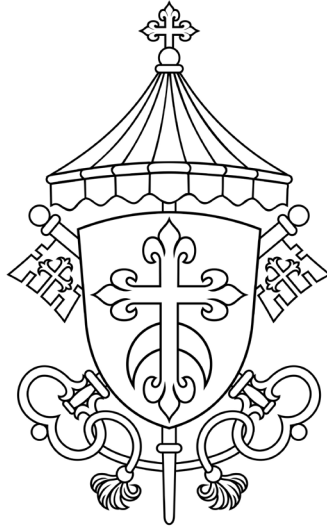


ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL



Solemn Vespers and Benediction

The Office of Evening Prayer

THE ASSUMPTION
OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

15 August 2021
5.00pm

THE OFFICE OF VESPERS

Vespers, also called Evening Prayer, is part of the Liturgy of the Hours, also known as the Divine Office. In the Liturgy of the Hours, the Church fulfills Jesus' command to "pray continually". Through hymns, psalms, canticles, readings, and prayers, the people of God sanctify the day by continual praise of God and intercession for the needs of the world.

The Liturgy of the Hours includes several specified times of prayer. The most important times are Morning Prayer: Lauds (which takes place upon rising) and Evening Prayer: Vespers (which takes place as dusk begins to fall). The Office of Vespers gives thanks for the day just past and makes an evening sacrifice of praise to God.

Bishops, priests, deacons, and many men and women in consecrated life pray the Liturgy of the Hours each day. Their work is organised around this prayer, keeping God always at the center of their days. Lay people are encouraged to pray the Liturgy of the Hours as well, especially Morning and Evening Prayer. The public singing of Lauds and Vespers is a regular part of the life and worship of St Mary's Cathedral.

THE FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION

The commemoration of the death of the Blessed Virgin Mary (the Dormition, or falling asleep, as it was known in the East) is known as the Assumption because of the tradition that her body did not decay but that she was raised up, body and soul, into heaven. This tradition was already present in the sixth century; by the beginning of the twentieth century it was widespread; and after consulting the views of bishops all over the world, the Pope formally and infallibly declared the doctrine of the Assumption to be part of the authentic and ancient doctrine of the universal Church.

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EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

As the Blessed Sacrament is brought to the altar all kneel.

The cantors sing

O salutaris hostia, quæ cæli pandis ostium, bella premunt hostilia, da robur, fer auxilium.	<i>O saving victim, opening the gate of heaven; hostile wars press on, give strength, bring us help.</i>
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Uni trinoque Domino sit sempiterna gloria, qui vitam sine termino nobis donet in patria. Amen.	<i>To the Lord, the One in Three, be everlasting glory, that he may give us life without end in our native land. Amen.</i>
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ORDER OF VESPERS

INTRODUCTION TO THE OFFICE

℣. Deus, in adiutorium meum intende. *O God, come to our aid.*
℟. Domine, ad adiuvandum me festina. *O Lord, make haste to help us.*
Gloria Patri et Filio *Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
et Spiritui Sancto. *and to the Holy Spirit,*
Sicut erat in principio *as it was in the beginning,*
et nunc et semper *is now, and ever shall be,*
et in sæcula sæculorum. Amen. Alleluia. *world without end. Amen. Alleluia.*

OFFICE HYMN

Ave, maris stella, *Hail, O Star of the ocean,*
Dei mater alma, *God's own Mother blest,*
atque semper virgo, *ever sinless Virgin,*
felix cæli porta. *gate of heav'nly rest.*

Sumens illud «Ave» *Taking that sweet Ave,*
Gabrielis ore, *which from Gabriel came,*
funda nos in pace, *peace confirm within us,*
mutans Evæ nomen. *changing Eve's name.*

Solve vincla reis, *Break the sinners' fetters,*
profer lumen cæcis, *make our blindness day,*
mala nostra pelle, *Chase all evils from us,*
bona cuncta posce. *for all blessings pray.*

Monstra te esse matrem, *Show thyself a Mother,*
sumat per te precem *may the Word divine*
qui pro nobis natus *born for us thine Infant*
tulit esse tuus. *hear our prayers through thine.*

Virgo singularis, *Virgin all excelling,*
inter omnes mitis, *mildest of the mild,*
nos culpis solutos *free from guilt preserve us*
mites fac et castos. *meek and undefiled.*

Vitam præsta puram, *Keep our life all spotless,*
iter para tutum, *make our way secure*
ut videntes Iesum *till we find in Jesus,*
semper collætetur. *joy for evermore.*

Sit laus Deo Patri, *Praise to God the Father,*
summo Christo decus, *honour to the Son,*
Spiritui Sancto *in the Holy Spirit,*
honor, tribus unus. Amen. *be the glory one. Amen.*

PSALMODY

FIRST ANTIPHON

ASSUMPTA est Maria in cælum, gaudent
Angeli, laudantes benedicunt Dominum.

