



Diocese of Scranton

Red Mass

Friday, October 3, 2025 at 12:10 p.m.
Friday in the Twenty Sixth Week in Ordinary Time

Cathedral of Saint Peter
Scranton, Pennsylvania

PRINCIPAL CELEBRANT
The Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., J.C.L.
Bishop of Scranton

Today's Mass of the Holy Spirit is offered to invoke God's blessing upon all members of the legal profession. Its traditional name, the Red Mass, is derived from the color of the vestments worn by the presider and concelebrants, the scarlet robes of attending justices (which were bright scarlet in the Middle Ages) and the scarlet gowns of law professors.

This venerable tradition traces its origins to Rome, Paris and London. In Rome, the Red Mass officially opened the judicial year of the Sacred Roman Rota, the Tribunal of the Holy See. During the reign of Saint Louis (Louis IX) of France, La Sainte Chapelle in Paris was designated the site of the Mass. In England, the tradition was initiated by Edward I in 1310 and was celebrated in Westminster Abbey on the Feast of Saint Michael the Archangel (September 29) at the opening of the Michaelmas Term of the Royal Courts. In the United States, the tradition was inaugurated in 1928 in Saint Andrew's Church in New York City. Supreme Court Justices, legislators and judges now celebrate the National Red Mass each year at Saint Matthew's Cathedral in Washington, D.C., to mark the opening of the October term of the United States Supreme Court.

In the Diocese of Scranton, the Red Mass Tradition was brought to life in 1971 and is being celebrated today for the 52nd year. It has traditionally been celebrated in the Cathedral of Saint Peter where it has been attended by leading members of the executive, legislative and judicial branches of government on the federal, state and local levels. To ensure that this would indeed be a diocesan gathering, the Bar Association of all eleven counties comprising the Diocese of Scranton are now invited to this annual celebration.

We welcome each of you to this celebration and thank all those involved in planning, coordinating, and participating in the celebration of today's Red Mass. Your presence, commitment and dedication to this annual event ensure that this blessed tradition continues.

INTRODUCTION

Lori A. Barrett, Esq.

2025 Lackawanna Bar Association President

Introductory Rites

ENTRANCE HYMN "To Be Your Presence"

Dunstan



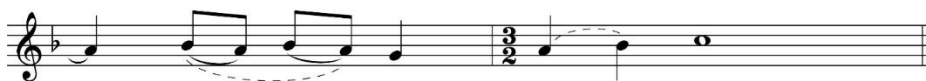
1. To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion here,
2. To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion bold,
3. To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion blest,
4. We are your heart, O Christ, your hands and voice;



To show Com - pas - sion's face and lis - t'ning ear,
To feed the poor and shel - ter home - less cold,
To speak for all the bro - ken and op - pressed,
To serve your peo - ple is our call and choice,



To be your heart of mer - cy ev - er near,
To be your hands, your jus - tice to up - hold,
To be your voice of hope, your love ex - pressed,
And in this mis - sion we, the Church, re - joice,



(1.-4.) al - le - lu - ia!
*(1.) your heart of mer - cy, Christ!
(2.) your hands of jus - tice, Christ!
(3.) your voice of hope, O Christ!
(4.) to be your pres - ence here!

**During Lent*

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b.1939, © 2000, 2003, GIA Publications, Inc.
Tune: ENGELBERG, 10 10 10 with alleluia; Charles V. Stanford, 1852-1924

Bishop: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
All: **Amen.**

Bishop: Peace be with you.
All: **And with your spirit.**

PENITENTIAL ACT

COLLECT

Liturgy of the Word

READING I

Deuteronomy 30:16-28

If you obey the commandments of the **LORD**, your God, which I am giving you today, loving him, and walking in his ways, and keeping his commandments, statutes and decrees, you will live and grow numerous, and the **LORD**, your God, will bless you in the land you are entering to occupy. If, however, you turn away your hearts and will not listen, but are led astray and adore and serve other gods, I tell you now that you will certainly perish; you will not have a long life on the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and occupy. I call heaven and earth today to witness against you: I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse. Choose life, then, that you and your descendants may live, by loving the **LORD**, your God, heeding his voice, and holding fast to him. For that will mean life for you, a long life for you to live on the land which the **LORD** swore he would give to your fathers Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob."

