

BASILICA OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE
OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION



THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

17 MAY 2026

ORDER OF MASS

PRELUDE

Vigil iv. Prière du Christ montant vers son Père *from L'Ascension*
10:30
12:00
9:00 Choral Prelude on *Llanfair*

Olivier Messiaen
(1908–1992)

McNeil Robinson
(1943–2015)

INTRODUCTORY RITES

PROCESSIONAL HYMN



1. A hymn of glo - ry let us sing! New hymns through - out the
2. The ho - ly ap - os - tol - ic band Up - on the Mount of
3. To whom the shin - ing an - gels cry, “Why stand and gaze up -
4. “You see Him now, as - cend - ing high Up to the por - tals
5. Be Thou our joy and strong de - fense, Who art our fu - ture
6. O ri - sen Christ, as - cen - ded Lord, All praise to Thee let



world shall ring: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ, by a road be -
Ol - ives stand. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! And with his faith - ful
on the sky?” Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! “This is the Sav - ior!”
of the sky.” Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! “Here - af - ter Je - sus
re - com - pense: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! So shall the light that
earth ac - cord, Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Who art, while end - less



fore un - trod. As - cends un - to the throne of God. Al - le - lu - ia!
fol - l'wers see Their Lord as - cend in maj - es - ty. Al - le - lu - ia!
Thus they say, “This is his glo - rious tri - umph day!” Al - le - lu - ia!
you shall see Re - turn - ing in great ma - je - sty.” Al - le - lu - ia!
springs from Thee Be ours through all e - ter - ni - ty. Al - le - lu - ia!
a - ges run, With Fa - ther and with Spi - rit One. Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

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.

Celebrant: 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.

(Choir) *Missa Resurrectionis*
Kyrie eleison

Gerre Hancock
(1934–2012)

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, Ag-nus 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

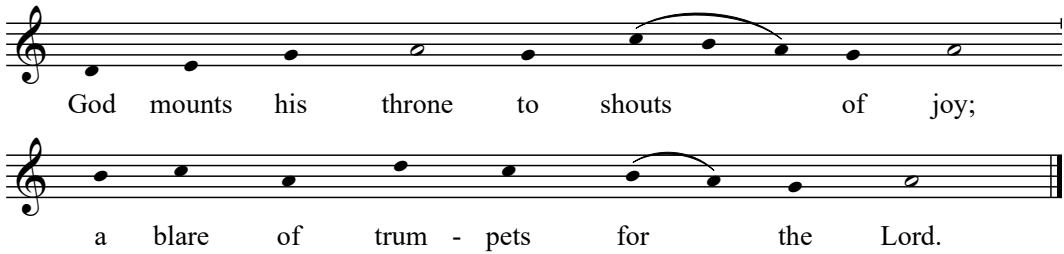
LITURGY OF THE WORD

READING I

Acts 1:1–11

PSALM RESPONSE

Psalm 47:2–3, 6–9



God mounts his throne to shouts of joy;
a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

The musical notation consists of two staves in treble clef. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of text, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The notes are simple, with some phrasing slurs and a final double bar line at the end of the second staff.

READING II

Ephesians 1:17–23

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 28:19a, 20b



Al-le-lu-ia, al - le-lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The musical notation is on a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It features a simple melody for the three repetitions of 'Alleluia', with phrasing slurs and a final double bar line.

Go and teach all nations, says the Lord;
I am with you always, until the end of the world.

GOSPEL

Matthew 28:16–20

HOMILY

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 at 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.

NOVENA PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

Come, Spirit of Wisdom,
dispose our hearts to know and value
the things of heaven above the things of earth
and show us the way to salvation.

Come, Spirit of Understanding,
enlighten our minds to the mysteries of salvation
and grant that we may come to a fuller knowledge of you.

Come, Spirit of Counsel,
guide us in the way of your commandments.
Incline us to do good.
Keep us from evil and bring us to everlasting life.

Come, Spirit of Fortitude,
strengthen us in every trial
and help us in our struggle against evil.
Never let us be parted from you.

Come, Spirit of Knowledge,
help us to see beyond the passing joys of this world
to the glories you have prepared for us.

Come, Spirit of Piety,
stir up our hearts to true holiness and love of you.
May we always seek you in spirit and in truth.

