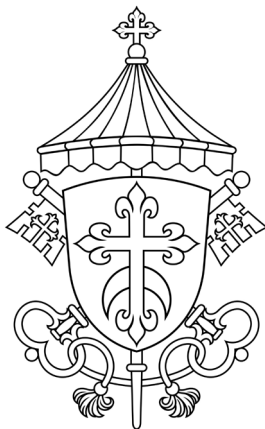


ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL



Choral Vigil Mass



The Nativity of the Lord

24 December 2021

8.00pm

WELCOME

to St Mary's Cathedral which stands in the centre of Sydney as a Christian statement of grace and beauty. Generations of artists have bequeathed to it their magnificent gifts in stone and glass, designing a unique space of solace and prayer within this vibrant city. This Cathedral represents the spiritual origins of the Catholic Church in Australia. It is one of Sydney's most treasured historic buildings and one of the finest examples of English-style gothic churches in the world. William Wilkinson Wardell, the 19th century architect, dreamed of a gothic structure shaped from the local yellow-block sandstone on which this city is built. The building was finally completed 100 years after the architect's death. The Cathedral is dedicated to Mary, Immaculate Mother of God, Help of Christians.

THE ST MARY'S SINGERS

The St Mary's Singers is a choir of men and women united in their love of quality choral liturgical music. It is part of the wider musical establishment at St Mary's Cathedral and sings in the beautiful neo-gothic building at least once a month. It is a choir of varying ages and interests and, and is now attracting new membership applications from a younger generation of singers. No audition is required but it is expected that members read music or have some musical ability. It's a great place to learn to sing. The choir usually sings at the 5.30pm Vespers and 6pm Mass on the second Saturday of every month and on other special liturgical occasions. It also performs concerts in the cathedral. Rehearsals are on Monday evenings between 6.30pm and 8pm in the Cathedral Chapter Hall.

www.stmaryssingers.com

**TO MAINTAIN A SPIRIT OF REVERENCE AND SOLEMNITY,
PLEASE TURN OFF AND REFRAIN FROM USING ALL MOBILE TELEPHONES
AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES.**

CAROLS BEFORE MASS

The choir sings

DING! DONG! MERRILY ON HIGH

DING! dong! merrily on high
In heaven the bells are ringing!
Ding! dong! verily the sky
Is riven with angel-singing!
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis.

E'en so here below, below,
Let steeple bells be swungen,
And "I-o, i-o, i-o!"
By priest and people sungen:
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis.

Pray you, dutifully prime
Your matin chime, ye ringers;
May you beautifully rime
Your evetime song, ye singers:
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis.

*16th century French tune
arr. Charles Wood (1866–1926)*

George R. Woodward (1848–1934)

All sing

THE HYMN

ONCE in royal David's city
Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby
In a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.

He came down to earth from heaven,
Who is God and Lord of all,
And his shelter was a stable,
And his cradle was a stall;
With the poor, and mean, and lowly,
Lived on earth our Saviour holy.

And our eyes at last shall see him,
 Through his own redeeming love,
 For that Child so dear and gentle
 Is our Lord in heaven above;
 And he leads his children on
 To the place where he is gone.

Irby

Henry John Gauntlett (1805–1876)

revised by A H Mann (1850–1929)

arr. Sir David Willcocks (1919–2015)

Not in that poor lowly stable,
 With the oxen standing by,
 We shall see him; but in heaven,
 Set at God's right hand on high;
 When like stars his children crowned,
 All in white shall wait around.

Cecil Frances Alexander (1818–1895)

The choir sings

THE BLESSED SON OF GOD

THE blessed Son of God only
 In a crib full poor did lie;
 With our poor flesh and our poor blood
 Was clothed that everlasting good.
Kyrie eleison.

The Lord Christ Jesu, God's son dear,
 Was a guest and a stranger here;
 Us for to bring from misery,
 That we might live eternally.
Kyrie eleison.

