

THE CATHEDRAL OF SAINT PAUL

BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

MOST REVEREND STEVEN J. RAICA, BISHOP

VERY REVEREND BRYAN W. JERABEK, PASTOR & RECTOR

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD OR «CANDLEMAS»

FEBRUARY 2, 2025



Welcome to the Cathedral of Saint Paul. The order of Mass can be found on page 3 in the Sunday's Word booklets.

VOLUNTARY

“CANTABILE” FROM 3 PIÈCES POUR ORGUE

CÉSAR FRANCK

THE SOLEMN ENTRANCE

The faithful gather (with their candles) at the rear of the church by the baptismal font. The celebrant and servers process to the font, where the lighting of candles commences immediately, while the following antiphon is sung.

ANTIPHON *Ecce Dominus noster*

ISAIAH 35:4,5

Ecce Dominus noster cum virtute veniet, ut illuminet oculos servorum suorum, alleluia. / Behold, our Lord will come with power, to enlighten the eyes of his servants, alleluia.

The celebrant then greets and addresses the faithful. The blessing of candles proceeds directly thereafter. After sprinkling with holy water and loading the thurible, the procession to the altar begins with the following words:

℣. Let us go in peace to meet the Lord.

℟. In the name of Christ. Amen.

The following antiphon, with verses from the Cantic of Simeon or Nunc Dimittis, is sung during the procession.

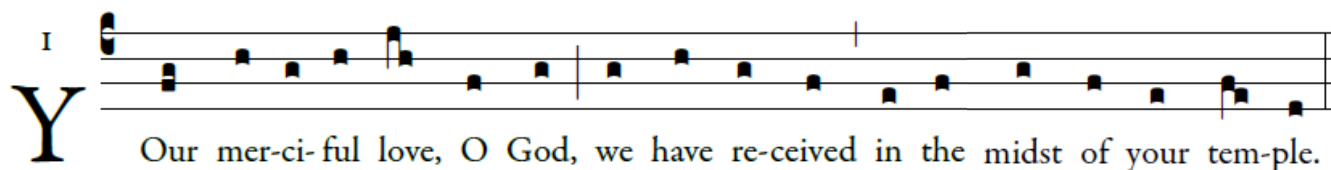
ANTIPHON (ALL MASSES) *Lumen ad revelationem*

LUKE 2:29-32

Lumen ad revelationem gentium, et gloriam plebis tuae Israel. / A light for revelation to the Gentiles and the glory of your people Israel. ℣. Lord, now let your servant depart in peace, in accordance with your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all peoples.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON (ALL MASSES, AD LIBITUM) *Suscepimus, Deus*

CF. PSALM 48:10-11



When the celebrant reaches the chair, he intones the Gloria in excelsis. After the singing of the Gloria, he says the collect as usual and Mass proceeds.

G Lóri- a in excélsis Dé- o. Et in térra pax homí-ni-bus bó-nae
vo-luntá- tis. Laudá-mus te. Bene-dí-cimus te. Ado-rá-mus te. Glo-ri-fi-cá-mus
te. Grá-ti- as á-gimus tí-bi propter má-gnam gló-ri- am tú- am. Dó-mi-ne
Dé- us, Rex caelé-stis, Dé- us Pá-ter omní-po-tens. Dó-mi-ne Fí- li uni-gé-ni-te
Jé-su Chrí-ste. Dó-mi-ne Dé- us, Agnus Dé- i, Fí- li- us Pá-tris. Qui tól-lis
peccá-ta mún-di, mi-se-ré-re nó-bis. Qui tól-lis peccá-ta mún-di, sú-sci-pe
depre-ca-ti- ó-nem nó-stram. Qui sé-des ad délix-te-ram Pá-tris, mi-se-ré-re nó-bis.
Quó-ni- am tu só-lus sánctus. Tu só-lus Dó-mi-nus. Tu só-lus Altí-s-si-mus, Jé-su
Chrí-ste. Cum Sáncto Spí-ri-tu, in gló-ri- a Dé- i Pá- tris. A- men.





Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and on earth peace to peo-ple of good will.

We praise you, we bless— you, we a - dore you, we glo - ri - fy you,

we give you thanks for your great glo - ry, Lord God, heav - en - ly King,

O — God, al-might-y Fa - ther. Lord Je - sus Christ, On - ly Be - got - ten Son,

Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Fa - ther, you take a-way the sins of the world,

have mer - cy on us; you take a - way the sins of the world, re - ceive our prayer;

you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther, have mer - cy on us.

