bless the Lord, my soul!  
Lord God, how great you are,  
clothed in majesty and glory  
wrapped in light as in a robe! R.

You make springs gush forth in valleys;  
they flow in between the hills.  
On their banks dwell the birds of heaven:  
from the branches they sing their song. R.

You founded the earth on its base,  
to stand firm from age to age.  
You wrapped it with the ocean like a cloak;  
the waters stood higher than the mountains. R.

From your dwelling you water the hills;  
earth drinks its fill of your gift.  
You make the grass grow for the cattle  
and the plants to serve man's needs. R.

How many are your works, O Lord!  
In wisdom you have made them all.  
The earth is full of your riches.  
Bless the Lord, my soul! R.

#### PRAYER

*Assembly Standing*

#### READING II

Genesis 22:1-18

*Callista Gingrich, lector*



PSALM RESPONSE II

Psalm 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11



You are my in - her - i - tance, O Lord.

O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup; And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad;  
it is you yourself who are my prize. even my body shall rest in safety.  
I keep the Lord ever in my sight; For you will not leave my soul among the dead,  
since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm. R. nor let your beloved know decay. R.

You will show me the path of life,  
the fullness of joy in your presence,  
at your right hand happiness for ever. R.

PRAYER

*Assembly Standing*

READING III

Exodus 14:15-15:1

*Edward Cuccias, lector*

PSALM RESPONSE III

Exodus 15:1-6, 17-18



Let us sing to the Lord; he has clothed him - self in glo - ry.

I will sing to the Lord, glorious his triumph! The chariots of Pharaoh he buried in the sea,  
Horse and rider he has thrown into the sea! the flower of his army is hurled into the sea.  
The Lord is my strength, my song, my salvation. R. The deeps hide them; they sank like a stone. R.

This is my God and I extol him, Your right hand, Lord, glorious in its power,  
my father's God and I give him praise. your right hand, Lord, has shattered the enemy.  
The Lord is a warrior! The Lord is his name. R. The people, the people you have redeemed  
pass by. R.

You will lead them and plant them on your holy mountain,  
the place, O Lord, where you have made your home.  
The Lord will reign forever and ever. R.

PRAYER

*Assembly Standing*

## GLORIA



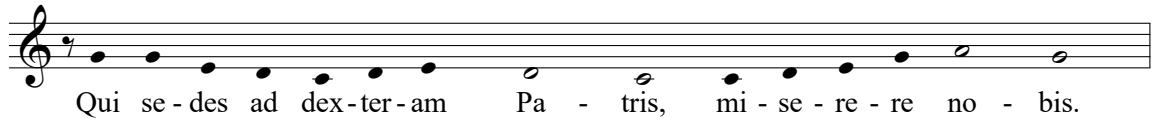
**Choir:** *Laudamus te. Benedicimus te. Adoramus te. Glorificamus te.  
Gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tuam.*



**Choir:** *Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris.*



**Choir:** *Qui tollis peccata mundi, suscipe deprecationem nostram.*



**Choir:** *Quoniam tu solus Sanctus. Tu solus Dominus. Tu solus Altissimus, Jesu Christe.*



## COLLECT

## EPISTLE

Romans 6:3-11

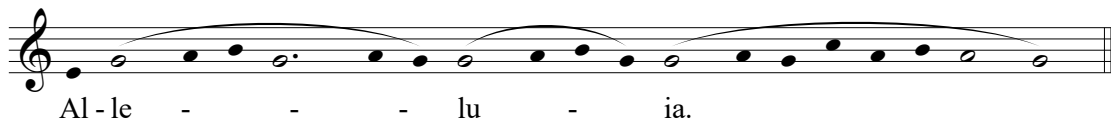
*Roula Sweis, lector*

## THE PROCLAMATION OF ALLELUIA

Deacon: Your Eminence, I bring you a message of great joy:  
the message of Alleluia.

## THREE-FOLD ALLELUIA OF EASTER

*The solemn Easter Alleluia is announced; the assembly responds.  
The Alleluia is repeated twice, each time at a higher pitch.*



## ALLELUIA PSALM

Psalm 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23

*A new Alleluia is intoned: the assembly answers.  
This Alleluia is repeated after each verse of the psalm,  
as the Deacon proceeds to the ambo with the Book of Gospels.*



Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,  
for his love endures forever.  
Let the sons of Israel say,  
“His mercy endures forever.” R.

