



SAINT FIN BARRE'S
CATHEDRAL • CORK



THE SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

Choral Eucharist

Sunday 15th February 2026
11.15am

MUSICAL SETTING

Missa brevis - *Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (c. 1525 - 1594)*

SERVICES THIS WEEK

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday

12 noon The Eucharist (said, in the Deans' Chapel)

Ash Wednesday

12 noon The Eucharist (said, in the Deans' Chapel)

7.30pm Choral Eucharist with the Imposition of Ashes

Thursday and Saturday

12 noon The Eucharist (said, in the Deans' Chapel)

Friday

12 noon The Eucharist (said, in the Deans' Chapel)

6.15pm Choral Evensong

Sunday 22nd February - The First Sunday in Lent

11.15am Sung Litany and Choral Eucharist

Celebrant: Rev. Martin Steele (Dean's Vicar)

3.30pm Choral Evensong

LIVE-STREAMING

In line with the first of the Five Marks of Mission ('To proclaim the good news of the kingdom') this service is being live-streamed and recorded via www.churchservices.tv. The camera is at the back of the Cathedral and covers the Nave, Crossing, Choir Stalls and High Altar. It does not cover the North and South Aisles, Dean's Chapel and Ambulatory. If you do not wish to appear on camera please consult the churchwardens/stewards and they will guide you to a seat out of shot.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Please ensure that all cellphones are switched off.

Photography of any kind is not permitted during the Service.

ACCESSIBILITY

The Cathedral is fitted with a Deaf Loop System. Those who have digital hearing aids should set them to "T". Large print copies of this order of service are available.

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THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

All stand for the

HYMN OF THE PROCESSION 234

Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
Christ, the true, the only light,
Sun of Righteousness, arise,
triumph o'er the shades of night;
Dayspring from on high, be near;
daystar, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn
unaccompanied by thee;
Joyless is the day's return,
till thy mercy's beams I see;
Till they inward light impart,
glad my eyes, and warm my heart.

Visit then this soul of mine,
pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
Fill me, radiancy divine,
scatter all my unbelief;
More and more thyself display,
shining to the perfect day.

Charles Wesley (1707 - 1788)

GREETING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

The service is introduced.

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden;
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PENITENCE

When Christ appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is.
As he is pure, all who have grasped this hope make themselves pure.

Let us then confess our sins in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God's commandments and to live in love and peace:

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned in thought and word and deed,
and in what we have left undone.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us,
that we may walk in newness of life
to the glory of your name. Amen.

The Absolution is pronounced.

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy on you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in eternal life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The choir sings GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY is sung

Almighty Father,
whose Son was revealed in majesty
before he suffered death upon the cross:
Give us grace to perceive his glory,
that we may be strengthened to suffer with him
and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory;
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

PROCLAIMING AND RECEIVING THE WORD

Sit for
THE FIRST READING
Exodus 24: 12-18

At the end of the reading the reader says
This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Choir sings

PSALM 99

1. The Lord is king: let the peoples tremble;
he is enthroned above the cherubim: let the earth shake.
2. The Lord is great in Zion
and high above all peoples.
3. Let them praise your name, which is great and awesome;
the Lord our God is holy.
4. Mighty king, who loves justice, you have established equity;
you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.
5. Exalt the Lord our God;
bow down before his footstool, for he is holy.
6. Moses and Aaron among his priests
and Samuel among those who call upon his name;
they called upon the Lord and he answered them.
7. He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud;
they kept his testimonies and the law that he gave them.
8. You answered them, O Lord our God;
you were a God who forgave them and pardoned them for their offences.
9. Exalt the Lord our God and worship him upon his holy hill,
for the Lord our God is holy.

THE SECOND READING

2 Peter 1: 16-21

At the end of the reading the reader says

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand for the

HYMN OF THE GRADUAL - 178

‘Tis good, Lord, to be here!
Thy glory fills the night;
Thy face and garments, like the sun,
shine with unborrowed light.

‘Tis good, Lord, to be here!
Thy beauty to behold,
where Moses and Elijah stand,
thy messengers of old.

Fulfiller of the past,
promise of things to be,
we hail thy Body glorified,
and our redemption see.

Before we taste of death,
we see thy kingdom come;
We fain would hold the vision bright,
and make this hill our home.

All face the reader for

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 17: 1-9

Reader: Hear the Gospel of our Saviour Christ according to Saint Matthew,
chapter seventeen, beginning at verse one.

All sing: **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

At the end of the Gospel:

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All sing: **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

The hymn continues:

'Tis good, Lord, to be here!

Yet we may not remain;

But since thou bidst us leave the mount
come with us to the plain.

J. Armitage Robinson (1858-1933)

Sit for

THE SERMON

Rev. Martin Steele - Dean's Vicar

Stand to say

THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father,

Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
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.

We 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 worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Kneel for
THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The following response is used at the end of each petition:
Lord in your mercy.
Hear our prayer.

