



# **THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST (CORPUS CHRISTI)**

**Holy Mass with Ordination to  
the Sacred Diaconate**

Sunday, 6 June 2021

# Principal Celebrant



**Archbishop Bernard Longley**

*Archbishop of Birmingham*

**Please note**

**Due to Coronavirus restrictions currently in place, all singing and responses will be performed by the Schola and not the congregation.**

## Gathering hymn

### **'Praise to the Holiest in the height'**

Praise to the Holiest in the height,  
and in the depth be praise,  
in all his words most wonderful,  
most sure in all his ways.

O loving wisdom of our God!  
When all was sin and shame,  
a second Adam to the fight,  
and to the rescue came.

O wisest love! That flesh and blood  
which did in Adam fail,  
should strive afresh against the foe,  
should strive and should prevail.

And that a higher gift than grace  
should flesh and blood refine,  
God's presence and his very self,

and Essence all divine.

O generous love! That he who smote  
in man for man the foe,  
the double agony in man  
for man should undergo.

And in the garden secretly  
and on the Cross on high,  
should teach his brethren, and inspire  
to suffer and to die.

Praise to the Holiest in the height,  
and in the depth be praise,  
in all his words most wonderful,  
most sure in all his ways.

## Introductory rites

### Introit

*Cf Ps 80:17*

*Cibavit eos ex adipe frumenti, et de petra melle saturavit eos.*

He fed them with the finest wheat and satisfied them with honey from the rock.

### Kyrie

***Mass XII – Pater Cuncta***

### Gloria

***Mass XII – Pater Cuncta***

### Collect

O God, who in this wonderful Sacrament have left us a memorial of your Passion, grant us, we pray, so to revere the sacred mysteries of your Body and Blood that we may always experience in ourselves the fruits of your redemption.

Who live and reign with God the Father  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever  
and ever.

℞ Amen.

## Liturgy of the Word

### First reading

A reading from the book of Exodus.

*(Ex 24, 3-8) This is the blood of the Covenant that the Lord has made with you.*

Moses went and told the people all the commands of the Lord and all the ordinances. In answer, all the people said with one voice, 'We will observe all the commands that the Lord has decreed.'

Moses put all the commands of the Lord into writing, and early next morning he built an altar at the foot of the mountain, with twelve standing-stones for the twelve tribes of Israel. Then he directed certain young Israelites to offer holocausts and to immolate bullocks to the Lord as communion sacrifices. Half of the blood Moses took up and put into basins, the other half he cast on the altar. And taking the Book of the Covenant he read it to the

listening people, and they said, 'We will observe all that the Lord has decreed; we will obey.' Then Moses took the blood and cast it towards the people. 'This' he said 'is the blood of the Covenant that the Lord has made with you, containing all these rules.'

*The Word of the Lord.*

**R** Thanks be to God.

## **Responsorial psalm**

*Ps 115, 12-13, 15-18 R. v.13*

**R**      **The cup that we bless  
is a communion with the blood of Christ.**

How can I repay the Lord  
for his goodness to me?  
The cup of salvation I will raise;  
I will call on the Lord's name.

**R**

O precious in the eyes of the Lord  
is the death of his faithful.

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Your servant, Lord, your servant am I;  
you have loosened my bonds.

R

A thanksgiving sacrifice I make:  
I will call on the Lord's name.  
My vows to the Lord I will fulfil  
before all his people.

R

## **Second reading**

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

*(Heb 9, 11-15) The blood of Christ can purify  
our inner self from dead actions.*

Now Christ has come, as the high priest of all the blessings which were to come. He has passed through the greater, the more perfect tent, which is better than one made by men's hands because it is not of this created order; and he has entered the sanctuary once and for all, taking with him not the blood of goats and bull calves, but his own blood, having won an eternal redemption for us. The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer

are sprinkled on those who have incurred defilement and they restore the holiness of their outward lives; how much more effectively the blood of Christ, who offered himself as the perfect sacrifice to God through the eternal Spirit, can purify our inner self from dead actions so that we do our service to the living God.

He brings a new covenant, as the mediator, only so that the people who were called to an eternal inheritance may actually receive what was promised: his death took place to cancel the sins that infringed the earlier covenant.

