



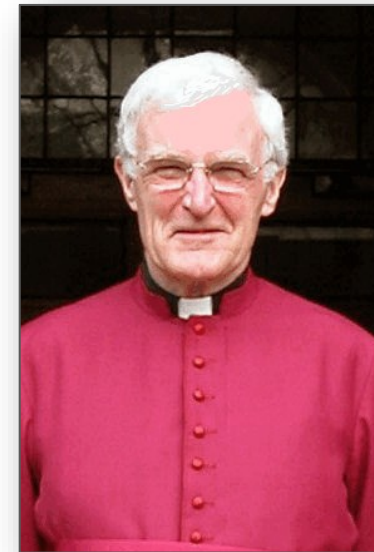
Michael McKenna was born in Liverpool on 18th May 1937, the son of Vincent and Grace McKenna. After the death of his mother, he was largely brought up by Marie McKenna, one of his aunts. He received his early education at St Charles' School, Aigburth, and then at St Francis Xavier's College. On 9th September 1950, he entered St Joseph's College, Upholland, alongside 30 boys of similar age and began his training for the priesthood. Six of these, including Michael, were ordained priest by Archbishop John Carmel Heenan on 8th June 1963, during the period of the Second Vatican Council and began their priestly ministry amidst a period of significant development. Following ordination, Fr McKenna was appointed to the parish of Saints Peter and Paul in Crosby and then after four years in the long-established parish at Crosby, he moved to the new town of Skelmersdale to immerse himself in the establishment of new parishes, communities and in the development of team ministry. During his time as Episcopal Vicar, he was Administrator at St Mary's, Highfield Street, Liverpool, for a short period. Subsequently, he was chaplain to the Redemptorist sisters at Gillmoss, whilst living in Upholland. He returned to parish ministry in 2000, succeeding Canon Richard Firth as parish priest at St Gregory's, Chorley, and relished the contact with parishioners again. Speaking of those to whom he brought Holy Communion at home, he remarked that, 'If I ever get to heaven, it will be because of them.' He had a great capacity for friendship, maintaining many lifelong friendships with his distinctive handwritten cards, even as his eyesight was failing. In 2016, he retired from active ministry, moving just a few yards to the lodge at the end of the drive at Weld Bank. He died on Friday 23rd August 2024, aged 87 years, in the 62nd year of priesthood.

