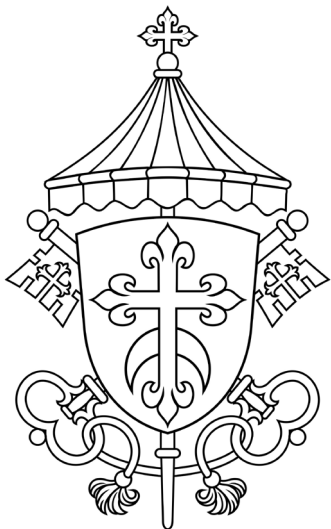


ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL



Solemn Mass with Adult Confirmations

Thirtieth Sunday
of the Year

26 October 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>

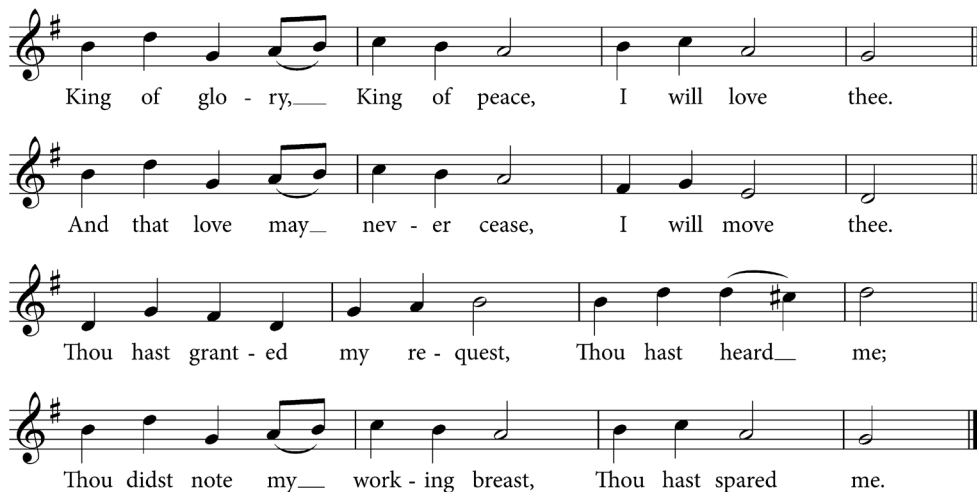
Download the weekly Music List at stmaryscathedral.org.au

**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



King of glo - ry, King of peace, I will love thee.
And that love may nev - er cease, I will move thee.
Thou hast grant - ed my re - quest, Thou hast heard me;
Thou didst note my work - ing breast, Thou hast spared me.

Wherefore with my utmost art
I will sing Thee,
And the cream of all my heart
I will bring Thee.
Though my sins against me cried,
Thou didst clear me;
And alone, when they replied,
Thou didst hear me.

Sev'n whole days, not one in sev'n,
I will praise Thee;
In my heart, though not in heav'n,
I can raise Thee.
Small it is, in this poor sort
to enrol Thee:
E'en eternity's too short
to extol Thee.

Gwalchmai
John David Jones (1827–1870)

George Herbert (1593–1632)

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

The Choir sings the INTROIT

Psalm 104:3-4; 1

LÆTETUR cor quærentium Dominum. Quærite Dominum et confirmamini, quærite faciem eius semper. ʒ. Confitemini Domino, et invoke nomen eius: annuntiate inter gentes opera eius.

Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice; turn to the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face. ʒ. Give thanks to the Lord, tell his name: make known his deeds among the peoples.

All make the Sign of the Cross as the Bishop 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 Bishop 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 and GLORIA

from Missa Brevis

Grayston Ives (b. 1948)

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

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

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 Bishop says the COLLECT

℟: **Amen.**

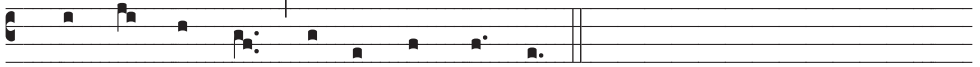
THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Ecclesiasticus 35:12-14, 16-19

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 33(34):2-3,17-19,23



℟: **This poor man called; and the Lord heard him.**

I will bless the Lord at all times,
his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad. ℟

The Lord turns his face against the wicked
to destroy their remembrance from the earth.
The just call and the Lord hears
and rescues them in all their distress. ℟

The Lord is close to the broken-hearted;
those whose spirit is crushed he will save.
The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants.
Those who hide in him shall not be condemned. ℟

SECOND READING

2 Timothy 4:6-8,16-18

The Choir sings the ALLELUIA

℣. *Psalm 147:1*

Alleluia.

℣. *Lauda, Ierusalem, Dominum: lauda Deum tuum Sion.*

O praise the Lord, Jerusalem; Sion, praise your God.

Alleluia.

GOSPEL

Luke 18:9-14

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.**

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

PRESENTATION OF THE CANDIDATES

A Sacramental Coordinator says

My Lord, I present these candidates for the Sacrament of Confirmation, and testify that with the help of their Parish Priests and catechists they have carried out a prayerful preparation and are ready to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

We request that you confer on these candidates the Sacrament of Confirmation.

THE HOMILY

is given by

The Most Reverend Tony Percy

Auxiliary Bishop of Sydney

RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL PROMISES

After the Homily all stand and renew their Baptismal promises.

Do you renounce Satan,
and all his works and empty promises?

R: **I do.**

Do you believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth?

