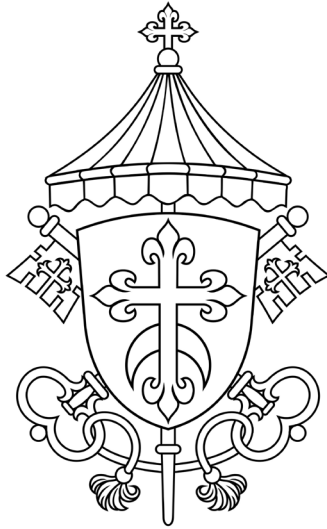


ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL



Solemn Vespers and Benediction

The Office of Evening Prayer

SAINTS PETER AND PAUL

29 June 2025
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 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.	<i>O God, come to our aid.</i>
℟. Domine, ad adiuvandum me festina.	<i>O Lord, make haste to help us.</i>
Gloria Patri et Filio	<i>Glory be to the Father and to the Son</i>
et Spiritui Sancto.	<i>and to the Holy Spirit,</i>
Sicut erat in principio	<i>as it was in the beginning,</i>
et nunc et semper	<i>is now, and ever shall be,</i>
et in sæcula sæculorum. Amen. Alleluia.	<i>world without end. Amen. Alleluia.</i>

OFFICE HYMN

O Roma felix, quæ tantórum princípum es purpuráta pretiósó ságuine!	<i>O blessed Rome, who are purple-clad With the precious blood of so great leaders</i>
Excéllis omnem mundi pulchritúdinem non laude tua, sed sanctórum méritis, quos cruentátis iugulásti gládiis.	<i>You excel all the beauty of the world, Not for your praise but by their merits. Whom you slayed with the swords of cruelty.</i>
Vos ergo modo, gloriósi mártynes, Petre beáte, Paule, mundi lílium, cæléstis aulæ triumpháles mílites, précibus almís vestris nos ab ómnibus muníte malis, ferte super æthera.	<i>Now, therefore, you glorious martyrs, Blessed Peter, Paul, lily of the world, Triumphant soldiers of the heavenly court, By your gracious prayers defend us From all our evils; bring us to the heavens above.</i>
Glória Patri per imménsa sæcula, sit tibi, Nate, decus et impérium, honor, potéstas Sanctóque Spirítui; sit Trinitáti salus indivídua per infiníta sæculórum sæcula. Amen..	<i>Glory be to the Father for ages without end; To you, O Son, grace and dominion, Honour [and] power, and to the Holy Spirit; Undivided renown to the Trinity For unending ages and ages. Amen.</i>

All sit.

PSALMODY

FIRST ANTIPHON

EGO pro te rogávi, Petre, ut non deficiat fides
tua; et tu, aliquándo convérsus, confírma
fratres tuos

I have prayed for you, Peter, that your faith may not fail;
and when you have repented, you must strengthen your brothers.

PSALM 115 (116B)

Credidi, etiam cum locutus sum: *I trusted even when I said:*
«Ego humiliatus sum nimis». *'I am sorely afflicted,'*

Ego dixi in trepidatione mea: *and when I said in my alarm:*
«Omnis homo mendax». *'No man can be trusted.'*

Quid retribuam Domino *How can I repay the Lord*
pro omnibus, quæ retribuit mihi? *for his goodness to me?*

Calicem salutaris accipiam *The cup of salvation I will raise;*
et nomen Domini invocabo. *I will call on the Lord's name.*

Vota mea Domino reddam *My vows to the Lord I will fulfil*
coram omni populo eius. *before all his people.*

Pretiosa in conspectu Domini *O precious in the eyes of the Lord*
mors sanctorum eius. *is the death of his faithful.*

O Domine, ego servus tuus, *Your servant, Lord, am I;*
ego servus tuus et filius ancillæ tuæ. *your servant and the son of your handmaid.*
Dirupisti vincula mea: *You have loosened my bonds.*

tibi sacrificabo hostiam laudis *A thanksgiving sacrifice I make:*
et nomen Domini invocabo. *I will call on the Lord's name.*

Vota mea Domino reddam *My vows to the Lord I will fulfil*
coram omni populo eius, *before all his people,*

in atriis domus Domini, *in the courts of the house of the Lord,*
in medio tui, Ierusalem. *in your midst, O Jerusalem.*

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

LIBÉNTER gloriábor in
infirmítátibus meis, ut
inhábitet in me virtus Christi.