The Lord’s right hand has triumphed,  
his right hand raised me.  
The Lord’s right hand has triumphed;  
I shall not die. I shall live and recount his deeds. R.

The stone which the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone.  
This is the work of the Lord,  
a marvel in our eyes. R.

## GOSPEL

Mark 16:1-7

## HOMILY

Christophe Cardinal Pierre  
*Apostolic Nuncio to the United States of America*

# PART THREE

## THE BLESSING OF WATER AND RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL PROMISES

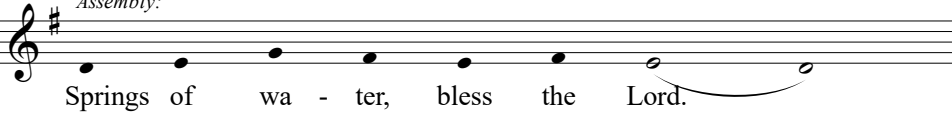
*After the water has been blessed,  
the choir and assembly acclaim:*

*Cantor:*



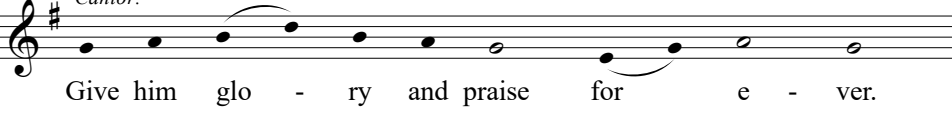
Springs of wa - ter, bless the Lord.

*Assembly:*



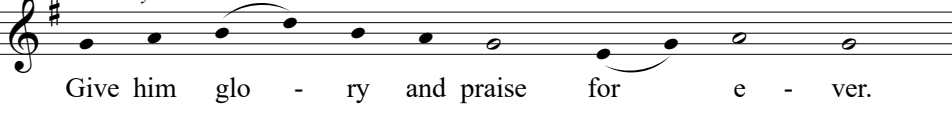
Springs of wa - ter, bless the Lord.

*Cantor:*



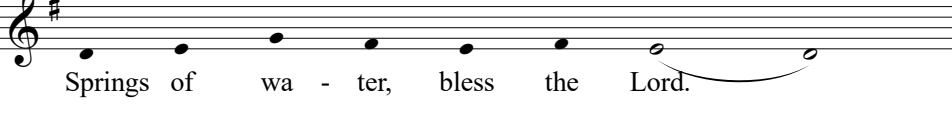
Give him glo - ry and praise for e - ver.

*Assembly:*

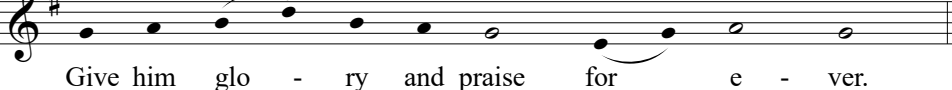


Give him glo - ry and praise for e - ver.

*ALL:*



Springs of wa - ter, bless the Lord.

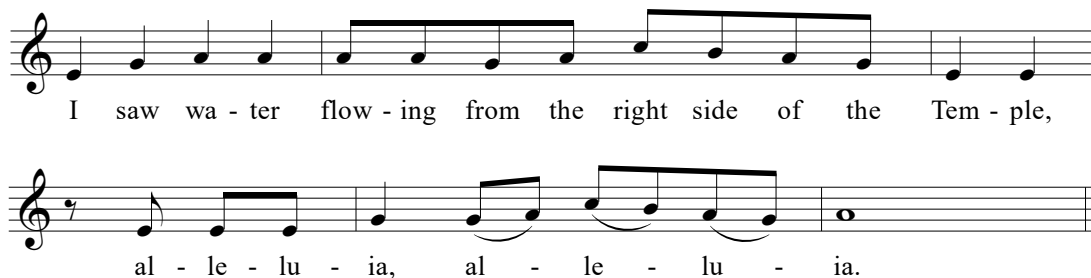


Give him glo - ry and praise for e - ver.

