

MOZART'S CORONATION MASS
VIENNA PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA
SAINT PETER BASILICA

CELEBRATION OF HOLY MASS BY POPE JOHN PAUL II
JUNE 29, 1985 – THE FEAST OF SAINTS PETER AND PAUL

In [*Evangelium Vitae*](#) Saint John Paul II proposed a sweeping reorientation of modern culture in all the many facets of human society. Preeminent among them is the celebration of liturgy:

We are called to express wonder and gratitude for the gift of life and to welcome, savor and share the Gospel of life not only in our personal and community prayer, but above all in the celebrations of the liturgical year. Particularly important in this regard are the Sacraments, the efficacious signs of the presence and saving action of the Lord Jesus in Christian life. The Sacraments make us sharers in divine life, and provide the spiritual strength necessary to experience life, suffering and death in their fullest meaning. Thanks to a genuine rediscovery and a better appreciation of the significance of these rites, our liturgical celebrations, especially celebrations of the Sacraments, will be ever more capable of expressing the full truth about birth, life, suffering and death, and will help us to live these moments as a participation in the Paschal Mystery of the Crucified and Risen Christ.

EV 84. Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart found rich opportunity to give voice to his talent in composition for Holy Mass. His [*Coronation Mass*](#) was celebrated with Pope John Paul II at Saint Peter Basilica on the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul, June 29, 1985. The Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra with two choirs, under the direction of Herbert von Karajan, performed Mozart's masterpiece. This video and audio recording, available on YouTube, is but one of several videos available from the memorable occasion.

