

COMMENCEMENT MASS

SATURDAY, MAY 16, 2026

5:00 P.M. EDT | PURCELL PAVILION—JOYCE CENTER



UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME 181ST

COMMENCEMENT

COMMENCEMENT MASS

THE MINISTERS OF THE MASS

PRINCIPAL CELEBRANT AND HOMILIST

REV. ROBERT A. DOWD, C.S.C.

President

Deacon

Deacon Melvin R. Tardy, Center for University Advising

Master of Ceremonies

Brother Jacob Eifrid, C.S.C., Romance Languages and Literatures

Concelebrants

Priests of the Congregation of Holy Cross

Religious and Diocesan Priests

In Attendance

His Eminence Joseph Cardinal Tobin, C.Ss.R., *Archbishop of Newark*

Most Rev. Kevin C. Rhoades, *Bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend*

Most Rev. Matthew Elshoff, O.F.M. Cap., *Auxiliary Bishop of Los Angeles*

Readers

Reading I in English:

Madeleine Colbert '26

Reading II in Spanish:

Daniel Peña Valinotti '26

The Universal Prayer (Prayer of the Faithful)

Ryan Farrell '26

English

Juliette Ajeneza '26

Kinyarwanda

Julia Wojciak '26

Polish

Leticia Cardoso Queiroz '26

Portuguese

Jun Wei Lee '26

Mandarin

Nayla Hernández Ramírez '26

French

Malachy Burns '26

Irish

Andy Swartout '26

English

Musicians

The University of Notre Dame Concert Band

Dr. Samuel Sanchez, *Director*

Ms. Victoria Paspalas, *Assistant Director*

The University of Notre Dame Chorale

Dr. Alexander Blachly, *Director*

The University of Notre Dame Folk Choir

Dr. J.J. Wright, *Director*

The University of Notre Dame Liturgical Choir

Dr. Andrew McShane, *Director*

Dr. Jonathan Hehn, *Assistant Director*

The University of Notre Dame Magnificat Choir

Dr. Patrick Kronner, *Director*

Cantor

Lucia Aguzzi '26

COMMENCEMENT MASS

Vigil Mass for the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord May 16, 2026

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ACADEMIC PROCESSION

Marche Triomphale..... KARG-ELERT

On a Hymnsong of Philip Bliss..... HOLSINGER

Alleluia! Laudamus Te..... REED

Ave Verum Corpus..... MOZART

Sine Nomine..... VAUGHAN WILLIAMS

Pilgrims' Hymn..... PAULUS

*Even before we call on your name
To ask you, O God,
When we seek for the words to
glorify you,
you hear our prayer;
Unceasing love, O unceasing love,
Surpassing all we know.*

*Glory to the Father,
and to the Son,
And to the Holy Spirit.*

*Even with darkness sealing us in,
We breathe your name,
And through all the days that follow
so fast,
We trust in you;
Endless your grace, O endless
your grace,
Beyond all mortal dream.*

*Both now and forever,
And unto ages and ages,
Amen.*

PROCESSION OF MINISTERS AND CLERGY

Please stand.

The Old Hundredth Psalm Tune..... VAUGHAN WILLIAMS



1. All peo - ple that on earth do dwell,
2. Know that the Lord is God in - deed;
Choir: 3. O en - ter then his gates with praise;
4. For why? The Lord our God is good:
5. To Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost,



Sing to the Lord with cheer - ful voice;
With - out our aid he did us make.
Ap - proach with joy his courts un - to;
His mer - cy is for ev - er sure;
The God whom heav'n and earth a - dore,

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Him serve with mirth, his praise forth tell,
 We are his folk, he does us feed,
Praise, laud, and bless his Name al - ways,
 His truth at all times firm - ly stood,
 From us and from the an - gel host

Come we be - fore him and re - joice.
 And for his sheep he does us take.
For it is seem - ly so to do.
 And shall from age to age en - dure.
 Be praise and glo - ry ev - er - more. A - men.

GREETING

PENITENTIAL ACT

GLORY TO GOD

ANDREWS



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and on earth peace to peo-ple of good
 will. We praise— you, we bless you, we a-dore you, we
 glo - ri - fy you, we give you thanks for your great glo - ry.
 Lord God, heav'n-ly King, O God, al - might - y Fa - ther.

Choir/Cantor: Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
 Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
 you take away the sins of the world,



have mer - cy on us;

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Choir/Cantor: you take away the sins of the world, re - ceive our prayer;

Choir/Cantor: you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.



For you a-lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most— High, Je - sus— Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it



in the glo - ry of God the Fa-ther. A - men.

COLLECT

LITURGY OF THE WORD

READING I

ACTS 1:1-11

Please be seated.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PSALM 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9

Please sing at the direction of the cantor.