*Mary has been assumed into heaven: the angels
rejoice. They sing for joy and praise the Lord.*

PSALM 121 (122)

Lætatus sum in eo quod dixerunt mihi: *I rejoiced when I heard them say:*
«In domum Domini ibimus». *'Let us go to God's house.'*

Stantes iam sunt pedes nostri *And now our feet are standing*
in portis tuis, Ierusalem. *within your gates, O Jerusalem.*

Ierusalem, quæ ædificata est ut civitas, *Jerusalem is built as a city*
sibi compacta in idipsum. *strongly compact.*

Illuc enim ascenderunt tribus, tribus Domini, *It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord.*
testimonium Israel, *For Israel's law it is,*
ad confitendum nomini Domini. *there to praise the Lord's name.*

Quia illic sederunt sedes ad iudicium, *There were set the thrones of judgement*
sedes domus David. *of the house of David.*

Rogate, quæ ad pacem sunt Ierusalem: *For the peace of Jerusalem pray:*
«Securi sint diligentes te! *'Peace be to your homes!*

Fiat pax in muris tuis, *May peace reign in your walls,*
et securitas in turribus tuis!» *in your palaces, peace!'*

Propter fratres meos et proximos meos *For love of my brethren and friends*
loquar: «Pax in te!» *I say: 'Peace upon you!'*

Propter domum Domini Dei nostri *For love of the house of the Lord*
exquiram bona tibi. *I will ask for your good.*

Gloria Patri et Filio, *Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
et Spiritui Sancto. *and to the Holy Spirit,*

Sicut erat in principio et nunc et semper *as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,*
et in sæcula sæculorum. Amen. *world without end. Amen.*

The Antiphon is repeated.

SECOND ANTIPHON

MARIA Virgo assumpta est ad æthereum thalamum, in quo Rex regum stellato sedet solio.

The Virgin Mary has been assumed to the heavenly dwelling-place where the King of kings sits on a throne of stars.

PSALM 126 (127)

Nisi Dominus ædificaverit domum, in vanum laborant, qui ædificant eam.	<i>If the Lord does not build the house, in vain do its builders labour;</i>
Nisi Dominus custodierit civitatem, frustra vigilat, qui custodit eam.	<i>if the Lord does not watch over the city, in vain does the watchman keep vigil.</i>
Vanum est vobis ante lucem surgere et sero quiescere, qui manducatis panem laboris, quia dabit dilectis suis somnum.	<i>In vain is your earlier rising, your going later to rest, you who toil for the bread you eat, when he pours gifts on his beloved while they slumber.</i>
Ecce hereditas Domini filii, merces fructus ventris.	<i>Truly sons are a gift from the Lord, a blessing, the fruit of the womb.</i>
Sicut sagittæ in manu potentis, ita filii iuventutis.	<i>Indeed the sons of youth are like arrows in the hand of a warrior.</i>
Beatus vir, qui implevit pharetram suam ex ipsis: non confundetur, cum loquetur inimicis suis in porta.	<i>O the happiness of the man who has filled his quiver with these arrows! He will have no cause for shame when he disputes with his foes in the gateways.</i>
Gloria Patri et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto.	<i>Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,</i>
Sicut erat in principio et nunc et semper et in sæcula sæculorum. Amen.	<i>as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.</i>

The Antiphon is repeated.

THIRD ANTIPHON

BENEDICTA filia tu a Domino, quia per te
fructum vitæ communicavimus.