All this did he for us freely,
 For to declare his great mercy;
 All Christendom be merry therefore,
 And give him thanks for evermore.
Kyrie eleison.

Louis Halsey (b. 1929)

Miles Coverdale (1488–1569)

THE HYMN

GOD rest you merry, gentlemen,
Let nothing you dismay,
For Jesus Christ our Saviour
Was born upon this day,
To save us all from Satan's power
When we were gone astray:
O tidings of comfort and joy.

From God our heavenly Father
A blessèd angel came,
And unto certain shepherds
Brought tidings of the same,
How that in Bethlehem was born:
The Son of God by name:
O tidings of comfort and joy.

The shepherds at those tidings
Rejoicèd much in mind,
And left their flocks a-feeding
In tempest, storm, and wind,
And went to Bethlehem straightway
This blessèd Babe to find:
O tidings of comfort and joy.

But when to Bethlehem they came,
Whereat this infant lay,
They found him in a manger,
Where oxen feed on hay;
His mother Mary kneeling
Unto the Lord did pray:
O tidings of comfort and joy.

Now to the Lord sing praises,
All you within this place,
And with true love and brotherhood
Each other now embrace;
This holy tide of Christmas
All others doth deface:
O tidings of comfort and joy.

MYN LYKING

I SAW a fair maiden
Syttin and sing:
She lulléd a lyttel childe,
A sweeté lording.
*Lullay myn lyking,
My dere sonne, my sweeting;
Lullay my dere herte,
Myn own dere derling.*

That same lord is he
That made allé thing;
Of allé lordis he is Lord
Of allé kynges King.
Lullay myn lyking

There was mickle melody
At that chyldé's birth:
All that were in heav'nly bliss,
They made mickle mirth.
Lullay myn lyking

Angels bright sand their
Song to that child;
“Blyssid be thou and so be she,
So meek and so mild.”
Lullay myn lyking

THE HYMN

SEE amid the winter's snow,
Born for us on earth below,
See the tender Lamb appears,
Promised from eternal years.

*Hail, thou ever-blessèd morn!
Hail, redemption's happy dawn!
Sing through all Jerusalem,
Christ is born in Bethlehem.*

Lo, within a manger lies
He who built the starry skies;
He, who throned in height sublime
Sits amid the cherubim.

Say, ye holy shepherds, say
What your joyful news today;
Wherefore have ye left your sheep
On the lonely mountain steep?

'As we watched at dead of night,
Lo, we saw a wondrous light;
Angels singing peace on earth
Told us of the Saviour's birth.'

Sacred Infant, all divine,
What a tender love was thine,
Thus to come from highest bliss
Down to such a world as this.

Virgin Mother, Mary blest
By the joys that fill thy breast,
Pray for us, that we may prove
Worthy of the Saviour's love.

The choir sings

THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

THE holly and the ivy,
Now both are full full grown.
Of all the trees that are in the wood,
The holly bears the crown.

*O, the rising of the sun,
The running of the deer.
The playing of the merry organ,
Sweet singing in the choir.*

The holly bears a blossom
As white as any flower;
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
To be our sweet Saviour.

The holly bears a berry
As red as any blood;
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
To do poor sinners good.

The holly bears a prickle
As sharp as any thorn;
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
On Christmas day in the morn.

The holly bears a bark
As bitter as any gall;
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
For to redeem us all.

arr. June Nixon (b. 1942)

English traditional, 15th century

ORDER OF MASS

At the sound of the Sacristy bell all stand and sing

THE HYMN

O LITTLE town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight.

2

O morning stars, together
Proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the King,
And peace to men on earth;
For Christ is born of Mary
And, gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
Their watch of wondering love.

3

How silently, how silently,
The wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of his heav'n.
No ear may hear his coming;
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him, still
The dear Christ enters in.

4

Where children pure and happy
Pray to the blessed Child,
Where misery cries out to thee,
Son of the Mother mild;
Where Charity stands watching
And Faith holds wide the door,
The dark night wakes, the glory breaks,
And Christmas comes once more.