Deo Gratias

Requiem Mass in Thanksgiving for the  
Life & Ministry of

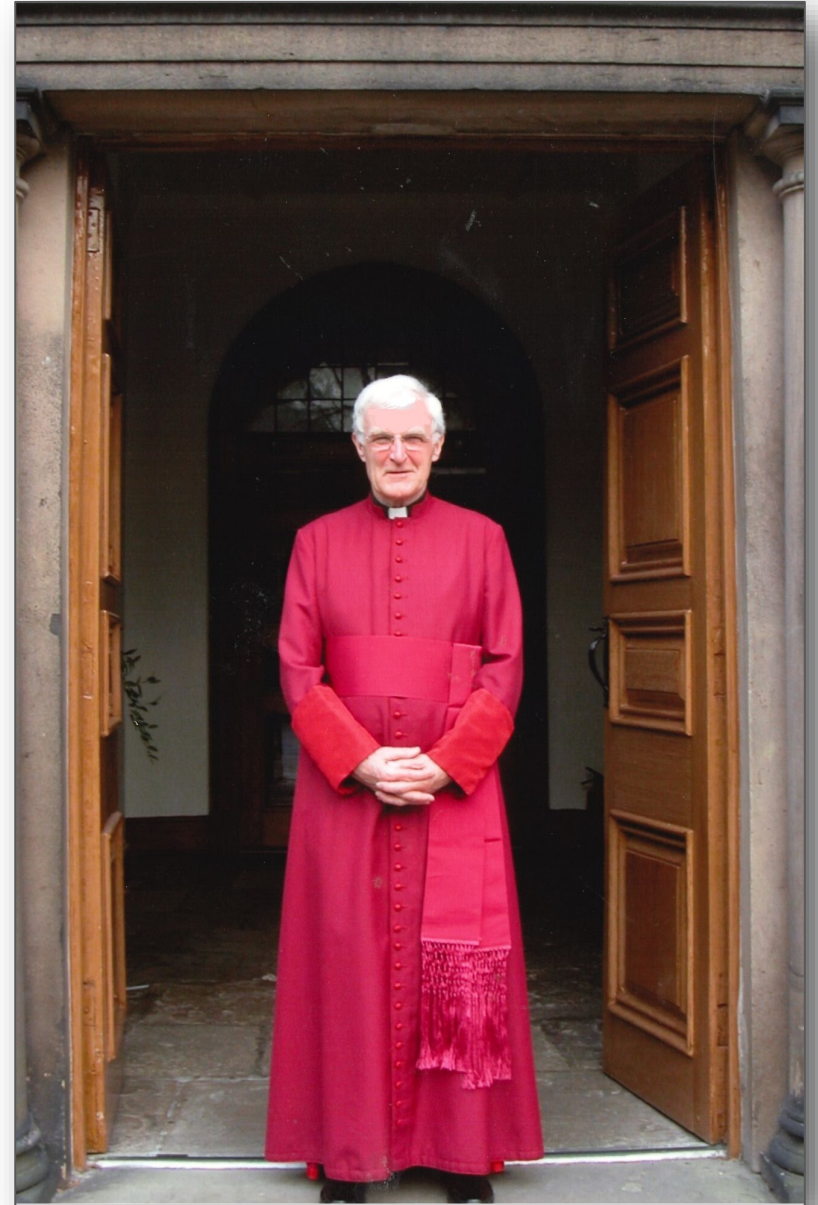
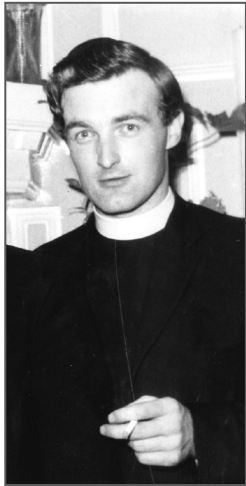
*Rt Rev Mgr Michael McKenna*

18th May 1937 ~ 23rd August 2024



St Gregory's Weld Bank  
Monday 9th September 2024  
12:00 noon

Principal Celebrant  
HE Cardinal Vincent Nichols







## Order of Service

### ENTRANCE HYMN

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.

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.

*John Henry Newman (1801-1890)*

### INTRODUCTORY RITE

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

***R. Amen.***

Peace be with you.

***R. And with your spirit.***

### REFLECTION

*A reflection on Michael's life and ministry will be given by  
Fr Graeme Dunne*

## PENITENTIAL ACT

Lord Jesus you raised the dead to life in the spirit.

Lord have mercy. **R. Lord have mercy.**

Lord Jesus you bring pardon and peace to the sinner.

Christ has mercy. **R. Christ have mercy.**

Lord Jesus you bring light to those in darkness.

Lord have mercy. **R. Lord have mercy.**

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins,  
and bring us to everlasting life. **R. Amen.**

## THE GLORIA

*Sung Mass parts taken from the Mass of St Gregory the Great by Teresa Brown*

*Please join in singing the response.*

***Glory to God in the highest, glory to God in the highest,  
And on earth peace, peace to people of good will.***

We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you.

We give you thanks for your great glory.

Lord God, heavenly King, O God almighty Father.

***Glory to God in the highest.....***

Lord Jesus Christ, only begotten Son,

Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

You take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;

You take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;

You are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.

***Glory to God in the highest .....***

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,

You alone are the most high, Jesus Christ,

With the Holy Spirit in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

***Glory to God in the highest .....***



*Michael always thought that saying 'thank you' was very important and so a big thank you to his family and friends for their love, care and support throughout his life but especially throughout his illness, making it possible for his wishes to be fulfilled, that he die peacefully at home.*

*Special thanks to the district nurses and to St Catherine's Hospice at Home Team for their care for Michael during his final few weeks.*

*Sincere thanks to those who worked and supported him in the many aspects of his long priestly ministry.*

*Thanks also to Carl Kenyon and all the staff at Meridian Funeral Home for dignified funeral arrangements.*

