

THE MYSTICAL MASS

*A service of the Holy Eucharist in the
Mystical Christian & Liberal Catholic Traditions*



**The Chapel of St Columba
The Catholic Apostolic Church of Antioch
Auckland, New Zealand**

INVOCATION

Priest: Blessed be the Kingdom of the Father and the Son and of the Holy Spirit ✠

All: Amen ✠

OPENING PRAYER

Priest: We have come to celebrate on this day the festival of ... and to worship God through the elements of nature which form the Divine fabric of all creation. Therefore, before we commence these Holy Mysteries let us pray to the Lord.

All: Blessed are you Crown of the Universe. Your Limitless Light shines through all the worlds. Pour forth Thy Love into the chalice of our hearts. Set us ablaze with thy Divine Fire that we may humbly partake in thy Holy Mysteries.

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

Priest: *Lights altar candles saying...* We Light these candles in the name of the Blessed Trinity. By the Power of the Creator (*light taper from Lamp*), the Love of the Redeemer (*light left candle*) and Wisdom of the Giver of Life (*light right candle*). God above us, God around us, and God within us.

All: O Thou who art the Sun of Righteousness and the Light Eternal, giving gladness unto all things; shine upon us both now and forever, that we may walk always in the light of Thy countenance. Amen (6th Century Collect).

THE ASPERGES

Priest (*Receiving the aspergill, Priest makes ✠ with it, saying:*) May the Lord purify me that I may worthily perform His holy service. (*Sprinkling Altar middle, left, then right*) In the strength of the Lord I expel all evil from this His Holy Altar and sanctuary, and from this House, wherein we worship Him (*Turning to people, sprinkling triple*). The Lord has said: I will gather you from among the nations and bring you from every land. I will sprinkle clean water upon you.

All: And we shall be cleansed of all uncleanness. And a new heart will be given unto us, and our spirits shall be renewed (Ezekiel, 36:24-26).

THE CENSING

Priest: *Censes altar and then people saying:* As this incense rises before the Heavenly Throne, may the Lord prepare this chapel, and send his Holy Angels to build for us a spiritual temple for the celebration herein of the Holy Eucharist.

All: From the rising of the sun, even unto the going down of the Sun the Lord's name shall be magnified; and in every place incense shall be offered unto His name as a pure offering, for his name is great among the nations (Malachi 1:11).

INTROIT

Blessed Be the Holy Trinity, the undivided Unity.

Eternal, immortal, invisible, to who be all honour and glory, forever and ever. Amen. O Lord our God, how excellent is thy name in all the worlds.

Glory be to the father and to the son, and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now and forever shall be.

World without end. Amen.

CONFITEOR

Priest: Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known and from whom no secrets are hid; cleanse the thoughts of our hearts and grant us the grace and blessing of the Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord.

All: Eternal Spirit who gives life to all existence and who art the root of all things. Look with love and compassion upon our manifold imperfections and pardon our shortcomings. May your Living Flame burn all dross away, your fountain of water wash over us, and your cleansing wind blow through us. Amen

KYRIE

(All kneel or sit and bow their heads and slowly chant)

Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison.

Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison.

Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison.

ABSOLUTION

Priest: May our all-loving and compassionate God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit ✠ give us all the strength and power to forgive ourselves, and each other, for our human weaknesses, and bring us all in peace to life eternal.

All: Amen.

THE BREASTPLATE OF ST PATRICK

Priest: Let us bind ourselves today, to the strong name of the Trinity, to the virtues of the starlit heavens; The Glorious Sun's life-giving rays, the brilliance of Moon-glow pale, the flashing of Lightning fire, the whirling wind's strongest gale. The stable earth, the deep salt sea around the vast expanse of land. Let us bind ourselves to God's great power, the wisdom of the Lord to teach; His Lamp to guide, his staff to ward; The Holy Spirit to inspire our speech; The heavenly hosts to be our guard.

