

**BASILICA OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE  
OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

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**MASS OF THANKSGIVING  
FOR THE LIFE OF  
POPE FRANCIS  
26 APRIL 2025**



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26 APRIL 2025**







HIS HOLINESS  
**POPE FRANCIS**  
17 DECEMBER 1936 – 21 APRIL 2025



# SOLEMN EUCHARISTIC CELEBRATION

## MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE LIFE OF POPE FRANCIS

### VIGIL OF DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

*His Excellency*

**MOST REVEREND MICHAEL F. BURBIDGE**

Bishop of Arlington

*Principal Celebrant and Homilist*



**CONCELEBRATING BISHOPS**



**CONCELEBRATING PRIESTS**

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# ORDER OF MASS


## PRELUDE

Choral Prelude on *Llanfair*


McNeil Robinson  
(1943–2015)

## INTRODUCTORY RITES


### PROCESSIONAL HYMN




1. All crea - tures of our God and King, Lift up your voice  
2. O rush - ing wind and breez - es soft, O clouds that ride  
3. O flow - ing wa - ters, pure and clear, Make mu - sic for  
4. Dear moth - er earth, who day by day Un - folds rich bless -  
5. O ev - 'ry one of ten - der heart, For - giv - ing oth -



and with us sing: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! O burn - ing sun  
the winds a - loft: O praise him! Al - le - lu - ia! O ris - ing morn  
your Lord to hear. O praise him! Al - le - lu - ia! O fire so mas  
ings on our way, O praise him! Al - le - lu - ia! The fruits and flow'r  
ers, take your part, O praise him! Al - le - lu - ia! All you who pain



with gold - en beam And sil - ver moon with soft - er gleam: O  
in praise re - joice, O lights of eve - ning, find a voice.  
ter - ful and bright, Pro - vid - ing us with warmth and light,  
that ver - dant grow, Let them his praise a - bun - dant show.  
and sor - row bear, Praise God and lay on him your care.



praise him! O praise him! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

6. And you, most kind and gentle death,  
Waiting to hush our final breath,  
O praise him! Alleluia!  
You lead to heav'n the child of God,  
Where Christ our Lord the way has trod.  
O praise him! O praise him!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

7. Let all things their Creator bless,  
And worship him in humbleness,  
O praise him! Alleluia!  
Oh praise the Father, praise the Son,  
And praise the Spirit, Three in One!  
O praise him! O praise him!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!



## GREETING

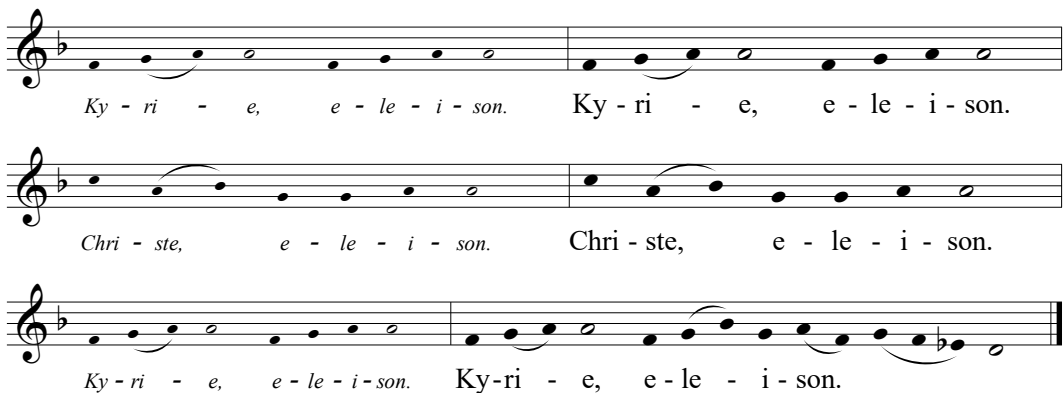
Bishop: Peace be with you.  
Assembly: And with your spirit.

## PENITENTIAL ACT

Assembly: 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.

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

Assembly: Amen.



Ky - ri - e, e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e, e - le - i - son.

Chri - ste, e - le - i - son. Chri - ste, e - le - i - son.

Ky - ri - e, e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e, e - le - i - son.



## GLORIA



Glo-ri-a in ex-cel-sis De-o. Et in ter-ra pax ho-mi-ni-bus bo-nae vo-lun - ta - tis.

Lau-da - mus te. Be-ne-di-ci-mus te. A-do-ra - mus te. Glo-ri-fi-ca-mus te.