*I will boast freely of my weakness,
so that the power of Christ may
dwell in me.*

PSALM 125 (126)

In convertendo Dominus captivitatem Sion, *When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,*
facti sumus quasi somniantes. *it seemed like a dream.*

Tunc repletum est gaudio os nostrum, *Then was our mouth filled with laughter,*
et lingua nostra exultatione. *on our lips there were songs.*

Tunc dicebant inter gentes: *The heathens themselves said:*
Magnificavit Dominus facere cum eis. *What marvels the Lord worked for them!*

Magnificavit Dominus facere nobiscum; *What marvels the Lord worked for us!*
facti sumus lætantes. *Indeed we were glad.*

Converte, Domine, captivitatem nostram, *Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage*
sicut torrentes in austro. *as streams in dry land.*

Qui seminant in lacrimis, *Those who are sowing in tears*
in exultatione metent. *will sing when they reap.*

Euntes ibant et flebant *They go out, they go out, full of tears,*
semen spargendum portantes; *carrying seed for the sowing:*

venientes autem venient in exultatione *they come back, they come back, full of song,*
portantes manipulos suos. *carrying their sheaves.*

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

TU es pastor óvium, princeps
Apostolorum; tibi traditæ sunt claves
regni cælorum.

*You are the shepherd of God's people, the
prince of the apostles: to you were given the
keys of the kingdom of heaven.*

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,	<i>to the praise of his glorious grace which he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.</i>
in quo habemus redemptionem per sanguinem eius, remissionem peccatorum,	<i>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.

IN the first place, I taught you what I had been taught myself, namely that Christ died for our sins, in accordance with the scriptures; that he was buried; and that he was raised to life on the third day, in accordance with the scriptures; that he appeared first to Cephas and secondly to the Twelve, and last of all to me.

SHORT RESPONSORY

Loquebántur Apóstoli verbum Dei *The apostles proclaimed the word of God and*
Cum fidúcia. Loquebántur *feared no one.*

℣. Et reddébant testimónium *They gave testimony to the resurrection of*
resurrectionis Jesu Christi, Cum fidúcia *Jesus Christ.* ℟.

℣. 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 Simon Petrus ascendit crucis patibulum, alleluia, hodie clavicularius regni gaudens migravit ad Christum; Hodie Paulus apostolus, lumen orbis terrae, inclinato capite pro Christi nomine, martyrio coronatus est, alleluia.

Today Simon Peter ascended the gibbet of the cross, alleluia: today he, keeper of the keys of the kingdom, departed hence with joy to Christ: today did the Apostle Paul, the light of the whole world, bow his head, and for Christ's Name's sake receive the crown of his martyrdom, alleluia.

MAGNIFICAT

Primi toni

Juan de Esquivel Barahona (c.1563–c.1613)

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 Christ who built his Church on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, we say:

R. Lord, be with your people

Simon the fisherman was called by you to be a fisher of men: call others today to share in his task R.

When the disciples feared that the ship was sinking, you commanded the sea and there was calm: protect your Church in the midst of trouble, and give her the peace that the world cannot give. R.

After your resurrection you gathered your Church around Peter: gather all your people now into the unity for which you prayed. R.

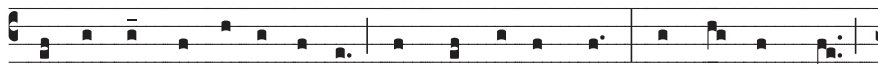
You sent Paul as an apostle to all people: let your good news be preached today through all creation. R.

You entrusted the keys of your kingdom to your Church: open the gates of life to the dead who put their trust in you . R.

