

Sanctus  
is from  
the  
plain-  
song  
Mass  
IX  
“Cum  
Jubilo”

San- ctus, \* Sanctus, San- ctus Dóminus De- us Sá- ba- oth. Ple-ni sunt  
cœ-li et ter- ra gló- ri- a tu- a. Ho-sánna in excél- sis. Be- ne-díctus qui  
ve- nit in nó- mi- ne Dó- mi- ni. Ho- sánna in ex-cél- sis.

**EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER I (Roman Canon) - see Mass book page 12**  
For the acclamation after the consecration - see Mass book page 18  
The Lord's Prayer - see Mass book page 21.

Agnus  
Dei is  
from the  
plainsong  
Mass IX  
“Cum  
Jubilo”

A- gnus De- i, \* qui tol- lis peccá- ta mun- di: mi- se- ré- re no- bis. Agnus De-  
i, \* qui tol- lis peccá- ta mun- di : mi- se- ré- re no- bis. Agnus De- i, \* qui  
tol- lis peccá- ta mun- di : do- na no- bis pa- cem.

## K COMMUNION ANTIPHON

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

*Simeon had been told by the Holy  
Spirit that he would not see death until  
he had seen the Lord's Anointed One.*

During Holy Communion the choir will sing “Senex puerem” by William Byrd (1543-1623)  
“The old man carried the Child but the Child governed the old man”

## L POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Per haec sancta quae sumpsimus, Domine,  
perficere in nobis gratiam tuam, qui  
expectationem Simeonis implesti, ut, sicut ille  
mortem non vidit nisi prius Christum suscipere  
mereretur, ita et nos, in occursum Domini procedentes,  
vitam obtineamus aeternam. Per Christum Dominum  
nostrum. Amen.

*Through these holy gifts which we have  
received, make perfect Thy grace in us  
O Lord, who didst fulfil Simeon's hope;  
that as he did not see death before he  
had been granted the grace to receive  
Christ, so we also, hastening to meet  
the Lord, may obtain eternal life.*

**Organ Voluntary: Improvisation on “Ave Maris Stella”**

## FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD (CANDLEMAS DAY)

Today's feast,  
forty days after  
Christmas, marks  
the end of the  
cycle of feasts  
relating to the  
birth of our Lord.  
St. Luke, in his  
G o s p e l ,  
emphasises that  
the Presentation



of the infant Christ in the Temple was  
an act of obedience by the parents of  
the Christ-child to the Law of God as  
written in the Old Testament. It is the  
occasion of the great prayer and  
prophecy of Simeon. His prayer is sung

during the  
Procession of  
candles, as we  
honour Christ “the  
light for a  
revelation to the  
gentiles”. These  
candles give the  
feast its popular  
name  
“Candlemas”, and

after carrying them in procession, and  
during the Gospel, we will keep them in  
our homes to light during our family  
prayers, or in the event of communion  
being brought to our homes for someone  
who may be sick.

*The Ceremony begins as the Celebrant and Ministers, accompanied by the servers, enter the  
Church. Meanwhile all light their candles as the choir sings the following antiphon:*

### ANTIPHON DURING THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES .

Ecce Dominus noster cum virtute veniet, et  
illuminabit oculos servorum suorum,  
Alleluia.

*Behold our Lord shall come with power,  
and He will enlighten the eyes of His  
servants, alleluia.*

*The Celebrant opens the Mass: In nomine Patris + et Filii et Spiritus Sancti .  
All reply Amen.*

*He greets the People: Dominus vobiscum.  
All reply: Et cum spiritu tuo.*

*The Celebrant explains the ceremony before blessing the candles with the following prayer:*

### BLESSING OF THE CANDLES

Deus, omnis luminis fons et origo, qui iusto  
Simeoni Lumen ad revelationem gentium  
hodie demonstrasti, te supplices deprecamur,  
ut hos cereos sanctificare tua +  
benedictione digneris, tuae plebis vota  
suscipiens, quae ad tui nominis laudem eos  
gestatura concurret, quatenus per virtutum  
semitam ad lucem indeficientem pervenire  
mereatur.

*O God, who art the origin and source of all  
light, and who didst reveal the Light to  
enlighten the gentiles on this day to the just  
man Simeon; we humbly pray Thee, that  
Thou deign to bless these candles, and to  
accept the worship offered by Thy people  
who carrying them gather to praise Thy  
name; so that by following the path of the  
virtues they may arrive at Thine undying  
light.*

*The procession now follows. All take part, holding the lighted candles, and following the clergy.*

## DURING THE PROCESSION

**Antiphon: Lumen ad revelationem gentium, et gloriam plebis tuae Israel.**

**Canticle.** Nunc dimittis servum tuum, Domine; secundum verbum tuum in pace. (*Antiphon*)  
Quia viderunt oculi mei; salutare tuum.  
(*Antiphon*)  
Quod parasti; ante faciem omnium populorum.  
(*Antiphon*)

*The light to enlighten the gentiles, and the glory of Thy people Israel.  
Now, O Lord, Thou dost dismiss Thy servant; according to Thy word, in peace.  
For my eyes have seen Thy salvation  
Which Thou hast prepared before the face of all peoples.*

**MASS commences with the Kyrie from the Missa brevis by Lennox Berkeley (1903-1990)**

*Meanwhile, the Altar is incensed as usual.*

## COLLECT

**B** Omnipotens sempiternae Deus, maiestatem tuam supplices exoramus, ut, sicut unigenitus Filius tuus hodierna die cum nostrae carnis substantia in templo est praesentatus, ita nos facias purificatis tibi mentibus praesentari. Per Dominum nostrum Jesum Christum....Per omnia saecula saeculorum. Amen.