PROULX



God mounts his throne to shouts of joy,



to shouts, to shouts of joy.

READING II

EPHESIANS 1:17-23

Brothers and sisters:

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory,
give you a Spirit of wisdom and revelation
resulting in knowledge of him.
May the eyes of your hearts be enlightened,
that you may know what is the hope that belongs to his call,
what are the riches of glory
in his inheritance among the holy ones,
and what is the surpassing greatness of his power
for us who believe,
in accord with the exercise of his great might,

which he worked in Christ,
raising him from the dead
and seating him at his right hand in the heavens,
far above every principality, authority, power, and dominion,
and every name that is named
not only in this age but also in the one to come.
And he put all things beneath his feet
and gave him as head over all things to the church,
which is his body,
the fullness of the one who fills all things in every way.

Lector: Palabra de Dios.

People: Te alabamos, Señor.

COMMENCEMENT MASS

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Please stand and sing at the direction of the cantor.
PLAINCHANT, MODE VI



GOSPEL

MATTHEW 28:16–20

It is customary for men wearing academic garb, although not for women, to have their caps removed during the Gospel and homily.

HOMILY

Please be seated.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

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 at the following words up to: And became man.
and by the Holy Spirit
was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

Please stand.
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.

THE UNIVERSAL PRAYER

Response to each intercession: Lord, hear our prayer.

Presider:

In the name of Christ, the risen Lord, we offer our prayers
to the Father, imploring his merciful help.

English:

For the Church throughout the world, may our celebration
of the Lord's Ascension inspire us to keep our eyes fixed on
heaven. *Let us pray to the Lord. . .*

Kinyarwanda:

For the leaders of nations and governments, may they be
guided by the Spirit to protect the rights and dignity of all
people, especially the poor, vulnerable, and unborn. *Let us
pray to the Lord. . .*

Polish:

For all who live in the midst of war and armed conflict,
especially the peoples of the Middle East, Ukraine, and
other lands torn by violence. May Christ, the Prince of

Peace, inspire people to lay down the weapons of war
and build up societies of peace and justice. *Let us pray
to the Lord . . .*

Portuguese:

For all those who face the ills of racism, discrimination,
and prejudice, may our commitment to the sanctity of
each human life encourage us in treating one another as
brothers and sisters. *Let us pray to the Lord . . .*

Mandarin:

For the sick and suffering, in body, mind, and spirit,
may the Lord bring them comfort and healing. *Let us
pray to the Lord . . .*

French:

For the University of Notre Dame, may Fr. Moreau's
vision of educating the minds and hearts of students
always guide her mission. *Let us pray to the Lord . . .*

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Irish:

For the Notre Dame Class of 2026, may the lessons learned and friendships made during their time at Notre Dame always sustain them in the future. *Let us pray to the Lord...*

English:

For all who have died, especially Spencer Vermeule, a member of the Class of 2026, and other members of the

Notre Dame Family and Congregation of Holy Cross, may they know the joys of eternal life in God's kingdom. *Let us pray to the Lord...*

Presider:

Almighty God, in your great love for us, we ask you to look with favor upon the petitions we offer you, through Christ our Lord.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PRESENTATION AND PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

Please be seated.

SENIOR CLASS COUNCIL

President—Diego Pavez González '26
Treasurer—Nicholas Michael Seifried '26

Vice President—Erin Kathleen Bauer '26
Secretary—Claire Elizabeth Coffey '26

Hallelujah (Mount of Olives)..... BEETHOVEN

Hallelujah unto God's Almighty Son.

Praise the Lord, ye bright angelic choirs, in holy songs of joy.

Man, proclaim his grace and glory, Hallelujah!

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

THE PREFACE

Presider: The Lord be with you.
People: And with your spirit.

Presider: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Presider: Let us give thanks to the
Lord our God.
People: It is right and just.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Please sing at the direction of the cantor.

PROULX

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.

COMMENCEMENT MASS

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

It is customary for men wearing academic garb, although not for women, to have their caps removed during the Eucharistic Prayer. The caps may be replaced at the end of Communion.

MYSTERY OF FAITH

Please sing at the direction of the cantor.

PROULX



GREAT AMEN

Please sing at the direction of the cantor.