For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,

you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit,

in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men. —



THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

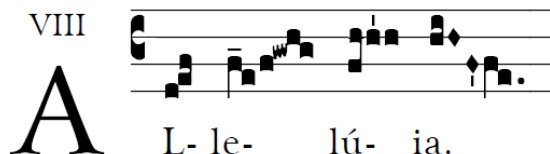
RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PSALM 24:7, 8, 9, 10



ALLELUIA

GREGORIAN, MODE VIII



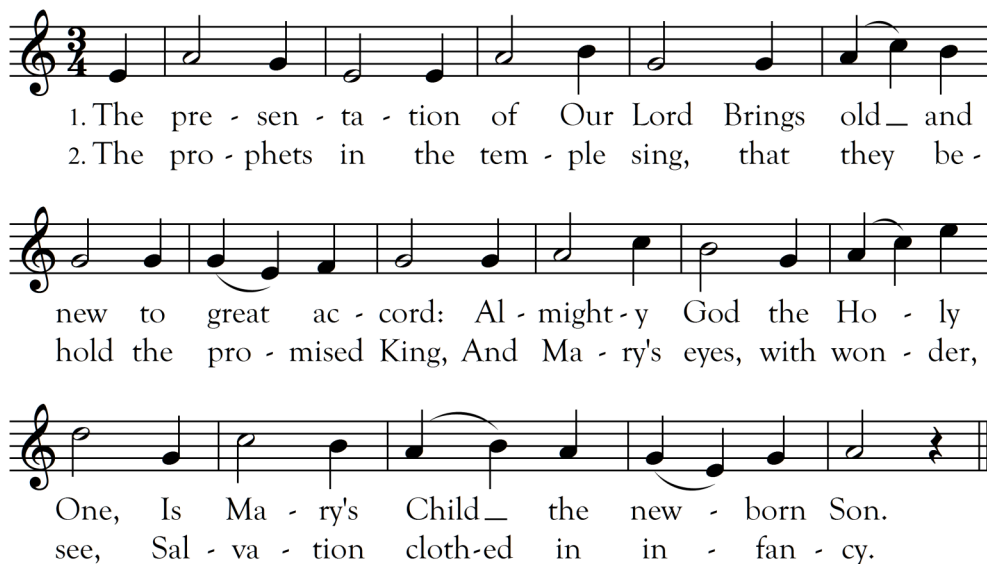
A light of revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel.



LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

OFFERTORY

AN ANGEL HAILS



OFFERTORY ANTIPHON (11:00AM) *Diffusa est gratia*

PSALM 45:3

Diffusa est grátia in lábiis tuis: propterea benedixit te Deus in ætérnum, et in sáeculum sáeculi.

Grace is poured out upon your lips; thus God has blessed you forever, and for ages of ages

SANCTUS

MASS XI «ORBIS FACTOR»

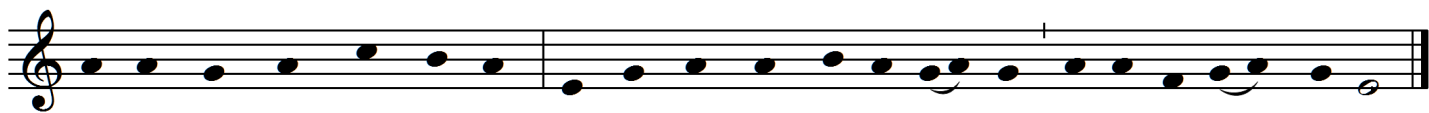
S Anctus, * Sánctus, Sánctus Dó-minus Dé-us Sá-ba-oth.

Plé-ni sunt caé-li et tér-ra gló-ri-a tú-a. Ho-sánna in

ex-célsis. Bene-díctus qui vé-nit in nó-mi-ne Dó-mi-ni.

Ho-sánna in ex-célsis.

MYSTERIUM FIDEI



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

AMEN (11:00AM)



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

AGNUS DEI

MASS XI «ORBIS FACTOR»

A - gnus Dé-i, * qui tól-lis peccá-ta mún-di: mi-se-ré-re

nó-bis. Agnus Dé-i, * qui tól-lis peccá-ta mún-di: mi-se-ré-re



HOLY COMMUNION

We invite all Catholics who are properly disposed (i.e., in the state of grace and having fasted for one hour before communion) to come forward in the usual way to receive Holy Communion.

All others, including our non-Catholic guests, may remain in their pews and join us in prayer. Alternatively, to participate in the communion procession and receive a blessing, come forward in the line and cross your arms over your chest as you approach the minister. Thank you.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON *Responsit accepit Simeon*

LUKE 2:26

Please join in singing the refrain below after the cantor introduction and between verses.



COMMUNION ANTIPHON (8:30 & 11:00AM) *Responsit accepit Simeon*

LUKE 2:26

Responsum accepit Simeon a Spiritu Sancto, non visurem se mortem, nisi videret Christum Domini.

