

MOUNT CALVARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

Baltimore, Maryland † Personal Ordinariate of the Chair of Saint Peter



FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

MAY 3, 2020 • 10:00 A.M.

MOUNT CALVARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

A Roman Catholic Parish of the Personal Ordinariate of the Chair of Saint Peter

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Opening Hymn, #345

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

H. Baker / Irish melody, *St. Columba*



1.The King of love my shep - herd is, whose good - ness fail - eth nev - er;
2.Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my ran - somed soul He lead - eth,
3.Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but yet in love He sought me,
4.In death's dark vale I fear no ill with Thee, dear Lord, be - side me;
5.Thou spread'st a ta - ble in my sight; Thy unc - tion grace be - stow - eth;
6.And so through all the length of days Thy good - ness fail - eth nev - er:



I noth - ing lack if I am His, and He is mine for ev - er.
and where the ver - dant pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
and on His shoul - der gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.
Thy rod and staff my com - fort still, Thy cross be - fore to guide me.
and oh, what trans - port of de - light from Thy pure chal - ice flow - eth!
Good Shep - herd, may I sing Thy praise with - in Thy house for ev - er.

Introit

Misericórdia Dómini

plainsong

The loving-kindness of the LORD filleth the whole world, alleluia.

By the word of the LORD the heavens were established, alleluia, alleluia.

Rejoice in the LORD, O ye righteous; for it cometh well the just to be thankful.

Glory be ... | ... world without end. Amen. The loving-kindness of the LORD...

Collect for Purity

Priest ✠ In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *People* **Amen.**

The Priest says

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts be open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Summary of the Law *pronounced by the Priest*

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

Kyrie

H. Willan

Lord, have mer-cy up - on us. Lord, have mer-cy up - on us. Lord, have mer-cy up - on us.

Christ, have mer-cy up - on us. Christ, have mer-cy up - on us. Christ, have mer-cy up - on us.

repeat first line

H. Willan

Gloria in excelsis

Celebrant *All*

Glo - ry be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will towards men. We praise thee, we bless thee, we wor - ship thee, we glo - ri - fy thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glo-ry, O Lord God, heaven - ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty. O Lord, the on - ly be-got-ten Son, Je - sus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Fa-ther, that ta-kest a - way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. Thou that ta-kest a - way the sins of the world, re - ceive our prayer. Thou that sit - test at the right hand of God the Fa-ther, have mer-cy up - on us. For thou on - ly art ho - ly, thou on - ly art the Lord; thou on - ly O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost, art most high in the glo-ry of God the Fa - ther. A - - - - - men.

Collect of the Day

Priest *People* *Priest*

The Lord be with you. And with thy spirit. Let us pray.

The Priest chants the Collect, the People singing 'Amen.'

Almighty God, who showest to them that be in error the light of thy truth, to the intent that they may return into the way of righteousness: grant unto all them that are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion; that they may forsake those things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same; through the same Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The First Lesson

Acts 2:14a, 36-41

On the day of Pentecost, Peter, standing with the Eleven, lifted up his voice and said to the multitude, "Let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified."

Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brethren, what shall we do?" And Peter said to them, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you

shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is to you and to your children and to all that are far off, every one whom the Lord our God calls to him." And he testified with many other words and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this crooked generation." So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

Priest The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

The Second Lesson

1 Peter 2:20b-25

Beloved: If when you do right and suffer for it you take it patiently, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. He committed no sin; no guile was found on his lips.

When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he trusted to him

who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Guardian of your souls.

Priest The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia & Verse

Redemptionem

plainsong

Alleluia. Alleluia. The LORD hath sent redemption: unto his people. Alleluia.

I am the good Shepherd: and know my sheep, and am known of mine. Alleluia.

The People stand

The Gospel

St. John 10:1-10

Prie..Priest The Lord be with you. *People* **And with thy spirit.**

Priest ✠ A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. *People* **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

Jesus said, "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber; but he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the gatekeeper opens; the sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers." This figure Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So Jesus again said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and robbers; but the sheep did not heed them. I am the door; if any one enters by me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."