*If anybody would like to show their gratitude, your kind donations in memory of Michael to St Catherine's Hospice would be much appreciated so that others may die with the same care and dignity that he was afforded.*

*Donations may be placed in the box at the back of church or online at:*

*<https://www.stcatherines.co.uk/support-us/donate>*

*After the committal, refreshments will be served at  
St Joseph's Parish Centre  
Harpers Lane  
Chorley  
PR6 0HR*

*Please take this booklet with you in memory of Michael or hand it to a steward as you leave the church.*

## THE COLLECT

Let us pray:

Hear with favour our prayers which we humbly offer, O Lord,  
for the salvation of the soul of Michael your servant and Priest,  
that he, who devoted a faithful ministry to your name, may rejoice in the  
perpetual company of your Saints. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God,  
for ever and ever. **R. Amen.**

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

*Please sit for the readings*

**A reading from the prophet Isaiah**  
*(25:6-9)*

*Read by Marie Woods*

On this mountain,  
the Lord of hosts will prepare for all peoples  
a banquet of rich food and fine wines.

On this mountain he will remove  
the mourning veil covering all peoples,  
and the shroud enwrapping all nations,  
he will destroy Death for ever.

The Lord will wipe away the tears from every cheek;  
he will take away his people's shame everywhere on earth,  
for the Lord has said so.

That day, it will be said:

See, this is our God in whom we hoped for salvation;  
the Lord is the one in whom we hoped.  
We exult and we rejoice that he has saved us.

The word of the Lord. **R. Thanks be to God.**



## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PSALM 130

*Cantor John Booth*

*Please join in singing the response:*

***I place all my trust in you my God, all my hope is in your saving word.***

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord,  
Lord, hear my voice!  
O let your ears be attentive  
To the voice of my pleading.

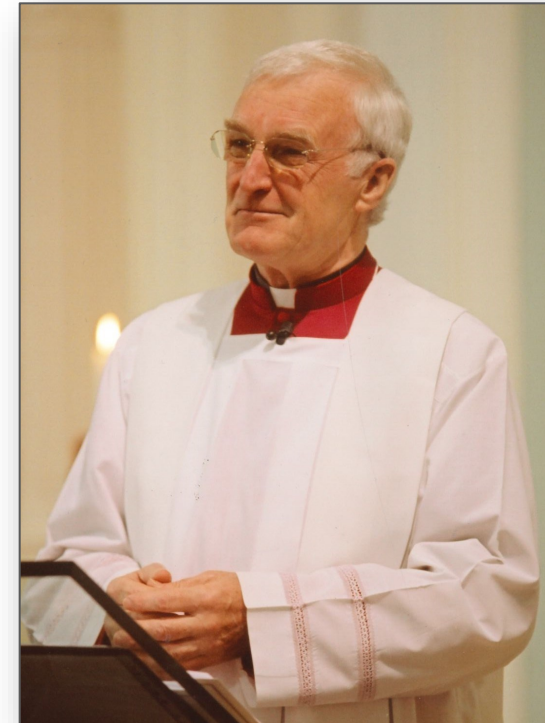
If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt,  
Lord, who would survive?  
But with you is found forgiveness:  
For this we revere you.

My soul is waiting for the Lord,  
I count on his word:  
My soul is longing for the Lord  
More than watchman for daybreak.

Because with the Lord there is mercy  
And fullness of redemption,  
Israel indeed he will redeem  
From all its iniquity.

To the Father Almighty give glory,  
Give glory to his Son,  
To the Spirit most Holy give praise,  
Whose reign is forever.

***Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord.  
And let perpetual light shine upon him.  
May he rest in peace.***



DO NOT LOOK FORWARD IN FEAR TO WHAT  
MIGHT HAPPEN TOMORROW.  
THE SAME EVERLASTING FATHER WHO CARES FOR  
YOU TODAY WILL TAKE CARE OF YOU TOMORROW  
AND EVERY DAY.

