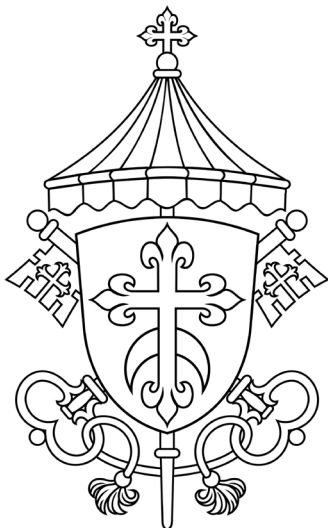


# ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL



## Solemn Vespers and Benediction

The Office of Evening Prayer

FIRST SUNDAY  
OF ADVENT

3 December 2023  
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.**

# EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

*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.

# 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

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*  
salvastis 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.*

# PSALMODY

## FIRST ANTIPHON

**I**UCUNDARE, filia Sion, et exsulta satis, filia  
Ierusalem, alleluia.

*Rejoice greatly, daughter of Sion, shout with  
gladness, daughter of Jerusalem, alleluia.*

## 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 tuae 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 tuae, *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 pœnitebit 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

**R**EX noster adveniet Christus, quem Ioannes  
prædicavit Agnum esse venturum.

*Christ our King will come. He is the Lamb that  
John announced.*

### PSALM 113A (114)

In exitu Israel de Ægypto,      *When Israel came forth from Egypt,*  
domus Iacob de populo barbaro,      *Jacob's sons from an alien people,*

factus est Iuda sanctuarium eius,      *Judah became the Lord's temple,*  
Israel potestas eius.      *Israel became his kingdom.*

Mare vidit et fugit,      *The sea fled at the sight:*  
Iordanis conversus est retrorsum;      *the Jordan turned back on its course,*

montes saltaverunt ut arietes,      *the mountains leapt like rams*  
et colles sicut agni ovium.      *and the hills like yearling sheep.*

Quid est tibi, mare, quod fugisti?      *Why was it, sea, that you fled,*  
Et tu, Iordanis,      *that you turned back, Jordan,*  
quia conversus es retrorsum?      *on your course?*

Montes, quod saltastis sicut arietes,      *Mountains, that you leapt like rams;*  
et colles, sicut agni ovium?      *hills, like yearling sheep?*

A facie Domini contremisce, terra,      *Tremble, O earth, before the Lord,*  
a facie Dei Iacob,      *in the presence of the God of Jacob,*

qui convertit petram      *who turns the rock*  
in stagna aquarum      *into a pool*  
et silicem in fontes aquarum.      *and flint into a spring of water.*

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

**E**CCE venio cito, et merces mea mecum est, dicit  
Dominus: dare unicuique secundum opera sua.

*Behold I am coming soon to reward every man  
according to his deeds, says the Lord.*

### CANTICLE

#### Apocalypse 19:1-2. 5-7

Salus et gloria et virtus Deo nostro: Alleluia.	<i>Salvation and glory and power belong to our God, Alleluia.</i>
quia vera et iusta iudicia eius. Alleluia, alleluia.	<i>his judgements are true and just. Alleluia, alleluia.</i>
Laudem dicite Deo nostro, omnes servi eius: Alleluia.	<i>Praise our God, all you his servants, Alleluia.</i>
et qui timetis eum, pusilli et magni! Alleluia, alleluia.	<i>you who fear him, small and great. Alleluia, alleluia.</i>
Quoniam regnavit Dominus, Deus noster omnipotens: Alleluia.	<i>The Lord our God, the Almighty, reigns, Alleluia.</i>
Gaudeamus et exsulemus et demus gloriam ei. Alleluia, alleluia.	<i>let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory. Alleluia, alleluia.</i>
Quia venerunt nuptiæ Agni: Alleluia.	<i>The marriage of the Lamb has come, Alleluia.</i>
et uxor eius præparavit se. Alleluia, alleluia.	<i>and his bride has made herself ready. Alleluia, alleluia.</i>
Gloria Patri et Filio: Alleluia.	<i>Glory be to the Father and to the Son Alleluia.</i>
et Spiritui Sancto. Alleluia, alleluia.	<i>and to the Holy Spirit, Alleluia, alleluia.</i>
Sicut erat in principio et nunc et semper Alleluia.	<i>as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, Alleluia.</i>
et in sæcula sæculorum. Amen. Alleluia, alleluia.	<i>world without end. Amen. Alleluia, alleluia.</i>

*The Antiphon is repeated.*

**R**EJOICE 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

**N**E timeas, Maria, invenisti gratiam apud Dominum: ecce  
concupies et paries Filium, alleluia.

*Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God.  
Behold, you will conceive and bear a son, alleluia.*



## MAGNIFICAT

Octavi toni

*Giovanni Francesco Anerio (1567–1630)*

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sicut erat in principio et nunc et semper  
et in sæcula sæculorum. Amen.  
*as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
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. ℟.