*You are blessed, daughter, by the Lord your God;
through you we partake of the fullness of life.*

CANTICLE

Ephesians 1:3-10

Benedictus Deus et Pater Domini nostri Iesu Christi, qui benedixit nos in omni benedictione spiritali in cælestibus in Christo,	<i>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.</i>
sicut elegit nos in ipso ante mundi constitutionem, ut essemus sancti et immaculati in conspectu eius in caritate,	<i>He chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him.</i>
qui prædestinavit nos in adoptionem filiorum per Iesum Christum in ipsum, secundum beneplacitum voluntatis suæ,	<i>He destined us in love to be his sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will,</i>
in laudem gloriæ gratiæ suæ, in qua gratificavit nos in Dilecto, in quo habemus redemptionem per sanguinem eius, remissionem peccatorum,	<i>to the praise of his glorious grace which he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses,</i>
secundum divitias gratiæ eius, quæ superabundavit in nobis in omni sapientia et prudentia,	<i>according to the riches of his grace which he lavished upon us in all wisdom and insight,</i>
notum faciens nobis mysterium voluntatis suæ, secundum beneplacitum eius,	<i>he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose</i>
quod proposuit in eo, in dispensationem plenitudinis temporum:	<i>which he set forth in Christ as a plan for the fullness of time,</i>
recapitulare omnia in Christo, quæ in cælis et quæ in terra.	<i>to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.</i>
Gloria Patri et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto.	<i>Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,</i>
Sicut erat in principio et nunc et semper et in sæcula sæculorum. Amen.	<i>as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.</i>

The Antiphon is repeated.

JUST as all men die in Adam, so all men will be brought to life in Christ; but all of them in their proper order: Christ as the first-fruits and then, after the coming of Christ, those who belong to him.

SHORT RESPONSORY

Maria Virgo exaltata est *The Virgin Mary has been high*
 super choros angelorum. *above the choirs of angels.*

℣. Benedictus Dominus, *Blessed is the Lord,*
 qui exaltavit eam. ℟. *who raised her up.*

℣. Gloria Patri et Filio *Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
 et Spiritui Sancto. ℟. *and to the Holy Spirit.*

All stand.

MAGNIFICAT ANTIPHON

HODIE Maria Virgo cælos ascendit; gaudete, quia cum Christo regnat in æternum.

Today the Virgin Mary was assumed into heaven: rejoice and be glad, for she will reign for ever with Christ.

MAGNIFICAT

Octavi toni

Lorenzo Perosi (1872–1956)

Magnificat *My soul*
anima mea Dominum, *glorifies the Lord,*

et exsultavit spiritus meus *my spirit rejoices*
in Deo salutari meo, *in God, my Saviour.*

quia respexit humilitatem ancillæ suæ. *He looks on his servant in her lowliness;*
Ecce enim ex hoc beatam me dicent *henceforth all ages*
omnes generationes, *will call me blessed.*

quia fecit mihi magna, qui potens est, *The Almighty works marvels for me.*
et sanctum nomen eius, *Holy his name!*

et misericordia eius a progenie in progenies *His mercy is from age to age,*
timentibus eum. *on those who fear him.*

Fecit potentiam in brachio suo, *He puts forth his arm in strength*
dispersit superbos mente cordis sui; *and scatters the proud-hearted.*

deposuit potentes de sede; *He casts the mighty from their thrones*
et exaltavit humiles; *and raises the lowly.*

esurientes implevit bonis *He fills the starving with good things,*
et divites dimisit inanes. *sends the rich away empty.*

Suscepit Israel puerum suum, *He protects Israel, his servant,*
recordatus misericordiæ suæ, *remembering his mercy,*

sicut locutus est ad patres nostros, *the mercy promised to our fathers,*
Abraham et semini eius in sæcula. *to Abraham and his sons for ever.*

Gloria Patri et Filio, *Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
et Spiritui Sancto. *and to the Holy Spirit,*

Sicut erat in principio et nunc et semper *as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,*
et in sæcula sæculorum. Amen. *world without end. Amen.*

The Antiphon is repeated.

INTERCESSIONS

Let us praise God the Father who chose Mary as the mother of his Son and wanted all generations to call her blessed. With confidence we pray:

℟: **May the Virgin Mary intercede for us.**

Father, you did great things for the Virgin Mary and brought her, body and soul, to the glory of heaven; fill the hearts of your children with the hope of Christ's glory. ℟:

Through the prayers of Mary, our mother, heal the sick, comfort the sorrowful, pardon sinners; grant peace and salvation to all. ℟:

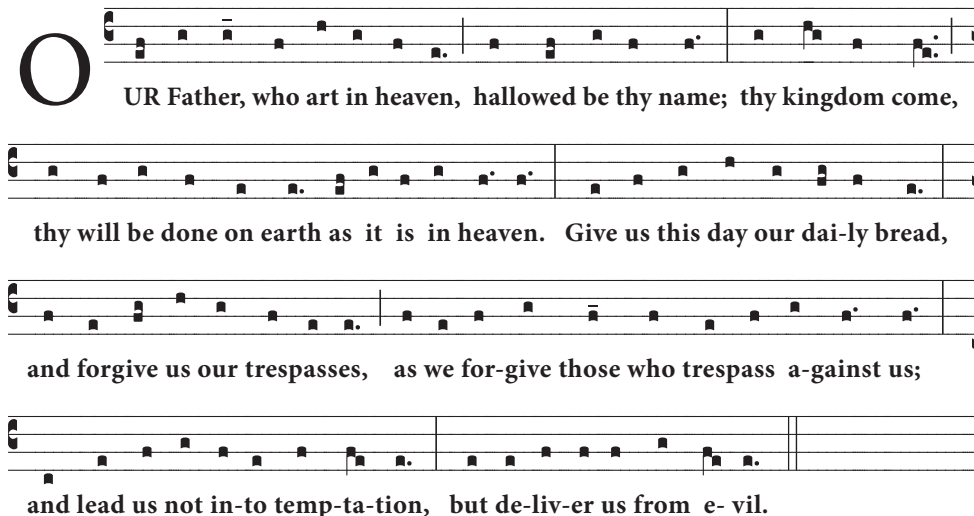
You favoured Mary with the fulness of grace; bestow on all men your overflowing blessings. ℟:

May your Church be united heart and soul, held fast by love; and may your faithful be joined in continuous prayer, with Mary the mother of Jesus. ℟:

Father, you exalted the Virgin Mary and crowned her queen of heaven; may the dead enter your kingdom and rejoice with your saints for ever. ℟:

At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

All sing



O UR Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come,
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our dai-ly bread,
and forgive us our trespasses, as we for-give those who trespass a-gainst us;
and lead us not in-to temp-ta-tion, but de-liv-er us from e- vil.

COLLECT

ALMIGHTY, ever-living God,
you have taken the mother of your Son,
the immaculate Virgin Mary,
body and soul into the glory where you dwell.
Keep our hearts set on heaven
so that, with her, we may share in your glory.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

℟ Amen.

All sing

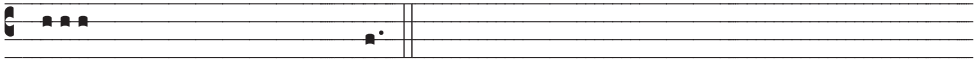
TANTUM er-go Sa-craméntum * Vene-rémur cérnu-i : et an-tí-quum
Therefore we, before him bending, this great Sacrament revere; types and shadows

do-cuméntum No-vo ce-dat rí-tu-i : præstet fi-des suppleméntum
have their ending, for the newer rite is here; faith our outward sense befriending,

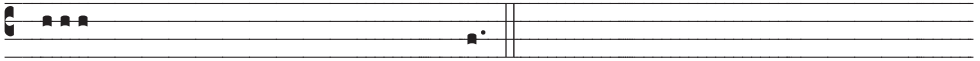
sénsu-um de-féc-tu-i. Ge-ni-tó-ri, Ge-ni-tó-que laus et iu-bi-la-ti-o,
makes our inward vision clear. Glory let us give and blessing to the Father and the Son,

sa-lus, honor, virtus quoque sit et be-ne-dícti-o : pro-ce-dénti ab utró-que
honour, thanks, and praise addressing while eternal ages run; ever too his love confessing,

com-par sit lau-dá-ti-o. A-men.
who from both with both is One.



∿ Panem de cælo præstitisti e- is.
You gave them bread from heaven.



∿ **Omne delectaméntum in se habén- tem.**
Containing in itself all sweetness.

Oremus.

Let us pray.

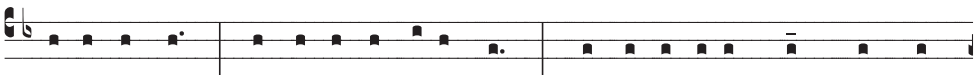
DEUS, qui nobis sub sacramento mirabili passionis tuæ memoriam reliquisti: tribue quæsumus, ita nos corporis et sanguinis tui sacra mysteria venerari; ut redemptionis tuæ fructum in nobis iugiter sentiamus. Qui vivis et regnas in sæcula sæculorum.