The Gospel of the Lord. Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The Homily

Fr. Albert Scharbach

Priest *All*

I be-lieve in one God, the Fa-ther Al-migh-ty, Ma-ker of heav-en and earth. And of all things vi - si-ble
and in vi - si-ble: And in one Lord Je - sus Christ, the on-ly-be-got-ten Son of God; Be-got-ten of his Fa-ther
be-fore all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Ve-ry God of ve-ry God; Be-got-ten, not made;
Be-ing of one substance with the Fa-ther; By whom all things were made: Who for us men and for our sal-va-tion
(gemflect)
came down from hea - ven. And was in-car-nate by the Ho-ly Ghost of the Vir-gin Ma-ry, And was made man:
(arise)
And was cru - ci-fi-ed al-so for us un-der Pon-tius Pi-late; He suf-fer-ed and was bu - ri-ed:
And the third day he rose a-gain ac-cord-ing to the Scrip-tures: And as-cend-ed in-to hea - ven
And sit-teth on the right hand of the Fa - ther. And he shall come a - gain, with glo - ry,
to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose king-dom shall have no end. And I be-lieve in the Ho-ly Ghost,
the Lord, and Giv-er of Life, Who pro-ceed-eth from the Fa-ther and the Son; Who with the Fa-ther and the Son
to-geth-er is wor-ship-ped and glo - ri - fi - ed; Who spake by the Pro - phets: And I be-lieve
one ho - ly Cath - o - lic and Ap - os - tol - ic Church: I ac - know-ledge one Bap - tism
for the re - mis - sion of sins: And I look for the Re - sur - rec - tion of the dead:
And the Life of the world to come. A - - - - - men.

The Prayers of the People

Priest Let us offer our prayers to Almighty God.
Father, we pray for thy holy Catholic Church;

People **That we all may be one.**

Priest Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve thee;

People **That thy Name may be glorified by all people.**

Priest We pray for our Holy Father, Pope Francis; Steven, our Bishop;
and for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

People **That they may be faithful ministers of thy Word and Sacraments.**

Priest We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

People **That they may work for thy peace on earth.**

Priest Give us grace to do thy will in all that we undertake;

People **That our works may find favor in thy sight.**

Priest Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

People **That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Priest Give to all the departed eternal rest;

People **And let light perpetual shine upon them.**

Priest We praise thee for the Blessed Virgin Mary, and for all thy saints who have entered into joy;

People **May we also come to share in thy heavenly kingdom.**

Priest Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, who knowest our necessities before we ask, and our ignorance in asking; we beseech thee to have compassion upon our infirmities; and those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask, vouchsafe to give us for the worthiness of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Penitential Rite

Ye that do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbors, and intend to lead a new life following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways: Draw near with faith, and make your humble confession to Almighty God, meekly kneeling upon your knees.

Priest Almighty God,

People **Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, judge of all men: We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed against thy divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us, the burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy Name; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Priest says

May Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy on us, ✠ pardon and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and bring us to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Comfortable Words

The Priest says

Hear what comfortable words our Savior Christ saith unto all who truly turn to him:

“Come unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you.”

“God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”

Hear also what Saint Paul saith: “This is a true saying, and worthy of all men to be received, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.”

Hear also what Saint John saith: “If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the Propitiation for our sins.”

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

The People sit

Offertory Sentence

The Priest pronounces a Sentence inviting the collection of tithes & offerings

Offertory Antiphon

Deus, Deus meus

plainsong

O God, thou art my God, early will I seek thee:
and lift up my hands in thy Name, alleluia

Offertory Anthem

Psalm 23

Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

The Lord is my shepherd;
therefore can I lack nothing.
He shall feed me in a green pasture
and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort.
He shall convert my soul and bring me forth in
the paths of righteousness, for his name's sake.
Yea, though I walk in the valley of the shadow
of death, I will fear no evil,
thy rod and thy staff comfort me.

Thou shalt prepare a table before me
against them that trouble me;
thou hast anointed my head with oil,
and my cup shall be full.
But thy lovingkindness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Orate Fratres

Priest Pray, brethren, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the Father almighty.

People **May the Lord accept the sacrifice at thy hands for the praise and glory of his name,
for our good, and the good of all his holy Church.**

Prayer over the Offerings

Priest O Lord, we pray thee, that from these mysteries we may obtain such succor of thy grace: that refraining ourselves from the desire of all things earthly, we may learn to love all such things as are heavenly; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Sursum Corda

Priest The Lord be with you. *People* And with thy spi - rit. *Priest* Lift — up your hearts.