*The Word of the Lord.*

**R**      *Thanks be to God.*

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## Sequence

*Ecce Panis Angelorum*

## Gospel acclamation

**℟ Alleluia, alleluia!**

I am the living bread which has come down from heaven, says the Lord;

Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever

**℟ Alleluia!**

## Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

*(Mk 14:12-16, 22-26) This is my body. This is my blood.*

On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb was sacrificed, his disciples said to Jesus, 'Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?' So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, 'Go into the city and you will meet a man carrying a pitcher of water.

Follow him, and say to the owner of the house which he enters, "The Master says: Where is my dining room in which I can eat the passover with my disciples?" He will show you a large upper room furnished with couches, all prepared. Make the preparations for us there.' The disciples set out and went to the city and found everything as he had told them, and prepared the Passover.

And as they were eating he took some bread, and when he had said the blessing he broke it and gave it to them. 'Take it,' he said, 'this is my body.' Then he took a cup, and when he had returned thanks he gave it to them, and all drank from it, and he said to them, 'This is my blood, the blood of the covenant, which is to be poured out for many. I tell you solemnly, I shall not drink any more wine until the day I drink the new wine in the kingdom of God.'

After psalms had been sung they left for the Mount of Olives.

*The Gospel of the Lord.*

**R** *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

## Rite of ordination of deacons

### Calling of the candidates

**Deacon** Let those to be ordained deacons please come forward.

**Acting-Rector** For the Diocese of...

**Leeds** Yemane Aradom

**Birmingham** Steven Fleming

**Northampton** Jithu James

**Motherwell** Christopher Morris

**(Cong. Orat.)** Br David Sprong

**Lancaster** Philip Wrigley

*Each one answers:*

**Candidate** Present

### Presentation of the candidates

*Fr Paul Keane, Acting-Rector of St Mary's College, Oscott, presents the Candidates to the Archbishop.*

**Acting-Rector** Most Reverend Father, Holy Mother Church asks you to ordain these men, our brothers, for service as deacons.

**Archbishop** Do you judge them to be worthy?

**Acting-Rector** After inquiry among the people of Christ and upon recommendation of those concerned with their training, I testify that they have been found worthy.

## **Election by the bishop and the consent of the people**

**Archbishop** We rely on the help of the Lord God and our Saviour Jesus Christ, and we choose these men, our brothers, for the order of deacons.

**R** Thanks be to God.

**Deacon** Let us sit.

## **The homily**

### **Commitment to celibacy**

**Archbishop** By your own free choice you seek to enter the order of deacon. You shall exercise this ministry in the celibate state for celibacy is both a sign and a motive of

pastoral charity, and a special source of spiritual fruitfulness in the world. By living in this state with total dedication, moved by a sincere love for Christ the Lord, you are consecrated to him in a new and special way. By this consecration you will adhere more easily to Christ with an undivided heart; you will be more freely at the service of God and mankind, and you will be more untrammelled in the ministry of Christian conversion and rebirth. By your life and character you will give witness to your brothers and sisters in faith that God must be loved above all else, and that it is he whom you serve in others. Therefore, I ask you: In the presence of God and the Church, are you resolved, as a sign of your interior dedication to Christ, to remain celibate for the sake of the kingdom and in lifelong service to God and mankind?

**Candidates**            I am.

**Archbishop**            May the Lord help you to persevere in this commitment.

**Candidates**            Amen.

## **Examination of the candidates**

**Archbishop**            My sons, before you are ordained deacon, you must declare before the people your intention to undertake this office. Are you willing to be ordained for the Church's ministry by the laying on of hands and the gift of the Holy Spirit?

**Candidates**            I am.

**Archbishop**            Are you resolved to discharge the office of deacon with humility and love in order to assist the bishop and the priests and to serve the people of Christ?

**Candidates**            I am.

**Archbishop**            Are you resolved to hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience as the Apostle urges, and to proclaim this faith in word and action as it is

taught by the Gospel and the Church's tradition?

**Candidates** I am.

**Archbishop** Are you resolved to maintain and deepen a spirit of prayer appropriate to your way of life and, in keeping with what is required of you, to celebrate faithfully the liturgy of the hours for the Church and for the whole world?

**Candidates** I am.

**Archbishop** Are you resolved to shape your way of life always according to the example of Christ, whose body and blood you will give to the people?