FRANCIS DE SALES

## RECESSIONAL HYMN

Now thank we all our God,  
With heart and hands and voices,  
Who wondrous things hath done,  
In whom his world rejoices;  
Who from our mothers' arms  
Hath blessed us on our way  
With countless gifts of love,  
And still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God  
Through all our life be near us,  
With ever joyful hearts  
And blessed peace to cheer us;  
And keep us in his grace,  
And guide us when perplexed,  
And free us from all ills  
In this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God  
The Father now be given,  
The Son and him who reigns  
With them in highest heaven,  
The one eternal God,  
Whom earth and heaven adore;  
For thus it was, is now,  
And shall be evermore.

*Martin Rinkart (1586-1649)*

## A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans (16:1-13, 16)

*Read by Jane Arrowsmith*

I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a deaconess of the church at Cenchreae. Give her, in union with the Lord, a welcome worthy of saints, and help her with anything she needs: she has looked after a great many people, myself included. My greetings to Prisca and Aquilla my fellow workers in Christ Jesus, who risked death to save my life.

I am not the only one to owe them a debt of gratitude, all the churches among the pagans do as well. My greetings also to the church that meets at their house. Greetings to my friend Epaphroditus, the first of Asia's gifts to Christ; greetings to Mary who worked so hard for you; to those outstanding apostles Andronicus and Junias, my compatriots and fellow prisoners who became Christians before me; to Ampliatus, my friend in the Lord; to Urban, my fellow worker in Christ; to my friend Stachys; to Apelles who has gone through so much for Christ; to everyone who belongs to the household of Aristobulus; to my compatriot Herodion; to those in the household of Narcissus who belong to the Lord; to Tryphaena and Tryphosa, who work hard for the Lord; to my friend Persis who has done so much for the Lord; to Rufus, a chosen servant of the Lord, and to his mother who has been a mother to me too. All the churches of Christ send greetings.

The word of the Lord. ***R. Thanks be to God.***

*Please stand to greet the Gospel.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Please join in singing the response.*

***Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! (Rpt)***

Happy are those who die in the Lord.  
Now they can rest for ever after their work,  
Since their good deeds go with them.

***Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! (Rpt)***

## THE GOSPEL

The Lord be with you. **R. And with your spirit.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to St Luke (23:33.39-43)

**R. Glory to you, O Lord.**

When the soldiers reached the place called the Skull, they crucified Jesus there and the two criminals also, one on the right, the other on the left. One of the criminals hanging there abused him. 'Are you not the Christ?' he said. 'Save yourself and us as well.' But the other spoke up and rebuked him. 'Have you no fear of God at all?' he said. 'You got the same sentence as he did, but in our case we deserved it: we are paying for what we did.

But this man has done nothing wrong. Jesus' he said, 'Remember me when you come into your kingdom.' 'Indeed, I promise you,' he replied, 'Today you will be with me in paradise.'

The Gospel of the Lord. **R. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

*Please be seated*

## HOMILY

*The Homily will be given by HE Cardinal Vincent Nichols*



*May the choirs of angels come to greet you,  
May they speed you to paradise.  
May the Lord enfold you in his mercy,  
May you find eternal life.*

There is one thing I ask of the Lord;  
That he grant me my heartfelt desire.  
To dwell in the courts of our God  
Ev'ry day of my life in his presence.

*Ernest Sands, from Psalm 27*

## PRAYER OF COMMENDATION

Into your hands, Father of mercies, we commend our brother Michael in the sure and certain hope that, together with all who have died in Christ, he will rise with him on the last day.

We give thanks for the blessings which you have bestowed upon Michael in this life: they are signs to us of your goodness and of our fellowship with the saints in Christ.

Merciful Lord, turn towards us and listen to our prayers: open the gates of paradise to your servant and help us who remain to comfort one another with assurances of faith, until we all meet in Christ and are with you and with our brother for ever.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. **R. Amen.**



In peace let us take Michael to his place of rest.



## THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*Read by Tony Lamb*

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray:

Renewed by food from your heavenly table, we humbly beseech you,  
O Lord, that by the power of this sacrifice, the soul of Michael, your  
servant and Priest, who faithfully ministered in your Church,  
may exult for ever in your sight.

Through Christ our Lord.