Gra-ti-as a-gi-mus ti - bi pro-pter ma-gnam glo-ri-am tu-am. Do-mi-ne De-us,

Rex cae - les-tis, De-us Pa-ter om - ni - po - tens. Do-mi-ne Fi-li u-ni-ge-ni-te,

Je - su Chri-ste. Do-mi-ne De-us, Agnus De-i, Fi-li-us Pa - tris. Qui tol - lis pec-

ca-ta mun - di, mi-se-re - re no-bis. Qui tol-lis pec-ca-ta mun-di, su-sci-pe de-

pre-ca-ti-o-nem no - stram. Qui se-des ad dex-ter-am Pa - tris, mi-se-re-re

no - bis. Quo-ni-am tu so-lus San - ctus. Tu so-lus Do - mi - nus.

Tu so-lus Al - tis - si-mus, Je - su Chri-ste. Cum San-cto Spi - ri-

tu, in glo-ri-a De-i Pa - tris. A - - - - men.

## COLLECT



# LITURGY OF THE WORD

## READING I

Acts 5:12–16

## PSALM RESPONSE

Psalm 118:2–4, 13–15, 22–24



## READING II

Revelation 1:9–11a, 12–13, 17–19

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 20:29



You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me, says the Lord;  
blessed are those who have not seen me, but still believe!

## GOSPEL

John 20:19–31

## HOMILY

Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge  
*Bishop of Arlington*

## PROFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the Only Begotten Son of God,  
born of the Father before all ages.  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
consubstantial with the Father;  
through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

*(All bow during these two lines.)*

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,  
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,  
he suffered death and was buried,  
and rose again on the third day  
in accordance with the Scriptures.  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead  
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.  
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins  
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

Response: Lord, hear our prayer.



## THE JUBILEE PRAYER

Father in heaven,  
may the *faith* you have given us  
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,  
and the flame of *charity* enkindled  
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,  
reawaken in us the blessed *hope*  
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us  
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.  
May those seeds transform from within  
both humanity and the whole cosmos  
in the sure expectation  
of a new heaven and a new earth,  
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,  
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee  
reawaken in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*,  
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.  
May that same grace spread  
the joy and peace of our Redeemer  
throughout the earth.  
To you our God, eternally blessed,  
be glory and praise for ever.

Amen.

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# LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

## PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

*(Choir) Surrexit Pastor Bonus*

Jean L'Heritier  
(c. 1480 – c. 1551)

*Surrexit pastor bonus  
qui animam suam posuit  
pro ovibus suis  
Alleluia.*

The Good Shepherd has risen,  
he who laid down his life  
for his sheep,  
Alleluia.

*et pro grege suo.  
mori dignatus est  
Alleluia.*

And for his flock  
He did not disdain to die.  
Alleluia.

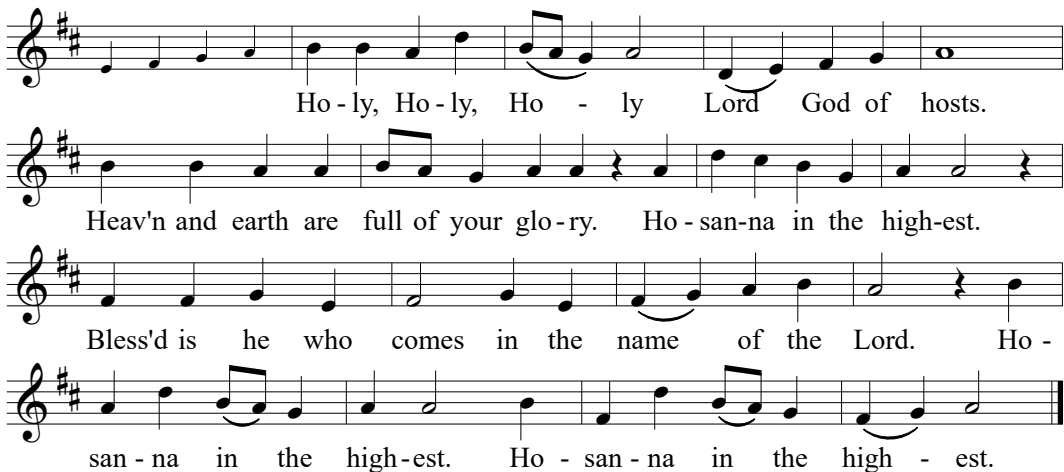
*Et enim pascha nostrum  
Immolates est Christus.  
Alleluia.*

For truly the Paschal lamb  
was Christ sacrificed for us  
Alleluia.