Simeon received a revelation from the Holy Spirit, that he would not see death until he had seen the Lord's Messiah.

POSTCOMMUNION (11:00AM)

ALMA REDEMPTORIS MATER

G.P. PALESTRINA

O loving Mother of our Redeemer, gate of heaven, star of the sea, Hasten to aid thy fallen people who strive to rise once more. Thou who brought forth thy holy Creator, all creation wond'ring, Yet remainest ever Virgin, taking from Gabriel's lips that joyful "Ave!": be merciful to us sinners.

—Marian antiphon for Advent and Christmastide

CLOSING HYMN

O GOD, BEYOND ALL PRAISING

THAXTED



1. O God be-yond all prais-ing, we wor-ship you to - day
 *2. The flow'r of earth - ly splen-dor in time must sure - ly die,
 3. Then hear, O gra-cious Sav - ior, ac - cept the love we bring,



And sing the love a - maz-ing that songs can - not re - pay;
 Its frag - ile bloom sur - ren - der to you, the Lord most high;
 That we who know your fa - vor may serve you as our King;



For we can on - ly won - der at ev - 'ry gift you send,
 But hid - den from all na - ture the e - ter - nal seed is sown,
 And wheth - er our to - mor - rows be filled with good or ill,



At bless-ings with - out num - ber and mer - cies with - out end.
 Though small in mor - tal stat - ure to heav - en's gar - den grown.
 We'll tri - umph through our sor - rows and rise to bless you still,



We lift our hearts be - fore you and wait up - on your word;
 For Christ, the man from heav - en, from death has set us free,
 To mar - vel at your beau - ty and glo - ry in your ways,



We hon - or and a - dore you, our great and might - y Lord.
 And we through him are giv - en the fin - al vic - to - ry!
 And make a joy - ful du - ty our sac - ri - fice of praise.

VOLUNTARY

PIÈCE HEROÏQUE

CÉSAR FRANCK

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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE RELIGIOUS JUBILARIANS OF OUR DIOCESE!

60 YEARS

ABBOT CLETUS MEAGHER, O.S.B.

50 YEARS

SR. ROSA CRUZ-PLAZA, MGSPS

25 YEARS

SR. MARY JULIANA, O.P.

MUSIC REMINDERS

—PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE NEXT INSTALLATION OF OUR DOWNTOWN CONCERT SERIES. On **Sunday, February 23, at 4:00pm**, we welcome **THE GESUALDO SIX**, one of the world's best men's vocal ensembles. This is their Alabama debut: the concert is not to be missed...and it's free! Please help support our concert series! More information at stpaulsbhm.org/concerts!

ABOUT TODAY'S MUSIC

Today's Mass is one of the most beautiful feasts of the Church year: The Presentation of the Lord in the Temple. It brings many ideas, feelings, and prayers together: Our Lord Jesus Christ (and his parents, St. Mary and St. Joseph) satisfy the obligations of the Jewish law by presenting Jesus in the temple, but (as we know from the Canticum of Simeon that we hear in the introit of Mass and elsewhere), he is opening a new door, so to speak, of salvation—especially appropriate in this Jubilee Year. Finally, as many of us often pray the Holy Rosary, we are reminded of this feast (the fourth Joyful Mystery) on a weekly basis. It is no surprise that this day gives birth to a beautiful liturgy, with the blessing of candles particularly (thus the secondary name “Candlemas”), but also beautiful art (note the copy of the Dürer woodcut on the following page) as well as music. It is also the last day of the year that the Marian antiphon *Alma Redemptoris Mater* is sung, having been a feature of Compline and devotions since the First Sunday of Advent. It is, like the Presentation itself, a pivot point as we now welcome the *Ave Regina Caelorum*. We are thankful especially for the presence of the Cathedral Children's Schola Cantorum at the 8:30am Mass this weekend, as they lead us in the unique introductory rites of this Mass, and also in the communion antiphon and singing of the Alma. The voluntaries before and after Mass are both compositions of César Franck, composed in response to the building of the singular Cavaille-Coll organ at his church, Ste. Clotilde—an instrument that is one of the models for our very own Anna Catharine Grace Memorial Pipe Organ! Franck remarked, “Mon nouvelle orgue—c'est un orchestre!/My new organ—it's an orchestra!”, after hearing for the first time, and these pieces show his gifts as an orchestrator. The *Cantabile* is (as the title suggests) a singing piece, full of lyricism, demonstrating the oboe and trumpet stops. The *Pièce Heroïque* is usually characterized as a battle between evil and good; Franck surely had in mind the Franco-Prussian War that was raging at the time. It, like the closing hymn, ends our liturgical celebration on a triumphant note! Happy Feast Day!