Come, Spirit of the Fear of the Lord,
teach us ever to set the Lord before us
and to avoid whatever is displeasing to you.
Bring us all one day to the fullness of your love.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now and will be forever. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS



1. The head that once was crowned with thorns Is
2. The high - est place that heav'n af - fords Be -
3. The joy of all who dwell a - bove, the
4. To them the cross with all its shame, With
5. The cross he bore is life and health, Though



crowned with glo - ry now; A roy - al di - a -
longs to him by right; The King of kings, and
joy of all be - low, To whom he man - i -
all its grace, is giv'n; Their name an ev - er -
shame and death to him, His peo - ple's hope, his



dem a - dorns The might - y vic - tor's brow.
Lord of lords, And heav'n's e - ter - nal light.
fests his love, And grants his name to know.
last - ing name; Their joy the joy of heav'n.
peo - ple's wealth, Their ev - er - last - ing theme.

(Choir) *God Is Gone Up*

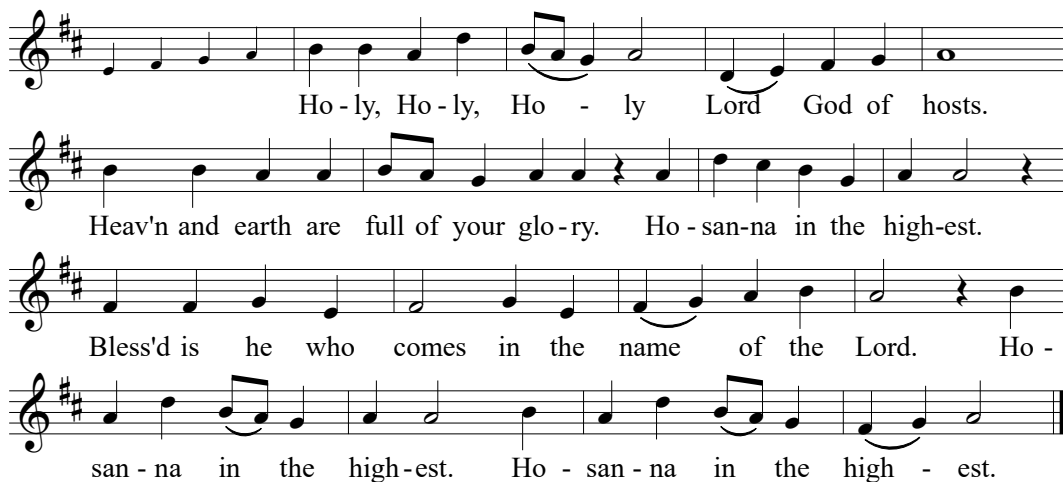
Gerald Finzi
(1908–1992)

God is gone up with a triumphant shout:
The Lord with sounding Trumpets' melodies:
Sing Praise, sing Praise, sing Praise, sing Praises out,
Unto our King sing praise seraphicwise!
Lift up your Heads, ye lasting Doors, they sing,
And let the King of Glory enter in.

Methinks I see Heaven's sparkling courtiers fly,
In flakes of Glory down him to attend,
And hear Heart-cramping notes of Melody
Surround his Chariot as it did ascend;
Mixing their Music, making ev'ry string
More to enravish as they this tune sing.

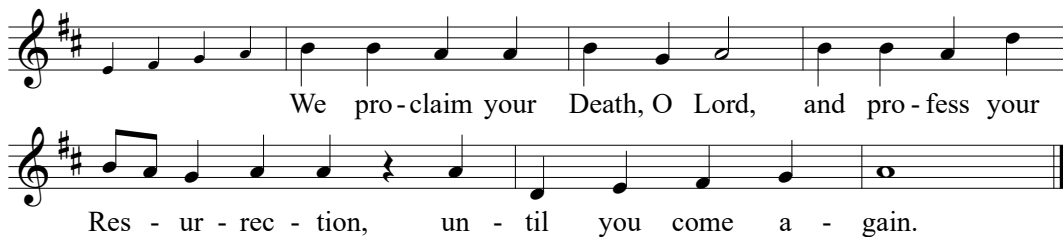
PREFACE DIALOGUE

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



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

GREAT AMEN



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

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.



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.

(Choir) *Missa Resurrectionis*
Agnus Dei

Gerre Hancock
(1934–2012)

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Behold, I am with you always,
even to the end of the age, alleluia.

(Matthew 28:20)

COMMUNION PROCESSION



I re-ceive the liv-ing God, and my heart is full of joy.



I re-ceive the liv-ing God, and my heart is full of joy.

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.