5

O holy child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in,
Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell:
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Emmanuel.

English traditional
arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958)
Descant, Thomas Armstrong (1898–1994)

Phillips Brooks (1835–1893)

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

All make the Sign of the Cross as the Celebrant says

In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

℟: **Amen.**

The Lord be with you.

℟: **And with your spirit.**

PENITENTIAL ACT

Brethren (brothers and sisters),
let us acknowledge our sins,
and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

After a brief silence all say

**I CONFESS to almighty God
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have greatly sinned,
in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,**

All strike their breast thrice, saying

**through my fault, through my fault,
through my most grievous fault;
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,
all the Angels and Saints,
and you, my brothers and sisters,
to pray for me to the Lord our God.**

The Celebrant gives the absolution, saying

May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life.

℟: **Amen.**

The choir sings the KYRIE and GLORIA

from Missa brevis Sancti Ioannis de Deo

Joseph Haydn (1732–1809)

Kyrie, eleison. Christe, eleison. Kyrie, eleison.

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Gloria in excelsis Deo
et in terra pax hominibus bonæ voluntatis.

Laudamus te,
benedicimus te,
adoramus te,
glorificamus te,
gratias agimus tibi

propter magnam gloriam tuam,
Domine Deus, Rex cælestis,
Deus Pater omnipotens.
Domine Fili Unigenite, Iesu Christe,
Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris,
qui tollis peccata mundi,

miserere nobis;
qui tollis peccata mundi,
suscipe deprecationem nostram.

Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris,
miserere nobis.

Quoniam tu solus Sanctus,
tu solus Dominus,
tu solus Altissimus,

Iesu Christe,
cum Sancto Spiritu:
in gloria Dei Patris.
Amen.

*Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.*

*We praise you,
we bless you,
we adore you,
we glorify you,
we give you thanks*

*for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,*

*have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.*

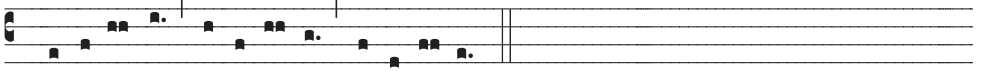
*For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,*

*Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.*

The Celebrant says the COLLECT

℟: **Amen.**

ALLELUIA



℟: **Al-le-lú- ia, al-le-lú- ia, al-le-lú- ia.**

℣ Tomorrow there will be an end to the sin of the world
and the saviour of the world will be our king.

GOSPEL

Matthew 1:1-25

The Lord be with you.

℟: **And with your spirit.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

℟: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

At the conclusion of the Gospel:

The Gospel of the Lord.

℟: **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

HOMILY

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 KNEEL *during the following line:*

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

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.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

The choir sings the OFFERTORY MOTET

arr. Humphrey Clucas (b. 1941)

TOMORROW shall be my dancing day; I would my true love did so chance to see the legend of my play, to call my true love to my dance; sing, oh! my love, oh! my love, my love, my love, this have I done for my true love. Then was I born of a virgin pure, of her I took fleshly substance thus was I knit to man's nature to call my true love to my dance. In a manger laid, and wrapped I was so very poor, this was my chance betwixt an ox and a silly poor ass to call my true love to my dance.

The Celebrant says

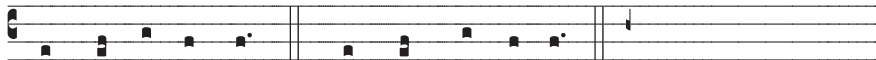
Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.


℟: **May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.**

The Celebrant says the PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

℟: **Amen.**


THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

T HE Lord be with you. ℟: **And with your spi-rit.**


 Lift up your hearts. ℟: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

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


THE PREFACE




S An- ctus, * Sanctus, San- ctus Dó- mi-nus De- us Sá-
 Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.



ba-oth. Ple-ni sunt cæ- li et ter- ra gló- ri- a tu- a. Ho- sánna in excél-
 Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.



sis. Be- ne- dí- ctus qui ve- nit in nó- mi- ne Dó- mi- ni. Ho- sán- na in
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in




ex- cél- sis.
 the highest.

