

# THE DEDICATION OF AN ALTAR


Christ himself is the Altar



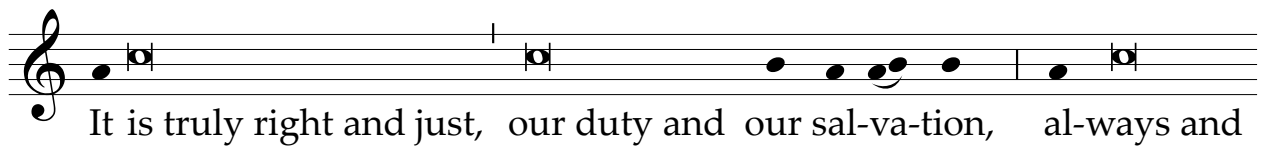
V. The Lord be with you. R. And with your spir-it.



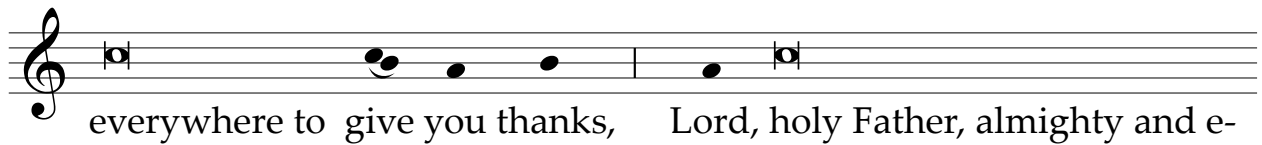
V. Lift up your hearts. R. We lift them up to the Lord.



V. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. R. It is right and just.



It is truly right and just, our duty and our sal-va-tion, al-ways and



everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and e-



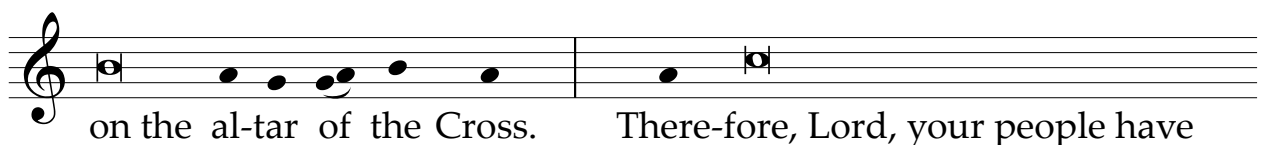
-ter-nal God, through Christ our Lord. Hav-ing become both the



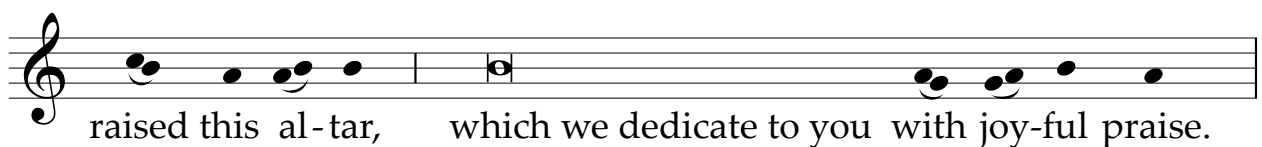
true Priest and the true ob-la-tion, he has taught us to celebrate for




ever the memorial of the Sac-ri-fice that he himself of-fered to you



on the al-tar of the Cross. There-fore, Lord, your people have



raised this al-tar, which we dedicate to you with joy-ful praise.



Tru-ly this is an ex-alt-ed place, where the Sacrifice of Christ is ever

of-fered in mys-ter-y, where perfect praise is ren-dered to you  
 and redemption flows forth for us. Here is prepared the table of  
 the Lord, where your children, fed by the Bod-y of Christ, are gath-  
 -ered into the one, the ho-ly Church. Here the faithful drink of  
 your Spirit from the streams that flow from Christ, the spir-it-ual  
 rock, through whom they, too, become a ho-ly ob-la-tion, a  
 liv-ing al-tar. And so, Lord, with all the An-gels and Saints,  
 we, too, give you thanks, as in exul-ta-tion we ac-claim:

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