**Candidates** I am, with the help of God.

## **Promise of obedience**

*The Candidates go to the Bishop and, kneeling before him, the former place their hands between those of the latter.*

**Archbishop** Do you promise respect and obedience to your ordinary and his successors?

**Candidate** I do.

**Archbishop** May God who has begun the good work in you bring it to fulfilment.

*Finally:*

**Deacon** Let us stand.

## **Litany of the saints**

*The candidates prostrate themselves and the rest stand at their places.*

*As the central and most solemn part of the ordination rite approaches, we recognise our total dependence on God and join in prayer with the whole Church in glory in heaven. The Candidates prostrate themselves as a sign of his total dependence on Almighty God.*

*The Archbishop invites the people to join him in prayer for the Candidates.*

**Archbishop**            My dear people, let us pray that the all-powerful Father may pour out his blessing on these servants of his, whom he receives into the holy Order of Deacons.

Lord, have mercy.

*Lord, have mercy.*

Christ, have mercy.

*Christ, have mercy.*

Lord, have mercy.

*Lord, have mercy.*

God, the Father of heaven,

*Have mercy on us.*

God the Son, Redeemer of the world,

God the Holy Spirit,

Holy Trinity, One God,

Holy Mary,

*Pray for us.*

Holy Mother of God,  
Holy Virgin of Virgins,  
Holy Virgin of Fatima,  
Holy Virgin *Vulnerata*,  
Seat of Wisdom,

Saint Michael,

*Pray for us.*

Holy Angels of God,

Saint John the Baptist,

*Pray for us.*

Saint Joseph,

Saints Peter and Paul,

*Pray for us.*

Saint Andrew,

Saint John,

Saint Mary Magdalene,

Saint Stephen,

*Pray for us.*

Saint Ignatius of Antioch,  
Saint Laurence,  
Saint Vincent,  
Saint John Ogilvie,  
Saint Blaise,  
Blessed Christopher Robinson,  
Saints Perpetua and Felicity,  
Saint Agnes,

Saint Gregory,

*Pray for us.*

Saint Nicholas,  
Saint Ambrose,  
Saint Augustine,  
Saint Hieronymus,  
Saint Athanasius,  
Saint Basil,  
Saint Ephraem,  
Saint Martin,  
Saint David,  
Saint John Paul the Second,

Saint Anthony of Egypt,

*Pray for us.*

Saint Benedict,

Saint Columba,

Saint Francis,

Saint Dominic,

Saint Anthony of Padua,

Saint Philip Neri,

Saint Francis Xavier,

Saint Marcelline Champagnat,

Blessed Dominic Barberi,

Saint Jean Marie Vianney,

Blessed Ignatius Spencer,

Saint Kuriakose Elias Chavara,

Saint John Henry Newman,

Saint Pio of Pietrelcina,

Venerable Fulton Sheen,

Saint Catherine of Sienna,

Saint Teresa of Jesus,

Saint Marie Bernadette Soubirous,

Saint Teresa of Calcutta,

Saint Margaret of Scotland,

*Pray for us.*

Blessed Carlo Acutis,

All holy men and women, saints of God,

Lord, be merciful,

*Lord, deliver us, we pray.*

From all evil,

From every sin,

From everlasting death,

By your Incarnation,

By your Death and Resurrection,

By the outpouring of the Holy Spirit,

Be merciful to us sinners,

*Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer.*

Govern and protect your holy Church,

Keep the pope and all the ordained in

faithful service to your Church,

Bless these chosen men,

Bless and sanctify these chosen men,

Bless, sanctify, and consecrate these chosen  
men,  
Bring all peoples together in peace and true  
harmony,  
Comfort with your mercy the troubled and  
afflicted,  
Strengthen all of us and keep us in your holy  
service,  
Jesus, Son of the living God,  
*Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer.*

Christ, hear us.

*Christ, hear us.*

Christ, graciously hear us.

*Christ, graciously hear us.*

*The Archbishop prays:*

Lord God,  
hear our petitions  
and give your help to this act of our ministry.  
We judge these men worthy to serve as  
deacons

and we ask you to bless them and make  
them holy.

Grant this through Christ our Lord.

✠ Amen.

## **Laying on of hands**

*Then all stand. One by one the candidates go to the archbishop and kneel before him. The archbishop lays his hands on the head of each, in silence.*

## **The prayer of consecration**

*The Archbishop prays:*

Almighty God,  
be present with us by your power.  
You are the source of all honour,  
you assign to each his rank,  
you give to each his ministry.

You remain unchanged,  
but you watch over all creation and make it  
new  
through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord:

he is your Word, your power, and your  
wisdom.