People We lift — them up un - to the Lord. *Priest* Let us give thanks un - to the Lord our God.

People It is meet — and right so to do.

The Priest proceeds

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God; but chiefly are we bound to praise thee for the glorious Resurrection of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and hath taken away the sin of the world; who by his death hath destroyed death, and by his rising to life again hath won for us everlasting life. Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

Sanctus & Benedictus

H. Willan

Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - - - ly, Lord God of Hosts: Hea - ven and earth are full
of thy glo - ry, Glo - - - ry be to thee, O Lord Most High. Bless - ed ✠ is he that
com - eth in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The People kneel. Then the Priest says

Therefore, most merciful Father, we humbly pray thee, through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, and we ask, that thou accept and bless ✠ these gifts, these offerings, these holy and unspoiled sacrifices. We offer them unto thee, first, for thy holy Catholic Church: that thou vouchsafe to keep her in peace, to guard, unite, and govern her throughout the whole world: together with thy servant Francis our Pope, Steven our Bishop, and all the faithful guardians of the catholic and apostolic faith.

Commemoration of the Living

Remember, O Lord, thy servants and handmaids and all who here around us stand, whose faith is known unto thee and their steadfastness manifest, on whose behalf we offer unto thee or who themselves offer unto thee this sacrifice of praise: for themselves, and for all who are theirs: for the redemption of their souls, for the hope of their health and well-being: and who offer their prayers unto thee, the eternal God, the living and the true.

United in one communion, we venerate the memory, first of the glorious ever-virgin Mary, Mother of our God and Lord Jesus Christ; of blessed Joseph her spouse; as also of thy blessed Apostles and Martyrs, Peter and Paul, Andrew, James, John, Thomas, James, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Simon, and Thaddaeus; Linus, Cletus, Clement, Xystus, Cornelius, Cyprian, Lawrence, Chrysogonus, John and Paul, Cosmas and Damian, and of all thy Saints; grant that by their merits and prayers we may in all things be defended with the help of thy protection.

We beseech thee then, O Lord, graciously to accept this oblation from us thy servants, and from thy whole family: order thou our days in thy peace, and bid us to be delivered from eternal damnation and to be numbered in the fold of thine elect.

Vouchsafe, O God, we beseech thee, in all things to make this oblation blessed, approved, and accepted, a perfect and worthy offering: that it may become for us the Body and Blood of thy dearly beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

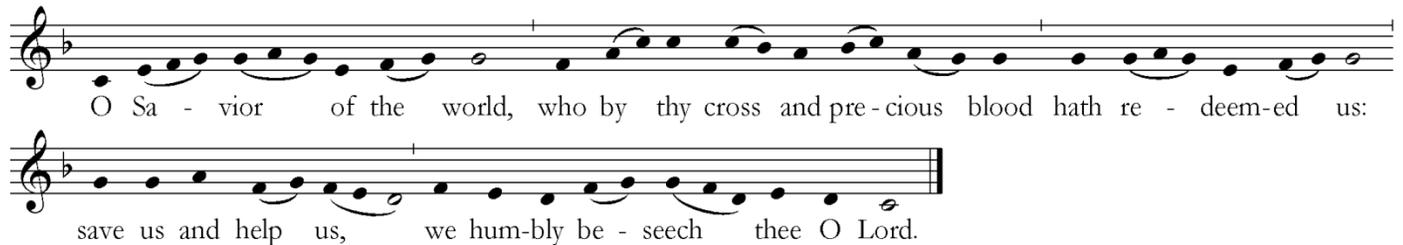
Who the day before he suffered, took bread into his holy and venerable hands, and with eyes lifted up to heaven unto thee, God, his Almighty Father, giving thanks to thee, he blessed, broke, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND EAT OF IT,
FOR THIS IS MY BODY,
WHICH WILL BE GIVEN UP FOR YOU.

Likewise, after supper, taking also this goodly chalice into his holy and venerable hands, again giving thanks to thee, he blessed, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND DRINK FROM IT,
FOR THIS IS THE CHALICE OF MY BLOOD,
THE BLOOD OF THE NEW AND ETERNAL COVENANT,
WHICH WILL BE Poured OUT FOR YOU AND FOR MANY
FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS.
DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME.

