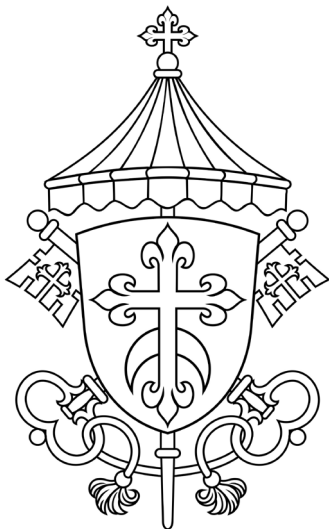


# ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL



## Solemn Mass

Third Sunday  
of Advent  
Gaudete

17 December 2023  
10.30am

## ELECTRONIC COLLECTION PLATES

The option to make an offering via credit card is available at this Mass.



*Please note you can continue to donate with cash or pass the plate on.*



No photography or videography permitted while Mass is in progress.

# 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 CATHEDRAL CHOIR

St Mary's Cathedral Choir is the oldest musical institution in Australia. In 1818 a group of choristers was formed to sing Vespers before the Blessed Sacrament in the Dempsey household, the centre of Catholic worship in the penal colony. After the establishment of St Mary's Cathedral in 1833 the successors of these choristers formed the permanent Cathedral Choir. In faithfulness to the Benedictine English tradition from which the Cathedral's founders came, the Choir is formed of men and boys, preserving the historical character of Catholic liturgical and musical heritage. St Mary's is the only Catholic Cathedral in Australia to have an on-site Choir School where the twenty-four boy choristers are educated. The other parts of the Choir are provided by lay clerks who are professional singers. The Choir's primary function is to sing Vespers and Mass in the Cathedral which it does almost daily, but it has also undertaken several international tours, recordings and concert projects.

## REGULAR CHORAL SERVICES

Sunday	1030	<b>Solemn Mass</b> <i>Full Choir</i>
	1700	<b>Solemn Vespers and Benediction</b> <i>Men's voices</i>
Monday	1700	<b>Vespers</b> <i>Men's voices</i>
	1730	<b>Mass</b> <i>Full Choir</i>
Tuesday	1700	<b>Vespers</b> <i>Cantor</i>
	1730	<b>Mass</b> <i>Boys' voices</i>
Wednesday	1700	<b>Vespers</b> <i>Cathedral Scholars</i>
	1730	<b>Mass</b> <i>Cathedral Scholars</i>
Thursday	1700	<b>Vespers</b> <i>Men's voices</i>
	1730	<b>Mass</b> <i>Men's voices</i>

Download the weekly Music List at <http://musiclists.cathedralchoir.sydney>

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

# ORDER OF MASS

*At the sound of the Sacristy bell all stand and sing*

## THE HYMN



Hark! a he - rald voice is call - ing: 'Christ is nigh!' it seems to say;



'Cast a - way the dreams of dark - ness, O ye child - ren of the day!'

Startled at the solemn warning,  
Let the earth-bound soul arise;  
Christ her Sun, all sloth dispelling,  
Shines upon the morning skies.

Lo! the Lamb so long expected,  
Comes with pardon down from heaven;  
Let us haste, with tears of sorrow,  
One and all to be forgiven;

So when next he comes in glory,  
And earth's final hour draws near,  
May he then as our defender  
On the clouds of heaven appear.

Honour, glory, virtue, merit,  
To the Father and the Son,  
With the co-eternal Spirit,  
While unending ages run.

*Merton*  
*W H Monk (1823–1889)*

*Vox clara ecce intonat*  
*tr. E Caswall (1814–1878)*

## THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

*The Choir sings the INTROIT*

*Philippians 4:4-5; Psalm 84*

**G**AUDETE in Domino semper: iterum dico, gaudete: modestia vestra nota sit omnibus hominibus: Dominus prope est. Nihil solliciti sitis: sed in omni oratione petitiones vestrae innotescant apud Deum. *℟.* Benedixisti, Domine, terram tuam: avertisti captivitatem Iacob.

*Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Let your tolerance be evident to everyone. Indeed, the Lord is near. There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it. ℟. O Lord, you once favoured your land, and revived the fortunes of Jacob.*

*All make the Sign of the Cross as the Archbishop says*

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

*℟.* **Amen.**

Peace 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 Archbishop 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*

*from Missa Ut, re, mi, fa, sol, la*

*Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (1525–1594)*

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

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

*The Archbishop says the COLLECT*

℟: **Amen.**

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

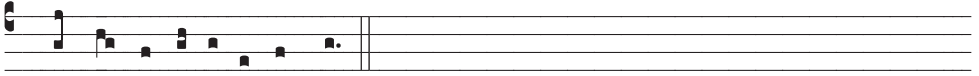
FIRST READING

*Isaiah 61:1-2,10-11*

**T**HE spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for the Lord has anointed me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor, to bind up hearts that are broken; to proclaim liberty to captives, freedom to those in prison; to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord. 'I exult for joy in the Lord, my soul rejoices in my God, for he has clothed me in the garments of salvation, he has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity, like a bridegroom wearing his wreath, like a bride adorned in her jewels. 'For as the earth makes fresh things grow, as a garden makes seeds spring up, so will the Lord make both integrity and praise spring up in the sight of the nations.'

The word of the Lord.

℟: **Thanks be to God.**



*℟*: **My soul re-joices in my God.**

My soul glorifies the Lord,  
 my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.  
 He looks on his servant in her nothingness;  
 henceforth all ages will call me blessed. *℟*

The Almighty works marvels for me.  
 Holy his name!  
 His mercy is from age to age,  
 on those who fear him. *℟*

He fills the starving with good things,  
 sends the rich away empty.  
 He protects Israel, his servant,  
 remembering his mercy. *℟*

## SECOND READING

1 *Thessalonians* 5:16-24

**B**E happy at all times; pray constantly; and for all things give thanks to God, because this is what God expects you to do in Christ Jesus. Never try to suppress the Spirit or treat the gift of prophecy with contempt; think before you do anything – hold on to what is good and avoid every form of evil. May the God of peace make you perfect and holy; and may you all be kept safe and blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has called you and he will not fail you.

The word of the Lord.

*℟*: **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia.

✠ Excita, Domine, potentiam tuam, et veni, ut salvos facias nos.

*O Lord, rouse up your might, O Lord, come to our help.*

Alleluia.

GOSPEL

John 1:6-8,19-28

The Lord be with you.

✠ **And with your spirit.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

✠ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

A man came, sent by God. His name was John. He came as a witness, as a witness to speak for the light, so that everyone might believe through him. He was not the light, only a witness to speak for the light. This is how John appeared as a witness. When the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' he not only declared, but he declared quite openly, 'I am not the Christ.' 'Well then,' they asked 'are you Elijah?' 'I am not' he said. 'Are you the Prophet?' He answered, 'No.' So they said to him, 'Who are you? We must take back an answer to those who sent us. What have you to say about yourself?' So John said, 'I am, as Isaiah prophesied: a voice that cries in the wilderness: Make a straight way for the Lord.' Now these men had been sent by the Pharisees, and they put this further question to him, 'Why are you baptising if you are not the Christ, and not Elijah, and not the prophet?' John replied, 'I baptise with water; but there stands among you – unknown to you – the one who is coming after me; and I am not fit to undo his sandal-strap.' This happened at Bethany, on the far side of the Jordan, where John was baptising.

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 bow 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*

*Orlando Gibbons (1583–1625)*

**T**HIS is the record of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him: Who are thou? And he confessed and denied not, and said plainly: I am not the Christ. And they asked him: What art thou then? Art thou Elias? And he said, I am not. Art thou the prophet? And he answered, No. Then said they unto him: What art thou? That we may give an answer unto them that sent us. What sayest thou of thyself? And he said, I am the voice of him that crieth in the wilderness: Make straight the way of the Lord.

*The Archbishop says*

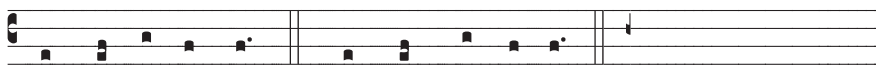
Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.


℟: **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 Archbishop 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, \* San- ctus, San- ctus Dó-mi-nus De-us Sá- ba-oth. Ple-ni

*Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.*

sunt cæ- li et ter- ra gló-ri- a tu- a. Ho- sán-na in ex-cél-sis. Be-ne-díc-  
*Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed*

tus qui ve-nit in nó-mine Dómi-ni. Ho- sán-na in excél- sis.  
*is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.*

*When the Archbishop sings*

The mystery of faith.

