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The Red Mass

October 12, 2008 Basilica of the Sacred Heart University of Notre Dame Notre Dame, Indiana



The Red Mass

is a traditional way of beginning the judicial term by asking God's guidance for all the members of the legal profession. Dating back to the thirteenth century, this Mass invokes the Holy Spirit for guidance and wisdom in upholding justice by the Bench and Bar.

The red vestments and gowns worn by the priest and the attending justices centuries ago gave this Mass its name.

Today, the Red Mass is attended by judges, lawyers, and officials of all paths asking God to bless, strengthen and enlighten all servants of the law in order to better achieve 'the blessings of liberty and justice for ourselves and our posterity.'



Lawyer's Prayer to St. Thomas More

St. Thomas More, be our advocate and counsel before the Divine tribunal that alone is without error.

Bespeak for us the wisdom to apply the precepts of God's eternal law to the problems of our daily practice.

Intercede for us that we may emulate the sense of humor which made your heart echo with the mirth of heaven.

Pray that we may spurn false oaths and live as you did, faithful to our trust as members of the bar, even though by doing so we may be called upon to sacrifice our lives as you sacrificed yours.

These things seek for us through the merits of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

♣ Introductory Rites



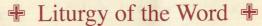
Greeting and Penitential Rite

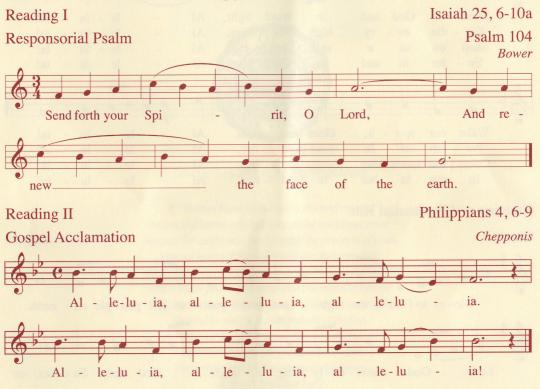


Cantor/Choir: Lord Jesus Christ...receive our prayer.



Opening Prayer





Gospel

Matthew 21, 33-43

♣ Liturgy of the Eucharist ♣

Preparation of the Altar and Gifts

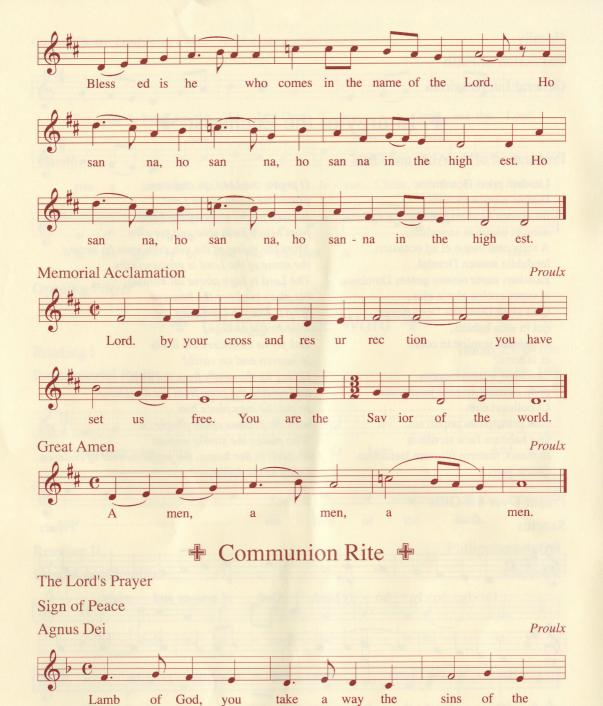
Mozart

Laudate pueri Dominum, laudate nomen Domini. Sit nomen Domini benedictum ex hoc nunc et usque in saeculum. A solis ortu usque et ad occasum. laudabile nomen Domini. Excelsus super omnes gentes Dominus, et super coelos gloria ejus. Quis sicut Dominus Deus noster, qui in altis habitat, et humilia respicit in coelo et in terra? Suscitans a terra inopem et de stercore erigens pauperum: Ut collocet eum cum principibus populi sui. Oui habitare facit steriliem in domo, matrem filiorum laetantem. Gloria patri...

O praise the Lord, ye children, praise the name of the Lord. Blessed be the name of the Lord from hence forth now and for ever. From the rising of the sun even unto its setting, the name of the Lord is praiseworthy. The Lord is high above all nations, his glory is above the heavens. Who is like the Lord our God, who dwells on high, and yet he considers the lowly in heaven and on earth? Lifting up the needy from the dust, and raising the poor from the dungheap, so that he may place him with the princes of his people. Who makes the sterile woman to dwell in her house, the joyful mother of children. Glory to the father...

Prayer Over the Gifts





world:

have

mer

cy

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us.





Communion Anthem

Mozart

Ave verum corpus, natum de Maria Virgine: Vere passum immolatum in cruce pro homine. Cujus latus perforatum unda fluxit sanguine: Esto nobis praegustatum in mortis examine.

Hail, true body, born of the Virgin Mary. Truly suffering, sacrificed on the cross for us From whose pierced side flowed water and blood: Be for us a foretaste in death's agony.

Prayer after Communion

♣ Concluding Rite

Blessing of Lawyers, Judges, Civic Government Officials and Students of the Law

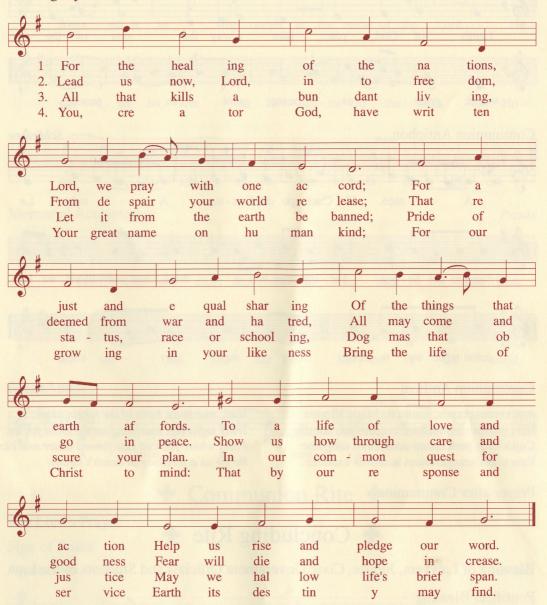
Pontifical Blessing

Bishop D Arcy. The Lord be with you. Congregation. And also with you.

Bishop D Arcy. Blessed be the name of the Lord.

Congregation. Now and forever.

Bishop D Arcy. Our help is in the name of the Lord. Congregation. Who made heaven and earth.



Acknowledgments: Mass for the City by Richard Proulx; The setting of the Gloria by Carroll Andrews; The setting of the Agnus Dei by Richard Proulx; The Gospel Acclamation by James J. Chepponis; The setting of Psalm 104 by Calvin Bower; Amen. El Cuerpo de Cristo by John Schiavone; © onelicense.net #A-702876. All other music in the public domain.