R: **I do.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered death and was buried,
rose again from the dead
and is seated at the right hand of the Father?

R: **I do.**

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who today through the Sacrament of Confirmation
is given to you in a special way
just as he was given to the Apostles on the day of Pentecost?

R: **I do.**

Do you believe in the holy Catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting?

R: **I do.**

This is our faith. This is the faith of the Church.
We are proud to profess it in Christ Jesus our Lord.

R: **Amen.**

LAYING ON OF HANDS

The Bishop says

DEARLY beloved, let us pray to God the almighty Father, for these, his adopted sons and daughters, already born again to eternal life in Baptism, that he will graciously pour out the Holy Spirit upon them to confirm them with his abundant gifts, and through his anointing conform them more fully to Christ, the Son of God.

The Bishop extends his hands over those to be confirmed, saying

ALMIGHTY God, Father of Our Lord Jesus Christ, who brought these your servants to new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, freeing them from sin: send upon them, O Lord, the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete; give them the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and fortitude, the spirit of knowledge and piety; fill them with the spirit of the fear of the Lord. Through Christ our Lord.

℟: **Amen.**

ANOINTING WITH CHRISM

All sit.

The sponsor who presents the person to be confirmed places his/her right hand on his/her shoulder and says the Confirmation name of the one to be confirmed to the Bishop.

The Bishop anoints each candidate with Chrism and, making the Sign of the Cross on their forehead, says

N., be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit.

The newly confirmed replies

℟: Amen.

Peace be with you.

℟: And with your spirit.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

The Choir sings the OFFERTORY MOTET

Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847)

VERLEIH uns Frieden gnädiglich, herr Gott, zu unsern Zeiten. Es ist doch ja kein anderer nicht, der für uns könnte streiten, denn du, unser Gott, alleine.

In these our days so perilous, Lord, peace in mercy send us; no God but you can fight for us, no God but you defend us; you our only God and Saviour.

The Bishop 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.**

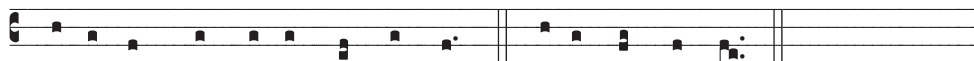
The Bishop says the PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

℟: **Amen.**

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.**

THE PREFACE

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 Bishop sings

The mystery of faith.

All sing

W E proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Re-sur-rection
 until you come a-gain.

When the Bishop 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

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.

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 Missa Brevis

Grayston Ives

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 Bishop 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.

During Holy Communion the Choir sings COMMUNION MOTET

HEAR my prayer, O Lord, and let my crying come unto thee.

Henry Purcell (1659–1695)

The Choir sings the COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Psalm 19:6

Lætabimur in salutari tuo: et in nomine Domini Dei nostri magnificabimur.

We will ring out our joy at your saving help and exult in the name of our God.

All sing

THE HYMN



Je-sus, my Lord, my God, my all,— How can I love thee as I ought?



And how re - vere_ this won-drous gift_ So far sur-pass-ing hope or thought?



Sweet Sa-cra-ment, we thee a - dore; Oh, make us love thee



more and more. Oh, make us love thee more and more.

Had I but Mary's sinless heart
To love thee with, my dearest King,
Oh, with what bursts of fervent praise
Thy goodness, Jesus, would I sing!

*Sweet Sacrament, we thee adore;
Oh, make us love thee more and more.*

Ah, see! within a creature's hand
The vast Creator deigns to be
Reposing, infant-like, as though
On Joseph's arm, or Mary's knee.

Thy body, soul, and Godhead, all;
O mystery of love divine!
I cannot compass all I have,
For all thou hast and art are mine.

Sound, sound his praises higher still,
And come, ye angels, to our aid;
'Tis God, 'tis God, the very God,
Whose power both man and angels made.

The Bishop says the PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

R: **Amen.**

CONCLUDING RITES

The Lord be with you.

R: **And with your spirit.**

Bow down for the blessing.

May God the Father almighty bless you, whom he has made his adopted sons and daughters reborn from water and the Holy Spirit, and may he keep you worthy of his fatherly love.

R: **Amen.**

May his Only Begotten Son, who promised that the Spirit of truth would abide in his Church, bless you and confirm you by his power in the confession of the true faith.

R: **Amen.**

May the Holy Spirit, who kindles the fire of charity in the hearts of disciples, bless you and lead you blameless and gathered as one into the joy of the Kingdom of God.

R: **Amen.**

And may almighty God bless all of you, who are gathered here, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

R: **Amen.**

Go forth, the Mass is ended.

R: **Thanks be to God.**

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Allegro moderato e serio (Sonata 1)

Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847)

LATER TODAY IN THE CATHEDRAL

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

5.00pm



ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL CHOIR TOUR 2026

A PILGRIMAGE OF MUSIC

Rome • Edinburgh • London



A
ONCE-IN-
A-LIFETIME
OPPORTUNITY
TO SHARE AUSTRALIA'S
SACRED MUSIC WITH
THE WORLD.

Our choristers are preparing for an extraordinary tour that will take them to three of the world's most iconic cultural and spiritual centres: Rome, Edinburgh, and London.

You can be part of this inspiring journey and help bring Australia's sacred music to a global stage.

Your donation will directly contribute to the transport and accommodation for our Choristers on this tour.

*Please scan the QR code to donate now and help
make this unforgettable tour a reality today*

