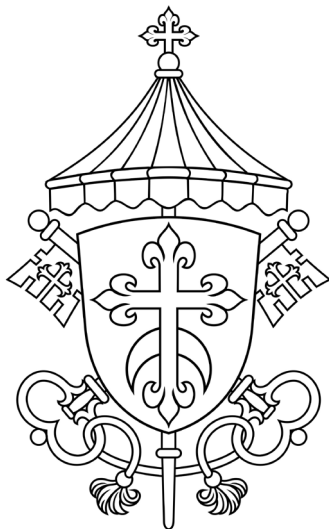


ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL



Solemn Vespers and Benediction

The Office of Evening Prayer

THIRD SUNDAY
OF ADVENT

12 December 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 centre 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.


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

UNDER THE CURRENT NSW PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER
UNVACCINATED ADULTS ARE NOT PERMITTED TO SING
INDOORS.


ORDER OF VESPERS

At the sound of the Sacristy bell all stand.


As the Blessed Sacrament is brought to the altar all kneel and sing:




O sa - lu - tá - ris Hó - sti - a, Quae cae - li pan - dis ós - ti - um,
O saving Victim, opening wide the gate of Heaven to man below;



Bel - la pre - munt ho - stí - li - a, Da ro - bur, fer au - xí - li - um.
Our foes press hard on every side; thine aid supply; thy strength bestow.



U - ni tri - nó - que Dó - mi - no Sit sem - pi - tér - na gló - ri - a,
All praise and thanks to thee ascend, for ever more, blest one in three.



Qui vi - tam si - ne tér - mi - no No - bis do - net in pá - tri - a.
O grant us life that shall not end, in our true native land with thee.



A - men.

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

Conditor alme siderum, *Creator of the stars of night,*
æterna lux credentium, *Thy people's everlasting light,*
Christe, redemptor omnium, *O Christ, thou saviour of us all,*
exaudi preces supplicum. *We pray thee, hear us when we call.*

Qui condolens interitu *To thee the travail deep was known*
mortis perire sæculum, *That made the whole creation groan*
salvasti mundum languidum, *Till thou, Redeemer, shouldst free*
donans reis remedium *Thine own in glorious liberty.*

Vergente mundi vespere, *When the old world drew on toward night,*
uti sponsus de thalamo, *Thou camest, not in splendour bright*
egressus honestissima *As monarch, but the humble child*
Virginis matris clausula. *Of Mary, blameless mother mild.*

Cuius forti potentiaë *At thy great name, O Jesu, now*
genu curvantur omnia; *All knees must bend, all hearts must bow;*
cælestia, terrestria *And things celestial thee shall own,*
nutu fatentur subdita. *And things terrestrial, Lord alone.*

Te, Sancte, fide quæsumus, *Come in thy holy might, we pray;*
venture iudex sæculi, *Redeem us for eternal day*
conserva nos in tempore *From every power of darkness, when*
hostis a telo perfidi. *Thou judgest all the sons of men.*

Sit, Christe, rex piissime, *To God the Father, God the Son,*
tibi Patrique gloria *And God the Spirit, Three in One,*
cum Spiritu Paraclito, *Laud, honour, might, and glory be*
in sempiterna sæcula. Amen. *From age to age eternally. Amen.*

All sit.

PSALMODY

FIRST ANTIPHON

ECCE veniet Dominus, ut sedeat cum principibus, et solium gloriæ teneat.

See, the Lord will come. He will sit with princes and he will mount the glorious throne.

PSALM 109 (110)

Dixit Dominus Domino meo: *The Lord's revelation to my Master:*
«Sede a dextris meis, *'Sit on my right:*

donec ponam inimicos tuos: *your foes I will put*
scabellum pedum tuorum». *beneath your feet.'*

Virgam potentiae tuæ emittet Dominus ex Sion: *The Lord will wield from Zion your sceptre of power:*
dominare in medio inimicorum tuorum. *rule in the midst of all your foes.*

Tecum principatus in die virtutis tuæ, *A prince from the day of your birth*
in splendoribus sanctis: *on the holy mountains;*
ex utero ante luciferum genui te. *from the womb before the dawn I begot you.*

Iuravit Dominus et non pænitebit eum: *The Lord has sworn an oath he will not change.*
«Tu es sacerdos in æternum secundum *'You are a priest for ever,*
ordinem Melchisedech». *a priest like Melchizedek of old.'*

Dominus a dextris tuis: *The Master standing at your right hand*
conquassabit in die iræ suæ reges. *will shatter kings in the day of his wrath.*

De torrente in via bibet: *He shall drink from the stream by the wayside*
propterea exaltabit caput. *and therefore he shall lift up his head.*

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

ERUMPANT montes iucunditatem et colles iustitiam,
quia lux mundi Dominus cum potentia venit.