*After words of introduction, the Celebrant addresses the assembly  
and questions them on their faith in Christ Jesus and rejection of sin.  
To each question, the assembly responds: "I do."*

# THE RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL PROMISES

## ANTIPHON AT THE RITE OF SPRINKLING



It brought salvation,  
and the people sang in joyful praise: alleluia. R

And all to whom this water came were saved,  
and they sang: alleluia. R

Salvation granted  
and preserved for us in heaven. Alleluia. R

Lord, Jesus Christ, from your wounded side  
flowed streams of living water. Alleluia. R

The font of life,  
flowing from the pierced side of Christ. Alleluia. R

The world was washed of all its sin,  
and all life made new again. Alleluia. R

Life giving waters,  
bringing joy and salvation. Alleluia. R

Stretch forth your hand, Holy Church of God,  
and welcome us in. Alleluia. R

## GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

Response: Lord, hear our prayer.

*All are seated and the candles are extinguished.*

To make a secure donation online, please scan the QR code in the back of this leaflet or visit:  
[www.nationalshrine.org/offertory](http://www.nationalshrine.org/offertory)

# PART FOUR

## THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

### PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

(Choir) *Let All the World in Every Corner Sing*

Ralph Vaughan Williams  
(1872-1958)

Let all the world in every corner sing, my God and King!  
The heavens are not too high, his praises there may fly;  
the earth is not too low, his praises there may grow.  
Let all the world in every corner sing, my God and King!  
The Church with psalms must shout, no door can keep them out,  
but above all, the heart must bear the longest part.  
Let all the world in every corner sing, my God and King!

(George Herbert, 1593-1632)



1. At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to our vic - to - rious King.
2. Where the Pas - chal blood is poured, Death's dark an - gel sheathes his sword;
3. East - er tri - umph, East - er joy, This a - lone can sin de - stroy;



Who has washed us in the tide Flow - ing from his pierc - ed side;  
Is - rael's hosts tri - umph-ant go Through the wave that drowns the foe.  
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free New - born souls in you to be.



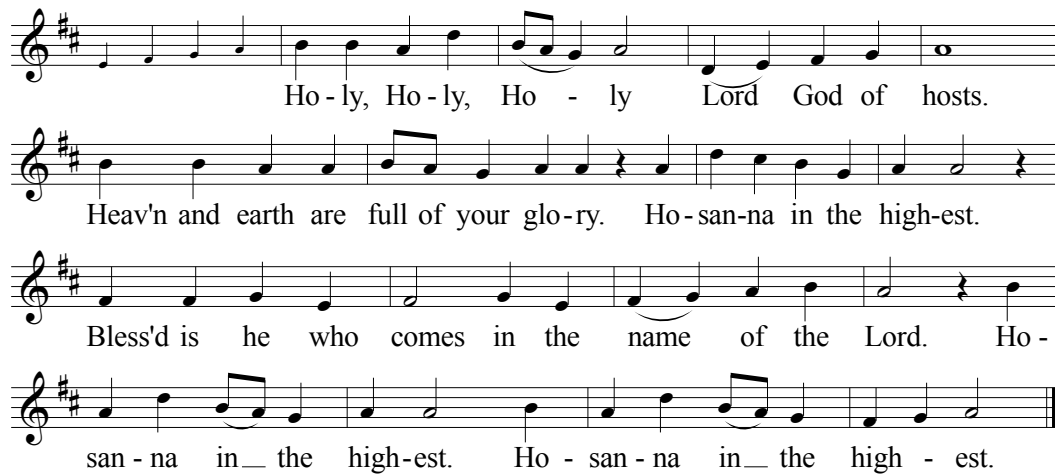
Praise we him, whose love di - vine Gives his sa - cred Blood for wine,  
Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal vic - tim, Pas - chal bread;  
Fa - ther, who the crown shall give, Sav - ior, by whose death we live,



Gives his Bod - y for the feast, Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest.  
With sin - cer - i - ty and love Eat we man - na from a - bove.  
Spir - it, guide through all our days, Three in One, your name we praise.

## PREFACE DIALOGUE

### PREFACE ACCLAMATION



Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord God of hosts.

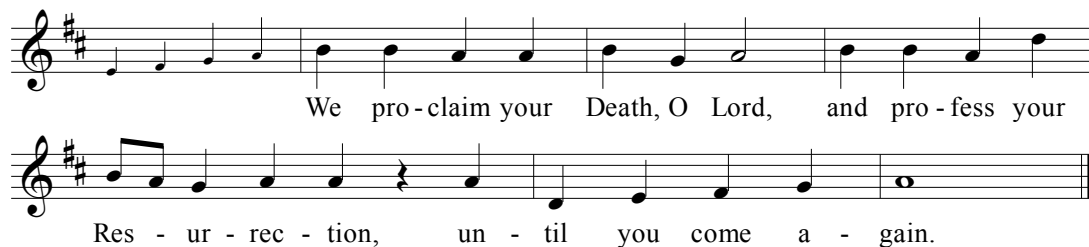
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

Bless'd is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

san - na in the high-est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the lyrics 'Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord God of hosts.' The second staff contains 'Heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the high-est.' The third staff contains 'Bless'd is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -' and the fourth staff contains 'san - na in the high-est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.' The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final double bar line at the end of the fourth staff.

### MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION



We pro - claim your Death, O Lord, and pro - fess your

Res - ur - rec - tion, un - til you come a - gain.

The musical score is written on two staves in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the lyrics 'We pro - claim your Death, O Lord, and pro - fess your' and the second staff contains 'Res - ur - rec - tion, un - til you come a - gain.' The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final double bar line at the end of the second staff.



## GREAT AMEN

A musical score snippet showing three measures of music. The first measure contains the lyrics "A - men," followed by two more measures containing "a - men," and "a - men." respectively. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes.

## COMMUNION RITE

## LORD'S PRAYER

## DOXOLOGY

LITANY AT THE BREAKING OF BREAD

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: have mer-cy on us.

A musical staff in G major (one sharp) and common time. The melody consists of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4, C4. There is a repeat sign after the eighth note (F#4). The lyrics are: "Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: have mer-cy on us."

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: have mer-cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

## GUIDELINES FOR THE RECEPTION OF COMMUNION

### **For Catholics**

As Catholics, we fully participate in the celebration of the Eucharist when we receive Holy Communion. We are encouraged to receive Communion devoutly and frequently. In order to be properly disposed to receive Communion, participants should not be conscious of grave sin and normally should have fasted for one hour. A person who is conscious of grave sin is not to receive the Body and Blood of the Lord without prior sacramental confession except for a grave reason where there is no opportunity for confession. In this case, the person is to be mindful of the obligation to make an act of perfect contrition, including the intention of confessing as soon as possible (canon 916). A frequent reception of the Sacrament of Penance is encouraged for all.

### **For Our Fellow Christians**

We welcome our fellow Christians to this celebration of the Eucharist as our brothers and sisters. We pray that our common baptism and the action of the Holy Spirit in this Eucharist will draw us closer to one another and begin to dispel the sad divisions which separate us. We pray that these will lessen and finally disappear, in keeping with Christ's prayer for us "that they may all be one" (John 17:21).

Because Catholics believe that the celebration of the Eucharist is a sign of the reality of the oneness of faith, life, and worship, members of those churches with whom we are not yet fully united are ordinarily not admitted to Holy Communion. Eucharistic sharing in exceptional circumstances by other Christians requires permission according to the directives of the diocesan bishop and the provisions of canon law (canon 844 § 4). Members of the Orthodox Churches, the Assyrian Church of the East, and the Polish National Catholic Church are urged to respect the discipline of their own Churches. According to Roman Catholic discipline, the Code of Canon Law does not object to the reception of communion by Christians of these Churches (canon 844 § 3).

### **For Non-Christians**

We also welcome to this celebration those who do not share our faith in Jesus Christ. While we cannot admit them to Holy Communion, we ask them to offer their prayers for the peace and the unity of the human family.

### **For Those Not Receiving Holy Communion**

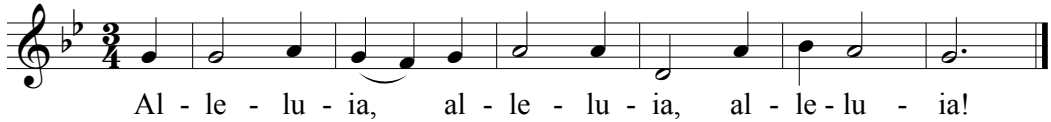
All who are not receiving Holy Communion are encouraged to express in their hearts a prayerful desire for unity with the Lord Jesus and with one another.

*United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 1996*

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed; therefore let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread of purity and truth, alleluia.

## COMMUNION PROCESSION



(Choir) *Angelus Domini descendit*

Claudio Casciolini  
(1697-1760)

*Angelus Domini  
descendit de coelo,  
et accedens revolvit lapidem,  
et super eum sedit,  
et dixit mulieribus:  
Nolite timere.  
Scio enim quia  
Crucifixum quaeritis,  
Sed surrexit.  
Venite, videte locum,  
ubi positus erat Dominus,  
Alleluia.*

The angel of the Lord  
came down from heaven,  
and coming to roll away the stone,  
sat upon it  
and said to the women:  
Do not be afraid.  
I know  
you seek Him who was crucified.  
But He is risen,  
Come, see the place  
where the Lord was lain.  
Alleluia.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

## SOLEMN BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Cardinal: The Lord be with you.

Assembly: And with your spirit.