The mystery of faith:



O Sa - vior of the world, who by thy cross and pre - cious blood hath re - deem - ed us:
save us and help us, we hum - bly be - seech thee O Lord.

The Priest continues

Wherefore, O Lord, we thy servants, and thy holy people also, remembering the blessed passion of the same Christ thy Son our Lord, as also his resurrection from the dead, and his glorious ascension into heaven; do offer unto thine excellent majesty of thine own gifts and bounty, the pure victim, the holy victim, the immaculate victim, the holy Bread of eternal life, and the Chalice of everlasting salvation.

Vouchsafe to look upon them with a merciful and pleasant countenance: and to accept them even as thou didst vouchsafe to accept the gifts of thy servant Abel the Righteous, and the sacrifice of our patriarch Abraham: and the holy sacrifice, the immaculate victim, which thy high priest Melchisedech offered unto thee.

We humbly beseech thee, Almighty God, command these offerings to be brought by the hands of thy holy Angel to thine altar on high, in sight of thy divine majesty: that all we who at this partaking of the altar shall receive the most sacred Body and Blood of thy Son, may be fulfilled with all heavenly ✠ benediction and grace.

Commemoration of the Dead

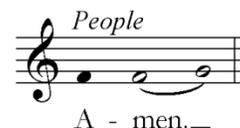
Remember also, O Lord, thy servants and handmaid who have gone before us sealed with the seal of faith, and who sleep the sleep of peace. To them, O Lord, and to all that rest in Christ, we beseech thee to grant the abode of refreshing, of light, and of peace.

To us sinners also, thy servants, who hope in the multitude of thy mercies, vouchsafe to grant some part and fellowship with thy holy Apostles and Martyrs: with John, Stephen, Matthias, Barnabas, Ignatius, Alexander,

Marcellinus, Peter, Felicitas, Perpetua, Agatha, Lucy, Agnes, Cecilia, Anastasia, and with all thy saints: within whose fellowship, we beseech thee, admit us, not weighing our merit, but granting us forgiveness.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; through whom, O Lord, thou dost ever create all these good things: dost sanctify, quicken, bless, and bestow them upon us.

By whom and with whom and in whom, to thee, O Father Almighty, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory throughout all ages, world without end.



Communion Rite

The Lord's Prayer *(stand)*

plainsong

The Priest sings As our Savior Christ hath commanded and taught us, we are bold to say,

Priest *People & Priest*
Our Fa-ther, who art in hea - ven, hal - low - ed — be thy Name, thy King - dom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it — is — in hea - ven. Give us this day our dai - ly bread. and for - give us our tres - pas - ses,
as we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst us. And lead us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us from e - vil.

The Priest continues Deliver us, O Lord, we beseech thee, from all evils, past, present, and to come; and at the intercession of the blessed and glorious ever Virgin Mary, Mother of God, with thy blessed Apostles Peter and Paul, and with Andrew, and all the Saints, favorably grant peace in our days, that by the help of thine availing mercy we may ever both be free from sin and safe from all distress.

People
For thine is the king - dom, and the power, and the glo - ry, for ev - er and ev - er. A - men. —

The Peace

The Priest says

O Lord Jesus Christ, who saidst to thine Apostles, Peace I leave with you; my peace I give unto you: Regard not our sins, but the faith of thy Church; and grant to her peace and unity according to thy will; who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

Priest *People*
The peace of the Lord be al - ways with you. And with thy spirit.

The People kneel

The Fraction of the Host

plainsong

The Priest breaks the consecrated Host and sings *People*
Al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us; There - fore let us keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia.

Agnus Dei

H. Willan

O Lamb of God, that ta-kest a-way the sins of the world, have mer-cy up - on us.

O Lamb of God, that ta-kest a-way the sins of the world, have mer-cy up - on us.

O Lamb of God, that ta-kest a-way the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

Prayer of Humble Access

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Facing the People, and showing the Chalice and Host, the Priest says

Behold the Lamb of God, behold him that taketh away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to the Supper of the Lamb.

