

ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL



Solemn Mass

Twenty third Sunday
of the Year

7 September 2025
10.30am

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 was formed of men and boys, preserving the historical character of Catholic liturgical and musical heritage. However, from 2025, St Mary's began a girls' choir, and St Mary's is the only Catholic Cathedral in Australia to have an on-site Choir School where the boy and girl 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	Solemn Mass <i>Full Choir</i>
	1700	Solemn Vespers and Benediction <i>Lay Clerks</i>
Monday	1700	Vespers <i>Lay Clerks</i>
	1730	Mass <i>Boy Choristers & Lay Clerks</i>
Tuesday	1700	Vespers <i>Cathedral Scholars</i>
	1730	Mass <i>Boy & Girl Choristers</i>
Wednesday	1700	Vespers <i>Cathedral Scholars</i>
	1730	Mass <i>Girl Choristers & Lay Clerks</i>
Thursday	1700	Vespers <i>Lay Clerks</i>
	1730	Mass <i>Lay Clerks</i>

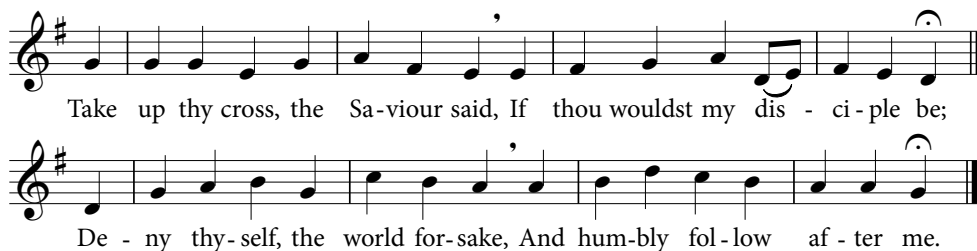
Download the weekly Music List at <http://musiclists.cathedralchoir.sydney>

**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



The musical notation consists of two staves in G major (one sharp). The melody is written on a treble clef. The lyrics are: 'Take up thy cross, the Sa-viour said, If thou wouldst my dis - ci - ple be; De - ny thy - self, the world for-sake, And hum-bly fol - low af - ter me.' The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final cadence on the second staff.

Take up thy cross; let not its weight
Fill thy weak spirit with alarm;
His strength shall bear thy spirit up,
And brace thy heart, and nerve thine arm.

Take up thy cross then in his strength,
And calmly every danger brave;
'Twill guide thee to a better home,
And lead to victory o'er the grave.

Take up thy cross, and follow Christ,
Nor think till death to lay it down;
For only he who bears the cross
May hope to wear the glorious crown.

Breslau

Melody from As Hymnodus Sacer (Leipzig, 1625)

arr. Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847)

Charles Everest (1814–1877)

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

The Choir sings the INTROIT

Psalm 118:137, 124, 1

IUSTUS es Domine, et rectum iudicium tuum: fac cum servo tuo secundum misericordiam tuam. V. Beati immaculati in via: qui ambulant in lege Domini.

You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right; treat your servant in accord with your merciful love. V. They are happy whose life is blameless, who follow God's law.

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.**

BLESSING AND SPRINKLING OF WATER

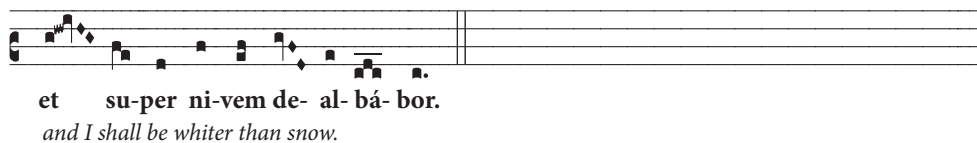
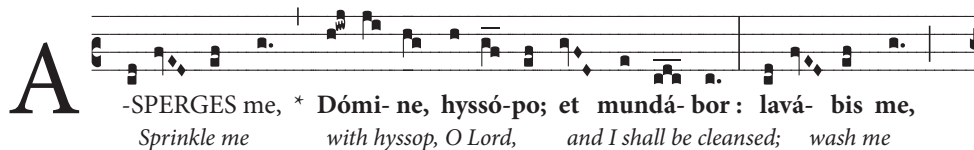
Dear brethren (brothers and sisters), let us humbly beseech the Lord our God to bless this water he has created, which will be sprinkled on us as a memorial of our Baptism. May he help us by his grace to remain faithful to the Spirit we have received.

