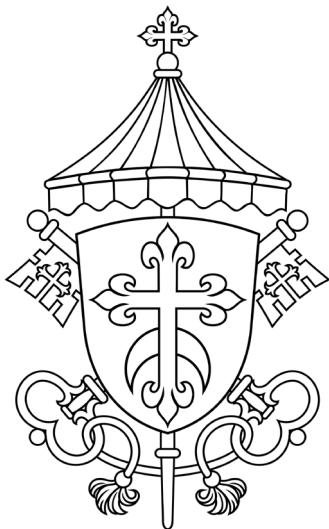


# ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL



## Solemn Mass

Thirty third Sunday  
of the Year

*with the admission of new Choristers*

16 November 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 | <b>Solemn Mass</b> <i>Full Choir</i>                    |
|           | 1700 | <b>Solemn Vespers and Benediction</b> <i>Lay Clerks</i> |
| Monday    | 1700 | <b>Vespers</b> <i>Lay Clerks</i>                        |
|           | 1730 | <b>Mass</b> <i>Boy Choristers &amp; Lay Clerks</i>      |
| Tuesday   | 1700 | <b>Vespers</b> <i>Cathedral Scholars</i>                |
|           | 1730 | <b>Mass</b> <i>Boy &amp; Girl Choristers</i>            |
| Wednesday | 1700 | <b>Vespers</b> <i>Cathedral Scholars</i>                |
|           | 1730 | <b>Mass</b> <i>Girl Choristers &amp; Lay Clerks</i>     |
| Thursday  | 1700 | <b>Vespers</b> <i>Lay Clerks</i>                        |
|           | 1730 | <b>Mass</b> <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



Guide me, O thou great Re-deem - er, Pil-grim through this bar-ren land;



I am weak, but thou art\_migh- ty, Hold me with thy\_ power- ful hand:



Bread of hea- ven, Bread of hea- ven, Feed me till I want no more.



Feed me till\_ I\_ want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain,  
Whence the healing stream doth flow;  
Let the fire and cloudy pillar  
Lead me all my journey through:  
Strong deliverer,  
Be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
Bid my anxious fears subside;  
Death of death, and hell's Destruction,  
Land me safe on Canaan's side:  
Songs of praises  
I will ever give to thee.

*Cwm Rhondda*  
*John Hughes (1873–1932)*

*Welsh, William Williams (1717–1791)*  
*tr. Peter Williams (1727–1796)*

# THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

*The Choir sings the INTROIT*

*Jeremiah 29:11,12,14; Psalm 84*

**D**ICIT Dominus: Ego cogito cogitationes pacis, et non afflictionis: invocabitis me, et ego exaudiam vos: et reducam captivitatem vestram de cunctis locis. V. Benedixisti Domine terram tuam: avertisti captivitatem Iacob.

*The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place. V. O Lord, you once favoured your land: and revived the fortunes of Jacob.*

*All make the Sign of the Cross as the Archbishop 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 Archbishop 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 in C (KV 259)*

*Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756–1791)*

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 Archbishop says the COLLECT*

✠ **Amen.**

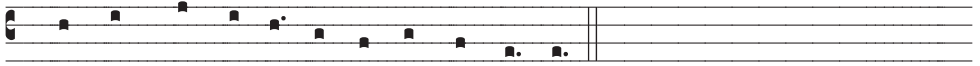
# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

*Malachi 3:19-20*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*Psalm 97:5-9* ☩ cf. v.9



☩ **The Lord comes to rule the peoples with fairness.**

Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp with the sound of music. With trumpets and the sound of the horn acclaim the King, the Lord. ☩

Let the sea and all within it, thunder; the world, and all its peoples. Let the rivers clap their hands and the hills ring out their joy at the presence of the Lord. ☩

For the Lord comes, he comes to rule the earth. He will rule the world with justice and the peoples with fairness. ☩

SECOND READING

*2 Thessalonians 3:7-12*

*The Choir sings the ALLELUIA*

☩ *Psalm 129:1,2*

Alleluia.

☩ De profundis clamavi ad te, Domine: Domine exaudi vocem meam.

*Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord, Lord, hear my voice.*

Alleluia.

GOSPEL

*Luke 21:5-19*

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

*At the conclusion of the Homily all remain seated.*

## RITE OF ADMISSION OF NEW CHORISTERS 2025

*The Candidates to be admitted into the Cathedral Choir are brought before the Archbishop.*

*The Director of Music says*

Most Reverend Father, I present to you the following girls to be admitted as choristers in the Cathedral Choir: Harper, Alexandra, Eimear, Natalie, Miykal, Melissa, Jaclyn, Sofia, Ivory, Connie, Arabella, Isabella, Johanna and Maria.

With the grace of God, they have fulfilled their obligations as probationers and Singing Choristers, and passed their tests. I judge them ready to receive the chorister's surplice.

*The Archbishop says*

St Paul instructs us in the sacred scriptures that because the Word of Christ dwells within us, we are to teach and instruct one another in all wisdom, singing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in our hearts. It is the duty of Cathedral choristers to give of their best in the worship of the Church; by their conduct to set an example, and to strive to lift the hearts of all to God.

With this in mind, do you promise to be faithful members of the Cathedral Choir?

*The Candidates respond* I do.

Will you accept the discipline of those set over you, and serve God here with reverence and joy?

*The Candidates respond* I will.

May Almighty God accept the offering of your worship, and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ.

*The Candidates respond* Amen.

*The surplices are brought before the Archbishop for blessing*

O God, who instructed Moses to construct sacred vessels and to weave sacred vestments to be used in your divine service, bless ☩ these surplices which will be worn during the sacred mysteries as a sign of our baptismal dignity; may those who wear them celebrate those mysteries well, so that they may carry out their sacred ministry with devotion and joy. Through Christ our Lord.

*The surplices are sprinkled with holy water.*

*The Archbishop blesses the candidates, saying*

**O** GOD, who were pleased to give your servant, David the King, the gifts of musical talent and joy in your liturgical service, ✠ bless your servants Harper, Alexandra, Eimear, Natalie, Miykal, Melissa, Jaclyn, Sofia, Ivory, Connie, Arabella, Isabella, Johanna and Maria, who desire to sing your praises in song and in their manner of life, so that those who are gladdened with holy songs here on earth may attain the everlasting happiness of heaven. Through Christ our Lord.

*The new choristers respond* Amen.

*When all choristers have been admitted and clothed in surplice, the Archbishop blesses them, saying:*

**L**ORD, in your love for the Church you have given these choristers the gift of music. Bless them as they use this gift for your glory, and grant that what they sing with their lips they may believe in their hearts, and that what they believe in their hearts they may show forth in their lives. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

✠ **Amen.**

*The Archbishop invites the congregation to congratulate the new choristers. All then stand.*

#### 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)*

**D**E profundis clamavi ad te, Domine: Domine, exaudi vocem meam.  
*Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD: LORD, hear my voice!*

*The Archbishop says*

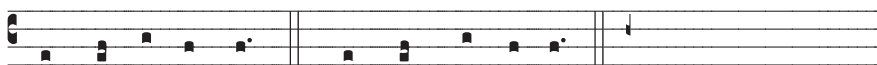
Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

℟: **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 Archbishop says the PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS*

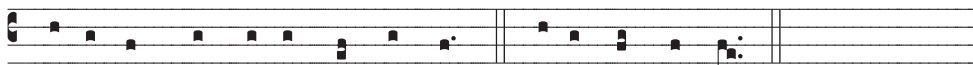
℟: **Amen.**

## THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

**T** HE Lord be with you. ℟: **And with your spi-rit.**



Lift up your hearts. ℟: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

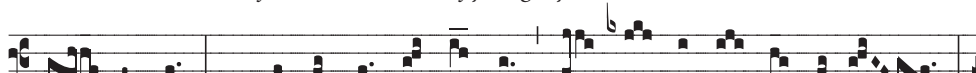


Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. ℟: **It is right and just.**

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

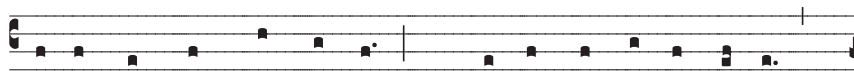
  
 ex-cél-sis. Be-ne-díc-tus qui ve-nit in nó-mi-ne Dó-mi-ni.  
 the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

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

When the Archbishop sings

The mystery of faith.