*All sing*

**W** <sup>Re</sup> E proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Re-sur-rection

until you come a-gain.

*When the Archbishop 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.

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.

For Amen.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

For And with your spirit.

*The Choir sings the* AGNUS DEI

*from* Missa Ut, re, mi, fa, sol, la

*Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina*

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 Archbishop 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.***

*The Choir sings the* COMMUNION ANTIPHON

*cf. Isaiah 35:4*

Dicite: Pusillanimes confortamini, et nolite timere: ecce Deus noster veniet, et salvabit nos.

*Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear. Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.*

*The Choir sings the* COMMUNION MOTET

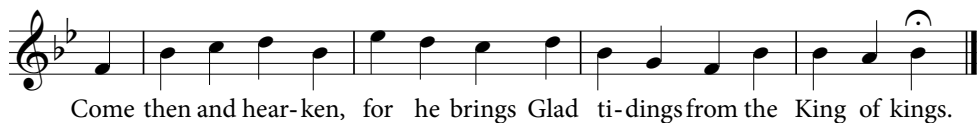
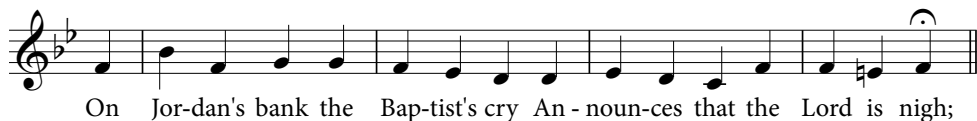
*Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina*

**F**UIT homo missus a Deo, cui nomen erat Ioannes. Hic venit in testimonium, ut testimonium perhiberet de lumine, et pareret Domino plebem perfectam.

*There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. This man came as a witness, to give testimony about the light, and to prepare for the Lord a perfect people.*

All sing

## THE HYMN



**Then cleansed be every breast from sin;  
Make straight the way for God within;  
Prepare we in our hearts a home,  
Where such a mighty guest may come.**

**For thou art our salvation, Lord,  
Our refuge, and our great reward;  
Without thy grace we waste away,  
Like flowers that wither and decay.**

**To heal the sick stretch out thine hand,  
And bid the fallen sinner stand;  
Shine forth, and let thy light restore  
Earth's own true loveliness once more.**

*Winchester New  
Musikalisches Hand-Buch, Hamburg (1690)*

*Jordanis oras prævia  
Charles Coffin (1676–1749)  
tr. John Chandler (1808–1876)*

*The Archbishop says the PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION*

℟: **Amen.**

## THE CONCLUDING RITES

The Lord be with you.

℟: **And with your spirit.**

Bow down for the blessing.

May the almighty and merciful God, by whose grace you have placed your faith in the First Coming of his Only Begotten Son and yearn for his coming again sanctify you by the radiance of Christ's Advent and enrich you with his blessing.

℟: **Amen.**

As you run the race of this present life, may he make you firm in faith, joyful in hope and active in charity.

℟: **Amen.**

So that, rejoicing now with devotion at the Redeemer's coming in the flesh, you may be endowed with the rich reward of eternal life when he comes again in majesty.

℟: **Amen.**

And may the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you for ever.

℟: **Amen.**

Go forth, the Mass is ended.

℟: **Thanks be to God.**

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Meine Seele erhebt den Herren (BWV 733)

*Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)*

LATER TODAY IN THE CATHEDRAL

**O Emmanuel - A meditation in words and music on the mystery  
of the Incarnation**

*sung by the Lay Clerks of St Mary's Cathedral Choir*

**4.30 pm**

# DO YOU KNOW A BOY WHO LOVES TO SING?



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to join one of Australia's finest Choirs.**

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*For more information or to arrange an informal audition, please contact the Cathedral Music  
Department on (02) 9220 0481 or by email to [music@stmaryscathedral.org.au](mailto:music@stmaryscathedral.org.au)  
[www.cathedralchoir.sydney/about/choristers](http://www.cathedralchoir.sydney/about/choristers)*

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