*The mountains will bring forth joy and the hills justice; for
the Lord, the light of the world, comes in strength.*

PSALM 110 (111)

Confitebor Domino in toto corde meo, *I will thank the Lord with all my heart*
in consilio iustorum et congregatione. *in the meeting of the just and their assembly.*

Magna opera Domini, *Great are the works of the Lord;*
exquirenda omnibus qui cupiunt ea. *to be pondered by all who love them.*

Decor et magnificentia opus eius, *Majestic and glorious his work,*
et iustitia eius manet in sæculum sæculi. *his justice stands firm for ever.*

Memoriam fecit mirabilium suorum, *He makes us remember his wonders.*
misericors et miserator Dominus. *The Lord is compassion and love.*

Escam dedit timentibus se; *He gives food to those who fear him;*
memor erit in sæculum testamenti sui. *keeps his covenant ever in mind.*

Virtutem operum suorum annuntiavit populo suo, *He has shown his might to his people*
ut det illis hereditatem gentium; *by giving them the lands of the nations.*

opera manuum eius veritas et iudicium. *His works are justice and truth.*
Fidelia omnia mandata eius, *His precepts are all of them sure,*

confirmata in sæculum sæculi, *standing firm for ever and ever:*
facta in veritate et æquitate. *they are made in uprightness and truth.*

Redemptionem misit populo suo, *He has sent deliverance to his people*
mandavit in æternum testamentum suum. *and established his covenant for ever.*
Sanctum et terribile nomen eius. *Holy his name, to be feared.*

Initium sapientiæ timor Domini, *To fear the Lord is the first stage of wisdom;*
intellectus bonus omnibus facientibus ea; *all who do so prove themselves wise.*
laudatio eius manet in sæculum sæculi. *His praise shall last 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.

THIRD ANTIPHON

IUSTE et pie vivamus, exspectantes
beatam spem, et adventum Domini.

*Let us live justly and honestly while we are
awaiting, in hope, the coming of the Lord.*

CANTICLE

Apocalypse 19:1-2. 5-7

Salus et gloria et virtus Deo nostro: *Salvation and glory and power belong to our God,*
Alleluia. *Alleluia.*
quia vera et iusta iudicia eius. *his judgements are true and just.*
Alleluia, alleluia. *Alleluia, alleluia.*

Laudem dicite Deo nostro, omnes servi eius: *Praise our God, all you his servants,*
Alleluia. *Alleluia.*
et qui timetis eum, pusilli et magni! *you who fear him, small and great.*
Alleluia, alleluia. *Alleluia, alleluia.*

Quoniam regnavit Dominus, *The Lord our God,*
Deus noster omnipotens: *the Almighty, reigns,*
Alleluia. *Alleluia.*

Gaudeamus et exsultemus et demus gloriam ei. *let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory.*
Alleluia, alleluia. *Alleluia, alleluia.*

Quia venerunt nuptiæ Agni: *The marriage of the Lamb has come,*
Alleluia. *Alleluia.*
et uxor eius præparavit se. *and his bride has made herself ready.*
Alleluia, alleluia. *Alleluia, alleluia.*

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

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

The Antiphon is repeated.

REJOICE in the Lord always; again I will say,
Rejoice. Let all men know your forbearance.
The Lord is at hand.

SHORT RESPONSORY

Ostende nobis, Domine, *Show us, Lord,*
misericordiam tuam. *your steadfast love.*

℣. Et salutare tuum da nobis. ℟. *And grant us your salvation.*

℣. 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

GAUDETE in Domino semper: modestia vestra nota sit hominibus. Dominus
prope est. Nihil solliciti sitis, sed in omni oratione petitiones vestrae innotescant
apud Deum.

*Rejoice in the Lord always. Let your tolerance be evident to everyone. The Lord is near.
There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it.*

MAGNIFICAT

Quarti toni

Francesco Soriano (1548–1621)

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

We pray to our Lord, who is the way, the truth, and the life.

℟: **Come, and remain with us, Lord.**

Gabriel announced your coming to the Virgin Mary: Son of the most High, come to claim your kingdom. ℟:


John the Baptist rejoiced to see your day: come, bring us your salvation. ℟:

Simeon acknowledged you, Light of the World: bring your light to all men of goodwill. ℟:

We look for you as watchmen look for the dawn: you are the sun that will wake the dead to new life. ℟:

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

All sing



OUR 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-against us;
and lead us not in-to temp-ta-tion, but de-liv-er us from e- vil.