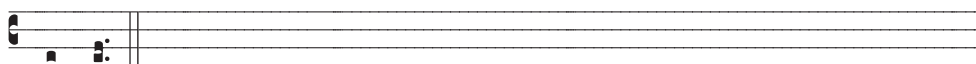
All sing

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

When the Archbishop 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.

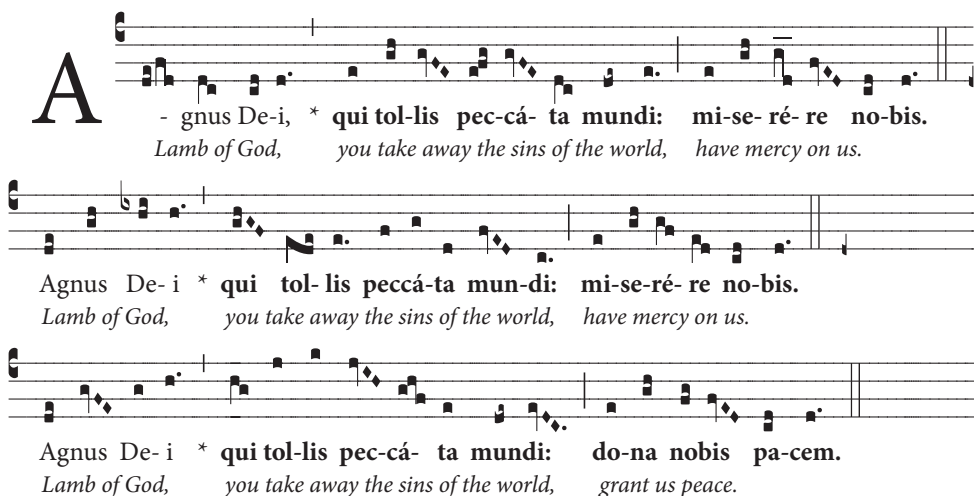
**℟:** For the kingdom, the power and the glo-ry are yours now and for ev-er.

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.



**A** - gnus De-i, \* qui tol-lis pec-cá- ta mundi: mi-se-ré- re no-bis.  
 Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Agnus De-i \* qui tol-lis peccá-ta mun-di: mi-se-ré- re no-bis.  
 Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Agnus De-i \* qui tol-lis pec-cá- ta mundi: do-na nobis pa-cem.  
 Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

*The Archbishop 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*

*Mark 11:23-24*

**A**MEN dico vobis, quidquid orantes petitis, credite quia accipietis, et fiet vobis, adicit Dominus.

*Amen, I say to you: Whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you will receive, and it shall be given to you, says the Lord.*

*During Holy Communion, the Choir sings the AGNUS DEI*

*from Missa Brevis in C (KV 259)*

*Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart*

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: grant us peace.*

*All sing*

## THE HYMN



Lord of all hope-ful - ness, Lord of all joy, Whose trust, ev - er  
child-like, no cares could de - stroy, Be there at our wa - king, and  
give us, we pray, Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.

Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,  
Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe,  
Be there at our labours, and give us, we pray,  
Your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.

Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,  
Your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace,  
Be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,  
Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,  
Whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm,  
Be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,  
Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

*Slane*  
*Traditional Irish melody*

*Jan Struther (1901–1953)*

*The Archbishop says the PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION*

R: **Amen.**

# THE CONCLUDING RITES

The Lord be with you.

R: **And with your spirit.**

Blessed be the name of the Lord.

R: **Now and for ever.**

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

R: **Who made heaven and earth.**

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

Finale — Allegro (Sonata No. 1)

*Florence Price (1887–1953)*

## LATER TODAY IN THE CATHEDRAL

Solemn Vespers and Benediction    *sung by the 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*



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