The People respond three times

**Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldest come under my roof,
but speak the word only and my soul shall be healed.**

The Holy Communion

A prayer to make a spiritual communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are in the Blessed Sacrament.

I love you above all things, and I long for you in my soul.

Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

-St. Alphonsus de Liguori

Communion Antiphon

Ego sum pastor bonum

plainsong

I am the good Shepherd, alleluia: and know my sheep, and am known of mine, alleluia, alleluia.

Communion Anthem

Beati quorum via

Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)

*Beati quorum via integra est,
qui ambulant in lege Domini.*

Blessed are the undefiled in the way,
Who walk in the law of the Lord.

Prayer of Thanksgiving, *said by All*

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom, by the merits of the most precious death and passion of thy dear Son. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

Postcommunion Prayer

Priest Let us pray: O Lord our God, who has made us partakers of this holy Sacrament: grant, we beseech thee; that we may be thereby inwardly satisfied with heavenly Food, and outwardly defended against all adversities; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE CONCLUDING RITES

Blessing & Dismissal

Priest The Lord be with you. *People* **And with thy spirit.**

Priest The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing ✠ of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. *People* **Amen.**

Go forth in peace. Thanks be to God.

Closing Hymn

I Know That My Redeemer Lives

J. Franck / Hatton, *Duke Street*

1. I know that my Re - deem - er lives; What com - fort this sweet sen - tence gives!
2. He lives to bless me with His love; He lives to plead for me a - bove.
3. He lives tri - um - phant from the grave, He lives e - ter - nal - ly to save,
4. He lives, my kind, wise, heav'n - ly Friend, He lives and loves me to the end;
5. He lives, all glo - ry to His Name; He lives, my Je - sus, still the same;

He lives, He lives, who once was dead; He lives, my ev - er liv - ing Head.
He lives my hun - gry soul to feed; He lives to help in time of need.
He lives all glo - rious in the sky; He lives ex - alt - ed there on high.
He lives, and while He lives, I'll sing; He lives, my Pro - phet, Priest, and King.
Oh the sweet joy this sen - tence gives: I know that my Re - deem - er lives!



MOUNT CALVARY CATHOLIC CHURCH BALTIMORE • MARYLAND

ABOUT MOUNT CALVARY

Mount Calvary Catholic Church brings forward the fullness of the faith. The Mass is the supreme act of worship throughout the history of the Church, and we embrace all its symbolism and beauty to transform our world. We worship so as to lift up Christ in the beauty of holiness.

Where heaven and earth meet

Our worship awakens the senses and prepares the heart to receive our Lord. We enter into a holy realm and leave the commonplace behind. Holy water reminds us of our baptism. Incense prepares the way for the Lord's presence. Music lifts up our hearts in beauty and truth.

We bring forward a form of worship with ancient roots that stands the test of time. *We leave time behind* as heaven meets earth in mystery and the reality of our Lord's presence in the Eucharist.

Distinctive aspects of our worship

Incense. In the New Testament book of Revelation, incense represents the prayers of the saints. In the Old Testament, incense is used in the Temple sacrifice. From ancient times, incense sweetens the air to honor important visitors. Incense at Mass invokes all this symbolism. From the earliest days of the Church, incense has been used to prepare the altar and people for the presence of our Lord.

Sung prayers and readings. Music lifts up the heart and honors God. Singing elevates our Sunday worship as the most important thing that we do each week.

Kneeling and standing. As we worship with our bodies, our hearts become more fully engaged. The basic idea is this: kneel for prayer, sit for instruction, stand for praise.

The King's English. Some call this traditional English. While the language is traditional, it was never the common language of the street. Instead, it was the most exalted and beautiful language in England at the time the liturgy was developed: The King's English. The intent was that nothing less should be used in worship of our God. This language continues to be more poetic and easier to remember than street English. While there are occasions to address God more informally, this language in worship helps us to step out of the realm of the commonplace in order lift up our hearts to our Heavenly King.

The priest facing the altar. The priest faces the people when addressing the people and he faces the altar when addressing God. This approach helps to keep our focus on God when our prayers are addressed to him. This is the way priests have said Mass throughout most of Church history.

*O worship the Lord in the beauty
of holiness: let the whole earth
stand in awe of him. Psalm 96:9*