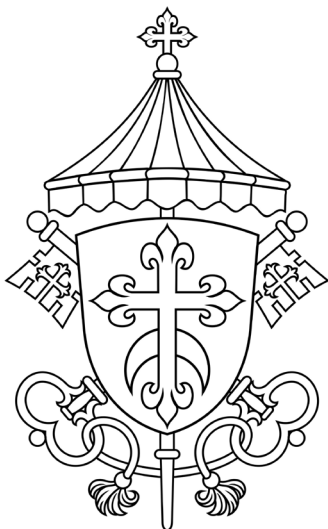


ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL



Second Vespers

The Office of Evening Prayer

ALL SAINTS

1 November 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 Lauds and Vespers is a regular part of the life and worship of St Mary's Cathedral.

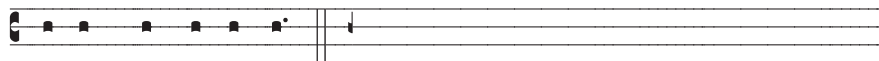
**TO MAINTAIN A SPIRIT OF REVERENCE AND SOLEMNITY,
PLEASE TURN OFF AND REFRAIN FROM USING ALL MOBILE TELEPHONES
AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES.**

ORDER OF VESPERS

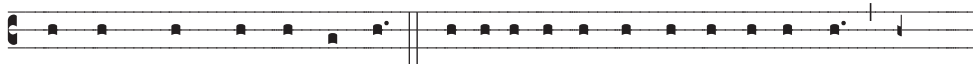
At the sound of the Sacristy bell all stand.

INTRODUCTION TO THE OFFICE

Ψ
O



God, come to our aid.



℞ O Lord, make haste to help us. Glory be to the Father and to the Son



and to the Holy Spi-rit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,



world without end. A-men. Al-le-lu-ia.

All sing

THE OFFICE HYMN



For all the Saints who from their la - bours rest,
Who thee by faith be - fore the world con - fest,
Thy name, O Je - su, be for ev - er blest. Al -
- le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia.

**Thou wast their Rock, their Fortress, and their Might;
Thou Lord, their Captain in the well-fought fight;
Thou in the darkness drear their one true Light.
Alleluia, Alleluia.**

**O may thy soldiers, faithful, true and bold,
Fight as the Saints who nobly fought of old,
And win, with them, the victor's crown of gold.
Alleluia, Alleluia.**

**O blest communion! fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
Yet all are one in thee, for all are thine.
Alleluia, Alleluia.**

**From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
Singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia, Alleluia.**

Sine nomine
Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958)

W Walsham How (1823–1897)

All sit.

PSALMODY

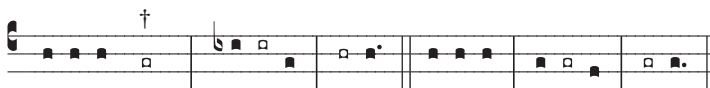
All sing the FIRST ANTIPHON

Mode I



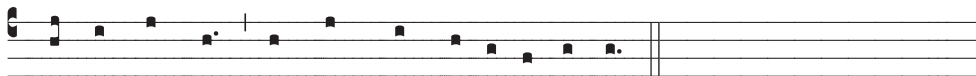
I saw a great mul-ti-tude which no man could number, standing before the throne.

PSALM 109 (110)



- Cantor* 1 The Lord's revelation to my Master: †
'Sit | on my | right: *
your foes I will put be- | neath your | feet.'
- All* 2 **The Lord will yield from Zion your | sceptre of | power: ***
rule in the midst of | all your | foes.
- 3 A prince from the day of your birth on the | holy | mountains; *
from the womb before the dawn | I be- | got you.
- 4 **The Lord has sworn an oath he will not change. †**
'You are a | priest for | ever, *
a priest like Melchize- | dek of | old.
- 5 The Master standing at | your right | hand *
will shatter kings in the day | of his | wrath.
- 6 **He shall drink from the | stream by the | wayside ***
and therefore he shall lift | up his | head.
- 7 Glory be to the Father and | to the | Son *
and to the | Holy | Spirit,
- 8 **as it was in the beginning, is now, and | ever | shall be, ***
world without | end. A- | men.

All repeat the Antiphon.



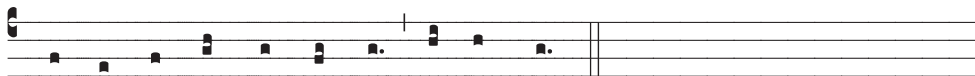
God has tried them and found them worthy of himself.

PSALM 115 (116B)



- | | | |
|---------------|----|---|
| <i>Cantor</i> | 1 | I trusted, even when I said: * |
| | | I am sore- ly af- flicted, |
| <i>All</i> | 2 | and when I said in my a- larm: * |
| | | No man can be trusted. |
| | 3 | How can I re- pay the Lord * |
| | | for his good- ness to me? |
| | 4 | The cup of salvation I will raise; * |
| | | I will call on the Lord's name. |
| | 5 | My vows to the Lord I will ful- fill * |
| | | before all his people. |
| | 6 | O precious in the eyes of the Lord * |
| | | is the death of his faithful. |
| | 7 | Your servant, Lord, your servant am I; * |
| | | you have loo- sened my bonds. |
| | 8 | A thanksgiving sacri- fice I make; * |
| | | I will call on the Lord's name. |
| | 9 | My vows to the Lord I will ful- fill * |
| | | before all his people, |
| | 10 | in the courts of the house of the Lord, * |
| | | in your midst, O Je- rusalem. |
| | 11 | Glory be to the Father and to the Son * |
| | | and to the Holy Spirit, |
| | 12 | as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, * |
| | | world without end. A- men. |

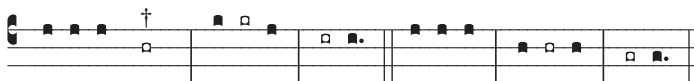
All repeat the Antiphon.