All: Christ be with me, Christ within me, Christ behind me, Christ before me, Christ beside me, Christ to win me, Christ to comfort and restore me. At the setting of the sun, by this task that we have done. We bind our souls O God to Thee. Father, Son, and Spirit Three.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

1. THE EPISTLE OR OLD TESTAMENT READING

2. THE GOSPEL: A reading from the... chapter of the Holy Gospel according to blessed.....beginning at the.....verse.

All: Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

After the reading Priest says: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All reply: Praise to Thee of Christ.

3. The Sermon/Homily for the Holy Day or Season.

THE LIBERAL CATHOLIC ACT OF FAITH

We believe that God is Love, and Power, and Truth, and Light; That perfect justice rules the world; That all His children shall one day reach His feet, however far they stray. We hold the Parenthood of God, the Brotherhood of man; We know that we do serve God best when best we serve all living beings. So shall the blessing of the Most High rest on us and peace for evermore. Amen.

OR

THE CREED

We believe in God above us, the Creator and sustainer of all life, both seen and unseen. Father and Mother of us all. Maker of sun and moon, fire and air, and water and earth. The Source of all Wisdom, Love, Beauty and Truth. We believe in God beside us, Jesus the Christ, the word made flesh. Our exemplar, teacher and redeemer. He was crucified on the cross of the elements, descended beneath the earth to the place of death and on the third day rose from the tomb. He ascended into heaven, and his kingdom will come on earth.

We believe in God within us, the Holy Spirit, the Divine Spark with our hearts, life-giving breath of the church. She who maintains all of Creation, who is ever present for guidance, comfort, purification, strength, and inspiration. We believe in the Church as a community of the sons and daughters of God, a center for worship, for service, and for spiritual illumination and growth. We believe in a life of prayer balanced with service, and we await the resurrection of the spirit after death, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS FOR THE WORLD



Reader: Lord, accept our prayers to comfort those who in this present and transitory life are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity, and those loved ones who have passed from this life. God of Life, in your Mercy.

All: Hear our prayer.

Reader: Bless all whose lives are linked with ours and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loved us. Lord most Gracious.

All: Hear our prayer.

Reader: We especially pray for your Holy Universal Church, the Catholic Apostolic Church of Antioch; for our presiding Bishop (N.....), and for all Bishops, Clergy and religious brothers and sisters who serve you and minister to your people.

All: Blessed are the servants of the Lord.

Reader: We praise and thank You, O Ancient of Ancients for the wonderful grace and virtue declared in Holy Mother Mary, Queen of Heaven and Star of the Sea and for all the just men and women made perfect - the Watchers, Saints and Holy Ones especially St Michael and the Archangels, Saints Francis and Clare, St Benedict, St Columba of the Holy Isle of Iona, and all Apostles, Martyrs, Patriarchs, and Prophets who have been shining beacons of your Light throughout the ages.

All: May we be inspired by their Holy Example

Reader: We pray for the safety and protection of all the people of our land and the whole world, and good judgment to those whose decisions are influential in preserving the wellbeing and welfare of humanity.

All: Hear our prayer.

Reader: We pray for those people affected by the (recent crisis, war, disaster), that through your grace and blessing they might be strengthened and healed.

All: Hear our prayer.

Reader: Teach us O Lord, to see Thy life in all people and in all beings of the earth, and so guide the nations into the understanding of thy laws that peace and good will may reign upon earth, through Christ our Lord.

All: Hear our prayer.

All: Lord, make me an instrument of your peace, where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy; Grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love *(St Francis of Asissi)*.