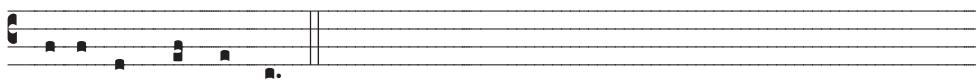
When the Celebrant sings

The mystery of faith.

All sing



W ^{Re} E proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Re-sur-rectio

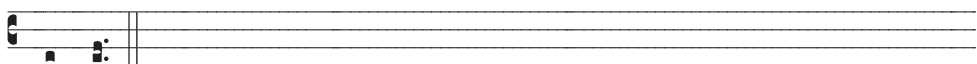


until you come a-gain.

When the Celebrant sings

Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour is yours, for ever and ever.

All respond



^{Re} A-men.

COMMUNION RITE

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.

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.


✠ For the kingdom, the power and the glo-ry are yours now and for ev-er.

Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles: Peace I leave you, my peace I give you, look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will. Who live and reign for ever and ever.

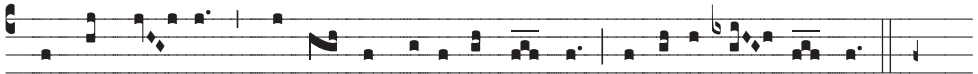
✠ Amen.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.


✠ And with your spirit.



A - gnus De- i, * **qui tol-lis peccá-ta mun-di: mi-se-ré- re no- bis.**
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.



A- gnus De- i, * **qui tol- lis peccá-ta mun-di: mi-se-ré- re no- bis.**
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.



A- gnus De- i, * **qui tol-lis peccá-ta mun-di: do-na no- bis pa- cem.**
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

The Celebrant shows the host to the congregation, saying

Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

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

Catholics who have made the proper spiritual and sacramental preparation may come forward in the procession to receive Holy Communion. The sacred host must be consumed in the presence of the communion minister.

During Holy Communion the choir sings the AGNUS DEI

from Missa brevis Sancti Ioannis de Deo

Joseph Haydn

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi: miserere nobis.
 Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi: miserere nobis.
 Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi: dona nobis pacem.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

THE HYMN

IT came upon the midnight clear,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth
To touch their harps of gold;
'Peace on the earth, good-will to men,
From heaven's all-gracious King!'
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come
With peaceful wings unfurled,
And still their heavenly music floats
O'er all the weary world;
Above its sad and lowly plains
They bend on hovering wing,
And ever o'er its Babel-sounds
The blessed angels sing.

But with the woes of sin and strife
The world has suffered long;
Beneath the angel-strain have rolled
Two thousand years of wrong;
And man, at war with man, hears not
The love song which they bring; –
O hush the noise, ye men of strife,
And hear the angels sing!

For lo! the days are hastening on
By prophet bards foretold,
When, with the ever circling years
Shall come the age of gold;
When Peace shall over all the earth,
Its ancient splendours fling,
And the whole world give back the song,
Which now the angels sing.

The Celebrant says the PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

℟: **Amen.**

THE CONCLUDING RITES

The Lord be with you.

℟: **And with your spirit.**

May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

℟: **Amen.**

Go forth, the Mass is ended.

℟: **Thanks be to God.**

All sing

THE HYMN

HARK! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled:
Joyful all ye nations rise,
Join the triumph of the skies,
With the angelic host proclaim,
Christ is born in Bethlehem:
*Hark! the herald Angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.*

2

Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold him come
Offspring of a Virgin's womb!
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,
Hail the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel:

3

Hail the heaven-born Prince of peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
Risen with healing in his wings;
Mild he lays his glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth:

*Hark! the herald Angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.*

*Mendelssohn
Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy (1809–1847)
Descant, Simon Niemirski*

*Charles Wesley (1707–1788)
and others*