O God, who in a wonderful Sacrament has left us a memorial of your passion: grant us so to venerate the sacred mysteries of your Body and Blood, that we may perceive within ourselves the fruit of thy redemption; who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

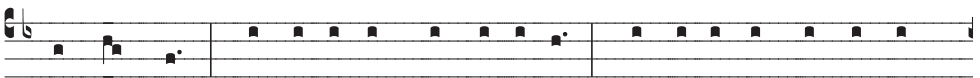
∿ **Amen.**

BENEDICTION *is given.*

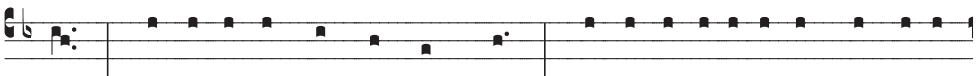
THE DIVINE PRAISES



Blessèd be God. Blessèd be his Holy Name. Blessèd be Jesus Christ, true God



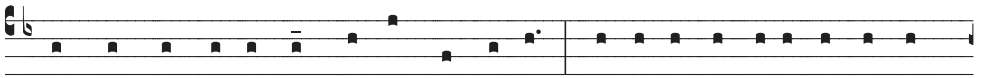
and true Man. Blessèd be the Name of Je-sus. Blessèd be his Most Sacred



Heart. Blessèd be his Most Precious Blood. Blessèd be Jesus in the Most Holy



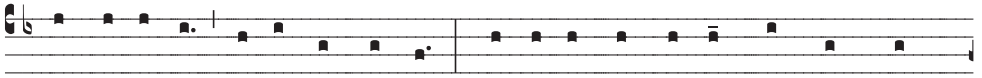
Sacrament of the Al-tar. Blessèd be the Holy Spi-rit, the Pa-raclete. Blessèd be



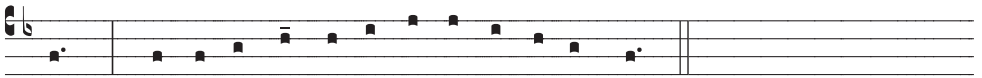
the great Mother of God, Ma-ry most Ho-ly. Blessèd be her Holy and Imma-



cu-late Conception. Blessèd be her Glorious Assumption. Blessèd be the



name of Ma-ry, Virgin and Mother. Blessèd be Saint Joseph, her most chaste



spouse. Blessèd be God in his Angels and in his Saints.

As the Blessed Sacrament is reposed, all sing



A-do-rémus * in æ-tér-num Sanc-tís-si-mum Sa-cra-mén-tum.

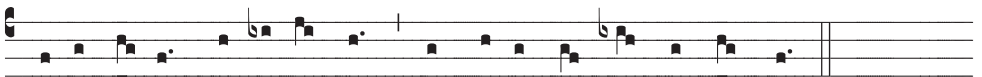
Let us adore for ever the most Holy Sacrament.

Laudate Dominum omnes gentes: *O praise the Lord, all you nations,*
laudate eum omnes populi. *acclaim his all you peoples!*

Quoniam confirmata est super nos *Strong is his*
misericordia eius: *love for us;*
et veritas Domini manet in æternum. *he is faithful for ever.*

Gloria Patri, et Filio: *Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
et Spiritui Sancto, *and to the Holy Spirit,*

sicut erat in principio, et nunc et semper: *as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,*
et in sæcula sæculorum. Amen. *world without end. Amen.*



A-do-rémus * in æ-tér-num Sanc-tís-si-mum Sa-cra-mén-tum.

Let us adore for ever the most Holy Sacrament.

All sing

THE ANTIPHON TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

S Al- ve, * Re-gí- na, ma-ter mi-se-ri-córdi- ae: Vi- ta, dulcé- do,
Hail, holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, our life, our sweetness

et spes nostra, sal- ve. Ad te clamá- mus, éxsu-les, fí- li- i Hevae. Ad te
and our hope, hail. To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve; to thee

suspi- rá- mus, geméntes et flen- tes in hac la- cri- má- rum val- le. E- ia ergo,
do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn then,

advoca- ta nostra, il- los tu- os mi- se- ri- cór- des ó- cu- los ad nos convér- te.
most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us;

Et Ie- sum, bene- díc- tum fructum ventris tu- i, no- bis post hoc ex- sí- li- um
And show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus, after this our exile.

os- ténde. O cle- mens : O pi- a : O dul- cis Virgo Ma- rí- a.
O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

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