

# MASS FOR THE START OF THE YEAR AND ADOREMUS

## Introduction to the Mass:

Welcome to the beginning of a new school year! A year that will be full of rewards, challenges, highs, lows, victories and defeats. A year that will both test us and teach us. A year that will grow us, bring us new experiences and hopefully lots of laughter and joy. Throughout all of this we must remain rooted in Christ. Our faith is what nurtures us, what helps us get out of bed on those cold February mornings and what will carry us through the year. There is no better way to celebrate the start of the new year, to offer up our hopes and dreams and to pray for God's guidance on our journey than through the celebration of the Eucharist.

The celebration of the Sacrament of the Eucharist is what unites us and over a billion people worldwide. It's what nurtures and grows us as people and is a constant reminder of God's infinite love for us. This weekend 10's of thousands of people will gather in Liverpool to celebrate the Eucharist at an event called Adoremus. The weekend event is designed to remind us of our devotion to the Eucharist as a reminder of God's love and to further unite us with millions across the globe. Today as we gather to celebrate mass - let us pray for unity across the Church, for strength of faith and for Adoremus to be a huge success.

## Readings

Acts 2:42-47

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles. They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

The Word of The Lord

PSALM

**R. Taste and see that the Lord is good.**

1. I will bless the Lord at all times,  
his praise always on my lips;  
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.  
The humble shall hear and be glad. **(R.)**

2. Glorify the Lord with me.  
Together let us praise his name.  
I sought the Lord and he answered me;  
from all my terrors he set me free. **(R.)**

3. Look towards him and be radiant;  
let your faces not be abashed.  
This poor man called; the Lord heard him  
and rescued him from all his distress. **(R.)**

4. The angel of the Lord is encamped  
Around those who revere him, to rescue them.  
Taste and see that the Lord is good.  
He is happy who seeks refuge in him. **(R.)**

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## Gospel Acclamation

### Alleluia Alleluia

I am the bread of life, says the Lord.  
He who comes to me  
will never be hungry;  
he who believes in me will never thirst.

### Alleluia Alleluia

#### Gospel

John 6:35-40

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.

Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. But as I told you, you have seen me and still you do not believe. All those the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away. For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all those he has given me, but raise them up at the last day. For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day."

The Gospel of The Lord.

(Longer form : John 6:35-51)

## Bidding Prayers

We pray for the Church and its leaders that the Church may grow ever stronger and that its leaders might continue to unite people across the world. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for all people across the world that they might come to know and love Jesus and recognise his presence in their lives. We pray that all might know the joy of his love in their lives. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for those in need particularly those who have been the victims of war and disaster. We pray that they might come to know peace, hope and joy. We pray that the global community will meet their needs with love and compassion. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for our whole school communities. We pray that this year we might continue to grow together always remembering to keep Christ and the Eucharist at the center of all we do. We pray that as a school we will continue to be the face of Christ to our local community. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for ourselves that this year might be a year filled with every blessing and with immense joy. We pray that wherever God's path takes us we place our trust in him and know that you God are always with us. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for the departed that they might journey safely into God's loving embrace. We pray that the families they have left behind will know comfort and solace in this difficult time. Lord, in your mercy...

We turn to our immaculate mother Mary as a source of inspiration asking that she will unite our prayers with hers as together we say, Hail Mary....