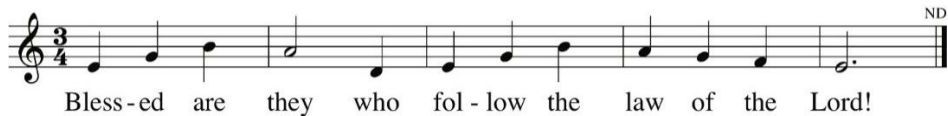
The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34

Duncan



Text: *The Revised Grail Psalms*, © 2010, Conception Abbey and The Grail, admin. by GIA Publications, Inc.;

Refrain, *Lectionary for Mass*, © 1969, 1981, 1997, ICEL

Music: Norah Duncan IV, © 2011, GIA Publications, Inc.

READING II

1 Timothy 1:12-17

I am grateful to him who has strengthened me, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he considered me trustworthy in appointing me to the ministry. I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and arrogant, but I have been mercifully treated because I acted out of ignorance in my unbelief. Indeed, the grace of our Lord has been abundant, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. This saying is trustworthy and deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. Of these I am the foremost.

But for that reason I was mercifully treated, so that in me, as the foremost, Christ Jesus might display all his patience as an example for those who would come to believe in him for everlasting life. To the king of ages, incorruptible, invisible, the only God, honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Music: A. Gregory Murray, OSB, © 1958, The Grail, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

Deacon: The Lord be with you.
All: And with your spirit.

Deacon: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
All: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL

Matthew 5:17-20

Jesus said to his disciples: "Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets. I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. Amen, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or the smallest part of a letter will pass from the law, until all things have taken place. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do so will be called least in the kingdom of heaven. But whoever obeys and teaches these commandments will be called greatest in the Kingdom of heaven." I tell you, unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will not enter into the kingdom of heaven.

The Gospel of the Lord. **All: Praise to you Lord, Jesus Christ.**

HOMILY

Reverend Paul A. McDonnell, O.S.J.
Pastor, Divine Mercy Parish

INTERCESSIONS

Response: Lord, hear our prayer.

Liturgy of the Eucharist

PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

Abington Heights Choir "Prayer of Saint Francis" *Allen Pote B.1945*

INVITATION TO PRAYER

All: 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.

PREFACE DIALOGUE

Bishop: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Bishop: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Bishop: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right and just.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

EUCHARISTIC ACCLAMATIONS

Acclamations from *A Community Mass*

Proulx

Sanctus

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord God of hosts.

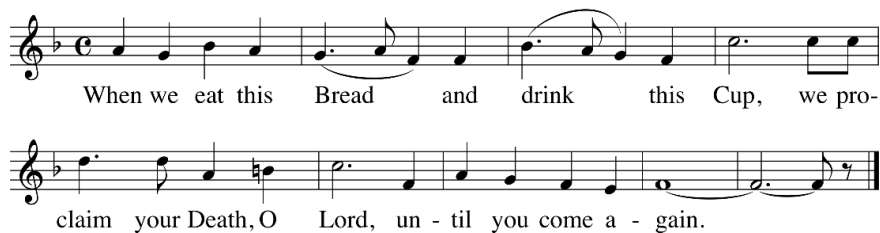
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Memorial Acclamation



Text: ICEL, © 2010
Music: *A Community Mass*, Richard Proulx, © 1988, 2010, GIA Publications, Inc.