You have redeemed us, Lord God, in your blood.

CANTICLE

Apocalypse 4:11,5:9,10,12



- Cantor* 1 Worthy are you, our | Lord and | God, *
to receive glory and | honour and | power,
- All* 2 **for you cre- | ated all | things, ***
and by your will they existed and | were cre- | ated.
- 3 Worthy are | you, O | Lord, *
to take the scroll and to | open its | seals,
- 4 **for you were slain †**
and by your blood you ransomed | men for | God *
from every tribe and tongue and | people and | nation.
- 5 You have made us a kingdom and | priests to our | God, *
and we shall | reign on | earth.
- 6 **Worthy is the | Lamb who was | slain, ***
to receive | power and | wealth,
- 7 and | wisdom and | might, *
and honour and | glory and | blessing.
- 8 **Glory be to the Father and | to the | Son ***
and to the | Holy | Spirit,
- 9 as it was in the beginning, is now, and | ever | shall be, *
world without | end. A- | men.

All repeat the Antiphon.

THE temple of the living God is what we are. God's own words are: 'I will live and move and have my being among them; I will be their God, and they shall be my people.' Such are the promises that have been made to us, dear friends. Let us therefore cleanse ourselves from all that can defile our spirit, and in the fear of God complete our consecration.

THE SHORT RESPONSORY



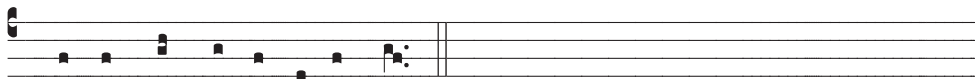
Let the saints rejoice in the Lord.



℣ God has chosen you for his own. ℟ **Let the saints rejoice in the Lord.**



℣ Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spi-rit.



℟ **Let the saints rejoice in the Lord.**

All stand.



O how glorious is the kingdom where all the saints ex-ult with Christ!

MAGNIFICAT



- Cantor* 1 My soul proclaims the greatness | of the | Lord, *
my spirit rejoices | in God my | Saviour;
- All* 2 **for he has looked with favour on his | lowly | servant, ***
and from this day all generations | will call me | blessèd.
- 3 The Almighty has done | great things for | me, *
ho- | ly is his | Name.
- 4 **He has mercy on | those who | fear him ***
in ev- | ery gene- | ration.
- 5 He has shown the | strength of his | arm, *
he has scattered the proud | in their con- | ceit.
- 6 **He has cast down the mighty | from their | thrones, ***
and has lift- | ed up the | lowly.
- 7 He has filled the hungry | with good | things, *
and the rich he has | sent away | empty.
- 8 **He has come to the help of his | servant | Israel ***
for he has remembered his | promise of | mercy,
- 9 the promise he | made to our | fathers, *
to Abraham and his | children for | ever.
- 10 **Glory be to the Father and | to the | Son ***
and to | the Holy | Spirit,
- 11 As it was in the beginning, is now, and | ever | shall be, *
world with- | out end. A- | men.

All repeat the Antiphon.

INTERCESSIONS

With so many witnesses in a great cloud on every side of us, we are encouraged to run steadily in the race we have started. We pray to Christ, for he is the author of our faith, and he will bring it to fulfilment:

℟. **With all the saints we praise and thank you, Lord.**

Lord, you chose the apostles to be the foundation of your Church: keep us faithful to all that you left in their care. ℟.

Your martyrs testified to you, even to the shedding of their blood: make all Christians faithful witnesses to your word. ℟.

Lord, be with those who have consecrated their lives to you in virginity: may their hope and generosity be a sign to the world of the glorious life they await at the end of time. ℟.

In the saints you reveal your presence and your care: as we venerate them, may we be drawn closer to you. ℟.

Welcome our departed brothers and sisters into the company of Mary, Joseph and all the saints: through their intercession, grant us a place in your kingdom. ℟.

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-against us;

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

COLLECT

ALMIGHTY, ever-living God,
we are celebrating with joy
the triumph of your grace in all the saints.
With so vast a multitude praying for us,
may we receive from you
the fullness of mercy we have always desired.
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.**

CONCLUSION OF THE OFFICE

The Lord be with you.

℟: **And with your spirit.**

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

℟: **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

℟: **Thanks be to God.**

In the absence of a Priest:

The Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

℟: **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

℟: **Thanks be to God.**

All sing

THE ANTIPHON TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

S Al- ve, * Re-gí- 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, fi- 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.



St Mary's Cathedral

St Mary's Road

Sydney NSW 2000

www.stmaryscathedral.org.au

General enquiries

Tel: (02) 9220 0400

Fax: (02) 9223 5208

Email: info@stmaryscathedral.org.au