(Choir) *O Rex gloriae*

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina
(1525–1594)

*O Rex gloriae, Domine virtutum,
qui triumphator hodie
super omnes caelos ascendisti;
ne derelinquas nos orphanos,
sed mitte promissum Patris in nos,
spiritum veritatis.
Alleluia.*

O King of glory, Lord of all power,
who ascended to heaven on this day
triumphant over all;
do not leave us as orphans,
but send us the Father's promise,
the spirit of truth.
Alleluia.

(Choir) *Caelos ascendit hodie*

Charles Villiers Stanford
(1852–1924)

*Caelos ascendit hodie,
Jesus Christus Rex gloriae,
Alleluia!*

Today into the heavens has ascended
Jesus Christ, the King of glory,
Alleluia!

*Sedet ad Patris dexteram,
Gubernat caelum et terram,
Alleluia!*

He sits at the Father's right hand
and rules heaven and earth,
Alleluia!

*Jam finem habent omnia,
Patris Davidis carmina,
Alleluia!*

Now have been fulfilled all of
Father David's songs,
Alleluia!

*Jam Dominus cum Domino,
Sedet in Dei solio,
In hoc triumpho maximo,
Alleluia!*

Now is the Lord with his Lord,
He sits upon the royal throne of God,
In this his greatest triumph,
Alleluia!

*Benedicamus Domino,
Laudatur Sancta Trinitas,
Deo dicamus gratias,
Alleluia! Amen.*

Let us bless the Lord:
Let the Holy Trinity be praised,
let us give thanks to the Lord,
Alleluia! Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SOLEMN BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

Assembly: And with your spirit.

Deacon: Bow down for the blessing.

Celebrant: May almighty God bless you,
for on this very day his Only Begotten Son
pierced the heights of heaven
and unlocked for you the way
to ascend to where he is.

Assembly: Amen.

Celebrant: May he grant that,
as Christ after his Resurrection
was seen plainly by his disciples,
so when he comes as Judge
he may show himself merciful to you for all eternity.

Assembly: Amen.

Celebrant: And may you, who believe he is seated
with the Father in his majesty,
know with joy the fulfillment of his promise
to stay with you until the end of time.

Assembly: Amen.

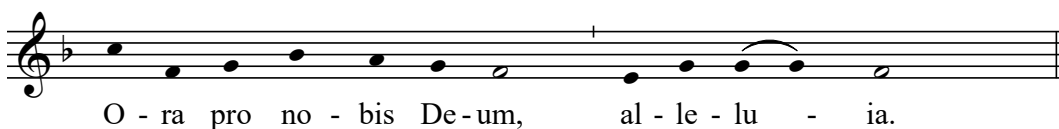
Celebrant: And may the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit,
come down on you and remain with you for ever.

Assembly: Amen.

Deacon: Go forth, the Mass is ended.

Assembly: Thanks be to God.

MARIAN ANTIPHON (at Noon Mass)



*Queen of heaven, rejoice, alleluia.
The Son you merited to bear, alleluia,
Has risen as he said, alleluia.
Pray to God for us, alleluia.*

RECESSIONAL HYMN

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



1. Hail the day that sees him rise Al - le - lu - ia!
2. There for him high tri - umph waits; Al - le - lu - ia!
3. Still for us he in - ter - cedes, Al - le - lu - ia!
4. There we shall with him re - main, Al - le - lu - ia!



To his throne a - bove the skies; Al - le - lu - ia!
Lift your heads, e - ter - nal gates; Al - le - lu - ia!
His pre - vail - ing death he pleads, Al - le - lu - ia!
Part - ners of his end - less reign; Al - le - lu - ia!



Christ, a - while to mor - tals giv'n, Al - le - lu - ia!
He has con - quered death and sin; Al - le - lu - ia!
Near him - self pre - pares our place, Al - le - lu - ia!
There his face un - cloud - ed see, Al - le - lu - ia!



Re - as - cends his na - tive heav'n. Al - le - lu - ia!
Take the King of glo - ry in. Al - le - lu - ia!
He the first fruits of our race. Al - le - lu - ia!
Live with him e - ter - nal - ly. Al - le - lu - ia!

POSTLUDE

Vigil Carillon
10:30
9:00 Toccata in G Major
12:00 Prelude and Fugue in B major, Op. 7, No. 1

Herbert Murrill
(1909–1952)
Théodore Dubois
(1837–1924)
Marcel Dupré
(1886–1971)

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We invite you to join us in celebrating Sung Vespers
Sundays in Easter at 4:00 P.M.
4:30 P.M. Mass following

17, 24 May
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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