ALmighty ever-living God, who willed that through water, the fountain of life and the source of purification, even souls should be cleansed and receive the gift of eternal life; be pleased, we pray, to ☩ bless this water, by which we seek protection on this your day, O Lord. Renew the living spring of your grace within us and grant that by this water we may be defended from all ills of spirit and body, and so approach you with hearts made clean and worthily receive your salvation. Through Christ our Lord.

℟: **Amen.**

WE humbly ask you, almighty God: be pleased in your faithful love to bless ☩ this salt you have created, for it was you who commanded the prophet Elisha to cast salt into water, that impure water might be purified. Grant, O Lord, we pray, that, wherever this mixture of salt and water is sprinkled, every attack of the enemy may be repulsed and your Holy Spirit may be present to keep us safe at all times. Through Christ our Lord.

℟: **Amen.**



The Choir sings the GLORIA

from Mass for the Mystery of Faith

Ghislaine Reece-Trapp (1992—)

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.**

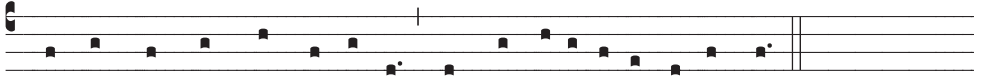
THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Wisdom 9:13-18

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 89:3-6,12-14,17 *R. v.1*



R. **O Lord, you have been our refuge from one gene-ration to the next.**

You turn men back to dust and say: 'Go back, sons of men.' To your eyes a thousand years are like yesterday, come and gone, no more than a watch in the night. *R.*

You sweep men away like a dream, like the grass which springs up in the morning. In the morning it springs up and flowers: by evening it withers and fades. *R.*

Make us know the shortness of our life that we may gain wisdom of heart. Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever? Show pity to your servants. *R.*

In the morning, fill us with your love; we shall exult and rejoice all our days. Let the favour of the Lord be upon us: give success to the work of our hands. *R.*

SECOND READING

Philemon 9-10,12-17

The Choir sings the ALLELUIA

℣. *Psalm 101:2*

Alleluia.

℣. Domine, exaudi orationem meam, et clamor meus ad te veniat.

O Lord, listen to my prayer and let my cry for help reach you.

Alleluia.

GOSPEL

Luke 14:25-33

The Lord be with you.

℣. **And with your spirit.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

℣. **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 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

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (1525–1594)

ORAVI ad Dominum Deum meum ego Daniel, dicens: Exaudi, Domine, preces servi tui: illumina faciem tuam super sanctuarium tuum: et propitius intende populum istum, super quem invocatum est nomen tuum, Deus.

I, Daniel, prayed to my God and said: Listen, Lord, to your servant's prayer. Let your face shine upon your sanctuary and look kindly upon this your people, whom you have called by your own name, O God.

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 PREFACE

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

THE 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.**

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

Ple-ni sunt cæ-li et ter-ra gló-ri-a tu-a. Ho-sán-na in
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in

ex-cél-sis. Be-ne-díc-tus qui ve-nit in nó-mi-ne Dó-mi-ni.
the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Ho-sán-na in ex-cél-sis.
Hosanna in the highest.

When the Celebrant sings

The mystery of faith.

All sing

W ^{R.} HEN we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death,
 O Lord, until you come a-gain.

When the Celebrant sings

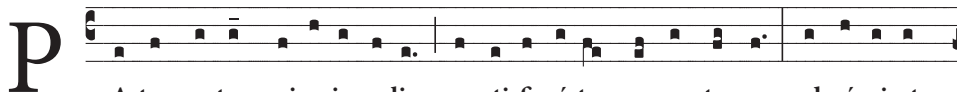
Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour is yours, for ever and ever.

All respond

A-men.

COMMUNION RITE

All sing



A-ter noster, qui es in cælis: sancti-fi-cé-tur nomen tu-um; ad-vé-ni-at
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy



regnum tuum; fi-at volúntas tu-a, si-cut in cæ-lo, et in terra. Panem nostrum
kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day



co-ti-di- á-num da nobis hódi- e; et dimít-te nobis dé-bi-ta nostra, si-cut et nos
our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we



dimít-timus de-bi-tó-ri-bus nostris; et ne nos indúcas in tenta-ti- ó-nem;
forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation,



sed lí-be-ra nos a ma-lo.
but deliver us from evil.