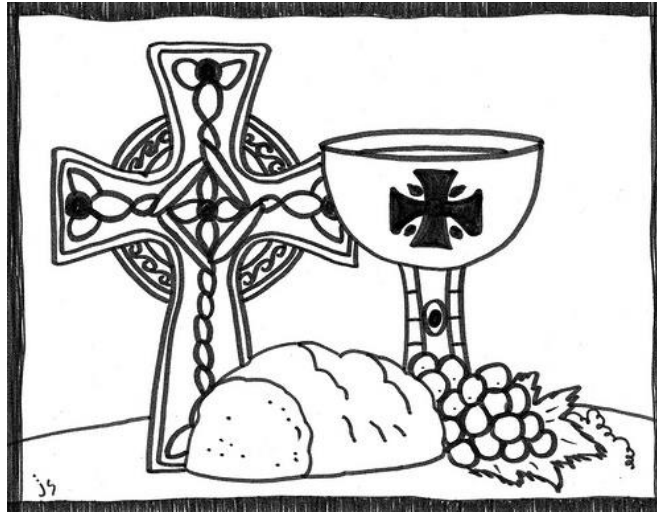
THE TIME OF SILENCE

Priest: We weave a silence onto our lips, we weave a silence in our minds. We weave a silence within our hearts, we close our ears to distractions, we close our eyes to attractions, we close our heart to temptation.

All: Calm us as You stilled the storm, still us O Lord and keep us from harm. Enfold us, Divine Beloved, in your peace *(Fr. David Adam, Lindisfarne)*.

10 Minutes meditation or contemplative prayer.

THE COMMUNION & SACRED FEAST



THE OFFERTORIUM

Priest: All things come from ✚ Thee, O Lord, and of Thine own have we given Thee.

All: Amen. Priest places bread and chalice in centre of altar.

Priest: We adore Thee, O God who art the source of all Life and Goodness and with true and thankful hearts we lay before you these creatures of bread and wine, ✚ linking them spiritually with ourselves and praying that you receive through them our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving that it may help to lift the heavy burdens and sorrows of this world, and knit your children closer unto you.

All: We honour the Lord with our substance, and with the first fruits of our increase; So, shall our barns be filled with plenty, and our presses burst forth good wine.

Priest (Raises bread saying): Blessed are you, God of all Creation, through your goodness we have this bread to offer, harvest of the grain, ripened by the wind, the sun and the rain. May it become for us the bread of life.

All: Blessed be God for ever.

Priest (Pours wine into the chalice saying): Blessed are you, God of all creation, through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and the work of human hands. It will become for us our spiritual drink.

All: Blessed be God for ever.

Priest (pours a little water into the chalice, saying):

According to immemorial custom, we now mix ✚ water with this wine, praying O God Most High, that we may evermore abide in Christ and He in us.

All: Amen

THE SECOND CENSING

The priest censes the elements on the altar then holds censer before altar saying:

Priest: As the smoke of sweet spices arose from the censor of pure gold in the hands of Aaron the Priest, so may the cloud of incense ascend and the compassion from our prayers rise up to Thy Throne O Lord. Let your Holy Angels encompass your people and breathe forth upon them the spirit of your blessing.

All: May the Lord enkindle within us the fire of His love, and the flame of everlasting charity.

LAVABO

Priest chants: I wash my hands of the impurities of the world that I may worthily perform this Eternal Sacrifice of the Life of God into the limitations of matter. I will praise you, O Lord, till the end of days, that the Glory of your Gift may resound through all the worlds. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit ✠. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. World without end.

All: Amen.

ORATE FRATRES

Priest: Receive O Creator, these creatures of bread and wine prepared for the glory of your Holy Name. For here we offer, and present unto your Divine Majesty, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a holy and living sacrifice unto thee.

All: Make the way plain O Lord, that we may be a center for the radiation of your Power, and a channel whereby your Holy Ones may approach the World.

SURSUM CORDA

Priest: The Lord be with you

All: And with Thy Spirit

Priest: Lift up your hearts

All: We lift them up, unto the Lord.

Priest: Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God

All: It is meet, right, and our bounden duty. That we shall at all times and in all places, give praise to The Divine Creator.

PREFACE & SANCTUS

Priest: It is very meet, right and our bounden duty to at all times and in all places give thanks unto Thee, O lord, holy father, almighty everlasting God (*Here follows the preface if any*). Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy holy name. With the spirits of nature and with the Holy Saints, Prophets and Sages of all ages we do join in the song that echoes throughout the universe.