At the end of the prayers:
Merciful Father,
accept these our prayers for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

Stand for
THE PEACE

Christ is our peace.
Christ will transfigure our human body
and give it a form like that of his own glorious body.
We are the body of Christ. We meet in his name and share his peace.
The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Stand to sing

THE HYMN AT THE OFFERTORY - 343

A collection for Cathedral funds is taken during the singing of this hymn.

Bright the vision that delighted
once the sight of Judah's seer;
Sweet the countless tongues united
to entrance the prophet's ear.

Round the Lord in glory seated
cherubim and seraphim
filled his temple, and repeated
each to each the alternate hymn:

'Lord, thy gory fills the heaven;
Earth is with its fullness stored;
Unto thee be glory given,
Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord'

Heaven is still with glory ringing,
earth takes up the angels' cry,
'Holy, Holy, Holy,' singing,
'Lord of hosts, the Lord most high.'

With his seraph train before him,
with his holy Church below,
thus unite we to adore him,
bid we thus our anthem flow:

'Lord, thy glory fills the heaven;
earth is with its fullness stored;
unto thee be glory given'
Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord'

Richard Mant (1776-1848)

CELEBRATING AT THE LORD'S TABLE

THE PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

Holy God, receive all we bring before you this day,
and bring us also to that radiant glory
which we see in the transfigured face
of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE TAKING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

Christ our passover has been sacrificed for us.
Therefore let us celebrate the feast.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord is here.
His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts:
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God:
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Father, almighty and everliving God,
at all times and in all places
it is right to give you thanks and praise.

And now we give you thanks
because the divine glory of the incarnate Word
shone forth upon the holy mountain
before the chosen witnesses of his majesty;
and your own voice from heaven
proclaimed your beloved Son.

And so with all your people,
with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and singing:

The SANCTUS and BENEDICTUS are sung.

Blessed are you, Father,
the creator and sustainer of all things;
you made us in your own image,
male and female you created us;
even when we turned away from you,
you never ceased to care for us,
but in your love and mercy
you freed us from the slavery of sin;
giving your only begotten Son to become man
and suffer death on the cross to redeem us;
he made there the one complete and all-sufficient sacrifice
for the sins of the whole world:
he instituted,
and in his holy Gospel commanded us to continue,
a perpetual memory of his precious death
until he comes again:

On the night that he was betrayed he took bread;
and when he had given thanks to you,

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.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup;
and when he had given thanks to you,
he gave it to them, saying,
Drink this, all of you,
for this is my blood of the new covenant
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Therefore, Father, with this bread and this cup
we do as Christ your Son commanded:
we remember his passion and death,
we celebrate his resurrection and ascension,
and we look for the coming of his kingdom.

Accept through him, our great high priest,
this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving;
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts,
grant by the power of the life-giving Spirit
that we may be made one in your holy Church
and partakers of the body and blood of your Son,
that he may dwell in us and we in him;

Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord,
by whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, Almighty Father,
for ever and ever. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:
Our Father who art in heaven ...

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ
We, being many, are one body for we all share in the one bread.

The AGNUS DEI is sung.

THE COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God.
Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

*All communicant members of other Christian traditions
are most welcome to receive Holy Communion.*

The Choir sings the
COMMUNION MOTET

O thou, the central orb of righteous love, pure beam of the most high, eternal light of this our wintry world, thy radiance bright awakes new joy in faith, hope soars above. Come, quickly come, and let thy glory shine, gilding our darksome heaven with rays divine. Thy saints with holy lustre round thee move, as stars about thy throne, set in the height of God's ordaining counsel, as thy sight gives measured grace to each, thy power to prove. Let thy bright beams disperse the gloom of sin, our nature all shall feel eternal day, in fellowship with thee, transforming day to soul's erewhile unclean, now pure within. Amen. – *Charles Wood (1866 -1926)*

THE GREAT SILENCE
Silence is kept for thanksgiving and reflection

GOING OUT AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Stand to sing the
POST-COMMUNION HYMN - 494

Christ is the world's true Light,
its Captain of salvation,
the Daystar shining bright
to every man and nation;
New life, new hope awakes,
where'er men own his sway:
Freedom her bondage breaks,
and night is turned to day.

In Christ all races meet,
their ancient feuds forgetting,
the whole round world complete,
from sunrise to its setting:
When Christ is throned as Lord,
men shall forsake their fear,
to ploughshare beat the sword,
to pruning-hook the spear.

One Lord, in one great name
unite us all who own thee;
Cast out our pride and shame
that hinder to enthrone thee;
The world has waited long,
has travailed long in pain;
To heal its ancient wrong,
come, Prince of Peace, and reign.

G. W. Briggs (1875-1959)

POST-COMMUNION PRAYERS

Holy God,
we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ:
may we who are partakers at his table
reflect his life in word and deed,
that all the world may know his power to change and save.
This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory. **Amen.**

THE BLESSING

Christ Jesus,
the splendour of the Father and the image of his being,
draw you to himself,
that you may live in his light and share his glory;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be with you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Prelude in D major, BWV 532 – J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Please remain seated in silence until the Organ Voluntary is over.