*Almighty and eternal God, we humbly beseech Thy majesty, that as Thy only-begotten Son was this day presented in the Temple in our fleshly nature, so make us pure in mind that we also may be presented to Thee.*

## First reading is taken from the prophet Malachi

**C** Look, I am going to send my messenger to prepare a way before me. And the Lord you are seeking will suddenly enter his temple; and the angel of the covenant whom you are longing for, yes, he is coming, says Yahweh Sabaoth. Who will be able to resist the day of his coming? Who will remain standing when he appears? For he is like the refiners fire and the fullers alkali. He will take his seat as refiner and purifier; He will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and then they will make the offering to Yahweh as it should be made. The offering of Judah and Jerusalem will then be welcomed by Yahweh as in former days, as in the days of old. Verbum Domini. **R. Deo gratias.**

## GRADUAL

**D** Suscepimus, Deus, misericordiam tuam in medio templi tui: secundum nomen tuum, Deus, ita et laus tua in fines terrae. V. Sicut audivimus, ita et vidimus in civitate Dei nostri, in monte sancto eius.

*We have received Thy mercy, O God, in the midst of Thy temple: according to Thy name, O God, so also is Thy praise unto the ends of the earth. V. As we have heard, so have we seen, in the city of our God, and in His Holy mountain.*

## Second reading is taken from the epistle to the Hebrews.

**E** Since all the children share the same blood and flesh, he too shared equally in it so that by his death he could take away all the power of the devil, who had power over death., and set free all those who had been held in slavery all their lives by the fear of death. For it was not the angels that he took to himself; he took to himself descent from Abraham. It was essential that he should in this way become completely like his brothers so that he could be a compassionate and trustworthy high priest of God's religion, able to atone for human sins. That is because he has himself been through temptation he is able to help others who are tempted. Verbum Domini. **R. Deo gratias.**

## GOSPEL ALLELUIA

Senex puerum portabat: puer autem senem regebat.

*The old man carried the Child: but the Child governed the old man.*

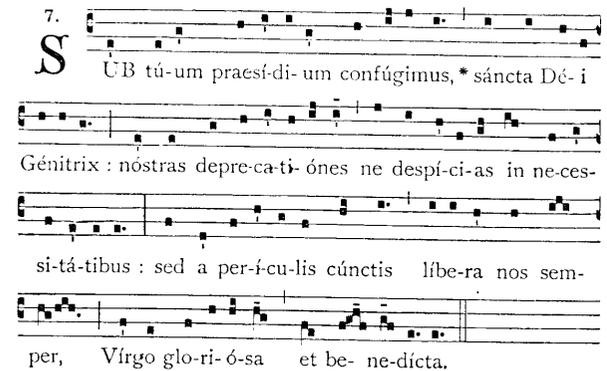
## GOSPEL—A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

**G** At that time: When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every male that opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord") and to offer a sacrifice according to

what is said in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons." Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, looking for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he should not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And inspired by the Spirit he came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the law, he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said, "Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word; for mine eyes have seen thy salvation which thou hast prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to thy people Israel." And his father and his mother marvelled at what was said about him; and Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is spoken against (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that thoughts out of many hearts may be revealed." And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher; she was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years from her virginity, and as a widow till she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshipping with fasting and prayer night and day. And coming up at that very hour she gave thanks to God, and spoke of him to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. And when they had performed everything according to the law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own city, Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him. Verbum Domini. **R. Laus tibi, Christe.**

**At the end of the Bidding Prayers we sing this ancient prayer to Our Lady.**

*We fly to thy protection, O holy Mother of God.  
Despise not our petitions in our necessities, but deliver us from all dangers, O ever glorious and blessed Virgin.*

7.  **S** UB tú-um praesi-di-um confúgimus, \* sáncta Dó- i  
Génitrix : nóstras depre-ca-ti-ónes ne despi-ci-as in ne-ces-  
si-tá-tibus : sed a per-í-cu-lis cúnc-tis líbe-ra nos sem-  
per, Vírgo glo-ri-ó-sa et be- ne-dícta.

## Offertory Motet "Hodie beata Virgo Maria" by Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (1525-1594)

*Today the Blessed Virgin Mary presented the child Jesus in the Temple, and Simeon, filled with the Holy Spirit, took Him into his arms and blessed God, saying, "Now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, O Lord, according to Thy word."*

## PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

**H** Gratium tibi sit, Domine, quaesumus, exultantis Ecclesiae munus oblatum, qui unigenitum Filium tuum voluisti Agnum immaculatum tibi efferrí pro saeculi vita.

*O Lord, we pray that the gift which Thy rejoicing Church offers may be pleasing to Thee, who didst will Thine only begotten Son to be offered as the spotless Lamb for the life of the world.*

## PREFACE

**J** Vere dignum et justum est, aequum et salutare, nos tibi semper et ubique gratias agere: Domine, sancte Pater, omnipotens aeternae Deus:

Quia coaeternus hodie in templo tuus Filius praesentatus gloria Israel et lumen gentium a Spiritu declaratur.

Unde et nos, salutari tuo in gaudiis occurrentes, cum Angelis et Sanctis te laudamus, sine fine dicentes:

*It is truly right and just, and fitting for our salvation, that we should always and everywhere give Thee thanks, O Lord, Holy Father, almighty and eternal God: For Thy co-eternal Son presented in the temple this day, is declared by the Holy Spirit to be the glory of Israel and the light of the gentiles. Wherefore, we too hasten towards Thy salvation with joy, and together with the angels and saints we praise Thee, ceaselessly singing:*