**R. Amen.**

### FINAL COMMENDATION

Trusting in God, we have prayed together for Michael, your servant  
and Priest, and now we come to the last farewell. There is sadness in  
parting, but we take comfort in the hope that one day we shall see  
Michael again and enjoy his friendship. Although this congregation will  
disperse in sorrow, the mercy of God will gather us together  
again in the joy of his kingdom.

Therefore let us console one another in the faith of Jesus Christ.

### THE SONG OF FAREWELL

*Whilst the coffin is blessed with Holy water  
and incense, the **Song of Farewell** will be sung*



*Please join in singing the response.*

***O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer.***

***When I call, answer me!***

***O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer.***

***Come and listen to me!***

*We turn to you, our Father, in our grief and sadness and with our hopes  
but above all with thanks for the presence in each of our lives,  
of your faithful son, our Brother Michael.*

We pray for Michael's family and those who knew the depths  
of his friendship. In him we were assured that our lives together should never  
be devoid of joy and laughter, may nothing he means to us ever be lost.

We pray for the families and individuals whose lives Michael touched  
and enriched in the Parish of SS Peter & Paul Crosby, the Parishes of  
Skelmersdale and here at St Gregory's. In turn, we give thanks to them also  
for nurturing and supporting him.

Michael's ministry took him throughout the archdiocese and within the wider  
church across the length and breadth of the country. We pray for those who  
collaborated with him in ensuring that all the resources of God's people  
serve the Common Good and the mission of the church.

Michael was always aware and grateful to the many people who helped and  
ministered to him throughout his priesthood, we too give thanks for them  
and for those who have continued to do so throughout his illness,  
may they be blessed and rewarded for all that they have done.

We pray for Michael that after his many years of service to God and his  
church, that he may now enjoy the banquet of the Lamb, a banquet of rich  
food and fine wines.

We ask Mary, the blessed mother of our Lord Jesus Christ  
to pray with us as we say:

***Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou  
amongst women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.***

***Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now  
and at the hour of our death. Amen.***

*Please be seated.*

## THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

### PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

*The gifts of bread and wine will be brought to the altar  
by Eleanor & Harriet Lane*

### THE OFFERTORY HYMN

In bread we bring you, Lord,	The bread we offer you
Our body's labour.	Is blessed and broken,
In wine we offer you	And it becomes for us
Our spirit's grief.	Our spirit's food.
We do not ask you, Lord,	Over the cup we bring
Who is my neighbour?	Your Word is spoken;
But stand united now,	Make it your gift to us
One in belief.	Your healing blood.
Oh we have gladly heard	Take all that daily toil
Your Word, your holy Word,	Plants in our heart's poor soil
And now in answer, Lord,	Take all we start and spoil,
Our gifts we bring.	Each hopeful dream,
Our selfish hearts make true,	The chances we have missed,
Our failing faith renew,	The graces we resist,
Our lives belongs to you,	Lord, in thy Eucharist,
Our Lord and King.	Take and redeem.

*Kevin Nichols*

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

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

### PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

We ask your mercy, Lord, that this sacrifice of our service, offered for the  
soul of Michael, your servant and Priest, may now bring pardon to him, who  
devoutly offered sacrifice to you in the Church.

Through Christ our Lord. ***R. Amen.***

## HOLY COMMUNION



*Those who are not receiving Holy Communion are  
invited to come forward to receive a blessing to  
express our 'communion' in Christ and as friends.*

### HYMNS DURING HOLY COMMUNION

Panis angelicus,  
Fit panis hominum.  
Dat panis coelicus,  
Figuris terminum.  
O res mirabilis,  
Manducat Dominum  
Pauper, pauper,  
Servus et humilis.  
Pauper, pauper,  
Servus et humilis.

*From the hymn 'Sacris solemniis'  
written by Saint Thomas Aquinas for the feast of Corpus Christi*

Be still, and know I am with you,  
Be still, I am the Lord.  
I will not leave you orphans.  
I leave you with my world. Be one.

You fear the light may be fading,  
You fear to lose your way.  
Be still, and know I am near you.  
I'll lead you to the day and the sun.

Be glad the day you have sorrow,  
Be glad, for then you live.  
The stars shine only in darkness,  
And in your need I give my peace.

*Anne Conway*

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

***For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.***

## RITE OF PEACE

Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles, Peace I leave you, my peace

I give you, look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will.

Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. ***R. Amen.***

The peace of the Lord be with you always. ***R. And with your spirit.***

## SIGN OF PEACE

Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

## BREAKING OF BREAD

*Please join in singing.*

***Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.***

***Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.***

***Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.***

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

***R. Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.***

The Lord be with you. ***R. And with your spirit.***  
Lift up your hearts. ***R. We lift them up to the Lord.***  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. ***R. It is right and just.***

## THE PREFACE

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Christ our Lord. In him the hope of blessed resurrection has dawned, that those saddened by the certainty of dying might be consoled by the promise of immortality to come. Indeed for your faithful, Lord, life is changed not ended, and when this earthly dwelling turns to dust, an eternal dwelling is made ready for them in heaven. And so with Angels and Archangels, with Thrones and Dominions, and with all the hosts and Powers of heaven we sing the hymn of your glory, as without end we acclaim:

*All join in singing.*

***Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.***

***Heaven and earth are full of your glory.***

***Hosanna in the highest.***

***Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.***

***Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.***

*Please kneel or sit.*

## THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

You are indeed Holy, O Lord, and all you have created rightly gives you praise, for through your Son our Lord Jesus Christ, by the power and working of the Holy Spirit, you give life to all things and make them holy, and you never cease to gather a people to yourself, so that from the rising of the sun to its setting a pure sacrifice may be offered to your name.

Therefore, O Lord, we humbly implore you: by the same Spirit graciously make holy these gifts we have brought to you for consecration, that they may become the Body and + Blood of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ at whose command we celebrate these mysteries.

For on the night he was betrayed he himself took bread, and giving you thanks he said the blessing, broke the bread 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.

In a similar way, when supper was ended, he took the chalice,  
and giving you thanks he said the blessing,  
and gave the chalice 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.

## MEMORIAL ACCLAMMATION

The mystery of faith.

*All join in singing.*

***When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,  
we proclaim your death, O Lord, until you come again.***

Therefore, O Lord, as we celebrate the memorial of the saving Passion  
of your Son, his wondrous Resurrection and Ascension into heaven,  
and as we look forward to his second coming,  
we offer you in thanksgiving this holy and living sacrifice.

Look, we pray, upon the oblation of your Church, and, recognizing the  
sacrificial Victim by whose death you willed to reconcile us to yourself,  
grant that we, who are nourished by the Body and Blood of your Son  
and filled with his Holy Spirit, may become one body, one spirit in Christ.

May he make of us an eternal offering to you, so that we may obtain an  
inheritance with your elect, especially with the most blessed Virgin  
Mary, Mother of God, with blessed Joseph, her Spouse, with your  
blessed Apostles and glorious Martyrs with St Gregory the Great,  
St Michael the Archangel and with all the Saints, on whose constant  
intercession in your presence we rely for unfailing help.

May this Sacrifice of our reconciliation, we pray, O Lord, advance the  
peace and salvation of all the world. Be pleased to confirm in faith and  
charity your pilgrim Church on earth, with your servant Francis our Pope  
and Malcolm our Bishop, the Order of Bishops, all the clergy, and the  
entire people you have gained for your own.

Listen graciously to the prayers of this family, whom you have  
summoned before you: in your compassion, O merciful Father,  
gather to yourself all your children scattered throughout the world.

Remember your servant and Priest Michael whom you have called from  
this world to yourself. Grant that he who was united with your Son in a  
death like his, may also be one with him in his Resurrection, when from  
the earth he will raise up in the flesh those who have died, and transform  
our lowly body after the pattern of his own glorious body.

To our departed brothers and sisters, too, and to all who were pleasing to  
you at their passing from this life, give kind admittance into your kingdom.

There we hope to enjoy for ever the fullness of your glory,  
when you will wipe away every tear from our eyes.

For seeing you, our God, as you are, we shall be like you for all the ages  
and praise you without end, through Christ our Lord,  
through whom you bestow in the world all that is good.

Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour is yours,  
for ever and ever.

*All join in singing.*

***Amen! Amen! Amen!***

## COMMUNION RITE

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching,  
we dare to say:

***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 lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from all that is evil.***