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.

The Choir sings the AGNUS DEI

from Mass for the Mystery of Faith

Ghislaine Reece-Trapp

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 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.

R: 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

Psalm 75:12-13

Vovete, et reddite Domino Deo vestro, omnes qui in circuitu eius affertis munera:
terribili, et ei qui aufert spiritum principum: terribili apud omnes reges terræ.

*Make vows to your God and fulfil them. Let all pay tribute to him who strikes terror,
who cuts short the breath of princes, who strikes terror in the kings of the earth.*

The Choir sings the COMMUNION MOTET

César Franck (1822–1890)

PANIS angelicus, fit panis hominum. Dat panis cælicus figuris terminum: O res
mirabilis, manducat Dominum pauper, servus et humilis.

*Heavenly bread that becomes the bread for all mankind; bread from the angelic host
that is the end of all imaginings; Oh, miraculous thing! This body of God will nourish
even the poorest, the most humble of servants.*

All sing

THE HYMN

Now thank we all our God, With heart and hands and voi - ces,
Who wond-rous things hath done, In whom his world re - joi - ces;
Who from our mo-ther's arms Hath blessed us on our way
With count-less gifts of love, And still is ours to - day.

O may this bounteous God
Through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts
And blessèd peace to cheer us;
And keep us in his grace,
And guide us when perplexed,
And free us from all ills
In this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God
The Father now be given,
The Son, and him who reigns
With them in highest heaven.
The One eternal God,
Whom earth and heaven adore;
For thus it was, is now,
And shall be evermore.

Nun danket

German, Martin Rinkart (1586–1649)

Melody in J Crüger's 'Praxis Pietatis Melica' (c. 1647)

The Celebrant says the PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

R: **Amen.**

THE CONCLUDING RITES

The Lord be with you.

R: **And with your spirit.**

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

R: **Amen.**

Go forth, the Mass is ended.

R: **Thanks be to God.**

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Toccata: Nu la oss takke Gud

Egil Hovland (b. 1924)

LATER TODAY IN THE CATHEDRAL

Solemn Vespers and Benediction *sung by the Boy Choristers &
Lay Clerks of St Mary's Cathedral Choir*

5.00pm

St Mary's Cathedral

St Mary's Road

Sydney NSW 2000

www.stmaryscathedral.org.au



General enquiries

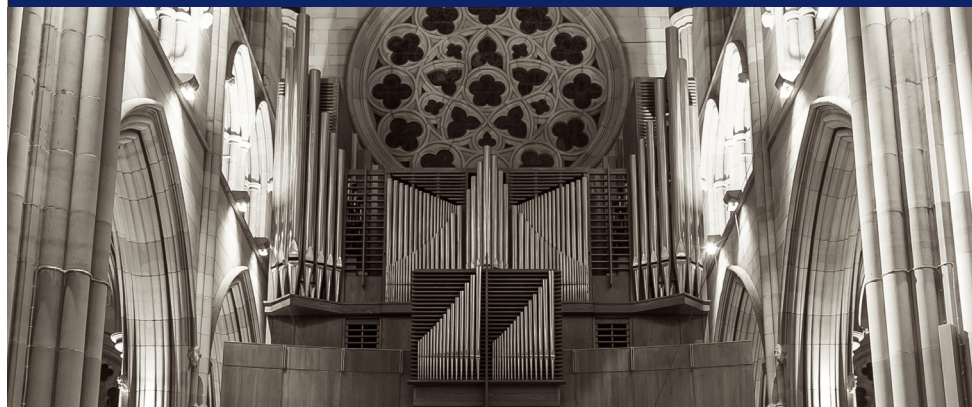
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ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL ORGAN CONCERTS 2025



BACH at the centre *celebrating discoveries and anniversaries*

Simon Niemiński
*Assistant Director
of Music*
St Mary's Cathedral



*"This is a splendid
release... There is a lot
of poetry here."*
(American Record Guide)

*"Simon Nieminski plays
this hugely difficult
score brilliantly"*
(Choir and Organ)

Wednesday 17 September, 7pm

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