Amen



Music: *A Community Mass*, Richard Proulx (adapt.), © 1971, 2011, GIA Publications, Inc.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

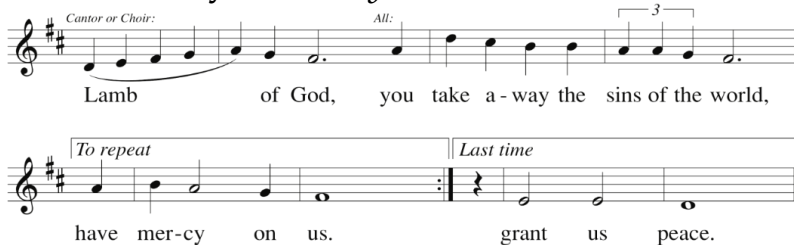
THE RITE OF PEACE

Bishop: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
All: **And with your spirit.**

THE FRACTION RITE

litany from *Holy Cross Mass*

Isele



Music: *Holy Cross Mass*, David Clark Isele, © 1979, GIA Publications, Inc.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

GUIDELINES FOR THE RECEPTION OF COMMUNION

For Catholics

As Catholics, we fully participate in the celebration of the Eucharist when we receive Holy Communion. We are encouraged to receive Communion devoutly and frequently. In order to be properly disposed to receive Communion, participants should not be conscious of grave sin and normally should have fasted for one hour. A person who is conscious of grave sin is not to receive the Body and Blood of the Lord without prior sacramental confession except for a grave reason where there is no opportunity for Confession. In this case, the person is to be mindful of the obligation to make an act of perfect contrition, including the intention of confessing as soon as possible (canon 916). A frequent reception of the Sacrament of Penance is encouraged for all.

For our fellow Christians

We welcome our fellow Christians to this celebration of the Eucharist as our brothers and sisters. We pray that our common baptism and the action of the Holy Spirit in the Eucharist will draw us closer to one another and begin to dispel the sad divisions which separate us. We pray that these will lessen and finally disappear, in keeping with Christ's prayer for us "that they may all be one" (John 17:21). Because Catholics believe that the celebration of the Eucharist is a sign of the reality of the oneness of faith, life, and worship, members of those churches with whom we are not yet fully united are ordinarily not admitted to Holy Communion. Eucharistic sharing in exceptional circumstances by other Christians requires permission according to the directives of the diocesan bishop and the provisions of Canon Law (canon 844 §4). Members of the Orthodox Churches, the Assyrian Church of the East, and the Polish National Catholic Church are urged to respect the discipline of their own Churches. According to Roman Catholic discipline, the *Code of Canon Law* does not object to the reception of Communion by Christians of these churches (canon 844 §3).

For those not receiving Holy Communion

All who are not receiving Holy Communion are encouraged to express in their hearts a prayerful desire for unity with the Lord Jesus and with one another.

For non-Christians

We also welcome to this celebration those who do not share our faith in Jesus Christ. While we cannot admit them to Holy Communion, we ask them to offer their prayers for the peace and the unity of the human family.

*Committee on the Liturgy United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
June 3, 2003 Copyright © by United States Conference of Catholic Bishops*

COMMUNION HYMN

"O How Blessed"

Schutte

Verses



1. O how blessed are the poor in spir - it, the
2. O how blessed are the meek and low - ly, for
3. O how blessed are the pure of heart, for
4. O how blessed those who fight for peace, the

1. king - dom of God is theirs. O how blessed those who
2. they shall pos - sess the earth. O how blessed those who
3. they shall be - hold God's face. O how blessed those who
4. chil - dren of God are they. O how blessed those de -

1. dwell in sor - row, they sure - ly will be con - soled.
2. thirst for jus - tice, they sure - ly will have their fill.
3. mend with mer - cy, for - give - ness is their re - ward.
4. spised and hat - ed, who bear it be - cause of me.

Refrain



Re - joice and be glad, be - loved of the Lord, the
king - dom of heav - en is yours. The first shall be last, the
last shall be first, for such is the wis - dom of God.

Text: Based on Matthew 5:3–12. Text and music © 2015, Daniel L. Schutte.
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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

PRESENTATIONS

Lori A. Barrett, Esq.

Concluding Rite

FINAL BLESSING

Bishop: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Bishop: Blessed be the name of the Lord.

All: Now and for ever.

Bishop: Our help is in the Name of the Lord.

All: Who made Heaven and earth.

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

All: Amen.

DISMISSAL

Deacon: Go forth, the Mass is ended.

All: Thanks be to God.