COLLECT

GRANT, almighty God,
that looking forward in faith
to the feast of our Lord's birth,
we may feel all the happiness our Saviour brings
and celebrate his coming with unfailing joy.
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.**

THE MOTET

EGO vox clamantis in deserto: Parate viam Domini, rectas facite semitas eius. Omnis vallis implebitur, et omnis mons et collis humiliabitur, et erunt prava indirecta, et aspera in vias planas, et videbit omnis caro salutare Dei.

I am the voice that cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley will be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, winding ways will be straightened and rough roads made smooth. And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

Francisco Guerrero (1528–1599)

All sing

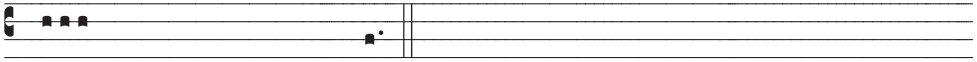
T ANTUM er-go Sa-craméntum * Vene-rémur cénu-i : et an-tí-quum
Therefore we, before him bending, this great Sacrament revere; types and shadows

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,

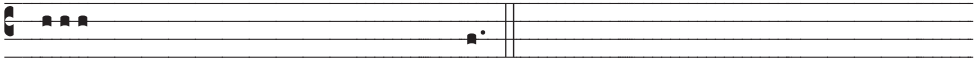
sénsu-um de-féc-tu-i. Ge-ni-tó-ri, Ge-ni-tó-que laus et iu-bi-la-ti-o,
makes our inward vision clear. Glory let us give and blessing to the Father and the Son,

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,

compar 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.

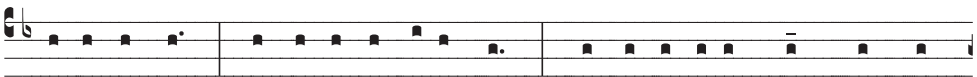
DEUS, qui nobis sub sacramento mirabili passionis tuæ memoriam reliquisti: tribue quæsumus, ita nos corporis et sanguinis tui sacra mysteria venerari; ut redemptionis tuæ fructum in nobis iugiter sentiamus. Qui vivis et regnas in sæcula sæculorum.

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.

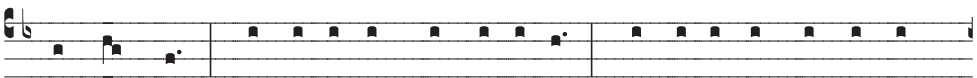
∩ **Amen.**

BENEDICTION *is given.*

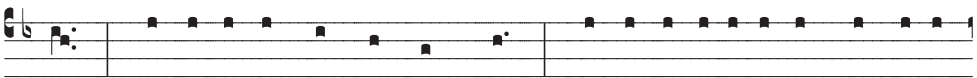
THE DIVINE PRAISES



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



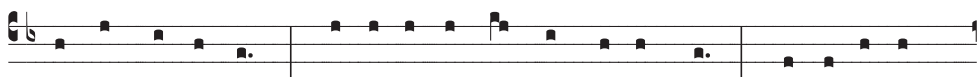
Heart. Blessèd be his Most Precious Blood. Blessèd be Jesus in the Most Holy



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

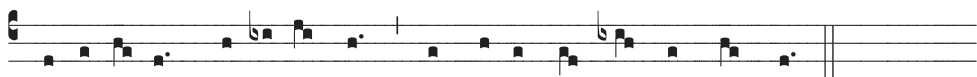


name of Ma-ry, Virgin and Mother. Blessèd be Saint Joseph, her most chaste



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

As the Blessed Sacrament is reposed, all sing



A-do-ré-mus * 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-ré-mus * 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




A LMA * Redemptó-ris Mater, quæ pérvia cæli porta manes, et stella
Loving mother of the Redeemer, gate of heaven, star



ma-ris, succúrre cadénti, súrgere qui curat, pópu-lo; tu quæ genu- isti,
of the sea, assist your people who have fallen yet strive to rise again, To the



natúra mi-ránte, tu-um sanctum Geni-tó-rem, Virgo pri-us ac posté-ri-us,
wonderment of nature you bore your Creator, yet remained a virgin after as before,



Gabri-é-lis ab o-re sumens illud A-ve, peccató-rum mi-se-ré-re.
You who received Gabriel's joyful greeting, have pity on us poor sinners.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Fantasy on 'Veni Emmanuel'

Kenneth Leighton (1929–1988)

(Six Fantasies on Hymn Tunes, Op. 72)

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