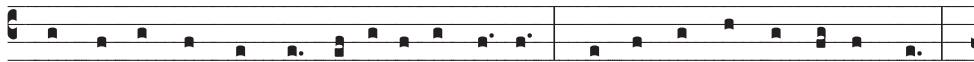
At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

All sing

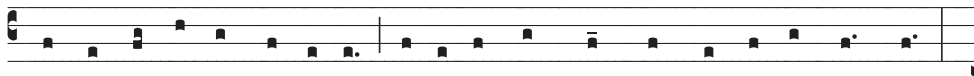
O



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 God, you give us the great joy of devoting this day to the honour of the apostles Peter and Paul. Grant that your Church may follow their teaching to the full, because these are the men who first taught us to worship you in 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

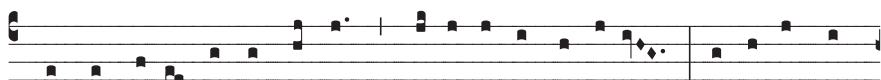
TU es Petrus et super hanc petram ædificabo Ecclesiam meam, et portæ inferi non prævalebunt adversus eam: et tibi dabo claves regni cælorum.

You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven.

William Byrd (c.1540–1623)

All sing

T



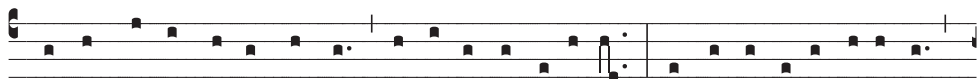
ANTUM er-go Sa-craméntum * Vene-rémur cérnú-i : et an-tí-quum
Therefore we, before him bending, this great Sacrament revere; types and shadows



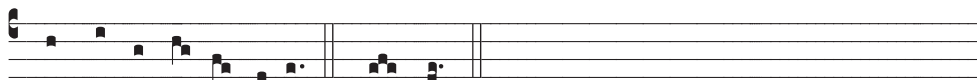
do-cuméntum No-vo ce-dat rí-tu-i : præstet fi-des suppleméntum
have their ending, for the newer rite is here; faith our outward sense befriending,



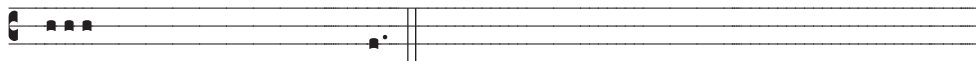
sénsu-um de-féc-tu-i. Ge-ni-tó-ri, Ge-ni-tó-que laus et iu-bi-la-ti-o,
makes our inward vision clear. Glory let us give and blessing to the Father and the Son,



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.

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.*

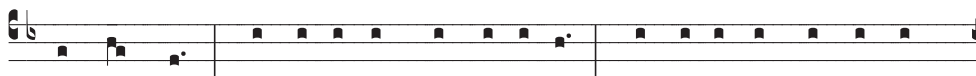
℟ Amen.

BENEDICTION *is given.*

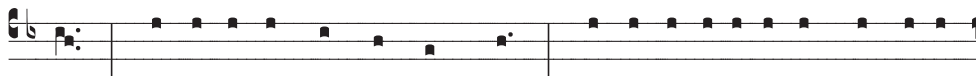
THE DIVINE PRAISES



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



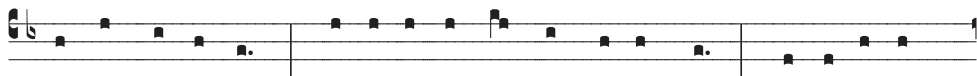
Heart. Blessèd be his Most Precious Blood. Blessèd be Jesus in the Most Holy



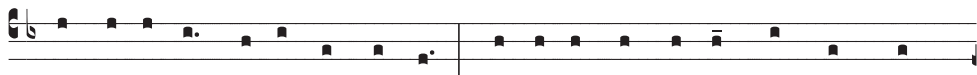
Sacrament of the Al-tar. Blessèd be the Holy Spi-rit, the Pa-raclete. Blessèd be



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

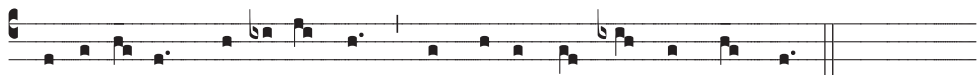


name of Ma-ry, Virgin and Mother. Blessèd be Saint Joseph, her most chaste



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:
laudate eum omnes populi.

*O praise the Lord, all you nations,
acclaim his all you peoples!*

Quoniam confirmata est super nos
misericordia eius:
et veritas Domini manet in æternum.

*Strong is his
love for us;
he is faithful 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.*



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-gi- 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.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Prelude: Æterna Christi Munera

Healey Willan (1880–1968)

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