*(Responsory at Matins of Easter Monday)*

## PREFACE DIALOGUE

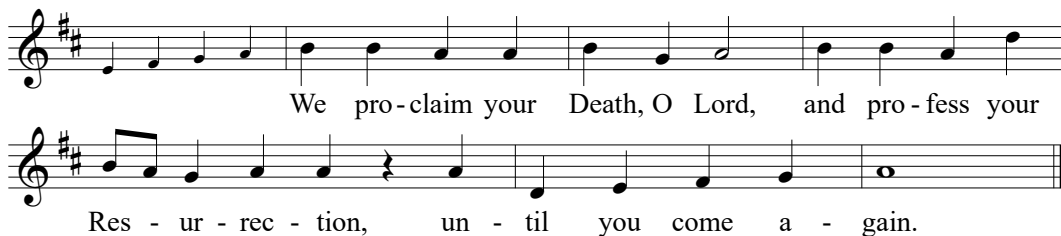
## PREFACE ACCLAMATION



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.



## MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION



Two staves of music in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the melody for "We pro-claim your Death, O Lord, and pro-fess your". The second staff contains the melody for "Res - ur - rec - tion, un - til you come a - gain." The lyrics are written below the notes.

We pro-claim your Death, O Lord, and pro-fess your  
Res - ur - rec - tion, un - til you come a - gain.

## GREAT AMEN



A single staff of music in G major. The melody for "A - men, a - men, a - men." is written on the staff, with the lyrics below the notes.

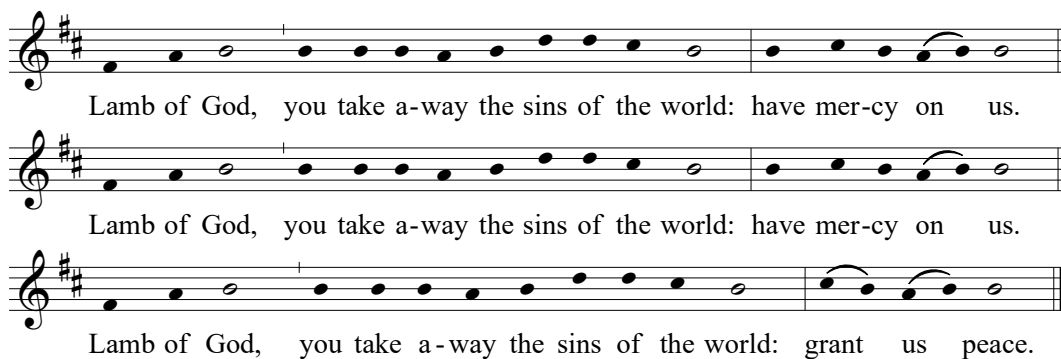
A - men, a - men, a - men.

## COMMUNION RITE

### LORD'S PRAYER

### DOXOLOGY

### LITANY AT THE BREAKING OF BREAD



Three staves of music in G major. Each staff contains the melody for a line of the litany, with the lyrics below the notes.

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*

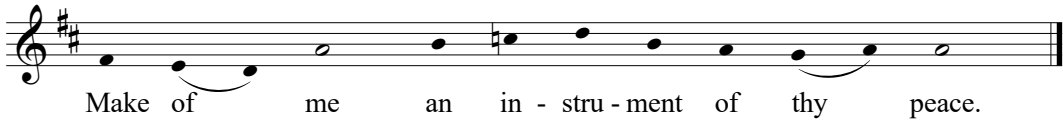


## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails,  
and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.

(John 20:27)

## COMMUNION PROCESSION



*Composed for the Apostolic Visit of Pope Francis to the United States  
Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception  
23 September 2015*

(Choir) *Dum transisset Sabbatum*

John Taverner  
(1498–1545)

*Dum transisset Sabbatum  
Maria Magdalene,  
et Maria Jacobi,  
et Salome emerunt aromata,  
ut venientes ungerent Jesum.  
Alleluia.*

When was passed the Sabbath,  
Mary Magdalene,  
and Mary the mother of James,  
and Salome had brought sweet spices,  
that they might come and anoint Jesus.  
Alleluia.

*Et valde mane  
una Sabbatorum,  
veniunt ad monumentum  
orto jam sole.  
Ut venientes ungerent Jesum.  
Alleluia.*

And very early in the morning  
the first day of the week,  
They came unto the sepulcher  
at the rising of the sun  
That they might come and anoint Jesus.  
Alleluia.