PROULX



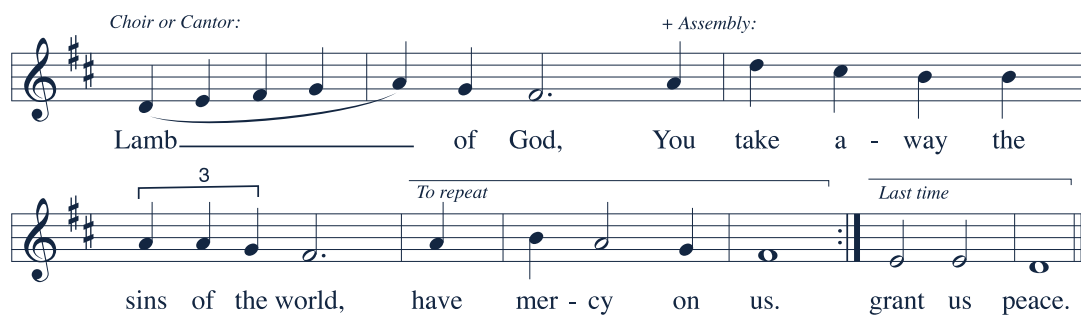
COMMUNION RITE

LORD'S PRAYER

SIGN OF PEACE

LAMB OF GOD

ISELE



INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Presider: Behold the Lamb of God . . .

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

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COMMUNION

Those who wish to receive are asked to remain in their seats until the usher directs each row to the proper Communion station.

Anima Christi.....FRISINA

Anima Christi, sanctifica me.
Corpus Christi, salva me.
Sanguis Christi, inebria me.
Aqua lateris Christi, lava me.
Passio Christi, conforta me.
O bone Iesu, exaudi me.
Intra tua vulnera absconde me.
Ne permittas me separari a te.
Ab hoste maligno defende me.
In hora mortis meae voca me.
Et iube me venire ad te
Ut cum Sanctis tuis laudem te
in saecula saeculorum. Amen.

*Soul of Christ, sanctify me.
Body of Christ, save me.
Blood of Christ, inebriate me.
Water from the side of Christ, wash me.
Passion of Christ, strengthen me.
O good Jesus, hear me.
Within your wounds, hide me.
Separated from you let me never be.
From the wicked foe defend me.
At the hour of death, call me.
To come to you, bid me,
That I may praise you in the company
Of the Saints, for all eternity. Amen.*

Sicut Cervus.....PALESTRINA

Sicut cervus desiderat ad fontes aquarum,
ita desiderat anima mea ad te, Deus.

*As the deer longs for running water,
So longs my soul for you, O God.*

Psalm 34.....BOWER



Arioso.....J.S. BACH

Festival Cantic—Worthy Is Christ.....HILLERT



1. Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. R.
2. Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his. R.
3. Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation. R.
4. Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. R.
5. For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. R.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

COMMENCEMENT MASS

CONCLUDING RITES

PROCESSION WITH THE FLAG

*As the flag bearers enter, please rise
and join in the singing of the hymn.*

BEARERS OF THE FLAG

Degree candidates who were chosen by their dean to participate.

Cole Peters Cherian '26
Jacob Spenser Finley '26

Mustafa Kemal Hess II '26
Karen Jean Hickey '26

William Edward Cooney Mansour '26
Martin Soros '26

HYMN

Eternal Father, Whose Almighty Hand
NATIONAL HYMN

1. E - ter - nal Fa - ther, whose al - might - y hand
Leads forth in beau - ty all the glo - rious band
Of shin - ing worlds in splen - dor through the skies,
Our grate - ful songs be - fore your throne a - rise.

2. Your love divine has led us in the past;
In this free land by you our lot is cast;
Oh, be our ruler, guardian, guide, and stay;
Your Word our law, your paths our chosen way.

BLESSING OF THE FLAG

Then the hymn continues:

3. Now with the mind of Christ set us on fire;
That unity may be our great desire;
Give joy and peace; give faith to hear your call;
And readiness in each to work for all.

4. Father, whose bounty all creation shows;
Spirit, from whom all life in fullness flows;
Christ, by whose willing sacrifice we live;
To you with grateful hearts ourselves we give.

COMMENCEMENT MASS

BRIEF REMARKS

Most Rev. Kevin C. Rhoades
Bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend

BLESSING OF ASSEMBLY

Presider: The Lord be with you.
All: And with your spirit.
Presider: Blessed be the name of the Lord.
All: Now and forever.
Presider: Our help is in the name of the Lord.
All: Who made heaven and earth.
Presider: May almighty God bless you . . .

ALMA MATER

Notre Dame, Our Mother
CASASANTA/O'DONNELL, C.S.C.

