

# ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL



## Solemn Mass

Fourth Sunday of the Year  
*Sunday of the Word of God*

1 February 2026  
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>

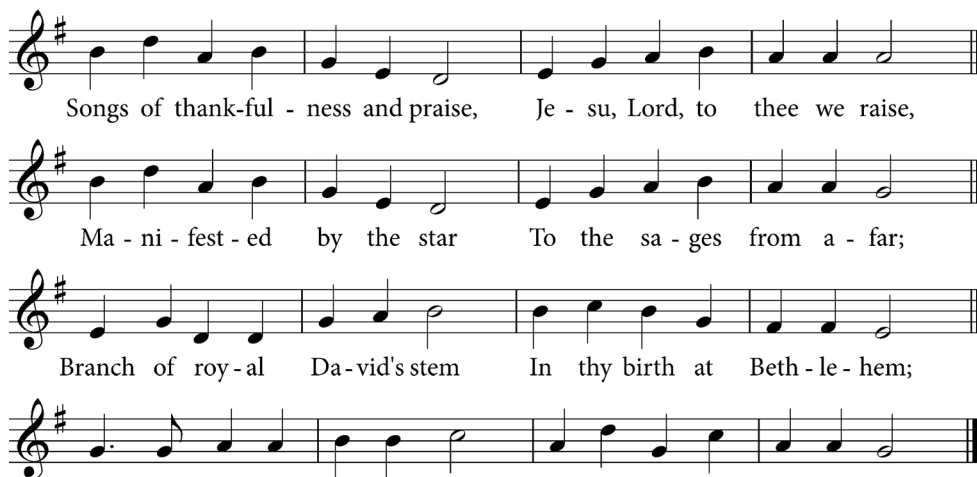
Download the weekly Music List at <http://musiclists.cathedralchoir.sydney>

**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



Songs of thank-ful - ness and praise, Je - su, Lord, to thee we raise,  
Ma - ni - fest - ed by the star To the sa - ges from a - far;  
Branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem In thy birth at Beth - le - hem;  
An - thems be to thee ad - dressed, God in Man made ma - ni - fest.

2

Manifest at Jordan's stream,  
Prophet, Priest, and King supreme;  
And at Cana wedding-guest,  
In thy Godhead manifest;  
Manifest in power divine,  
Changing water into wine;  
Anthems be to thee addressed,  
God in Man made manifest.

3

Grant us grace to see thee, Lord,  
Mirrored in thy holy word;  
May we imitate thee now,  
And be pure, as pure art thou;  
That we like to thee may be  
At thy great Epiphany;  
And may praise thee, ever blest,  
God in Man made manifest.

*St Edmund*  
*Charles Steggall (1826-1905)*

*Christopher Wordsworth (1807-1885)*

# THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

*The Choir sings the INTROIT*

*Psalm 104:3-4, 1*

**L**ÆTETUR cor quærentium Dominum: quærite Dominum, et confirmamini: quærite faciem eius semper. V. Confitemini Domino, et invoke nomen eius: annuntiate inter gentes opera eius.

*Let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice; seek the Lord and you will be strengthened: always seek his face. V. Give thanks to the Lord, tell his name, make known his deeds among the peoples.*

*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.


**A**Lmighty 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.**

**W**E 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.**

*All sing the ASPERGES ME*

**A** 

-SPERGES me, \* **Dómi- ne, hyssó-po; et mundá-bor : lavá- bis me,**  
*Sprinkle me with hyssop, O Lord, and I shall be cleansed; wash me*



**et su-per ni-vem de- al- bá- bor.**  
*and I shall be whiter than snow.*

*The Choir sings the GLORIA*

*from Missa O Magnum Mysterium*

*Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (1525–1594)*

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*

**R: Amen.**

# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

*Zephaniah 2:3,3:12-13*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*Psalm 145:6-10* *R. Matthew 5:3*



*R.* **How happy are the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever, who is just to those who are oppressed. It is he who gives bread to the hungry, the Lord, who sets prisoners free. *R.*

It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, who raises up those who are bowed down, the Lord, who protects the stranger and upholds the widow and orphan. *R.*

It is the Lord who loves the just but thwarts the path of the wicked. The Lord will reign for ever, Zion's God, from age to age. *R.*

SECOND READING

*1 Corinthians 1:26-31*

*The Choir sings the ALLELUIA*

*V. Psalm 137:2*

Alleluia.