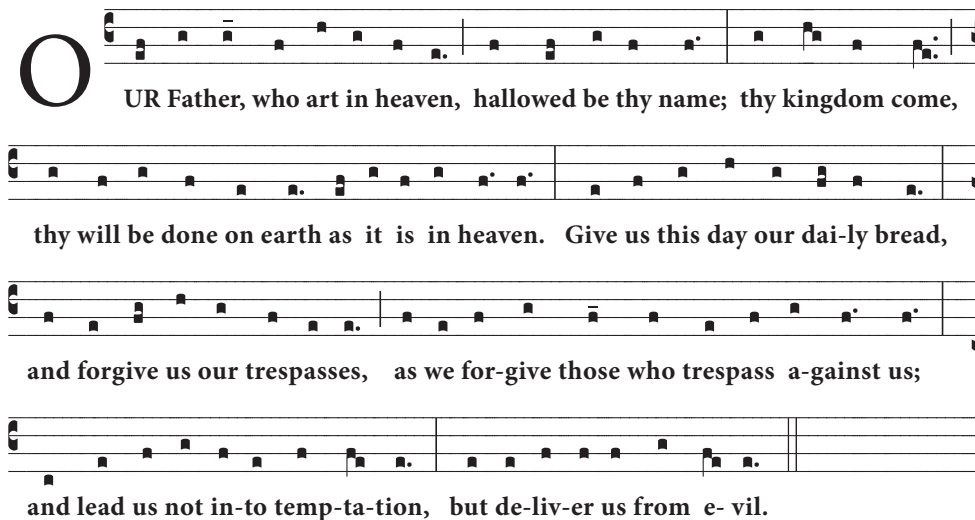
John the Baptist rejoiced to see your day: come, bring us your salvation. ℟.

Simeon acknowledged you, Light of the World: bring your light to all people 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*



**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

**G**RANT, almighty Father,  
that when Christ comes again  
we may go out to meet him  
bearing the harvest of good works  
achieved by your grace.

We pray that he will receive us into the company of the saints  
and call us into the kingdom of heaven.

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 Choir sings*


## THE MOTET

**A**D te levavi animam meam: Deus meus, in te confido, non erubescam, neque  
irrideant me inimici mei. Et enim universi qui te exspectant non confundentur.

*To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul. I trust you, let me not be disappointed; do not let my  
enemies triumph. Those who hope in you shall not be disappointed.*

*Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (1525–1594)*


All sing



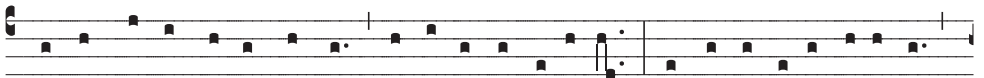
**T** ANTUM er-go Sa-craméntum \* Vene-rémur cérnú-i : et an-tí-quum  
*Therefore we, before him bending, this great Sacrament revere; types and shadows*



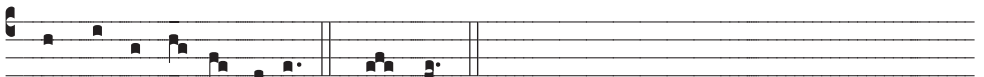
do-cuméntum No-vo ce-dat rí-tu-i : præstet fi-des suppleméntum  
*have their ending, for the newer rite is here; faith our outward sense befriending,*



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.

**D**EUS, 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.*

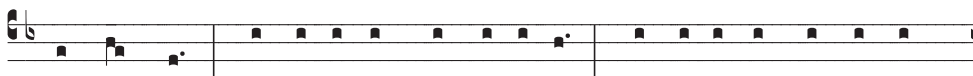
℞ **Amen.**

BENEDICTION *is given.*

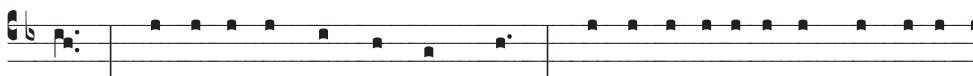
### THE DIVINE PRAISES



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.*

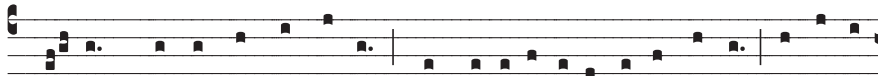


**A-do-ré-mus \* in æ-tér-num Sanc-tís-si-mum Sa-cra-mén-tum.**


*Let us adore for ever the most Holy Sacrament.*

All sing


## THE ANTIPHON TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



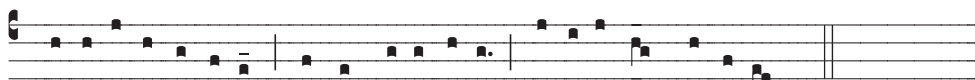
**A** **LMA \* Redemptó-ris Mater, quæ pérvia cæli porta manes, et stella**  
*Loving mother of the Redeemer, gate of heaven, star*



**ma-ris, succúrre cadénti, súrgere qui curat, pópu-lo; tu quæ genu- ísti,**  
*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

Toccata-Prelude on 'Wachet auf'

Francis Jackson (1917–2022)

**St Mary's Cathedral**  
St Mary's Road  
Sydney NSW 2000  
[www.stmaryscathedral.org.au](http://www.stmaryscathedral.org.au)



**General enquiries**  
Tel: (02) 9220 0400  
Fax: (02) 9223 5208  
Email: [info@stmaryscathedral.org.au](mailto:info@stmaryscathedral.org.au)