All: Holy, Holy, Holy. Lord God of Hosts. Heaven and Earth are full of your Glory. Blessed are they who come in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the Highest.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Priest: Glory to God in the highest...

All: And on Earth, peace to people of good will. We praise you; we bless you; we glorify you; we give you thanks for your great glory. O Lord God heavenly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord Christ, Indwelling Light, Son of the Father whose Wisdom orders all things, pour forth your love and compassion upon us. Thou whose Strength upholds and sustains all creation, receive our prayer. Thou whose Beauty shines through the whole universe, unveil your glory. For you only are holy; you alone are Lord; you alone, O Christ, in unity with the Holy Spirit are most high, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

EPICLESIS

Priest: Loving God, accept we pray Thee these creatures of bread and wine and send down your Holy Spirit to ✠ bless, ✠ transform and ✠ consecrate these earthly channels of your wondrous power. Wherefore, we, your humble servants do offer unto you this most precious Gift which you have bestowed upon us; this Holy Bread of life everlasting (*✠ over bread*) and the Chalice of eternal salvation (*✠ over wine*), humbly praying that you will command your Holy Angels to bear our Oblation to your Altar on high, there to be offered by Christ, Who, as the Eternal High Priest forever offers Himself as the eternal sacrifice for the salvation of the world.

For on the night before he was willingly sacrificed and left his mortal body, He took bread, broke it and giving thanks to you Most High then he gave it to His disciples saying: This is my body broken for you. Take it and eat all of you, and when you do. Do so in memory of me (*Hold host aloft. Bell 3x.*)

Priest: In like manner after supper, he took the Chalice in his Holy and Venerable hands; and again, gave thanks to Thee Most High, then ✠ blessed it, and gave it to the disciples saying: This is my Blood of the New Covenant poured out for you, bringing forgiveness, making you free. Take it and drink all of you, and when you do. Do so in memory of me
(Priest holds chalice aloft, places on altar, kneel, bell 3x).

ALL kneel (or bow heads) as priest sings:

***Through him and with him and in him
O God, almighty Father. In the unity of the Holy Spirit
All Power and Blessing are yours
Now and forever. Amen.***

THE COMMUNION

Priest: In obedience to the command of our blessed Lord, and following the universal practice of His Holy Church, let us together say:

THE LORDS PRAYER

All: Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And let us enter not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

OR

THE ARAMAIC PRAYER OF JESUS

All: Divine Creator, Father and Mother of the Universe. Holy is Your Name. Focus your Light within me, make it useful. Create your reign of unity now on Earth below as above in the heavens. Grant me what sustenance I need each day, for my soul and for my body. Loose the cords of mistakes that bind me. Do not let surface things delude me but free me from the times of trial. From you is born all that is, through you I live, and move and have my being. For the Kingdom, the Power and the Glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

THE MYSTERY

Priest: O Son of God, who showeth Thyself this day upon a thousand altars and yet are one and indivisible, in token of your great sacrifice we break this your Body...

(break host in half over chalice and with a small particle thereof makes the + thrice over the chalice and finally at the words "we unite" drops particle into chalice)

...and in token of your triumph over death, the reuniting of your Soul and Body, and your glorious resurrection, we unite this your Body with this your Blood; Praying that we being dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto righteousness, may be one with you even as you art one with the Father; and that this action ordained from of old, your

+ Grace, your + Blessing and your + Spiritual Sustenance, which you do give us in this holy sacrament, may be spread out upon thy world.

CANTICLE: PSALM CXXII

Priest Sings: I was glad when they said unto me: we will go into the house of the Lord: I will be glad and rejoice, and so will I go unto thine altar:

All Sing: O send out Thy Light and Truth to lead me, and bring me, to Thy Holy Hill: That I may go unto the Altar of God, even unto the God: of my joy and gladness. O magnify the Lord our God, and worship him upon his holy hill: for the Lord our God is Holy. The Lord shall give strength, unto his people: The Lord shall give his people, the blessing of peace. (Psalm 122).