*V.* Adorabo ad templum sanctum tuum: et confitebor nomini tuo.

*I will adore before your holy temple; and I will praise your name.*

Alleluia.

GOSPEL

*Matthew 5:1-12a*

The Lord be with you.

*R.* **And with your spirit.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

*R.* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the conclusion of the Gospel:*

The Gospel of the Lord.

*R.* **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*

**L**AUDA, anima mea, Dominum: laudabo Dominum in vita mea: psallam Deo  
meo, quamdiu ero, alleluia.

*Praise the Lord, O my soul: while I live will I praise the Lord: I will sing praises unto my God while I have being, alleluia.*

*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 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

*All sing the* SANCTUS

Mass XI

**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<sup>℞</sup> 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.

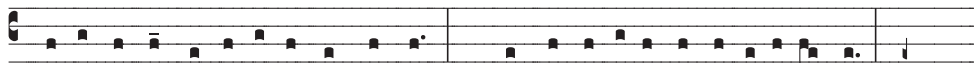
*All respond*

A-men.

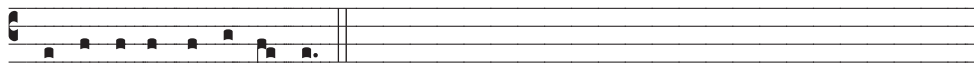
COMMUNION RITE

*All sing*

P 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

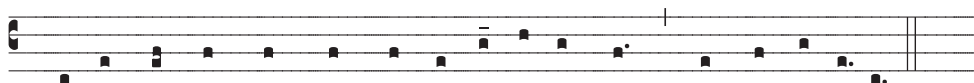


**dimít-timus de-bi-tó-ri-bus nostris; et ne nos indúcas in tenta-ti-ó-nem;**  
*forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation,*



**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 Missa O Magnum Mysterium*

*Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina*

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.

**℟: 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*

*Matthew 5:8-10*

Beati mundo corde, quoniam ipsi Deum videbunt: beati pacifici, quoniam filii Dei vocabuntur: beati qui persecutionem patiuntur propter iustitiam, quoniam ipsorum est regnum cælorum.

*Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, who they shall be called children of God. Blessed are those who suffer persecution for the sake of justice, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

*During Holy Communion the Choir sings AGNUS DEI II*

*from Missa O Magnum Mysterium*

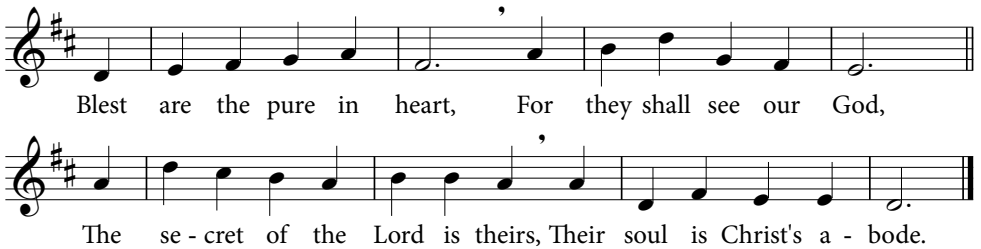
*Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina*

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi: dona nobis pacem.

*Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.*

*All sing*

### THE HYMN



2

**The Lord, who left the heavens  
Our life and peace to bring,  
To dwell in lowliness with men,  
Their pattern and their King;**

3

**Still to the lowly soul  
He doth himself impart,  
And for his dwelling and his throne  
Chooseth the pure in heart.**

**Lord, we thy presence seek;  
May ours this blessing be;  
Give us a pure and lowly heart  
A temple meet for thee.**

*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 for an Occasion

*Brian Brockless (1926–1995)*

### 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**

St Mary's Road

Sydney NSW 2000

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