You foresee all things in your eternal  
providence  
and make due provision for every age.  
You make the Church, Christ's body,  
grow to its full stature as a new and greater  
temple.

You enrich it with every kind of grace  
and perfect it with a diversity of members  
to serve the whole body in a wonderful  
pattern of unity.

You established a threefold ministry of  
worship and service  
for the glory of your name.  
As ministers of your tabernacle you chose the  
sons of Levi  
and gave them your blessing as their  
everlasting inheritance.  
In the first days of your Church  
under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit

the apostles of your Son appointed seven  
men of good repute  
to assist them in the daily ministry,  
so that they themselves might be more free  
for prayer and preaching.

By prayer and the laying on of hands  
the apostles entrusted to those chosen men  
the ministry of serving at tables.

Lord,  
look with favour on these servants of yours,  
whom we now dedicate to the office of  
deacon,  
to minister at your holy altar.

Lord,  
send forth upon them the Holy Spirit,  
that they may be strengthened  
by the gift of your sevenfold grace  
to carry out faithfully the work of the ministry.

May they excel in every virtue:

in love that is sincere,  
in concern for the sick and the poor,  
in unassuming authority,  
in self-discipline,  
and in holiness of life.

May their conduct exemplify your  
commandments  
and lead your people to imitate their purity of  
life.

May they remain strong and steadfast in  
Christ,  
giving to the world the witness of a pure  
conscience.

May they in this life imitate your Son,  
who came, not to be served but to serve,  
and one day reign with him in heaven.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your  
Son,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy  
Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.

**R** Amen.

## **Investiture with stole and dalmatic**

### ***Beati qui habitant***

*After the prayer of consecration, the archbishop sits and the newly ordained stand. Some of the assisting deacons or priests put a deacon's stole and then a dalmatic on each of them.*

## **Presentation of the Book of the Gospels**

*Vested as deacons, the newly ordained go to the archbishop and kneel before him. He places the Book of the Gospels in the hands of each one and says:*

Receive the Gospel of Christ, whose herald  
you now are.

Believe what you read,  
teach what you believe,  
and practice what you teach.

## **Kiss of peace**

### ***Si quis mihi***

*Lastly, the archbishop stands and gives the kiss of peace to each of the new deacons, saying:*

Peace be with you.

**Deacon**                      And with your spirit.

*Each deacon, one by one, makes a profound bow. If circumstances permit, the deacons present also give the kiss of peace to the newly ordained.*

## **Creed**

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)  
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.

## **Liturgy of the Eucharist**

### **Offertory antiphon**

*Portas caeli aperuit Dominus*

*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

### **Sanctus**

*Mass XII – Pater Cuncta*

### **Mysterium fidei**

Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.

### **Agnus Dei**

*Mass XII – Pater Cuncta*

### **Communion**

*Qui manducat*

*Jesus My Lord, my God, my All*

*The newly ordained deacons receive  
Communion first.*

### **Prayer after communion**

Grant, O Lord, we pray,

that we may delight for all eternity  
in that share in your divine life,  
which is foreshadowed in the present age  
by our reception of your precious Body and  
Blood.

Who live and reign for ever and ever.

**R** Amen.

## Concluding rites

### Blessing

The Lord be with you.

℞ And with your spirit.

Blessed be the name of the Lord.

℞ Now and for ever.

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

℞ Who made heaven and earth.

May almighty God bless you,  
the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

℞ Amen.

### Dismissal

*The dismissal will be chanted.*

℞ Thanks be to God.

### Marian antiphon

*Sub Tuum Praesidium*

## Final Hymn

### **‘Holy Light on Earth’s Horizon’**

Holy light on earth’s horizon,  
Star of hope to fallen man,  
Light amidst a world of shadows,  
Dawn of God’s redemptive plan.  
Chosen from eternal ages,  
Thou alone of all our race,  
By thy Son’s atoning merits  
Wast conceived in perfect grace.

Mother of the world’s Redeemer,  
Promised from the dawn of time:  
How could one so highly favoured  
Share the guilt of Adam’s crime?  
Sun and moon and stars adorn thee,  
Sinless Eve, triumphant sign;  
Thou art she who crushed the serpent,  
Mary, pledge of life divine.

Earth below and highest heaven  
Praise the splendour of thy state,  
Thou who now art crowned in glory  
Wast conceived immaculate.  
Hail beloved of the Father,  
Mother of His only Son,  
Mystic bride of Love eternal,  
Hail, thou fair and spotless one!





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