Cardinal: May almighty God bless you  
through today's Easter Solemnity  
and, in his compassion,  
defend you from every assault of sin.

Assembly: Amen.

Cardinal: And may he, who restores you to eternal life  
in the Resurrection of his Only Begotten,  
endow you with the prize of immortality.

Assembly: Amen.

Cardinal: Now that the days of the Lord's Passion have drawn to a close, may you who celebrate the gladness of the Paschal Feast come with Christ's help, and exulting in spirit, to those feasts that are celebrated in eternal joy.

Assembly: Amen.

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

Assembly: Amen.

Deacon:



## Assembly:



## RECESSIONAL HYMN



1. Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
2. Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!  
3. But the pains which he en-dured, Al - le - lu - ia!  
4. Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!



Our tri - umph - ant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly King, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Our sal - va - tion have pro-cured; Al - le - lu - ia!  
Praise e - ter - nal as his love, Al - le - lu - ia!



Who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Now a - bove the sky he's King, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Praise him all ye heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!



Suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

## POSTLUDE

*v. Toccata, Symphony No. 5, Op. 42*

Charles-Marie Widor  
(1844-1937)

# EASTER AT THE BASILICA OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

## CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF WORSHIP

Today, Easter Sunday 2024, marks the centennial anniversary of the celebration of the first Public Mass held inside the National Shrine. The celebration of the inauguration of the liturgical life of this grand and noble votive church in honor of Mary, the Immaculate Conception, begins during the noon Solemn Eucharist with Wilton Cardinal Gregory, Archbishop of Washington and chairman of the National Shrine Board of Trustees, as the principal celebrant and homilist.

The sacred vessels used at this Mass include the same chalice used one hundred years ago. Other special liturgical items and gifts employed today and throughout the coming year include the crosier of Bishop Thomas J. Shahan and the Marian Year cruets (1954-55) of Pope Pius XII.

A holy card featuring Our Lady of Washington will be given to all who attend any of the Masses at the National Shrine on Easter Sunday. After today, the holy cards will be available in the gift and book shops of the National Shrine.

May Mary's House continue to be a place of prayer and pilgrimage that leads us, through Mary, ever closer to her Son, Jesus Christ, our Risen Lord.

## EASTER SUNDAY

31 March 2024

Masses for the Day: 7:30 A.M., 9:00 A.M., 10:30 A.M., 4:30 P.M.

### SOLEMN MASS

12:00 NOON

*His Eminence*

WILTON CARDINAL GREGORY

Archbishop of Washington

*Celebrant and Homilist*

*Broadcast live by the Eternal Word Television Network*

### SOLEMN MASS IN SPANISH

2:30 PM

*His Excellency*

MOST REVEREND TIMOTHY P. BROGLIO

Archbishop for the Military Services, U.S.A.

*Celebrant and Homilist*

*Broadcast live by the Eternal Word Television Network*

**THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER  
DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**

7 April 2024

Masses for the Day: 7:30 A.M., 9:00 A.M., 10:30 A.M., 4:30 P.M.

**SOLEMN MASS**

12:00 NOON

*His Eminence*

**DONALD CARDINAL WUERL**  
Archbishop Emeritus of Washington  
*Celebrant and Homilist*

**SOLEMN MASS IN SPANISH**

2:30 P.M.

*His Excellency*

**MOST REVEREND EVELIO MENJIVAR-AYALA**  
Auxiliary Bishop of Washington  
*Celebrant and Homilist*

**ANNUAL OCTAVE DAY OF EASTER CONCERT**

**MUSIC FOR ORGAN**

6:00 P.M., Great Upper Church

**ERIC PLUTZ, ORGANIST**

*Free and open to the public*

**SUNG VESPERS AT THE BASILICA**

*We invite you to join us in celebrating Sung Vespers.*

**Sundays of the Easter Season at 4:00 P.M.**

4:30 P.M. Mass following

April 7, 14, 21, 28

May 5, 12, 19

Great Upper Church

*All are welcome to this special celebration of  
Evening Prayer during the Season of Easter.*

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# BASILICA OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION



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