CLOSING HYMN

"You Call to Us Lord Jesus"



1. You call to us, Lord Je - sus, As once in Gal - i -
2. You came to preach de - liv - 'rance, To set the cap - tives
3. You sum - mon us to vi - sions Of what this world can
4. The path you bid us fol - low Is not an eas - y



lee You called to James and An - drew, "Come
free, To heal the bro - ken - heart - ed, To
be, Of hope and peace and free - dom For
road, And doubt or pain or con - flict Will



now and fol - low me." They left their nets and
make the sight - less see. Your min - is - try of
all hu - man - i - ty. For jus - tice we will
some-times be our load. Lord, grant us strength and

fol - lowed, And did not look be - hind; Lord,
mer - cy And jus - tice is our task; Help
la - bor For ev - 'ry hu - man soul Till
cour - age To walk the way you trod, Till

we like them will fol - low, Our life in you to find.
us like true dis - ci - ples To do the work you ask.
greed and ha - tred van - ish, And hu - man-kind is whole.
we be - hold in glo - ry The ra - diant face of God.

Text: Joy F. Patterson, b.1931, © 1994, Hope Publishing Company
Tune: ELLACOMBE, 7 6 7 6 D; *Gesangbuch der Herzogl. Württemberg*, 1784

PRELUDES

10,000 Reasons *Jonas Myrin & Matt Redman*
Abington Heights High School Honors Choir

POSTLUDES

Selection by Abington Heights Honors Orchestra

Acknowledgements

CONCELEBRANTS

Reverend Thomas J. Petro, J.C.L., *Pastor, Queen of Angels Parish, Avoca*
Pastor, Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Dupont

Monsignor Joseph G. Quinn, Pastor Emeritus, *Our Lady of the Snows Parish, Clarks Summit*
Priests of the Diocese of Scranton

MASTER OF CEREMONIES

Reverend Michael S. Drevitch, *Assistant Pastor, Corpus Christi Parish, Dunmore*

HOMILIST

Reverend Paul A. McDonnell, O.S.J., *Pastor, Divine Mercy Parish*

DEACONS OF THE MASS

Deacon Paul J. Cooper, *Saint John the Evangelist Parish, Honesdale*

Deacon James L. DiSimoni, *Prince of Peace Parish, Old Forge*

Deacon Matthew Lorent, *Blessed Virgin Mary, Queen of Peace Parish, Hawley*

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LITURGICAL MUSIC

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Abington Heights High School Honors Choir and Honors Orchestra

Mrs. Allison Covell, *Orchestra Director*

Dr. Dana Boylan, *Choir Director*

Matthew Merolla, *Cantor*

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We gratefully acknowledge the publisher whose music was used in the worship guide by virtue of annual license agreement: OneLicense.net #A-701111

We extend our grateful appreciation to the many individuals who assisted in the celebration of today's Mass.

We wish to express our gratitude to the following attorneys and law firms whose generous contributions have helped to defray the expenses of this celebration.

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IN MEMORIAM

*Lackawanna Bar Association members who have died since
we last celebrated the Red Mass*

2024

Leo M. McCormack, Esq.

2025

Michael S. Miller, Esq.

Joseph A. Murphy, Esq.

Robert J. Murphy, Sr., Esq.

Raymond C. Rinaldi, Esq.

A Lawyer's Prayer

My Lord,

*you pleaded the case of the human family before your Father
when there was not a thing that could be said in its favor –
except yourself.*

*You have called me to the vocation of representing others
in the complicated business of law.*

*Let my service be professionally good, morally correct,
and humanly helpful.*

*There are many opportunities in my practice where I can use
both the law and the client for my own purposes,
or my own aggrandizement, for selfish increase in wealth.*

*Help me make proper decisions;
give me insight to use my talents well,
but in a way that gives glory to your honor
as well as satisfaction to my client.*

*Make me cognizant of the responsibility I carry for my actions,
for I must one day stand before the bar of your justice,
where cleverness, connections,
wealth will play no role in the defense.*

*Give me grace and love
and I shall attempt to continue your love among your people
by a service worthy of a professional Christian. Amen.*