*(Third Responsory at Matins of Easter Sunday)*

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(Choir) *Nunc dimittis*

Paweł Łukaszewski  
(b. 1968)

*Nunc dimittis servum tuum, Domine,  
secundum verbum tuum in pace:  
Quia viderunt oculi mei salutare tuum  
Quod parasti ante faciem  
omnium populorum:  
Lumen ad revelationem gentium,  
et gloriam plebis tuæ Israēl.*

Lord, now let your servant depart in peace:  
according to your word.  
For my eyes have seen: your salvation,  
Which you have prepared:  
before the face of all people;  
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles:  
and to be the glory of your people Israel.

(Luke 2:29–32)

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION



## SOLEMN BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Bishop: The Lord be with you.

Assembly: And with your spirit.

Deacon: Bow down for the blessing.

Bishop: May the God of all consolation bless you,  
for in his unfathomable goodness he created the human race,  
and in the Resurrection of his Only Begotten Son  
he has given believers the hope of rising again.

Assembly: Amen.

Bishop: To us who are alive, may God grant pardon for our sins,  
and to all the dead, a place of light and peace.

Assembly: Amen.

Bishop: So may we all live happily for ever with Christ,  
whom we believe truly rose from the dead.

Assembly: Amen.

Bishop: 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

*We ask you to respect our custom of standing in place  
and singing the complete Recessional Hymn.*



1. The Lamb's high ban - quet we a - wait, In show - white
2. Up - on the al - tar of the Cross, His Bo - dy
3. Now Christ our Pass - ov - er is slain, The Lamb of
4. Ma - ker of all, to thee we pray, Ful - fill in
5. O Ri - sen Christ, grant end - less rest, And light e -
6. To thee who, dead, a - gain does live, All glo - ry,



robes of ro - yal state; And now, the Red Sea's  
has re - deemed our loss; And tas - ting of his  
God that knows no stain; And he, the true un -  
us thy joy to - day; When death as - sails, grant,  
ter - nal may he pos - sess; That Fran - cis, Vi - car,  
Lord, thy peo - ple give, All glo - ry to the



chan - nel past, To Christ our Prince we sing at last.  
Pre - cious Blood, Our lives are hid with Christ in God.  
leav - ened bread, Is tru - ly our ob - la - tion made.  
Lord, that we May share thy Pas - chal vic - to - ry.  
Ser - vant, Priest, May dwell for e - ver in thy peace.  
Fa - ther be And Spi - rit blest, e - ter - nal - ly.

## POSTLUDE

iv. Allegro maestoso e vivace *from* Organ Sonata No. 4, Op. 65

Felix Mendelssohn  
(1809–1847)

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# TESTAMENT OF THE HOLY FATHER FRANCIS

*Miserando atque Eligendo*

In the Name of the Most Holy Trinity. Amen.

As I sense that the twilight of my earthly life is approaching, and with firm hope in Eternal Life, I wish to express my final wishes regarding my burial place.

I have always entrusted my life and priestly and episcopal ministry to the Mother of Our Lord, Mary Most Holy. Therefore, I ask that my mortal remains rest, awaiting the day of resurrection, in the Papal Basilica of Saint Mary Major.

I wish that my final earthly journey conclude precisely in this ancient Marian shrine, where I go to pray at the beginning and end of every Apostolic Journey to faithfully entrust my intentions to the Immaculate Mother and to give thanks for her gentle and maternal care.

I ask that my tomb be prepared in the burial niche in the side nave between the Pauline Chapel (Chapel of the *Salus Populi Romani*) and the Sforza Chapel of the aforementioned Papal Basilica, as indicated in the enclosed plan.

The tomb should be in the ground; simple, without particular ornamentation, and bearing only the inscription: *Franciscus*.

The expenses for the preparation of my burial will be covered by a benefactor and the sum will be transferred to the Papal Basilica of Saint Mary Major. I have given the appropriate instructions to Cardinal Rolandas Makrickas, Extraordinary Commissioner of the Liberian Chapter.

May the Lord grant the deserved reward to those who have wished me well and will continue to pray for me. The suffering that marked the final part of my life, I offer to the Lord, for peace in the world and brotherhood among peoples.

*Domus Sanctæ Marthæ*

FRANCIS



# BASILICA OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION



Rev. Msgr. Walter R. Rossi  
*Rector of the Basilica*

Rev. Msgr. Vito A. Buonanno  
Rev. Ismael N. Ayala  
Rev. Raymond A. Lebrun, O.M.I.  
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Liturgical Ministers of the Basilica of the National Shrine  
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**BASILICA OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

Rev. Msgr. Walter R. Rossi, Rector

**400 Michigan Avenue, NE • Washington, DC 20017-1566**

**(202) 526-8300 • [www.nationalshrine.com](http://www.nationalshrine.com)**