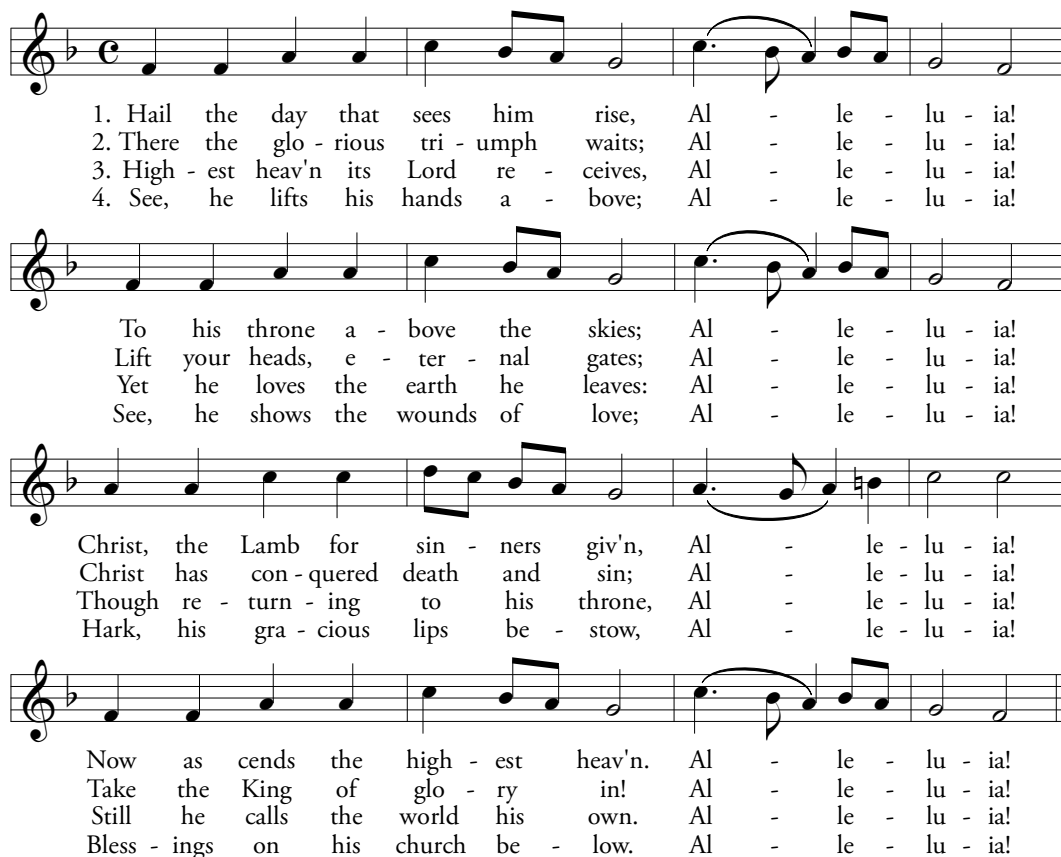


No - tre Dame, our Mo - ther, ten - der, strong and true,
Proud - ly in the heav - ens gleams thy gold and blue.
Glo - ry's man - tle cloaks thee, gold - en is thy fame,
And our hearts for - ev - er praise thee, No - tre Dame,
And our hearts for - ev - er love thee, No - tre Dame.

COMMENCEMENT MASS

CONCLUDING HYMN

Hail the Day that sees Him Rise
LLANFAIR



1. Hail the day that sees him rise, Al - le - lu - ia!
 2. There the glo - rious tri - umph waits; Al - le - lu - ia!
 3. High - est heav'n its Lord re - ceives, Al - le - lu - ia!
 4. See, he lifts his hands a - bove; Al - le - lu - ia!

To his throne a - bove the skies; Al - le - lu - ia!
 Lift your heads, e - ter - nal gates; Al - le - lu - ia!
 Yet he loves the earth he leaves; Al - le - lu - ia!
 See, he shows the wounds of love; Al - le - lu - ia!

Christ, the Lamb for sin - ners giv'n, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Christ has con - quered death and sin; Al - le - lu - ia!
 Though re - turn - ing to his throne, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Hark, his gra - cious lips be - stow, Al - le - lu - ia!

Now as cends the high - est heav'n. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Take the King of glo - ry in! Al - le - lu - ia!
 Still he calls the world his own. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Bless - ings on his church be - low. Al - le - lu - ia!

Acknowledgments

The setting of the Glory to God by Carroll T. Andrews, the Holy, Holy, Holy, Mystery of Faith, Lamb of God by David Clarke Isele, and Great Amen from "A Community Mass" by Richard Proulx © GIA Publications, Chicago, IL. Festival Cantic—Worthy Is Christ by Richard Hillert © Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. by Augsburg Fortress, Minneapolis, MN. The setting of Psalm 47 by Richard Proulx. All reprinted with permission under onelicense.net #A-702876. The English translations of The Roman Missal © 2010, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation, Washington, DC. Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass for Use in the Dioceses of the United States of America, second typical edition © 2001, 1998, 1997, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Inc., Washington, DC. All rights reserved. All other material from the public domain.