SALUTATION OF PEACE

Priest: O Lord, Jesus Christ, you did say to your apostles; "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you;" regard not our shortcomings, but the faith of your Church and grant Her that peace and unity which are agreeable to your holy will; you who lives and reigns. One God, without beginning or end, unto the ages of ages.

All: Amen.

Priest: The peace of the Lord be with you.

All: And with Thy spirit

THE SACRED FEAST

Priest: O Lord who in this adorable Sacrament has left us a living memorial and pledge of your marvelous love for humanity, graciously draw us into mystic communion with you, that our souls may be lifted into the immensity of your love, and that, being filled with a high endeavour, we may ever be mindful of your indwelling Presence and walk the path of a holy life.

All: Lord, prepare us to eat of the Bread of Everlasting Life, and drink from the Holy Chalice of Immortality. Open our eyes that we may see, and our hearts that we may understand.

Priest: *(Raise chalice & bread say)* All are invited to share in this communion for the Lord's Supper belongs to All his people. Draw near and receive this Most Precious Sacrament through which our souls shall be healed.

All who would partake of the Sacraments approach the Communion rail and kneel.

Priest: The Bread of Life, the Body of Christ.

Priest: The Cup of Salvation, the Holy Blood.

PRAYER OF THE VEIL

Priest: Under the veil of earthly things have we had Communion with the Risen Lord, and aligning with That Presence, we are transfigured for we know that we are truly the Temple of God, and the Divine Spirit Dwells within us.

All: We who have been refreshed by thy heavenly gifts do pray O Lord that Thy Grace and Peace be so grafted inwardly in our hearts that it may continually be made manifest in our lives; through Christ our Lord. Amen

HOMAGE TO OUR LADY

Priest: Holy Lady Mary, Queen of Love and Compassion, with all our hearts we pour out our love and devotion at Thy feet; and we offer ourselves as channels of Thy wondrous tenderness, and as agents of Thy holy work.

All: O Holy Lady, Mother of the World, we dedicate our lives to thy service.

THE BENEDICTION

Priest: There is a peace that passeth all understanding; it abides in the hearts of those who live in the eternal. There is a power that makes all things new; it lives and moves in those who know the Self and the Divine as One. May that peace brood over you, and that power uplift you, till you stand where the One Initiator is invoked, and you see His star shine forth ✚

CLOSING PRAYER

Priest: Before we depart let us pray to the Lord: Creator God, through your Love all things were made, through your Power all things are governed. Through your Wisdom all things are sustained. Thank you for all that is good, for our creation and for our humanity, for the Guardianship you have given us as Custodians of this earth, for the gifts of life and of one another, and for your Divine love, which is unbounded and eternal. Open our eyes to behold your works; that we may learn to serve you with gladness and praise and bless you in all things. Amen. *(Prayer by Edmund of Abingdon C.1200 & a NZ Anglican prayer)*

All: The Power of God protects us, the Love of God enfolds us, the Wisdom of God enlightens us. The Divine Spark shines within us.

THE DISMISSAL

Priest (*Putting out candles*): Heaven has intertwined with Earth, therefore let us go forth by the Power of the Creator, by the Love of the Redeemer, with the Wisdom of the Giver of Life. In the faith of the apostles, in the joyful praise of the angels, in the holiness of the saints, and in the courage of the martyrs.

All: We go forth carrying Christ's Light into the world.

CLOSING HYMN: PHOS HILARON

(3rd-4th Century)

**O Gladsome Light of the Holy Glory, of the Divine Creator, Heavenly Holy.
Now that we have come, at the setting of the sun to behold the light of evening.**

We praise God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

For meet it is at all times, to worship Him with voices of praise.

O Source of Light, and Giver of life.

Wherefore all the world doth glorify Thee.